

INTER- RUPTING JESUS

"YOUNG, RICH, AND LACKING"

Mark 10 | Sermon #4 in the Lenten Series "Interrupting Jesus"

April 2, 2017

GATHERING

1. What has been your history with money and the church? Did you grow up understanding giving as part of worship or did you see abuses? Did someone teach you about giving or is it all new to you?
 2. What are your favorite and least favorite things to spend money on?
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LOOKING AT THE TEXT

Continuing our series, Jesus is again interrupted. This time it is not a request but a question. Jesus is making his way to Jerusalem for the last time. A man comes to him and asks him about eternal life. There is an account of this in three gospels. Matthew tells us that the man is young, Luke that he is a ruler of some sort. All eventually mention that he is wealthy.

Read Mark 10:17-25

1. The man falls at Jesus' feet and calls him "good teacher." Most Jews at the time only used the term "good" for God. How does Jesus respond and why do you think he asks that question?
2. Which commandments does Jesus list and what is the similarity of them? One commandment "you shall not defraud" is not one of the ten. Why do you think Jesus included it?
3. The man claims that he has kept all of these since he was a boy. Look at Matthew 19:20. What does the man ask Jesus in that account? What does Mark say about Jesus' feelings toward this man? Why is that important?
4. Jesus invited this man to follow him, but the man could not do it. Read Mark 10:13-16. What does that passage teach us about receiving the

Kingdom of God? How does that teaching compare to the account of the rich young ruler?

Read Mark 10:23-31

1. Why do you think the disciples were amazed to hear that it is hard for the rich to enter the kingdom of God?
2. Why do you think Jesus says this? What is the barrier to following Jesus for wealthy people?
3. Ultimately what must happen for a rich person to enter the kingdom according to verse 27?
4. Peter reminds Jesus that they have given up everything to follow him. How does Jesus respond?
5. Assuming that Jesus does not mean that by becoming a Christian we increase our net worth and receive new homes, what do you think he means in vs. 29-30?

APPLICATIONS

1. Matthew tells us that this man asks Jesus "what do I still lack?" What does this tell us about his life, despite the fact that he was wealthy and very religious? Why do you think Jesus asked him to sell everything?
2. This man knew something was missing in his life, yet he couldn't give up what stood between him and a real relationship with Jesus. Do you think there are things that do this in people's lives besides money?
3. What is it about money that keep us from trusting God?
4. How can tithing help keep us grounded regarding money and discipleship?