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OCTOBER 9, 2016

CHILD-LIKE FAITH

PREACHED BY JAY MESSENGER

MARK 10:13-31

CHILD-LIKE FAITH BELIEVES. . .

GOD IS (1) _____ AND THAT HE (2) _____ US

HE CAN BE (3) _____ AND SHOULD BE (4) _____

HE MAKES THE (5) _____ (6) _____

IT IS WORTH IT TO (7) _____ HIM

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

1. WHY WOULD A CHILD (“HOW TO ENTER THE KINGDOM OF GOD”) BE SUCH SURPRISING EXAMPLE OF FAITH FOR THE DISCIPLES AND OTHERS TO UNDERSTAND? WHAT ARE SOME DYNAMICS OF “CHILD-LIKE” FAITH? CAN YOU GIVE SOME EXAMPLES?
2. RESPOND TO THE STATEMENT “GOD LOVES US NOT BECAUSE WE’RE GOOD. .BUT BECAUSE HE IS. .”.
3. WHAT ARE SOME WAYS WE DISTORT OR DILUTE THE GOODNESS OF GOD? FOR EXAMPLE, WHAT ARE SOME WAYS WE THINK WE CAN GET HIM TO LOVE US MORE? WHAT DOES THAT LOOK LIKE? OR HOW DOES THE GOODNESS OF GOD GET DISTORTED TO JUSTIFY SIN?
4. WHY DID JESUS ASK THE RICH MAN TO GIVE AWAY EVERYTHING HE HAD? WAS THE PROBLEM HIS WEALTH OR HIS HEART (HIS “FUNCTIONAL GOD”) ? EXPLAIN.
5. ONE EXPRESSION OF IDOLATRY IN OUR LIVES IS TO TAKE A GOOD THING AND MAKE IT AN ULTIMATE THING (“A FUNCTIONAL GOD). .WHAT ARE SOME IDOLS YOU HAVE TO DO BATTLE WITH IN YOUR LIFE? (EX—THINK RELATIONSHIPS, \$\$, POSSESSIONS/STUFF, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, ETC.)
6. RESPOND TO THE STATEMENT “YOU KNOW YOU’VE HEARD FROM THE REAL JESUS WHEN YOU’RE OFFENDED OR YOU FALL AT HIS FEET IN WORSHIP—THERE USUALLY ISN’T A MIDDLE GROUND.”
7. WHAT WAS JESUS’ POINT IN THE EXAMPLE OF THE CAMEL AND THE EYE OF THE NEEDLE?
8. IS THERE AN “IMPOSSIBLE” THING THAT GOD IS ASKING YOU TO TRUST HIM WITH? WHAT IS IT?
9. WHAT ARE SOME WAYS YOU THINK WE COULD USE THE \$\$ FROM A PAID-OFF (OR REDUCED) MORTGAGE TO BLESS OTHERS AROUND US? HOW COULD WE INVEST THAT IN THE FUTURE?
10. WHAT DO YOU THINK HAPPENED WITH THE RICH YOUNG MAN? DID HE EVENTUALLY REPENT AND DO WHAT JESUS ASKED—OR DID HE STUBBORNLY AND SINFULLY HOLD ON TO HIS GODS (HIS WEALTH AND MORALITY)? WHAT IS YOUR STORY? HOW WILL YOU RESPOND WHEN JESUS ASKS YOU TO LET GO OF THE IDOL(S) IN YOUR LIFE?

FILL IN THE BLANK KEY

1. GOOD 2. LOVES 3. TRUSTED 4. OBEYED
5. IMPOSSIBLE 6. POSSIBLE 7. FOLLOW

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF

MARK

THE SERVANT RULER

13 People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. **14** When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

MARK 10:13-16

15 Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”

16 And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

MARK 10:13-16



17 As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

MARK 10:17-31

¹⁸ “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’”

²⁰ “Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.”

MARK 10:18-31

21 Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

22 At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

23 Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!”

MARK 10:18-31

24 The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! **25** It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

26 The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, “Who then can be saved?”

MARK 10:18-31

27 Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

28 Then Peter spoke up, “We have left everything to follow you!”

29 “Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel

MARK 10:18-31

³⁰ will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

MARK 10:18-31

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MARK 10:17

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MARK 10:19-20

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MARK 10:21-23

God is good and He loves us

CHILD-LIKE FAITH BELIEVES...

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MARK 10:21-23

God is good and that He loves us

He can be trusted and should be obeyed

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MARK 10:24-26

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MARK 10:27

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He can be trusted and should be obeyed

He makes the impossible...possible

CHILD-LIKE FAITH BELIEVES...

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29 “Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel **30** will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions

MARK 10:28-31

—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

MARK 10:28-31

God is good and that He loves us

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It is worth it to follow him

CHILD-LIKE FAITH BELIEVES...



GRACE UNLEASHED

Repurposing Our Resources to
Release Our Potential

What is It??

Reducing or eliminating our mortgage by 2018

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How much is our mortgage??

Currently– \$1.5 million dollars

Sept. 15th, 2018-- \$1.3 million dollars

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How much does this cost us monthly/annually??

\$12,000 monthly mortgage payment

\$144,000 annual mortgage payment

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How did we get here??

2nd Floor Addition: (Amazing Grace Makeover)

\$1,798,000 (in 2008)

\$1,472,000 (Sept. 1st, 2016)

\$1,361,000 (Sept. 15th, 2018)

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What happens if we do...nothing?

We refinance \$1,361,000 on Sept. 15th, 2018

We keep paying \$12,000 per month

We ultimately pay \$600 k in interest

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What if we eliminate our mortgage...?

We save \$600k in interest

We re-direct \$12k per month/\$144k per year

We model and practice Bible \$\$ values

We can invest for the future!

GRACE UNLEASHED

What if we significantly reduce our mortgage...?

We save \$\$\$ in interest

We re-direct \$\$\$ per month/\$\$\$ per year

We model and practice Bible \$\$ values

We can invest for the future!

GRACE UNLEASHED

Is it realistic to think we can *really* do this?

Amazing Grace Makeover (2006-2008)

Grace attendance: Half our current size

\$800k pledged; 90% received!!

Imagine Grace w/o a 2nd floor?

GRACE UNLEASHED

Is it realistic to think we can *really* do this?

WE'VE ALREADY SAVED \$130K!! (10%)

AGM giving; Grace Unleashed giving!!

Budget Surpluses; \$75k this year!

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How can we grow as a church from this?

It deepens our faith and trust in the Lord

Ex: Amazing Grace Makeover (who here?)

It deepens our prayer life

It deepens our community together

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Let's Dream A Little Bit...What *could* we do?

\$144k dollars per year (\$12k per month)

Church Plant; Satellite Campus

Staffing; Facility Improvements

Savings; Generous Giving; Legacy

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How will this work? What will it look like?

A two-year giving commitment

Above and beyond--Mission-Vision Giving

Above and beyond—Special Giving

Confidential and personal

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Pray!

2 year pledge/commitment

Fill out a pledge card

www.gracecc.net

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The Timeline From Here...

Sunday, Oct. 16th – Q and A (Elders/G.U. Team)

Sunday, Oct. 16th; 23rd – Commitment Sundays

Sunday, Oct. 30th – Pledge Summary

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GRACE UNLEASHED

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