

Life Group Discussion Guide

March 9 – Mark 10 --- Rediscovering the Child Within

Life Group Leaders,

During our *100 Days with Jesus*, you will have two approach options to guide your group in studying Sunday's text. We encourage you to try both methods over the next few months.

- 1. **Discussion Questions** Each week, you'll receive a set of questions related to the text. If you choose this option, feel free to <u>select the questions that best fit your group's needs and dynamics</u>.
- 2. **SEEDS Discovery Bible Study** This method introduces a Bible study format designed to empower participants to engage deeply with Scripture. The goal is to equip your group members with a practical tool for exploring the Bible with others, aligning with our mission to *Advance the Kingdom* with Jesus.

Both options are designed to enrich your group's experience. Experiment with each to discover what works best for your group. Thank you for leading and serving so well!

Discussion Questions:

Mark 10:1-12 --- Divorce

- 1. How does Jesus contrast the Pharisees' view of divorce with God's original design for marriage?
- 2. What does Jesus mean when He says, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment"?

Mark 10:13-16 --- The Little Children and Jesus

- 3. How does Jesus' response to His disciples show His heart toward children? Why was He indignant?
- 4. How does this passage shape our understanding of discipleship and what it means to follow Jesus?

Mark 10:17-31 --- The Rich Young Man

- 5. The man claims to have kept all the commandments Jesus lists. What does this reveal about his understanding of righteousness?
- 6. Jesus exposes the rich man's attachment to wealth. What things in our own lives can become obstacles to fully following Christ?
- 7. Jesus says, "Many who are first will be last, and the last first." How does this challenge cultural values of success, status, and achievement?

Mark 10:32-34 --- Jesus Again Predicts His Death

- 8. How does this prediction of Jesus' suffering compare to His previous ones (Mark 8:31, 9:30–32)? What new details does He include here?
- 9. The disciples struggled to understand Jesus' words. How can we guard against misunderstanding or resisting difficult truths in Scripture?

Mark 10:35-45 --- The Request of James and John

- 10. What does James and John's request reveal about their expectations of Jesus' kingdom?
- 11. In what ways do we sometimes seek status, recognition, or privilege in our faith, similar to James and John?
- 12. How can we cultivate a servant's heart in a world that often prioritizes power and influence?

Mark 10:46-52 --- Blind Bartimaeus Receives His Sight

- 13. Jesus asks Bartimaeus a direct question: "What do you want me to do for you?" If Jesus asked you the same question today, how would you answer?
- 14. What role does faith play in Bartimaeus' healing (v. 52)?

Reflection and Application

- 15. How can we guard our hearts against "hardness" in our relationships, particularly in marriage?
- 16. How can we develop a mindset that embraces both the suffering and the hope that come with following Christ as we see in Mark 10:32-34?
- 17. How does Mark 10:35-45 shape our understanding of Christian leadership? How can we support and pray for leaders who embody Christlike humility?
- 18. How can we as a life group encourage and help one another grow in faith and dependence on Jesus?

SEEDS Bible Study:

The Discovery Method works most effectively in small groups of three to four people. For larger gatherings, consider breaking into smaller groups to encourage deeper discussion. Here's a simple format to follow:

- Form Small Groups: Divide the larger group into smaller groups of three to four people.
- **Pose Questions**: Present one question at a time for the smaller groups to discuss. Allow a few minutes for meaningful conversation.
- **Share Insights**: Invite groups to share their thoughts with the larger group, if they feel led. This step fosters collective learning and reflection.
- **Repeat for Additional Questions**: Continue the process with the next question, following the same structure.
- **Close in Prayer**: Conclude the session with prayer, either within the smaller groups or together as a large group.

This approach encourages participation, reflection, and shared learning while keeping the conversation focused and engaging.

Discussion Questions:

Share

- What are you grateful for?
- What is stressing you out?

Explore

- What stood out to you from the sermon?
- Read the text twice (Select a portion of this week's text to focus on for your group's discussion.)
- Retell the passage in your own words.

Examine

- What questions, observations, and thoughts do you have about this passage?
- What does this text say about God, Jesus, and humanity?

Do It – Either alone or with others in the group.

- If the text is true, what are you sensing God saying to you?
- Write an "I will" statement.
- What does that look like for you?

Seek God's Kingdom

- Tell: Is there someone in your life you can share this text/truth with?
- Give: Is there someone in your life that you can serve this week?
- **Pray**: Close in prayer: God, thank You for planting SEEDS in us so we can share those SEEDS with others as we Advance the Kingdom!