SERMON REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Sermon Title: Don't Hold Back

Series Title: Jesus – Discovering The Servant King In Mark

Preacher: Dannie Medina

Scripture: Mark 10:17-31

Date: November 15, 2026

Description/Theme:

Theme: A troubled, wealthy young man comes to Jesus eager for answers, but walks away grieving because Jesus asks for the one thing he cannot release. Jesus isn't condemning wealth – He's exposing it for the competitor for the throne of our hearts it is.

Aim: Show that wealth is a test - revealing the very center of our hearts.

Application: Prayerfully ask: what is the one thing, if Jesus were to ask for it, I would struggle most to surrender?

Icebreaker (for groups):

Share a time (positive or negative) where you maybe came face-to-face with a realization of what was truly at the center – on the throne – of your life.

Did you like what you discovered? What changed because of it?

Reflections on the Sermon:

What points from the sermon resonated with you? _____

_____

Scripture Passages:

Mark 10:17-31 NIV

The Rich and the Kingdom of God

17 As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

18 "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. 19 You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.'[a]"

20 "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy."

21 Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

22 At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

23 Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!"

24 The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, "Children, how hard it is[b] to enter the kingdom of God! 25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

26 The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, "Who then can be saved?"

27 Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."

28 Then Peter spoke up, "We have left everything to follow you!"

29 "Truly I tell you," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel 30 will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. 31 But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

Reviewing the Scriptures:

1. **Context from chapter 10:13-16:**

What do you see as a possible ironic juxtaposition between the children coming to Jesus in verses 13-16 and the rich young ruler of verses 17-31 as he comes to Jesus?

_____

What are the young children able "to do" to gain Jesus' (and heaven's) approval?

_____

2. *Also, **from Matt 19:16-30 and Luke 18:18-30:**

Describe the "rich young ruler" that has come to question Jesus.

_____

What do you think is driving him to come?

_____

Describe his physical posture? How is this unusual?

_____

What is the question he asks of Jesus? What does it mean?

_____

3. From verse 18, how does Jesus answer? _____

   And why is He (fascinatingly) off-topic? Or is He?

   _____

   _____

4. Now back on topic, from vs 19, what's Jesus' answer?

   _____

   And the young man's response? _____

   _____

5. From Vs 21, what is Jesus' response to the young man? _____

   What further thing does Jesus give the young man "to do?"

   _____

   _____

6. Describe the young man's response in Vs 22 _____

   _____

7. From vs 23-27, describe Jesus' statement and the disciple's amazement?

   _____

   What is the question that so perplexed them at the end of vs 26? _____

   And why? _____

   _____

8. How does Pete's statement in vs 28 mirror the rich young ruler's question in vs 17?

   _____

9. How does Jesus respond to Pete? _____

   _____

   What are the rewards Jesus is describing? _____

   _____

   How secure does he say these rewards are?

   _____

10. What seems so upside down and backwards about vs 31?

    _____ _____

Going Deeper:

1. Describe the “lack” Jesus says is missing in the rich young ruler’s life.

   _____

   Describe a time where you may have senses a similar “lack” in your own life.

   _____

2. How might Jesus be putting His finger into the center of our hearts with His Wealth Test?

   _____

   What things might He ask us to get of that could be clogging our spiritual arteries?

   _____

3. *The saying, “It’s easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle” is such a rich metaphor. What attribute(s) of God does it reveal?

   _____

Personal Reflection Questions (Optional for Groups)

What have you (and I) given up to follow Jesus? _____

What should we (you and I) be giving up to follow Jesus?

_____

_____

How does verse 31 apply to this discussion of our hearts?

_____

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, Your Kingdom seems so up-side-down and backwards – and yet - we know it is not. It is we (it is me) who has got it all backwards! You know us and read our hearts so well. We wish we could see inside more clearly, and that is exactly what Your Word affords and does for us. This passage does exactly that. It exposes the very center of our hearts.

So now, with our hearts fully laid open – help us to make the changes that following You requires. We are not able – like that rich young ruler – to make those changes on our own. We need You to accomplish that within our hard hearts. Maybe a complete transplant is needed.

In Christ’s name, Amen.