

SERMON TEXT: Mark 10:17-31 (ESV)

¹⁷And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.’” ²⁰And he said to him, “Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth.” ²¹And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” ²²Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

²³And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” ²⁴And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how difficult 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 person to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, “With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.” ²⁸Peter began to say to him, “See, we have left everything and followed you.” ²⁹Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, ³⁰who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

SERMON OUTLINE

- I. A significant question with a curious reply (17-18).
- II. A self-perception with a huge blind spot (19-20).
- III. A grace-filled encounter with an unsatisfying end (21-22),
- IV. A God-sized problem with a God-sized problem (23-27).
- V. A promise of provision with a quirky twist (28-31).

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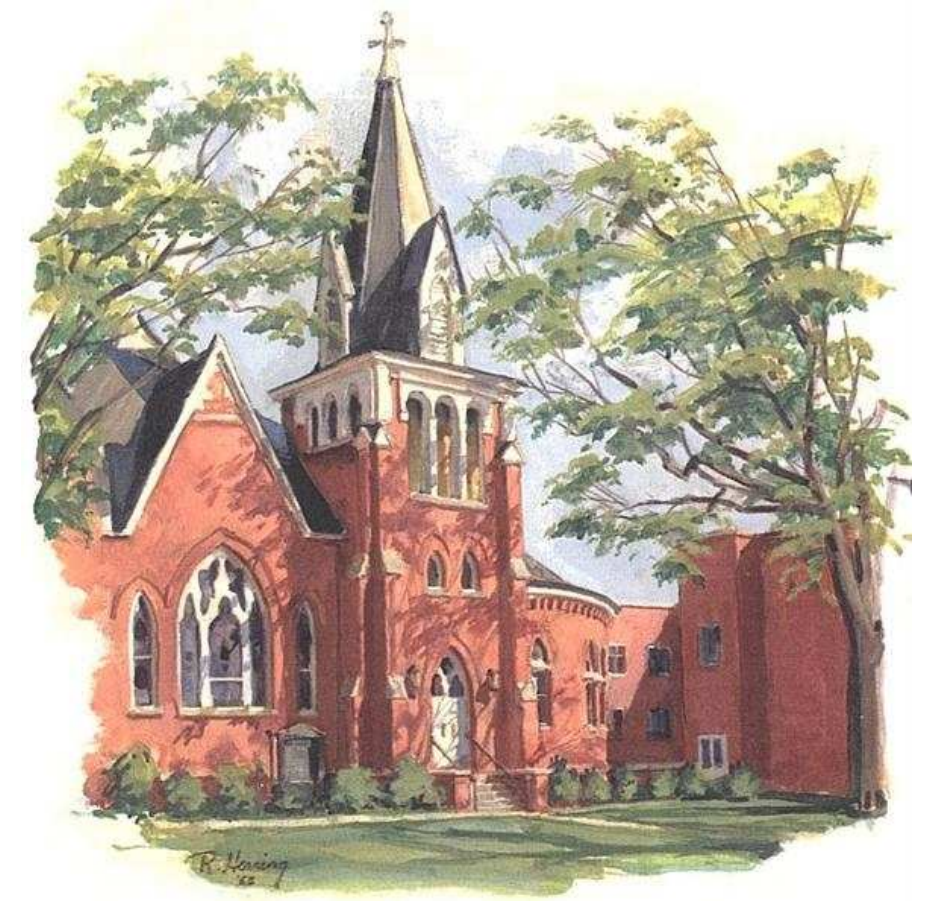
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Loving God... Loving People... Making Disciples

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

249 West McLelland Avenue
 Mooresville, North Carolina 28115
 704-664-5275 ♦ www.moorevillefirstpres.org

May 11, 2008 ♦ 11:00 A.M.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP.....Dr. Clay J. Brown
 Welcome and Announcements
 Invocation

PRELUDE: *Here I Am to Worship*..... Hughes
 Presbyterian Youth Fellowship Praise Band

***THE DOXOLOGY:** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*.....34
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all
 creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
 praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***OPENING SENTENCES**

***HYMN:** *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*.....96

CHILDREN'S SERMONDr. Fred Coates

PROFESSION OF FAITH AND BAPTISM.....Dylan Ray Powell

***ANTHEM:** *You Are Holy*.....Imboden/Rhoton
Presbyterian Youth Fellowship Praise Band

THE WORD OF GOD READ: Zechariah 4:1-6.....p. 834
Susan Meade

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Confession
Thanksgiving
Intercession
The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory: *Treasures in Heaven*..... Pote
Chancel Choir
*Response: *We Give Thee but Thine Own* (Verse 2).....688
May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive, and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first fruits give.
*Prayer of Dedication

THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

Mark 10:17-31
To Be Rich, Young. . . and Stupid.....Dr. Brown

***HYMN:** *A Charge to Keep I Have* (Verses 1-3).....588

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** From Romans 8

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose. We are sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

***GOING IN GOD'S NAME**

Invitation
Charge and Benediction
Response: *A Charge to Keep I Have* (Verse 4).....588

***POSTLUDE:** *Praise to the Lord*.....Gabrielson
Joanne Daykin

*** Those who are able** will please stand.

If you are our guest today, welcome! We're so glad you're here. For more information on FPC, please indicate your interest on the Friendship Pad and/or take home a "Welcome Home" folder from the Parlor. **You can become a FPC member TODAY** by your profession of faith, transfer of membership, or reaffirmation of faith. Please speak with a pastor following the service.

Large print bulletins are available from the ushers. **Assisted listening devices** are available from the sound console at the back of the sanctuary.

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God and in memory of Barbara B. Morgan by Walt and Madeline Morgan.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE SHIFT BEGINNING JUNE 15: Starting on June 15, our Sunday morning schedule will shift to the following:

- **Worship 9:00-9:50 a.m.**
- **Church School 10:00-10:45 a.m.**
- **Worship 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

Why are we making this Sunday Schedule Shift? We're making this shift so the earlier worship service will be more appealing and accessible, for it is the service with the greatest potential for attendance growth. We're making this shift because for many people, 8:30 a.m. is just too early and a very real psychological barrier exists for them. We're making this shift because Jesus calls us to do what we can to fulfill his mission of "Loving God, Loving People, Making Disciples" and reach out to more people in Mooresville and the world. So mark your calendars!

Update on Dr. Brown: Dr. Clay Brown's recovery from hip surgery April 23 continues to go well. He has begun to return to the church office for short periods of time that will be lengthened as things progress. He will be able to travel to his daughter Taylor's graduation from Princeton Seminary May 17. He will visit the surgeon on May 20 for what he hopes will be a full release from walking with crutches. The Browns write, "We want to express our appreciation to the First Presbyterian family for the cards, calls, visits, food, gifts, and especially the prayers. The love and concern shown to us has been amazing. Thank you for your Christian care, and please continue to pray for a full recovery. God bless you all."

Race City Festival: Just a reminder that bottles of water are still needed for the May Race City Festival. The date is May 17, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., in downtown Mooresville. FPC will be represented with a booth. Help make our water give-away on this sunny and hot day (we hope) a success! If you have questions, please contact Nancy Omohundro at 704-660-1552.

Camp Grier: Tour Camp Grier, located in Old Fort, NC, at "Discover Camp Grier Day" next Sunday, May 18, at 1:00 p.m. Parents, potential campers, and any interested persons are invited to meet director Dave Cohn, tour the facilities, and become familiar with the summer camping program. Call the camp office at 828-668-7793 for further details. Camp Grier offers weekly summer camp sessions from June 15 through August 1 for children in rising second through twelfth grades. Scholarship help is available.

Saints Alive Trip: Twenty Saints Alive participants are registered for this week's trip to Hemlock Inn in Bryson City, NC. The group plans to leave this Tuesday, May 13, and will return mid-afternoon on Friday, May 16. Those riding in the church van should plan to be at church by 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 13.

Calendar for May 11 - 18, 2008

Sunday: **Mother's Day**
8:30 a.m. - Worship
8:30 a.m. - Presbyterian Men's Breakfast
9:45 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Worship
5:15 p.m. - Combined Alpha & Omega PYF

Monday: 2:00 p.m. - Circle No. 1 in the Parlor
6:15 p.m. - Blessed in Christ (No. 3) in the Parlor
7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts
7:30 p.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fred & Jean Coates

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. - Saints Alive leave for Hemlock Inn
9:30 a.m. - Moms in Touch
10:00 a.m. - Circle of Faith (No.4) in the Parlor
12:00 p.m. - Women of the Word (No.5) at the home of Elaine Drye
7:00 p.m. - Cub Scout Pack 166

Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner
6:15 p.m. - HS Supper Club at McAllister's Deli

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study at the Rogers' home
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Friday: MSM leave for Beach Trip

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - Race City Festival

Sunday 5/18: 8:30 a.m. - Worship
9:45 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Worship
5:15 p.m. - Omega PYF
6:00 p.m. - Diaconate Meeting
7:00 p.m. - Committee Meetings

Recent Prayer Requests: Mary Fortanbary; Phil Garaas; David Brooks' mother; Kenley Streetman; Clay Brown; Pressley Brawley; Raegan Malinvosky; Levi Thomason, Margaret Sanders' brother; Victor Johnston; Pat Culberson; Bob Davidson; Anita Teeter; Terry Stevens; Curtis Blake, Cathy Brown's father; Joyce Gilland, Jean Coates' sister; Martha Andrews; Jackie Potter; and QM 3 SW Laban Thompson.

Vacation Bible School: Registration is taking place during May for this summer's Vacation Bible School, scheduled for June 23-27, from 9:30 a.m. – noon each day. This year's theme is *Son Harvest County Fair: Growing the Fruit of the Spirit*, where participants will enjoy Bible stories and activities, recreation, music, crafts, and snacks. Stop by the table in the parlor to register.