



~~IMPOSSIBLE~~

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## Introduction

Text: Mark 10:17-27

Theme: Impossible People

There are people that we think are too far from God and without hope. What if you made a list of people that it would take an absolute miracle to know God? There are 5 people around you right now that you can begin praying to know Christ today because no one is too far from God and no one is impossible for God to save.

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## Discussion

What shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? The focus of the man's question is what shall I do. He thought eternal life was a matter of earning and deserving, not of relationship. As he bowed down on his knees in front of Jesus, the mere closeness of that relationship made him closer to salvation than anything he could do. He didn't want Jesus to be his savior, he wanted Jesus to show him the way to be his own savior.

1. What are ways that you are seeking to attain salvation/spiritual growth in a way that is outside of your relationship with Jesus. Good deeds? Knowledge?

"You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Do not defraud,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'" And he answered and said to Him, "Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth." Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me." But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

2. Each one of these commandments is pure, just, and good. How great the world would be if everyone would obey these commandments Jesus mentions here. How are you obeying the commandments Jesus mentions in this passage? How is this passage illustrating that obeying commandments is not enough to be a follower of Jesus?

"Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him" ..: Jesus was filled with loving compassion for this man because his life was so empty. He had climbed to the top of the ladder of success, only to find his ladder was leaning against the wrong building.

3. Is the ladder that you are climbing leaning on Jesus or something else? Where is your ladder taking you (Social media likes, financial gain, influence, relationships, control over people, deeper intimacy with Christ)?

How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God ... the disciples were astonished at His words: We are like the disciples; it is hard for us to see how riches would hinder us from the kingdom of God. We think that riches can only bring blessing and good.

The words of Jesus amaze the disciples because they assume that wealth is always a sign of God's blessing and favor.

Remember what Paul said to Timothy: But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. (1 Timothy 6:9-10)

4. How is money or the pursuit of money becoming an obstacle to you in your walk with the Lord?
5. Write down and Pray for five people that you feel that it would be nearly impossible for them to come to Christ.

## **Additional Reading**

Additional Scriptures on the snare of riches

Matthew 6:21

Ecclesiastes 5:10

Psalm 37:16-17