

Unit 7

Peak University Study Guide

**FAITH: HOLDS NOTHING BACK FROM GOD**

**Mark 10:17-31**

**Open with Praise Time:** - *“Living the Word”* – Look around you in books, among the people or in the news. Who do you see truly living out the Word and holding nothing back from God?

**LESSON PLAN**



Connect: an opportunity for people to immediately interact and connect with each other; icebreaker/attention getters.

**Ask:** What is the craziest example you’ve ever seen of someone who holds nothing back?


**Transition:** It’s amazing that people will pull out all the stops to achieve fame and recognition or just for sheer fun. Yet, when it comes to the greatest competition of all, the one that receives the applause of heaven with a great cloud of witnesses looking on, we hold back, afraid to let everything go.

**The Bottom Line:** Today we are going to look at what Jesus' has to say about 'Almost' surrendering to God.

**Background** – *Jesus has people bringing so many children to Him that His disciples start rebuking the parents for bothering Jesus. Jesus doesn't agree. He is indignant with the disciples. He tells them they better be more like these little children if they ever want to see heaven.*

**Read Mark 10:17-20**

1. Do you think it is a coincidence that this young man runs up to Jesus with questions about eternal life immediately following the lesson of child like faith He has just delivered?
2. Describe the enthusiasm level of this man.

 Describe the enthusiasm level of most people when it comes to knowing about eternal life? Do people RUN to Jesus looking for answers? Do they fall down at Jesus' feet seeking out the answers to eternal life?

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*Most people are too busy living to care. It's as if we believe or at least hope we are somehow immortal. That is why so many people buy into reincarnation. However God plainly said, "Just as man is destined to die ONCE, and then after that to face judgment" (Hebrews 9:27).*

3. Notice the question has to do with "inheriting" eternal life. The word meant to be an heir. What seems strange about that question?

*The Old Testament was a system of Laws and regulations. He's being thorough. He's checking to see if everything is in place. He believes he is a man of great faith who follows God's Law. It's like taking a last minute pre-flight check.*

4. What is unique about Jesus' response to the young man's question?



What difference should it make in our lives if we truly understand that Jesus is the Good Teacher?



How many good things can you list that Jesus has brought into your life?

**Read Mark 10:21-25**

5. What is Jesus response to this man?
6. Money in itself isn't evil. God didn't demand we all take a vow of poverty. If everyone took a vow of poverty, the world's poor would suffer horribly. Christian are the most generous in taking care of the hurting of the world. So, why does Jesus make this comment?

*The Jews forbid giving away more than 20% of your money. This would have challenged the man's teaching and of course that was a very comfortable teaching for someone who was very rich. The money was not the issue. Anything standing between me and Jesus is the issue. For this man it was his money. For others it may be family, business, lover, reputation, or self. Every disciple is called to follow Jesus in faith, trusting Him completely.*



Many things make it hard to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. What are some of the other riches we place greater value on than our relationship with following Jesus?

7. What is the reaction of the disciples?
8. How does Jesus respond?

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**Read Mark 10:26-31 – *Have the tables work on the following questions, then come back and share their answers.***



**Interactive Questions for Table Discussion:**

9. What is Jesus' solution to the impossible task of salvation?
10. What is significant about Peter's statement to Jesus?
11. What possible riches does Jesus point out that we might be forced to give up in order to follow Him?
12. What does Jesus mean by concluding with, "But many who are first will last, and the last first?"



What lesson do you think Jesus wants us to apply today?



**CARING TIME: SHARE AND PRAY**

**Share the bottom line:** Jesus teaches us that life lived in faithfulness is ignoring the world's speed limits. God says put your life on full throttle! Share the areas you personally would like to open up for Jesus.

**Prayer:** Praise God at each table for the strength and wisdom to obey.