

Audiences that claim a Christian identity but have grown complacent and have accommodated to social patterns of their surrounding culture will be brought up short and confronted by Mark's portrayal, because it is anything but comforting.

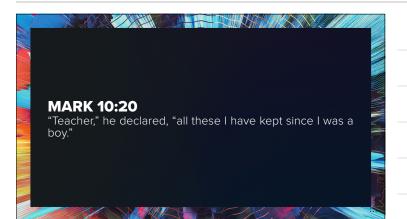
Mark's purpose is not so much to proclaim the gospel as to remind Christians of the true character of the gospel, calling readers and audiences back to the reality of the gospel they had received. Mark's intended audiences, therefore, are churches that have received the gospel and envision themselves as participants in the kingdom of God, but they have grown complacent and are failing to embody and inhabit the kingdom of God according to its radically cross-shaped character.

Timothy Gombis, Mark (The Story of God Bible Commentary).



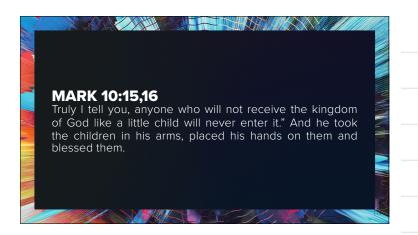
MARK 10:18,19

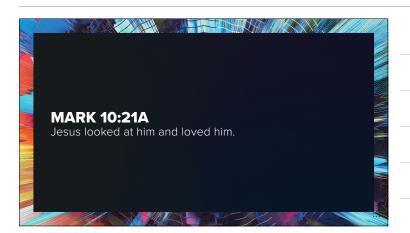
"Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother."

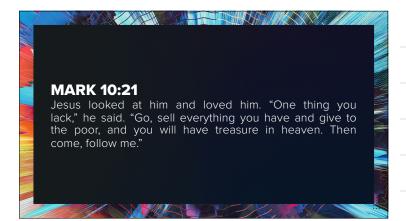


MARK 10:13,14

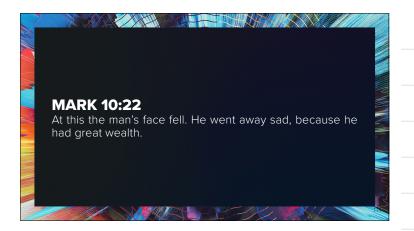
People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.











MARK 10:23-25 Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!" The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! 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."

MARK 10:26-27 The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."

MARK 10:28-31 Then Peter spoke up, "We have left everything to follow you!" "Truly I tell you," 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 will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first."







