

What Discipleship Costs

*"For Looking at the man, Jesus felt genuine love for him. 'There is still **one thing** you haven't done,' He told him. 'Go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have **treasure** in heaven. Then come, (KJV take up the cross) **follow Me!**'" Mark 10:45 NLT*

- What is it that you **treasure** (love) the most? Mt. 6:24; Lk. 12:34

Main Actor: Mk. 10:17; Mt. 19:22; Lk. 18:18

Central Lesson:
Every Controlling Earthly Treasure We Have Has To Be Given Away, To Follow Jesus!.

Mark's Prelude: Mk. 10:13-15 A child-like faith

JESUS' EXPECTATIONS OF HIS DISCIPLES

- I. **HE CAME TO JESUS!** Mk. 10:17
 - A. He Came In **Earnest**. 17a
How Heart Faith Begins
Before the Resurrection: Jn. 6:44
After the Ascension: Jn. 16:8
And Today: Rom. 10:17
 - B. He **Confessed** His Need. What more could he do?
 - C. He **Heard** The Truth - But Didn't Like It.
 - D. He Was **Loved!** Mk. 10:21 (Only in Mark)
 - E. He Lacked One Thing! A crisis of belief! 10:21a
 1. He lacked God's **Love Relationship**, the central core of the Law. Rom. 7:6
The Law required both outward conformity and perfect inner obedience (Mk. 12:29-34). No one can satisfy God by self-effort! He had tried, but failed!
Illustration: "Teddy" was my first crisis of belief.
 2. He lacked **Faith** as he considered Jesus' answer. (Mk. 10:21 *to be perfect*)

JESUS TOLD HIM TO DO FOUR THINGS:

The was the young ruler's crisis of belief.

1. Sell all his many possessions. To deny SELF. Phil. 3:10-11: Not self denial. Phil. 4:11-14 *'how to be content.'*
2. Give it all away to the poor (Mt. 5:20)
3. Take up his cross (KJV Mk. 10:21) See Mt. 16:24-25

4. Follow Me! Let ME be your security! 1 Tim. 6:17

F. His **Response** Was Dramatic! Mk. 10:22

Notice the contrast:

- He came running eagerly...now:
- His face was sincere, seeking...now:

Mt. 16:3 uses the same word for the weather - it ws a gloomy day! He now knew that the things of this world **stood between** his soul and his Savior.

II. **WARNINGS** JESUS GAVE REGARDING EARTHLY TREASURE Read Mk. 10:23-27

1. **It is not easy to be a disciple of Christ.** 10:23
Covetousness is like a virus. It deadens your instinct for self-sacrifice. If you have everything, why trust God? Lk. 12:31-32 NLT
2. **Heaven is impossible for those who trust in riches.** 10:24. Jesus lovingly calls his disciples "children" (remember MK. 10:13-16)
3. **The camel metaphor** 10:25-26

C. S. Lewis:

All things (e.g. a camel's Journey through, A needle's eye) are possible, it's true,
But picture how to camel feels, squeezed out
In one long bloody thread from tail to snout!

Living for (Trust in) your "treasure" is eternally dangerous!

*"Look here, you rich people: Weep and grown with anguish because of all the terrible troubles ahead of you. (5:3c) ...**This corroded treasure you have hoarded will testify against you on the day of judgment.**" Jas. 5:1-6 NLT*

4. **What God is asking of YOU today may seem impossible. But everything is possible for God!** 10:27

Central Lesson:

Every Controlling Earthly Treasure We Have Has To Be Given Away, To Follow Jesus!.

► Accept Christ as your Savior. ► As a Christian, dedicate your life to Christ. ► Invite someone to next Sunday's study. ► Attend a small group. ► Read the Bible this week & journal meaningful verses. ► Pray for friends that need Jesus.

Illustration of Mary J. P. (Brown) Thomas: In her crisis of belief

God gave her this promise:

"For the LORD God is our sun and our shield. He gives us grace and glory. The LORD will withhold no good thing from those who do what is right." Psa. 84:11 NLT

Nothing Between

Nothing between my soul and the Savior, So that His blessed face may be seen, Nothing preventing the least of His favor: Keep the way clear! Let nothing between. (Charles A Tindley, 1851-1933, lyrics and music: #321 [Great Hymns Of The Faith.](#))