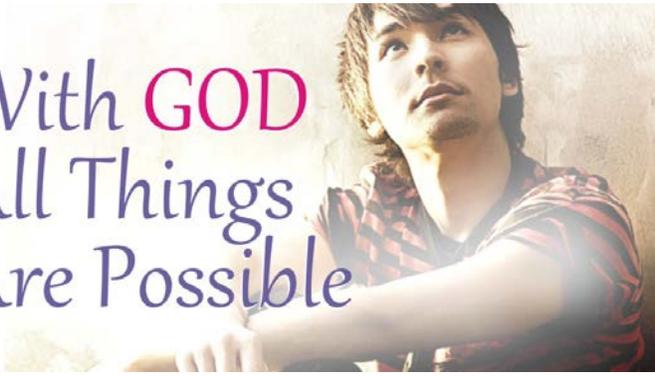


With **GOD**
All Things
Are Possible



Mark 10:17-31

*“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.”*

October 11, 2015

Thought for the Week

Nigel Mansell reflects on his life

Nigel Mansell was a great racing driver. He won the Formula 1 World Championship in 1992. In the course of his career he broke his back, neck, legs, arms, wrists and feet. A crash at Le Mans in 2010 left him with a blood clot on the brain that caused memory loss and difficulty in talking. He feels his greatest achievement in the 62 years of his life is that he is still alive!

In a recent interview Nigel gave a fascinating insight into the kind of man he is and the things that matter most to him. He has lived with danger and knows the fragility of life. This has given him an appreciation of what is truly important in life. His family is a priority. He first met his wife when he was 17, and they have been married for 45 years. His biggest regret is that he did not spend more time with his mother, Joyce, who died of cancer in 1984 at the age of 60. He didn't realize how ill she was and, at that time, he was busy developing his career with Lotus Racing. He often thinks about her.

People matter to Nigel. He is a police consultant and has seen how crime wrecks people's lives. For 16 years he has been the President of the United Kingdom Youth charity that seeks to inspire young people to have greater self-esteem. He is committed to trying to make people's lives better. He wants to think the best of everyone and never look down on anyone.

When he was asked which figure of history he would most like to sit down to a meal with, his answer was, “A meal with Jesus would be interesting, if a little daunting!” Out of all the people who have ever lived Jesus stands supreme. Anyone who is really seeking to discover the meaning and purpose of life must encounter him. Jesus was both very approachable and also created a sense of awe in those who met him.

Jesus wasn't a religious leader who lived in a palace with great riches. He lived an extraordinary life amongst ordinary people. Because Jesus mixed with all kinds of people, the religious leaders of his day accused him of being “a glutton, a drunkard and a friend of sinners.” Knowing Jesus, transforms our lives. He answers all the questions we have and gives real meaning to our lives. Jesus came into this world that we may have life in all its fullness.

Happy Birthday-Jim S. & Dorian T.(26),Karen (27)

Prayer for Peace - Afghanistan

We thank you, God, and we are amazed by the gifts of your beautifully diverse creation. Help us respond as generous disciples and as wise stewards of all earth's blessings.

We confess to you our shortcoming and seek your forgiveness. As we find healing through your grace and mercy, let us be willing to extend healing, reconciliation and compassion to others.

Open our hearts to the people of all nations. Strengthen all who work for justice and peace in Afghanistan and among all peoples.

Guide and bless church leaders, members, friends and all who passionately engage in the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose peace we seek to know and to share. Amen.

Stewardship Thought

"It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle
than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." (Mark 10:25)*

Jesus uses tough language that we may not want to hear. But, we are all called to be generous with all our gifts. Not just the ones we pick and choose, but all our gifts: our time in prayer to God, our talent in participating in church ministries and our treasure supporting our local offering and other charities.

* Note: One possible explanation of this biblical analogy is that most large cities, at the time of Jesus' ministries, were surrounded by walls. All the gates to the cities were shut at nighttime. At least one (main) gate to the city had a small "pedestrian door" cut into it. It was cut purposefully small so that a camel would have to be unloaded of any "baggage" to fit through the door. This unloading of "baggage" relates to the rich man giving away all that he had. It is said that these small doors were called "The eye of the needle".