

1:10 JOURNEY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Sunday, January 24, 2010 • Summit Evangelical Free Church, Alta, IA • Pastor Doug Corlew
Series: WAY TO GO: Serving & Giving Like Jesus (Gospel of Mark), Message #14

Openers:

- 1 What did your parents want you to be when you grew up? OR—Who is the most competitive person you know?

Getting Started:

- 2 What insight, principle, or observation from Sunday's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.
- 3 How has God been speaking to you this past week through your personal devotions in His Word?

Digging Deeper:

4 Read Mark 10:32-34.

What do you learn about Jesus from these verses? The disciples?
How is this third passion prediction different from the first two (8:31; 9:31)?
Why do you think He added this?

5 Read Mark 10:35-45.

What do you think James and John were really wanting in their request?
How did the other ten respond to this? Why? If you were one of the other ten disciples, how would you have felt about their request?
What is meant by *the baptism* and *the cup* for Jesus? For the disciples?
How have you seen a difference between worldly and godly styles of leadership?
What does being a "slave of all" mean to you?
Who has been an example to you of a Christ-like servant?
What effect has that person had on your life?
Do you resist following the servant's path to greatness?
What is the proper role of ambition and competition in the life of a Christian?
Since giving your life to Christ, what impact has this had on your career goals and your definition of true success?
How does Jesus practice what He preached?
In what way is His death a ransom for many? (cf Isa 53:5-6; Rom 5:6-8, 2 Cor 5:21)

6 Read Mark 10:46-52.

What is significant about the way Bartimaeus approaches Jesus?
How does Bartimaeus show his faith (while the crowd does not)?
How is Bartimaeus different from the rich young man in 10:17-22?
Why do you suppose Jesus asked Bartimaeus what he wanted Him to do for him?
How is Bartimaeus' request different from the request of James and John (v 37)?
What does a request for "mercy" demonstrate about the person who makes it?
If Jesus asked you, "What do you want me to do for you?" what would you say?
What might it mean for Bartimaeus to be on the road with Jesus (v 52)?

A RANSOM FOR MANY

Mark 10:32-52

As Jesus leads the way on the road to Jerusalem, His followers learn two implications of His mission:

1. The end of _____ (10:32-45)

2. The start of _____ (10:46-52)

Monday, January 25

Read Mark 10:32-34

In the third prediction of His passion (cf 8:31-33; 9:30-32), Jesus once again calmly tells His disciples what awaits Him in Jerusalem. What does this teach us about the sovereignty of God? The love of God? The wisdom of God? The disciples were amazed and afraid (v 32), how might you have reacted to His announcement?

Romans 14:7-9

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

1 John 4:9-10

"There was nothing involuntary and unforeseen in our Lord's death. It was the result of His own free decision and deliberate choice... Let us always bless God that the Gospel sets before us such a Savior, so faithful to the terms of the covenant—so ready to suffer—so willing to be reckoned sin and a curse in our place... Let us not only accept Him gladly as our Redeemer and Advocate, but gladly give ourselves, and all we have, to His service. Surely if Jesus cheerfully died for us, it is a small thing to require Christians to live for Him." - J.C. Ryle*

Tuesday, January 26

Read Mark 10:35-40

Despite their love for Christ, the disciples are still not aware of the true condition of their hearts or the nature of the path before them. Let us not make their mistake, but remain always dependent on God's grace, never overconfident in our own strength.

Proverbs 16:18-19

Acts 14:22

1 Corinthians 10:12-13

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

"There are few true Christians who do not resemble James and John when they first begin the service of Christ... We are apt to forget the cross and the tribulation, and to think only of the crown. We form an incorrect estimate of our own patience and power of endurance. We misjudge our own ability to stand temptation and trial. And the result of all is that we often buy wisdom dearly, by bitter experience, after many disappointments and not a few falls."—J.C. Ryle*

Wednesday, January 27

Read Mark 10:41-45

Jesus' standard of greatness is a sharp contrast to the world's standard of greatness. Is it more important to you to be great in the world's eyes, or in His? How can you serve a potential rival today, seeking his/her advancement rather than your own?

Luke 14:7-11

Romans 12:9-21

1 Corinthians 12:21-27

"Thousands have come out from the world, taken up the cross, professed to desert their own righteousness and believe in Christ, who have felt irritated and annoyed when a brother has been more honored than themselves. These things ought not to be so... We are blessed if we can sincerely rejoice when others are exalted, though we ourselves are overlooked and passed by!... It is those who exert themselves to lessen the sorrow and increase the joy of all around them who are truly great in the sight of God."—J.C. Ryle*

Thursday, January 28

Read Mark 10:46-49

Having heard the reports of Jesus' mighty deeds, Bartimaeus knew that Jesus must be the promised Messiah of Israel, who was able to heal him. Is God asking you to trust His Word even when you are not yet able to see how it can be fulfilled in your life?

John 20:26-31

2 Corinthians 5:6-10

Hebrews 11:1

1 Peter 1:8

"Bartimaeus was blind in body but not in soul. The eyes of his understanding were open... Let us strive and pray that we may have the same precious faith. We too are not allowed to see Jesus with our bodily eyes. But we have the report of His power, and grace, and willingness to save, in the Gospel. We have exceeding great promises from His own lips, written down for our encouragement? Let us trust those promises implicitly, and commit our souls to Christ unhesitatingly... What is the life of saving faith when once begun, but a continual leaning on an unseen Savior's word?" - J.C. Ryle*

Friday, January 29

Read Mark 10:50-52

What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me? (Ps 116:12). When is the last time you have seriously pondered the same question? How has the Lord shown you mercy and grace? What benefits have you received from His hand? How can your life reflect gratitude to Him today? Having recovered your sight, are you now following Him on the way (v 52)?

John 9:1-41

Psalms 116:1-19

"We have in these verses an example of the constraining influence which gratitude to Christ ought to have on our souls. Bartimaeus did not return home as soon as he was restored to sight. He would not leave the healer from whom he had received such mercy. At once he devoted the new powers which his cure gave him, to the Son of David who had worked the cure... The person who boasts of having an interest in Christ, while not following Christ in his life, is a miserable self-deceiver and is ruining his own soul." - J.C. Ryle*

Saturday, January 30

Read Mark 11:1-26

As you prepare for tomorrow's message, read through this passage and identify both new and recurring spiritual principles. What might be an overall theme to tie these verses together?