

Read Mark 10:24-27 and 32-34

24 This amazed them. But Jesus said again, “Dear children, it is very hard to enter the Kingdom of God.

25 In fact, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God!” **26** The disciples were astounded. “Then who in the world can be saved?” they asked.

27 Jesus looked at them intently and said, “Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But not with God. Everything is possible with God.”

In v. 23, Jesus had told the disciples that it is very hard for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God. Why were they amazed (vv. 24, 26)? Because, in Jesus’ day, people believed that if you were rich it was because God was blessing you for living a righteous life (like Job or Solomon). They believed that wealth was a gift from God and it proved God was pleased with you. Now Jesus is telling them just the opposite.

Why is it hard to be saved? It’s impossible to do be saved if you try to do it in your own strength. No one can be good enough to be saved no matter how hard they try. Christianity is not about trying harder. It’s about trusting God.

What should our attitude toward money be? Proverbs 30:8-9 “.....give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, ‘Who is the LORD?’ Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God.”

32 They were now on the way up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. The disciples were filled with awe, and the people following behind were overwhelmed with fear. Taking the twelve disciples aside, Jesus once more began to describe everything that was about to happen to him.

33 “Listen,” he said, “we’re going up to Jerusalem, where the Son of Man will be betrayed to the leading priests and the teachers of religious law. They will sentence him to die and hand him over to the Romans.

34 They will mock him, spit on him, flog him with a whip, and kill him, but after three days he will rise again.”

Where were Jesus and His disciples headed (v. 32)? To Jerusalem. **For what?** To celebrate the Passover festival. **What is the Passover?** Review Exodus chapter 12

What was Jesus going to do in Jerusalem? Go to the Cross and die for our sins.

How were the disciples feeling? Filled with awe or astonished. **How were the other followers feeling?** Afraid, scared.

Why were they feeling that way? They knew Jesus was walking into a trap. The Jewish leaders were looking for Him and wanted to kill Him.

Did Jesus know He was walking into a trap? Do you think Jesus was scared? Why or why not?

What did Jesus tell them was going to happen in Jerusalem (vv. 33-34)? That He was going to be condemned to die by the Jewish religious leaders. He would be mocked (made fun of), spit on, flogged (beaten), and then killed.

What would happen three days after they killed Jesus? He would rise from the dead.