

GROWTH GROUPS

April 29, 2012

Mark 10:17-31

Conversation Starter –

As Pastor Clint recalled, the singular focus of an Olympian training for an event, remember a time in your life when you had a single-minded focus on a goal. What aspects of “peace” come when we live with a focus like this?

Understanding –

In calling the “rich young ruler” to abundant life, Christ illustrates his desire for his followers by pointing out the man’s double-mindedness. Understanding that a person cannot serve two masters (Matthew 6:24) Jesus calls the man to completely get rid of that which had mastered him, taking up a single focus as he followed Christ.

1. Jesus desires peace for his followers; a peace that comes from a life that is lived into the purposes of God. What clues arise in the text to help us understand that this man is not at peace? Imagine what he is feeling....what does it feel like when you are not at peace?
2. The source of this man’s anxiety is not money, exactly, but a double-minded devotion to God and money; trying to please two masters. However, Jesus does give the warning that wealth is a great threat to truly taking possession of the peace of God, the life God has to offer or the kingdom of God...all different descriptions of the same reality. Why do you think wealth is such a threat?
3. In verse 24, Jesus references the children introduced in verses 13-16. How does Jesus use the children to illustrate the way he wants all of his disciples to follow him?
4. Jesus promises a “return on investment” for those who singularly devote their lives to his kingdom. Verses 28-31 explain this. Asking the same question Peter did, what can we expect in return for devoting our life to Christ? How does this influence your stewardship thinking?

First Presbyterian Church of Maumee

<http://fpcmaumee.org> Email staff@fpcmaumee.org

200 East Broadway, Maumee, Ohio 43537

Phone 419-893-0223 Fax 419-893-0327