

4 And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large.

the gospel of

MARK

1:1

THE SON OF GOD

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.



And they ate and were satisfied. And they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. 9 And there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away.



45 Immediately he made his disciples get 46 And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. 47 And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. 48 And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night[g] he came to them, walking on the sea.

8:29

YOU ARE THE CHRIST

And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ."

And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"



15:39

TRULY, THIS MAN WAS THE SON OF GOD



Greed or Grace.

Mark 10:17-31.



- I. Guard Against Greed.
- II. Greed and Self Righteousness.
- III. Overcoming Greed through Grace and Faith.



I. Guard Against Greed.

Mark 10:22. Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

I. Guard Against Greed.

**How do we define
greed? Are you
greedy?**

I. Guard Against Greed.

“Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.” – Jesus

I. Guard Against Greed.

Greed or Need?- an identity issue.

**Becoming your “authentic self” =
the pursuit of my desires.**



I. Guard Against Greed.

“I had no idea that being your authentic self could make me as rich as I’ve become. If I had, I’d have done it much earlier.”

– Oprah Winfrey.

I. Guard Against Greed.

“We live in an individualistic, consumeristic society, a society in which we are taught not self-renunciation, but self-assertion- that your freedom, interests, and needs must always come first.” – Tim Keller.

I. Guard Against Greed.

Why we don't condemn greed:

- More money= hard work.**
- More money= intelligence.**
- More money= American Dream.**

I. Guard Against Greed.

Colossians 3:5 (NIV). Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

“Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship. And the compelling reason for maybe choosing [God] is that anything else will eat you alive. If you worship money and things, if they are where you tap real meaning in life, then you will never have enough, never feel you have enough. It's the truth. Worship your body and beauty and sexual allure and you will always feel ugly.” – David Foster Wallace.

I. Guard Against Greed.

**Have you made
your money an
idol?**

I. Guard Against Greed.

II. Greed and Self
Righteousness.

III. Overcoming Greed
through Grace and Faith.



II. Greed and Self Righteousness.

**Your greed reveals your self
righteousness.**



I. Greed and Self Righteousness.

Mark 10:17. And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

I. Greed and Self Righteousness.

Mark 10:17. “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

The wrong question.

The wrong answer.



I. Greed and Self Righteousness.

Mark 10: 19-20. You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.’”²⁰ And he said to him, “Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth.”

I. Greed and Self Righteousness.

Mark 10:21-22. And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” ²² Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

I. Greed and Self Righteousness.

You have to repent of not only your bad things, but also of how you use your good things.

II. Greed and Self Righteousness.

**Your greed reveals your self
righteousness.**

**Self righteousness will never bring
eternal life.**

I. Greed and Self Righteousness.

Mark 10: 23-24. And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” ²⁴ And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God!

I. Greed and Self Righteousness.

Mark 10: 25. It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.”

I. Greed and Self Righteousness.

Mark 10: 26-27. And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, “Then who can be saved?” 27
Jesus looked at them and said, “With man it is impossible...

I. Greed and Self Righteousness.

“How Difficult...” “easier for a camel...” “impossible...”

**Apart from grace, money
will blind us spiritually and
keep us from God.**

I. Greed and Self Righteousness.

“How Difficult...” “easier for a camel...” “impossible...”

**Apart from grace, _____
will blind us spiritually and
keep us from God.**

III. Grace and Self Righteousness.

**You're only a Christian if
you can see that your
salvation is impossible
for you.**

I. Guard Against Greed.

II. Greed and Self
Righteousness.

III. Overcoming Greed
Through Grace and Faith.



III. Grace and Faith.

The Cost of Faith.

**There is a cost to being a
Christian.**



III. Grace and Faith.

The cost of faith.

Mark 10:21 “Go sell all that you have and give to the poor...”



III. Grace and Faith.

The cost of faith.

Mark 10:28. Peter began to say to him, “See, we have left everything and followed you.”

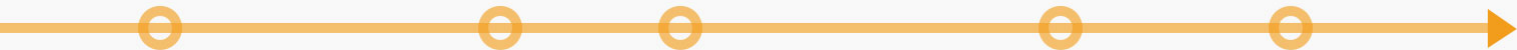
III. Grace and Faith.

The cost of faith.

Mark 10: 29-30. Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel,³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, **with persecutions,**

III. Grace and Faith.

For Jesus to be your savior he has to replace something in your life.



III. Grace and Faith.

The Promise of Grace.

**God always empowers
what he demands.**

III. Grace and Faith.

The Promise of Grace.

Mark 10:27. Jesus looked at them and said, “With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.”

III. Grace and Faith.

The promise of grace.

Mark 10: 29-30. Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, ³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and **in the age to come eternal life.**”

III. Grace and Faith.

The promise of grace- eternal life.

What is eternal life?



III. Grace and Faith.

John 17:3. And this is eternal life that they may know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.



III. Grace and Faith.

John 17:3. And this is eternal life that they may know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

This is the opposite of what the rich young ruler wanted.

III. Grace and Faith.

Whoever believes has eternal life, I am the bread of life. (Jn. 6:47-48)

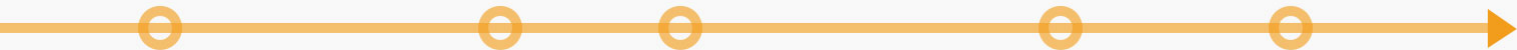
I am the resurrection and the life. (Jn. 11:25)

I am the way the truth and the life. (Jn. 14:6)

He is the true God and eternal life (1 Jn. 5:20)

III. Grace and Faith.

**Eternal life is
union with Christ.**



III. Grace and Faith.

The Reward of Grace.

God's promise of grace (union with Christ), empowers my costly faith, which brings the reward of grace—Christ's life.

III. Grace and Faith.

Hebrews 13:5. Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

III. Grace and Faith.

2 Cor. 8:7,9. But as you excel in everything, see that you excel in this act of grace also [giving].⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

III. Grace and Faith.

The reward of grace.

Mark 10: 29-30. Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, ³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.

III. Grace and Faith.

God's grace empowers:

The Cost of Faith	The Reward of Grace
Lose Life.	Christ's eternal life.
Lose family.	Christ's eternal family.
Lose possessions.	Christ's eternal inheritance.
Lose position.	Christ's eternal position.



III. Grace and Faith.

Now you can:

-Reject the idolatry of greed.



III. Grace and Faith.

Now you can:

- Reject the idolatry of greed.**
- Give radically.**



III. Grace and Faith.

Now you can:

- Reject the idolatry of greed.**
- Give radically.**
- Say God is good.**