



Sermon Overview

The material in chapter 10 is set in Jesus' journey through Judea. In addition to bringing Jesus and the disciples to Jerusalem, the journey also symbolizes the theme of discipleship. As Jesus nears Jerusalem, his teaching about his mission and the claims of discipleship become increasingly specific. Chapter 10 begins with the call to discipleship in the most fundamental aspects of life – marriage (vv. 1-12), children (vv. 13-16), and possessions (vv. 17-31). For a third time Jesus foretells his death and resurrection, and like his teaching on discipleship itself, the prediction is the most explicit yet (vv. 32-34). For the first time Jesus declares the servant-role of the Son of Man "not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (v. 45). Mark concludes the chapter with the healing of Bartimaeus, whose trust in Jesus for the recovery of his sight and following of Jesus "on the way" to Jerusalem represent the quintessence of discipleship (v. 52).¹

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Getting Started

1. What are some controversial areas Christians deal with today? How are those issues distracting to the truth and grace of the gospel? How can those issues point to the truth and grace of the gospel?

Starting with God

2. Does Jesus give a "liberal" or "conservative" answer to the divorce question?

¹ Edwards Jr., James R.. The Gospel according to Mark (The Pillar New Testament Commentary (PNTC). Eerdmans Publishing Co.

