

# Together with Jesus

Week 10 – Matthew 19 and 20

Continuing Toward Jerusalem and  
Teaching the Hierarchy of the Kingdom



# Warm Up

What are the controversial positions of the Church in our age?



# Matthew 19:1-12

## Teaching about Divorce and Celibacy

Jesus continues to talk about the ethics and understandings of this new “kingdom of heaven” community. He does so in response to a question from a Pharisee about divorce, which Jesus uses as an opportunity to talk about marriage and celibacy.



**Question: How do you think the Pharisee responds to Jesus' answer?**

# Matthew 19:13-22

## Children and the Rich Young Ruler

The people following Jesus are challenged to consider who they think is worthy of Jesus. First children that would have been turned away are brought close and a very religious rich man is sent away.



**Question: What do you think the rich young ruler expected Jesus to say?**

# Matthew 19:23-30

## Who will enter the kingdom?

As the rich young ruler is sent away, Peter tests his understanding of what Jesus is meaning in sending this man away. Jesus continues to offer promises to those who will follow Him with abandon.



**Question: What do we make of Jesus hard sayings here for ourselves?**



**Question: Who would have been “first” in line in terms of Jesus’ parable?**

# Matthew 20:1-16

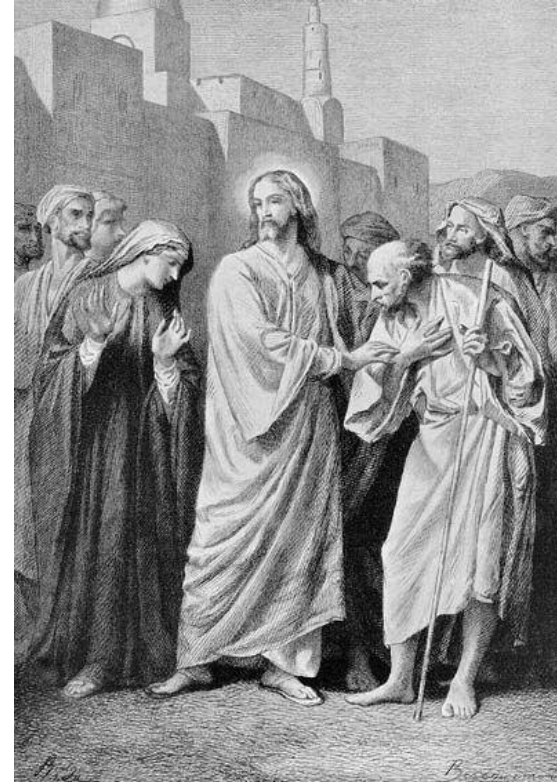
## Parable of the Vineyard

Jesus seems to reinforce the points He was making in chapter 19 by telling the parable of the vineyard, ending with a line that has become somewhat common from Him, “the first shall be last.”

# Matthew 20:17-28

## Places of Honor and Service

Jesus foretells His death for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final time before entering into Jerusalem. This met with the tone-deaf request of James and John's mother who asks for a special privilege and honor to be given to her sons. Jesus uses this time to drive home the point of being last.



The mother and the brethren of Jesus by Alexandre Bida

**Question: How do Christians today seek privilege?**



**Question: What do you suppose the crowd following Jesus is made up of at this point?**

## **Matthew 20:29-34**

### **Two Blind Men are Healed**

As Jesus continues His path toward Jerusalem and the Triumphal entry. As He does so, He heals and picks up two blind men on the way. This inclusion of the blind (a sort of the “last”) before He enters in triumph likely is meaningful.





# Wrap Up

Being last doesn't come naturally. How do you try to follow these words of Jesus?

Next week – Matthew 21 and 22