

Children and family talk for 10th October 2021

Hello everyone, its lovely to have you with me as we investigate more of bible together and worship God. Let's begin by reading from the bible,

Hebrews 4 verse 16 - 'So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.'

The book of Hebrews was written to the early Christians to help them understand more about Jesus and how to live as a Christian. The verse we have just read tells us to come boldly and confidently to God, and we should do this knowing that God knows what we need before we even ask for it.

In our main bible reading today we will hear how everything is possible with God.

Mark 10.17-31 "As Jesus was starting on his way to Jerusalem, a man came running up to him, knelt down, and asked, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

"Why do you call me good?" Jesus asked. "Only God is truly good, but to answer your question, you know the commandments: You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. You must not cheat anyone. Honour your father and mother."

"Teacher," the man replied, "I've obeyed all these commandments since I was young."

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, follow me."

At this the man felt sad and went away, for he had many possessions.

Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God!" This amazed them. But Jesus said again, "Dear children, it is very hard to enter the kingdom of God. In fact, 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!"

The disciples were astounded. "Then who in the world can be saved?" They asked.

Jesus looked at them intently and said, "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But not with God. Everything is possible with God."

Then Peter began to speak up. "We've given up everything to follow you," he said.

"Yes," Jesus replied, "And I assure you that everyone who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or property, for my sake and for the Good News, will receive now in return a hundred times as many houses' brothers, sisters, mothers, children and property – along with persecution. And in the world to come that person will have

eternal life. But many who are the greatest now will be least important then, and those who seem least important now will be the greatest then.””

Now let's sing a song:

Be bold, be strong

Be bold, be strong, for the Lord your God
is with you. (X2)

I am not afraid, no, no, no,

I am not dismayed, not me,

For I'm waking in faith and victory,

Come on and walk in faith and victory
For the Lord, your God, is with you.

Morris Chapman. SoF 37, MP 49, JP 14

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Let's talk about our Bible verses: (With powerpoint)

Here Jesus is asked how to get eternal life. It's not something we necessarily think about often, is it? Most of the time we are too busy with our everyday lives to stop and think about eternal life. In fact, most people won't think about it until they are ill or know someone who is ill, and then it somehow seems more important doesn't it. Anyway, the man doesn't get the answer he was looking for. What Jesus says he needs to do is too hard. Give up everything?! Really? What all my lovely things and even the way I live?!

Jesus goes on to explain this to his followers – he says it is easier for a rich person to go through the eye of the needle than to get into the kingdom of God. Interestingly, the 'eye of the needle' may have been a very small gate on the wall into Jerusalem, and this may have been what Jesus was referring to, not an actual needle after all. It was very hard for people with camels loaded up to get through as the gate was so tiny, and so they would have to unload one side and then load back up the other to get their camels through the gate.

So, Jesus' followers are a bit upset about this, they have given up a lot to follow Jesus and are starting to wonder if it was worth it. Jesus reassures them, with God everything is possible, and all those who have given up things to follow Jesus would get back all they had lost a hundred times over.

So where does this leave us? Can we give up enough to get into the kingdom of God? It doesn't matter. Because all we need to do to get into the kingdom of God is to believe in and follow Jesus. Everything is possible if we can do this. Yes, it is good to share what we have with others, particularly if they are in need. Yes, it is good to not be greedy, to only buy what we need and to look after others. And yes, it is good to be free from too many possessions so that we can concentrate on the important things in life. But ultimately, what is really important is to believe and worship God. If you are truly doing this, then all the rest should follow from this. We come back to the beginning, because sometimes we have so much in our lives that we are too busy to see what is truly important – if we can make Jesus

the centre of our lives, instead of a side line on a Sunday, we will find that all the rest is not so important, and that actually we can put aside a lot of the 'things' that are keeping us from Jesus and the kingdom of God.

Let's talk to God now:

Dear God,

Our wonderful, loving God who gives us daily all we need to live

We come to you now to say sorry,

Sorry for not being the loving friend that you are to us,

Sorry for putting you to one side and not at the centre of our lives.

Help us Lord, and give us the strength to put you in the centre, where you belong.

Thankyou Lord.

Amen.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (Hold out hands as if expecting a present)

And the love of God (Put your hands on your heart)

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (Hold hands)

Be with us all now and for ever. Amen! (raise hands together on the Amen)

A page for you to look at at home: [roots-at-home-10-october-2021.pdf](https://www.rootsontheweb.com/roots-at-home-10-october-2021.pdf)
([rootsontheweb.com](https://www.rootsontheweb.com))