

## **The Gospel of Mark Message Series**

Discussion Guide based on the morning message on April 18, 2010

*The Kingdom Paradox – Mark 10:17-31*

**Big Idea:** The Kingdom of God is a free gift but it will cost you everything.

### **Leading the Session Helps/Discussion Questions**

- Make announcements and have a prayer time. (before Choir Members arrive)

### **ICE BREAKERS**

- What is the definition of grace? Why is it so hard for people to grasp? How has our culture affected our ability to grasp what grace is?
- Why would Larry make the statement that grace is the one thing that separates Christianity from all other religions?

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- What can we conclude about the rich man after reading verse 17? What was the context (the underlying belief at that time) of his understanding of eternal life? (He believed to some extent that the Law could save him although he was not completely sure.)
- What was Jesus' purpose in asking the question He asked in verse 18?
- Read verse 21. How does Jesus response show that He loved the rich man?
- Jesus' reply to the rich man in verse 21 hit his "soft spot" according to Larry. What is a soft spot? What was the rich man's soft spot? What are our soft spots?
- Is it possible for Jesus to be Savior and not Lord? (See if the group will try to defend both answers. Try for a few minutes on the yes answer and a few on the no answer. Or just ask people to back up their answers. And by the way, my answer would be no.)
- Why did the disciples ask the question contained in verse 26? What was their understanding of being rich as it relates to God's blessing?

### **Application**

- Take a few minutes to evaluate where your soft spot (or spots) are. Try to imagine what Jesus would say to you based on your soft spot.
- Spend some time in prayer contemplating the grace that has been extended to you and what it cost God. Respond appropriately with how you live your life.