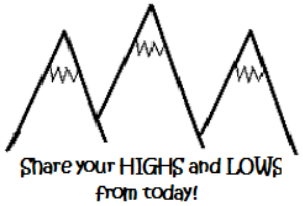
THE PASS-THE-PLATE DEVOS

"Families passing on the faith as they pass their plates at the Family Table on the 20th week of Pentecost"

Mark 10:17-31

17As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and
fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked,
"what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 18"Why do you
call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except
God alone. 19You know the commandments: 'Do not
murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give
false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and
mother.'" 20"Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept
since I was a boy." 21Jesus looked at him and loved him.
"One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you
have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in
heaven. Then come, follow me." 22At this the man's face
fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.
23Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How
hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!" 24The
disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again,
"Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!
25It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle
than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." 26The
disciples were even more amazed, and said to each
other, "Who then can be saved?" 27Jesus looked at them
and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God;
all things are possible with God." 28Peter said to him,
"We have left everything to follow you!" 29"I tell you the
truth," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or
brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or
fields for me and the gospel 30will fail to receive a
hundred times as much in this present age (homes,
brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—and with
them, persecutions) and in the age to come, eternal life.
31But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

The Word of the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**



1. What did the man who fell to his knees call Jesus?
   What question does he ask Jesus?
2. Who does Jesus say is good?
3. What commandments does Jesus list?
4. What does the man say about these commandments?
5. Jesus gives the man one more command. What was it?
6. How did the man respond to this command?
7. What does Jesus say in verse 25 about camels and the kingdom of God.
8. The disciples knew that a camel could never enter the eye of a needle, so they asked the question: "Who then can be saved?" What does Jesus say to them in answer to this question?

Family Challenge

It has been said before that there are two kinds of holds. There are the monkey holds and the cat holds. A monkey hold is one in which a baby monkey is in trouble and the mother monkey runs to her baby and swings down to help save it. The baby monkey must reach up its hands and the mother will grab it and bring it to safety.

Cats are different. When a kitten is in trouble, the mother cat runs to her kitten and, with her mouth, scoops the kitten up by the scruff of its neck. The kitten doesn't have to reach out at all!

Which hold – the monkey hold or the cat hold – does the Gospel lesson tell us the Christian life is like? Be sure to share why you chose a particular hold!