

Nurturing Faith...
Every Day in Every Way



October 14, 2018

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
 Psalm 90:12-17 (12)
 Hebrews 4:12-16
 Mark 10:17-31



The God of the Impossible

Object: A welcome mat

I started to get dressed for church this morning and discovered that my favorite pair of socks had a hole in the toe. I didn't have time to mend them right then, so I thought I could do it during children's time this morning. Perhaps we can learn something about Jesus while I am mending my socks.

I have a needle and some thread. The first thing I need to do is thread the needle. That means you hold the needle like this and push the thread through this little hole called the "eye." Hmm, this may be more difficult than I thought it was going to be. I can't seem to get the thread through the eye of the needle. Perhaps my eyesight is not as good as it once was or maybe my hand isn't quite as steady as it needs to be. Would one of you like to help me? (Choose one of the children to help you. After they have tried a couple of times, continue with the sermon.)

You know, this problem of threading the needle does remind me of a story about Jesus.

One day a rich young man came to Jesus and asked him what he needed to do to go to heaven. Jesus answered him, "You know the commandments, 'do not murder, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.'"

"Oh, I have done all of that since I was a child" the young man told Jesus.

"You must do one more thing," Jesus said, "You must sell all that you have and give the money to the poor."

The Bible tells us that the young man turned and walked away. He was very sad. You see, he was very wealthy, and he was not willing to give up his wealth -- not even to go to heaven.

Then Jesus turned to his disciples and said, "It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than it is for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of heaven."

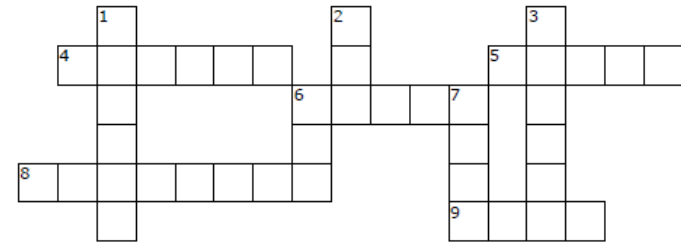
Now, putting tread through the eye of the needle can be pretty difficult. How would you like to try to put a camel through the eye of a needle? That wouldn't be difficult, it would be impossible! Does that mean that Jesus was saying it is impossible for a rich man to enter into heaven? No, I don't think so. Listen to what Jesus said next.

"With man, this is impossible, but not with God. With God, all things are possible."

That is the God we serve. The God of the impossible!

Gracious God, we are thankful that you are the God of the impossible. Without you, it would be impossible for any of us to get to heaven. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 4. A small, slender implement used for sewing
- 5. A long-necked animal with humps
- 6. To go into
- 8. Something considered to be especially precious or valuable
- 9. Difficult; requiring considerable skill or effort

DOWN

- 1. The home of God and the angels
- 2. An adult male human
- 3. Less difficult; something accomplished with little effort
- 6. An opening in a needle
- 7. Possessing great material wealth

rich	easier	eye	hard	heaven
man	camel	needle	enter	treasure

NEEDLE SEWING: Provide each child with large holed plastic needle and some thin yarn. Children can have two pictures, cut out the same and hole punched for children to sew to **THREAD THE NEEDLE** and then sew their pictures together such as 2 hearts, or 2 crosses, 2 camels, etc. Sew together and stuff with a little tissue paper or cotton balls when the child has sewn around most of the picture so that there will be a little padding in their art work.

Family Table Prayer for October
 Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest
 May this food by you be blessed.
 Amen.

October Memory Verse: Deut 6:5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart.

The Rich Young Ruler

