

# A Rich Man's Questions

## Lesson At-A-Glance

Scripture Reference  
**Mark 10:17-31**

Lectionary Sunday/  
Church Season  
**Pentecost**

Lesson Focus  
**We can share what we have and trust in God's love.**



Tear here for easy use!

### Gather (10 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
<p><b>Arrival Time</b> Kids try to put a paper camel through the eye of a needle and do an Activity Page.</p>	<p>Activity Pages </p>	<p>Copies of the picture of the camels found on page 47, large plastic needles, markers or pencils</p>
<p><b>Circle Time</b> Kids greet each other using the "Sh" sound, hear about the church season, and share their experiences with the camel and needle activity.</p>	<p>Leaflet</p>	<p>Picture of camel, needle</p>
<p><b>Prayer Time</b> Kids will say an echo prayer of thanks.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>None</p>

### Open the Bible (15 minutes)


	Spark Resources	Supplies
<p><b>A Rich Man's Questions Storytelling</b> Leader or kid reads aloud from the Spark Story Bible and kids consider what's possible and impossible.</p>	<p>Spark Story Bibles</p>	<p>None</p>
<p><b>Tell Me the Story</b> Kids tell the story using visual picture clues.</p>	<p>Leaflets, Lesson Stickers</p>	<p>None</p>
<p><b>How Would You Spend \$10?</b> Kids record what they would choose to do with \$10.</p>	<p>Leaflets</p>	<p>Pencils</p>

## Activate Faith (15 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
<b>God Loves the Same</b> Kids compare pictures to discuss which God loves most.	Leaflets	None
<b>The Secret Life of Camels</b> Kids will learn facts about camels.	Leaflets	None
<b>Give It to God</b> Kids draw or write something they can do and present it as an offering.	None	Offering basket, bowl, or plate; precut strips of paper, pencils

Tear here for easy use!

## Send (5 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
<b>Good-bye Time</b> Kids select what they will do at home this week and make the sign of the cross as a blessing.	Leaflets	Pencils, scissors
<b>Prayer Time</b> Kids share their own idea in a petition prayer.	Leaflets, Family Pages 	None



Visit [www.sparksundayschool.org](http://www.sparksundayschool.org) for more Spark content! Watch a short Lesson Prep video that will prepare you and give you confidence to explore this Bible story with the kids you are leading. You will also find four downloadable resources for this lesson: an Activity Page, a Family Page, and two additional in-class activities.

# Gather (10 minutes)

## Arrival Time

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Set out copies of the Activity Page for this lesson and other supplies on a table.

Make enough copies of page 47 and cut the camels apart so that each kid will have one.

**I have a camel here. And I have a needle here. In today's Bible story, Jesus says something about a camel going through the eye of a needle. Is that possible? Jesus thought it was pretty impossible, too. Try it and see what you think!**

Invite kids to do the Activity Page. When all kids have arrived, invite them to join you in a circle or small group.

### Spark Resources

Activity Pages



### Supplies

Copies of the picture of the camels found on page 47

Large plastic needles

Markers or pencils

## Circle Time

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**Let's welcome everyone today. For each person in our class, we will say, "God welcomes *name of kid* into the family of God!" Today we going to talk about something that begins with the *Sh* sound, shhhh-aring. Let's use the word *share* today as we greet each other. Tell something about yourself that you *do* like to share. I will go first. "I like to share hugs." Give each kid a turn, helping those who might struggle with this.**

Hold up a leaflet and point to the picture of the leafing tree on the green background under the lesson title.

**What color do you see? (*green*) What picture clue do you see? (*tree with leaves*) By looking closely at these things, we can tell that it's still Pentecost.**

**Have you seen anything else in our church that's green for this season? (*altar paraments, pastor's stole, banners, special decorations, etc.*) What do you think it means? Any guesses on how many more weeks we will have of Pentecost? Pause for responses. Come back next week, and let's check again!**

If the kids in your class tried the Faith on the Go! activities from last week's leaflet, be sure to invite kids to share what they did. Ask everyone how they showed love to someone or helped another person during the last week.

**When we gathered today, we tried to get our camels to go through a needle. Did you think of any ways to get this picture of a camel through the eye of this needle? The eye of the needle is the little hole where you usually put the thread in a needle. What if we had a real camel in here instead, but the needle didn't change size? See what suggestions they come up with, but ultimately you want them to realize that this would not be possible for people at all.**

### Spark Resources

Leaflet

### Supplies

Picture of camel

Needle

Tear here for easy use!

## Prayer Time

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**Please repeat each part of this prayer after me:**

**Dear God,  
Thank you for loving us  
No matter what.  
Help me to see  
What is possible  
When you work in me.  
Amen.**

**Spark Resources**

None

**Supplies**

None

## Open the Bible (15 minutes)

### A Rich Man's Questions Storytelling

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**Let's listen to the Bible story about the rich man's questions. I wonder what Jesus will teach the rich man about what's possible and impossible. I wonder if the rich man will listen.**

Pass out the Spark Story Bibles and invite everyone to find The Rich Man's Questions on pages 334-335. Wait until all kids have found the story, assisting those who may need help. Encourage kids to follow along as you read or ask for a volunteer to read aloud.

**We don't see a lot of real camels around here, but the rich man who talked to Jesus would have been familiar with them. If Jesus were telling this story to you today, what other examples could he use to demonstrate how impossible something would be for humans to do? Listen for responses. Ask kids why their ideas would be good to show that something is impossible for humans. Then ask, "Would those things be impossible for God?" Why or why not?**

Have a brief conversation about the story. Ask the kids these questions:

**1. When the man asks what he needs to do for God to love him forever, what does Jesus say?** *(Jesus tells him to sell what he owns, give the money to the poor, and follow Jesus)*

**2. What did the man do after Jesus told him to sell everything?** *(He went away sadly because he had so much stuff.)*

**3. If Jesus asked you to sell everything you have and give the money to the poor, what would you do?** Affirm all responses.

**Spark Resources**

Spark Story Bibles

**Supplies**

None

*Tear here for easy use!*

# Tell Me the Story

If kids are not already seated at a table, move to one for this activity. Give each kid a leaflet, but hold the stickers for the last picture.

**The first page of our leaflet has a lot of pictures to help us tell the story of the rich man and Jesus. Look at the first row of pictures. What do you see?** (*rich man, Jesus, question mark*) Talk kids through each picture to help them tell the story together. **Point to each of the pictures as you hear me say each word, "A rich man** (point to the first picture) **asked Jesus** (point to the second picture) **a question** (point to the question mark)." **Good! Now let's try the second row. Jesus** (point to the first picture) **told the rich man** (point to the second picture) **to give away all his money. The dollar sign is for the word money.** (point to the dollar sign)

Continue this pattern for the third and fourth rows:

Third Row: **The rich man** (first picture) **didn't want to give up his money** (second picture) **and walked away** (third picture).

Fourth Row: **Jesus** (first picture) **said it would be easier for a camel** (second picture) **to . . . Uh-oh! We're missing a picture in this row! What's missing in the last space?** (*the eye of a needle*) Hand out the stickers and give kids time to complete the row. **Let's try this row again, Jesus** (first picture) **said it would be easier for a camel** (second picture) **to go through the eye of a needle** (last picture) **than what?** (*Than for the greedy man to enter the kingdom of God*) **The last line of the story is written for you. Let's say it together. "But for God, all things are possible!"** Repeat the whole story one more time. Ask kids to read it to you using their picture clues.

**Let's look at the bottom of this page and read about where we can find this story in the Bible.**

**Today's Bible story, A Rich Man's Questions, is from the book of Mark. Mark is one of the four Gospels. The Gospels are the first four books of the New Testament.**

**Now look at the bottom of the third page in your leaflet. It has the same words that we just read, but it's missing some important words. Use the word stickers to fill in the blanks. Which word do you think goes where?** (*Questions, four, New*) After attaching the stickers, read the statements together.

If you are interested in teaching your kids a Bible memory verse from the story, use this one. Teach it to them by inviting them to echo what you say, one phrase at a time.

**Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible." Mark 10:27**

## Spark Resources

Leaflets  
Lesson Stickers

## Supplies

None

Tear here for easy use!

## How Would You Spend \$10?

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**Jesus invited the rich man to share his money, but the rich man just wanted to keep it all.**

Invite kids to open to the second page of their leaflets. Ask for a volunteer to read the sentences. Help with the words as needed.

**If you had \$10 to spend, what would you spend it on? Would you buy any of the things pictured below? How much would you save? How much would you share? Write how many dollars you might spend on each thing in the circles. It's okay to leave some blank or write in zero. Remember, you only have \$10 to spend all together!** Give kids time to think about and complete their answers. Ask some follow-up questions, and share your own thoughts. **What did you say you would spend the most money on? What about the least? Why did you choose these things? What would Jesus' answers look like? What would the rich man's answers look like?**

Spark Resources  
Leaflets

Supplies  
Pencils

Tear here for easy use!

## Activate Faith (15 minutes)

### God Loves the Same

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**Let's look at the third page of the leaflet.**

**God's love doesn't depend on how much we have. Let's read each dog's name and count how many bones each one has. Do the dogs have the same amounts? (no) Who has the most bones? Who has the least? Which dog has the biggest dog house? Who has the smallest? Who has the fanciest one? Does God love Buddy or Lucy more? Do you think God loves Trace or Molly more?** If kids have figured out the twist—that God doesn't love anyone more—continue: **Is it important to God whether you have a lot of money or a little money? (no) Why? (God loves us all the same.)**

Spark Resources  
Leaflets

Supplies  
None

## The Secret Life of Camels

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**Turn to the back page of your leaflets.**

**The rich man did not want to give up his money. Jesus said it would be easier for a camel to walk through the eye of a needle. Have you ever seen a real camel? Where did you see it?** Wait for answers. **They're kind of funny looking, aren't they? They don't look much like other animals. They live in areas near the desert. Are camels big or small?** Wait for answers. **A real camel wouldn't fit through the eye of a needle at all, would it? Let's see what else we can learn about camels from the leaflet.** Read the camel facts on the back page of the leaflet.

**Here's another fun fact for you about camels: There are 2 types of camels, one hump and two hump. It's easy to remember which is which because the Bactrian camel has 2 humps (looks like a "B" lying down) and the Dromedary has 1 hump (looks like a "D" lying down).**

## Give It to God

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Give each kid two strips of paper. **Did you know that God gives each of us different gifts and skills? Think about what special gifts or skills God has given you, and write them down on the pieces of paper.** Give kids time to write or draw at least one. **God is the one who helped you have a good ear for music or an open mind to learn science. When we're good at something, we can use our skills to help God's church and spread God's love. Let's put these skills and gifts that we wrote down into the offering basket (bowl or plate) I brought. This is a way of showing that we can and want to give our skills and our gifts to God.**

Spark Resources  
Leaflets

Supplies  
None

Spark Resources  
None

Supplies  
Offering basket, bowl, or plate  
Precut strips of paper  
Pencils

Tear here for easy use!

# Send (5 minutes)

## Good-bye Time

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**Thanks for coming to class! Today we learned about camels and needles and things that are possible and impossible. God makes it possible for us to be God's helpers.**

**In the Bible, Jesus' helpers were called *disciples*. This week you can be a disciple to your family and friends.**

Direct attention to the back of the Faith on the Go! slip on the bottom of the back page of the leaflets, and have the kids fill in the blanks with someone they want to give this slip to, their own name, and today's date. Encourage them to mark one or more of the ideas or add their own. Have kids cut the slip off on the line, ready to give to someone else.

**After class, give this slip to someone you want to do the activity with. It's like a coupon for time with you. Next week we can tell each other what we did to share God's love and remember our Bible story!**

**When we make the sign of the cross, we remember that God is with us every moment of every day. Make the sign of the cross on your forehead or in your hand to remember God's protection for you this week. Then make the sign of the cross in a friend's palm and say, "We can share what we have and trust in God's love." At the end of class, do the same for each kid and ask them to do the same for you.**

## Prayer Time

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Invite kids to think about something they want more of and something they can share. Ask them to say their ideas during the prayer.

**Let us pray:**

**God,**

**Thank you for loving us all the same.**

**Sorry we always want more. Sometimes I want more \_\_\_\_\_.** (Kids say their ideas.)

**I can share \_\_\_\_\_.** (Kids say their ideas.)

**Please make it possible for each of us to share.**

**Amen.**

Be sure to send the leaflets and Family Pages home with kids, dismissing them as appropriate.

Spark Resources

Leaflets

Supplies

Pencils

Scissors

Tear here for easy use!

Spark Resources

Leaflets

Family Pages



Supplies

None



