



The Myths of Scarcity & Perfection

Mark 10:13-29

OPEN

Which of the following would best characterize you?

- Being a perfectionist
- Being competitive
- Being a worrier

How do you react when one of these “needs” are not met the way you desire?

What do all three of these have in common?

DISCUSS

Read the story of the *The Rich and the Kingdom of God* in Mark 10:13-29.

- What do you learn about the rich man in this story?
- He professes to have done *everything right*. Why do you think he still asked Jesus what else he needed to do?
- How does Jesus push the *vulnerable button* of the rich man? What is the challenge of Jesus...really?

Have you ever related to the rich man in this story? How so?

Why do you think the disciples were so surprised by Jesus’ words in 10:24-26? Do you think Jesus was being extreme?

- What are the dangers of wealth and resources (think especially in your current context)?

How would you summarize the big idea of this passage...what is Jesus teaching us?



Where do you see, feel, or sense vulnerability in this Bible story and in your group's discussion?

At the heart of vulnerability is acknowledging Jesus as Lord...as King...as Messiah. This means we are called to trust, obey, and follow the good King. We do not live in a land with lords and kings, and seldom think of ourselves as *subjects* of a ruler. Our culture has laws, but the freedom we experience in a capitalistic and highly individualist culture leads to a very different kind of life than being obedient to a King...doesn't it?

If the Bible story we just read were written for today, in the western suburbs of Chicago:

- What would be our question(s) to Jesus?
- What would be Jesus' challenge for us?

At the heart of our lives, are called to do something more or become something different? Explain.

YOUR NEXT STEP...

Read Mark 10:13-29 each day this week.

In your prayers, ask the Spirit to reveal to you areas of "self"-control you need to confess (vulnerability).

Reflect on what you are becoming (trajectory of life) as you think about the desires of your heart and evidence of your daily attitudes and actions (vulnerability).

Respond to God accordingly and feel free to share with your group (vulnerability) what you experienced and how they can support you.