

RADICAL

October 26, 2008 • Dr. David Platt

THE GOSPEL DEMANDS RADICAL ABANDONMENT - PART III Mark 10:17-31

A Radical Approach...

Jesus' call to salvation demands total **surrender**.

- Salvation is never a matter of **external** reformation.
- Salvation is always a matter of **internal** transformation.
- Jesus is not merely a respectable **teacher**.
- Jesus is the sovereign **Lord**.

A Radical Affection...

Jesus calls us to give sacrificially because He **loves** us.

- He is a Shepherd who **protects** us.
- He is a Father who **delights** in us.
- He is a King who **provides** for us.

A Radical Command...

Jesus gives commands, not **considerations**.

- As followers of Christ, we do not consider **options**.
- As followers of Christ, we **obey**.

A Radical Reward...

Jesus does not want to strip us of our pleasure; He wants to satisfy us with His **treasure**.

- Which do we want?
 - Short-term treasures we can't keep...
 - Or long-term treasures we can't **lose**?
 - Unpredictable investments...
 - Or inexhaustible **savings**?
- Where is our heart?
 - Our use of money is a sure barometer of our present spiritual **condition**.
 - Our use of money is a sure indicator of our future eternal **destination**.

A Radical Loss...

Love of possessions will inevitably and ultimately rob us of the **joy** for which we have been created.

- His eyes were **blind**.
- His face was **sad**.
- His hands were **full**.

A Radical Shift...

We must understand our use of money and possessions in the context of biblical **history**.

- In the Past (Old Testament)...
 - Obedience to God led to **acquiring** possessions on earth.
 - God gave possessions to build a **place** that displayed His glory among the nations.

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A Radical Approach...

Jesus' call to salvation demands total _____.

- Salvation is never a matter of _____ reformation.
- Salvation is always a matter of _____ transformation.
- Jesus is not merely a respectable _____.
- Jesus is the sovereign _____.

A Radical Affection...

Jesus calls us to give sacrificially because He _____ us.

- He is a Shepherd who _____ us.
- He is a Father who _____ in us.
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A Radical Command...

Jesus gives commands, not _____.

- As followers of Christ, we do not consider _____.
- As followers of Christ, we _____.

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Jesus does not want to strip us of our pleasure; He wants to satisfy us with His _____.

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A Radical Loss...

Love of possessions will inevitably and ultimately rob us of the _____ for which we have been created.

- His eyes were _____.
- His face was _____.
- His hands were _____.

A Radical Shift...

We must understand our use of money and possessions in the context of biblical _____.

- In the Past (Old Testament)...
 - Obedience to God led to _____ possessions on earth.
 - God gave possessions to build a _____ that displayed His glory among the nations.

- In the Present (New Testament and Today)...
 - ▶ Obedience to God leads us to **abandon** possessions on earth.
 - ▶ God gives possessions to build a **people** who take His glory to the nations.
- In the Future...
 - ▶ Obedience to God leads us to **accumulate** possessions in heaven.
 - ▶ God gives possessions to build a **paradise** where we will enjoy His glory with the nations.

A Radical Warning...

We desperately need to realize the **deadly** nature of our possessions.

- The danger we face...
 - ▶ Riches cause us to become self- **confident**.
 - ▶ Riches cause us to become self- **sufficient**.
 - ▶ Riches cause us to become self- **centered**.
- The decisions we make...
 - ▶ A life of selfish **luxury** that forsakes the poor.
 - ▶ A life of selfless **love** for the sake of the poor.
- Identify the **necessities** and luxuries in your life. Be honest. Then begin selling and giving away your luxuries for the sake of the lost and the poor.
- Based on your necessities, set a simple **cap** on your lifestyle and then give away everything else.

A Radical Gift...

Salvation is utterly **impossible** for any and every person apart from the grace of God.

- God **gives** salvation to us.
 - ▶ God does not **sell** us salvation.
 - ▶ God does not **trade** us salvation.
- God **enables** sacrifice in us.
- Each day this week, set aside a specific concentrated time alone and/or with your family and **pray**. Really **pray**. Ask the Holy Spirit to change your desires and show you what He wants you to do. Then begin to do it, in His power, one step at a time.

A Radical Freedom...

Jesus frees us from our bondage to ourselves and our **stuff**.

- We are free to **go** wherever He calls.
- We are free to **give** whatever He asks.
- Honestly answer this question: Are you giving **less than** your ability, **according to** your ability, or **beyond** your ability?
- Stop asking how much you can **spare** and start asking how much it's going to take.

A Radical Family...

Jesus unites His people together to enjoy and **encourage** one another as they abandon themselves to Him.

- The **church** no longer seems like an abstract idea.
- **Sacrifice** no longer seems like an adequate term.
- This **world** no longer seems like an acceptable home.
- Decide today that your life and your possessions are His to spend **radically** for the sake of the lost and the poor around the world.

- In the Present (New Testament and Today)...
 - ▶ Obedience to God leads us to _____ possessions on earth.
 - ▶ God gives possessions to build a _____ who take His glory to the nations.
- In the Future...
 - ▶ Obedience to God leads us to _____ possessions in heaven.
 - ▶ God gives possessions to build a _____ where we will enjoy His glory with the nations.

A Radical Warning...

We desperately need to realize the _____ nature of our possessions.

- The danger we face...
 - ▶ Riches cause us to become self- _____.
 - ▶ Riches cause us to become self- _____.
 - ▶ Riches cause us to become self- _____.
- The decisions we make...
 - ▶ A life of selfish _____ that forsakes the poor.
 - ▶ A life of selfless _____ for the sake of the poor.
- Identify the _____ and luxuries in your life. Be honest. Then begin selling and giving away your luxuries for the sake of the lost and the poor.
- Based on your necessities, set a simple _____ on your lifestyle and then give away everything else.

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Salvation is utterly _____ for any and every person apart from the grace of God.

- God _____ salvation to us.
 - ▶ God does not _____ us salvation.
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- We are free to _____ whatever He asks.
- Honestly answer this question: Are you giving _____ your ability, _____ your ability, or _____ your ability?
- Stop asking how much you can _____ and start asking how much it's going to take.

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Jesus unites His people together to enjoy and _____ one another as they abandon themselves to Him.

- The _____ no longer seems like an abstract idea.
- _____ no longer seems like an adequate term.
- This _____ no longer seems like an adequate home.
- Decide today that your life and your possessions are His to spend _____ for the sake of the lost and the poor around the world.