

Open Hands and Open Arms

Jesus invites us to _____

- Jesus is indignant toward those who _____ for others to get to Him.
- Jesus welcomes those who come to Him with _____

Jesus requires us to _____

- You must let go of your _____
- You must let go of your _____
- You must _____ to Jesus and His promises _____

Next Steps

Because of what Jesus has done for me and what I heard today,

- I will let go of my self-righteousness and self-sufficiency and trust Jesus alone to give me new and eternal life.
- I will examine myself to see what I might be doing that makes it hard for others to come to Jesus.
- I will examine whether I love Jesus more than my riches by considering which I hold on to most tightly.

Personal observations from the message.

1. How would you summarize what you learned in a sentence or two?
2. What point or verse did you find most helpful? Why?
3. What is a question you have?

Discussion questions from the message.

1. What are some characteristics of kids that make them cute, enjoyable, and fun to be around?
2. Read Mark 10:13-16. What are some ways we can make it hard for people to come to Jesus? What does Jesus think of this? Why? What are the two things that must happen for us to become a part of the kingdom of God?
3. Read Mark 10:17-22. What would you have said to the man? What does Jesus' response to him teach us about sharing the gospel? What role do the Ten Commandments play in helping others to understand how we inherit eternal life?

What does the man's response in verse 20 reveal about what he is trusting in? What does it say about his self-perception and understanding of God's law? How does Jesus respond to him? How does Jesus love him? Why is this so hard for us to do?

What does the man's response reveal about his true eagerness to inherit eternal life? What's his problem?

4. Read Mark 4:23-27. Why is it so hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God? What would selling all you have force you to do? How can we do this without selling all we have? What does sacrificial giving to the Lord reveal/demonstrate?
5. What is Jesus' response to the question, in verse 26, "Then who can be saved?" Why it impossible with man but possible with God?
6. How does this passage challenge your self-righteousness and self-sufficiency? If you are a citizen of God's kingdom, saved, an heir of eternal life, a possessor of the treasure of heaven AND someone with "great possessions" (we all are relative to the rest of the world and those who have lived before us) – what are the implications of this passage for your everyday life?