

WHY I FOLLOW JESUS



Because He Does the Impossible

Connect

What is something you have had a surprisingly hard time letting go of — an object, a habit, a plan, or even an idea about how your life was supposed to go?

Review

Take a couple of minutes to review the main ideas from the sermon:

- 1. A Performance Mindset.** The man who approached Jesus was sincere, moral, and religious. But by asking, “What must I do?” he revealed that he viewed eternal life as something he could earn. Jesus exposed the one area he was unwilling to surrender. The deeper issue wasn’t simply his wealth; something other than Jesus still had the final word in his life.
- 2. A Perspective Shift.** The disciples assumed that a wealthy, outwardly faithful man would surely be welcomed into God’s kingdom. Jesus challenged that assumption. Salvation is not something we can earn or achieve. What is impossible for us is possible with God, who enables us to surrender and trust Jesus.
- 3. Nothing Is Off-Limits to Jesus.** The man’s obstacle to putting his faith in Jesus was his wealth, and we may face obstacles too. The sermon identified four common obstacles: our wallet, head, heart, and wounds. Following Jesus means surrendering every area of our lives to him.

Read Mark 10:17–27

Make Observations: After reading the passage aloud, take a few minutes to notice what stands out. What do you observe about the man, Jesus, the disciples, or the conversation? Share your observations with the group.

Discuss

1. The man runs to Jesus, kneels before him, and shows genuine urgency about eternal life. What do you admire about him, and what seems to be missing?
2. The man asks, “What must I do?” Where are you most tempted to evaluate your relationship with God by your performance—what you have done right, the wrong things you have avoided doing, or how you compare with others?
3. Mark tells us that “Jesus looked at him and loved him” immediately before Jesus challenged the area he was holding back. How does that change the way you hear Jesus’ difficult words?
4. The sermon asked, “What area of your life have you told God is off-limits?” Why might we want to follow Jesus while still trying to maintain control of certain areas?
5. The sermon described four common obstacles as our wallet, head, heart, and wounds. Which of these most often makes it difficult for you to trust Jesus, and why?

Apply

In groups of two or three, respond to these questions:

If Jesus lovingly pointed to one area of your life today and said, “I want this too,” what might it be? What is one concrete step of trust or surrender you could take this week?

Pray

Have each person pray for someone else in the group and for what they shared in response to the previous questions. Ask God to help each person surrender what they are holding onto and to trust that what is impossible for us is possible with him.