

What's Your Next Step?

Mark 10:17-31

Taking it Home:

1. As you consider your own life, what 'next step' might the Lord be asking you to take in your walk with him, your relationship with others, your involvement in the church, etc.? What practical step can you take to put that into action?

Prayer Concerns:

Insights from the Rich Young Ruler:

1. Everyone has a _____ to take.

2. Our 'next step' invites us into _____

Idols that hold us back:

3. Jesus _____ who take their 'next step.'

4. Our _____ us from taking a 'next step.'

Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started:

1. What is your favorite hike? Or, if your house were on fire, which three items would you most want to save?

Digging Deeper:

Read: Mark 10:17-31

1. As you consider taking a 'next step' in your faith journey, what word best describes you and why: Willing, Resistant, Complacent, Fearful, Excited, Uncertain, etc.?
2. Jesus quizzes the 'Rich Young Ruler' on a partial list of the Ten Commandments [see Exodus 20:1-17]. He seems to have kept the last few commandments that relate to people. How well do you think he kept the first four commands that relate directly to God?
3. Why does Jesus command the man as he does? What was hiding behind all of his good works?
4. Theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, "*When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.*" If Jesus were to evaluate your life, like He did the rich young ruler's, what would He say holds you back from being totally committed to Him? What would He call you to give up for His sake?
5. Reread verses 28-30. Over the centuries and even today, many Christ-followers have had to leave their families and homes for the sake of Christ. What blessings does Jesus say they'll receive in this age and the age to come? How does this encourage us to leave the things holding us back from taking the next step in our faith?
6. It's possible that the rich young ruler was none other than Mark himself. If so, he not only walked away from Jesus, but he jumped ship when later accompanying Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey [Acts 13:13, 15:36-41]. Mark could have considered himself forever disqualified to serve Jesus. But he was wrong. God forgave him and went on to use Mark in remarkable ways—including selecting him to write the Gospel of Mark. Do you consider yourself disqualified from taking the next step in following Jesus? What is holding you back from receiving God's grace?