

Vs. 23-27 – Only God Can Save

1. What do you think Jesus meant when He said it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God?
2. How can wealth or comfort keep someone from recognizing their need for God?
3. The disciples asked, “Then who can be saved?” How is Jesus’ answer in verse 27 both humbling and hopeful?
4. How should the truth that only God can save influence the way we pray for and share the gospel with people who don't know Jesus?

Sermon Discussion Points for



CALVARY
— O X N A R D —

Calvary Chapel Groups
Sunday, October 25, 2026

First

Read Mark 10:17-27 – A young man, we have come to know as the Rich Young Ruler approached Jesus asking what he must do to inherit eternal life. Expecting a straightforward answer that would tell him what good work was required for salvation, Jesus instead revealed his heart issue. Only by forsaking his idol could he receive salvation. Unfortunately, he went away sad, unwilling to lay down his wealth to follow Jesus.

What was your first job, official or unofficial? What did it feel like to get paid for work you'd actually done? Why do you think "you get what you earn" feels so natural and fair to most people?

Vs.17-18– The Young Man Sought Salvation by Works

1. Why do you think the rich young ruler asked Jesus what he needed to do to inherit eternal life? How do people today demonstrate a similar mindset?
2. What is the difference between trying to earn God's favor and receiving salvation as a gift of grace?
3. Why is it difficult for people to accept that they cannot earn their salvation through good behavior, religious activity, or good intentions?
4. How might a person who has grown up in church, or been in church a long time still be trusting in their own goodness rather than in Jesus

Vs. 18-20 – His Works Showed Him to be a “Good Person”

1. Jesus listed only the commandments about how we treat others. Why do you think He left out the ones about God?
2. Why is comparing ourselves to other people an unreliable way to evaluate our standing before God?
3. How does understanding God's perfect standard help us recognize our need for Jesus?
4. Most of us know unbelievers who are kind, honest, and generous. Why isn't that enough to save them, or us?

Vs. 21-22 – Jesus Lovingly Revealed His Idolatry

1. Verse 21 says Jesus looked at him and *loved* him before confronting him. How does that shape the way you understand Jesus' call to give something up?
2. Why do you think the young man walked away sorrowful when Jesus told him to sell his possessions and follow Him?
3. Jesus called the young man to surrender the very thing he valued most. How can we recognize when something has taken God's place in our life?
4. “Either Jesus is Lord of all, or He isn't Lord at all.” Where do you feel the pull to keep one area of your life off-limits to Him?

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