

SERIES TITLE: SERVANT KING

PART TWELVE: RISKING

TEXT: MARK 10

INTRODUCTION TO STUDY

The gospel of Mark portrays Jesus as a Servant on the move. Using the word “immediately” over 40 times, he shows Jesus ministering. Obedient to the Father’s will, Jesus preaches the good news, heals the sick, teaches his followers, and performs miracles. All the while, he heads toward his sacrificial death on the cross. Mark 10:45 sums up his mission: “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.” Mark’s gospel reveals Jesus to be the perfect Servant and the perfect Sacrifice. Those who receive him as the good news are empowered to serve in his name.

CONTEXT OF SCRIPTURE

Jesus and the Twelve are gradually making their way toward Jerusalem, as Jesus continues to shock them with predictions of his death and resurrection. Looking carefully into this chapter, we see multiple encounters with Jesus that teach us what following Jesus really means.

FOCUS QUESTION

If you have ever read all the possible side-effects of a medication, when would you feel it would be worth the risk to take that medicine?

EXAMINATION

10:1-12

- Why do the Pharisees ask Jesus this question?
- What is God’s ideal for marriage according to Jesus?
- How is Jesus’ approach different from what his culture practiced?

10:13-16

- In what way is Jesus saying we should be like little children and why?

10:17-31

- How do we know that Jesus isn't teaching that if you keep God's commandments perfectly, you have eternal life?
- How is the rich man's reaction an illustration of how difficult it is for rich people to enter God's kingdom?
- Why does this shock the disciples?
- From what Jesus says, how do we know that some rich people will be saved despite their wealth?
- What does Jesus promise to those who have sacrificed or lost relationships and possessions for him?

10:32-45

- What indications of Jesus' readiness to suffer do you see?
- What makes James and John's request so wrong?
- How is Jesus' teaching on service different from the surrounding culture?

EXPLORATION

- Genesis 12:1-9
- Esther 4
- Daniel 3:14-18
- Matthew 6:19-21
- Philippians 3:8-11

APPLICATION.

- How can Christ-followers appropriately demonstrate a high view of marriage?

- Why is dependence not a positive word in our culture, and how can we live it out in a healthy way?
- We live in a materialistic world. How can we show the difference Jesus makes in us when it comes to money and possessions?
- When do you find it most challenging to serve and why?

SUMMATION

- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?