

Sermon Notes

“Who then can be saved”?

A few things I need to remember from hearing today’s Bible Reading and Teaching.

The Bible Reading

Luke Chapter 18 verses 15 to 33.

¹⁵ People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. ¹⁶ But Jesus called the children to him and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁷ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”

¹⁸ A certain ruler asked him, “Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁹ “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. ²⁰ You know the commandments: ‘You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.’”

²¹ “All these I have kept since I was a boy,” he said.

²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

²³ When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy. ²⁴ Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁶ Those who heard this asked, “Who then can be saved?”

²⁷ Jesus replied, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”

²⁸ Peter said to him, “We have left all we had to follow you!”

²⁹ “Truly I tell you,” Jesus said to them, “no one who has left home or wife or brothers or sisters or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God ³⁰ will fail to receive many times as much in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.”

³¹ Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, “We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. ³² He will be delivered over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him and spit on him; ³³ they will flog him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again.” (NIV)

An Introduction

The reading before you today has four stories. The first is “The example of children and entering the Kingdom of God” verses 15 to 17. The second is “The difficulty of leaving things behind and the Kingdom of God” verses 18 to 25. The third is “The promise of not missing out and the Kingdom of God” verses 26 to 30. The fourth is “The way with God and the Kingdom of God” verses 31 to 33.

A prayer.

Almighty God and loving heavenly Father, guide me and teach me of yourself from your Word. Help me and others to see the wisdom and value of living life according to your word the Bible; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

The Bible Study

Read Luke 18:15 to 33 (See over)

Question:

1. Read verses 15 to 17. Why do you think Jesus would use the example of children for receiving and entering the Kingdom of God? Would you call your relationship with God “childlike”?
2. Read verses 18 to 25. Why do you think Jesus asked the man “Why do you call me good”?

What was the man’s question of Jesus (vs 18) and what was Jesus reply? How did the man respond? What was Jesus comment (vss 24-25)? Is there something you are finding hard to “leave behind”, “let go off” in your relationship with God? Why?

3. The people who heard Jesus discussion with the man asked a question, what was it and what was Jesus answer (vss 26-27)?

What assurance has Jesus given vss 28-30)?

4. Why do you think Jesus would speak about his death and resurrection to the disciple now immediately after these events?

Close with prayer considering what you’ve learnt.