

**“The Radicals:
This Generation, This World, This Time”—Part 5**
www.pmchurch.tv

- **The Radical Query—Mark 10:17**
- **The Radical Command—Mark 10:18-21**
 - *Christ’s Object Lessons*: “When this young ruler came to Jesus, his sincerity and earnestness won the Saviour’s heart. He ‘beholding him loved him.’ In this young man He saw one who might do service as a preacher of righteousness. He would have received this talented and noble youth as readily as He received the poor fishermen who followed Him. Had the young man devoted his ability to the work of saving souls, he might have become a diligent and successful laborer for Christ. . . . Christ looked upon the young man and longed after his soul. He longed to send him forth as a messenger of blessing to men.” (392, 393)
 - David Platt, *Radical: Taking Back Your Faith from the American Dream*, warns of two errors in interpreting these words of Jesus:
 - #1—we can *universalize* Christ’s command to apply to all his followers today.
 - #2—we can *rationalize* Christ’s command to apply to none of his followers.
 - Robert H. Gundry: “That Jesus did not command all his followers to sell all their possessions gives comfort only to the kind of people to whom he *would* issue that command.” (in Platt 120)
 - Platt: “If Mark 10 teaches anything, it teaches us that Jesus does sometimes call people to sell everything they have and give it to the poor.” (Ibid).
 - Luke 12:32-34
 - Christ clearly did not reserve his “sell all you have and give to the poor” command only for the rich young ruler.
 - Luke 5:11
 - What Christ commanded the rich young ruler to do, his poor disciples did without any command at all.
 - Luke 21:1-3
 - Apparently, when you have the heart of a Radical—there is no sacrifice too high to make to follow Jesus.
- **The Radical Invitation—Mark 10:21**
 - In a letter from a missionary living with his family in a country where it is illegal to spread the gospel: “How many people have not believed because they have not heard? What will it take for those people to hear? Have they not heard because there is no one to tell them? What can we do, in obedience to God, to change a world in which there are millions and millions of people who cannot call on the name of the Lord? Most of us would say we know the answer to that question. Many of us would say we are even doing things to change the situation. *But the truth is, there will continue to be millions and millions of people who do not hear as long as we continue to use spare time and spare money to reach them. Those are two radically different questions. ‘What can we spare?’ and ‘What will it take?’*” (Platt 129, emphasis supplied)
 - The February 26, 2011, blog (www.pmchurch.tv)
- **The unRadical Decision—Mark 10:22**
 - *The Message* : “The man’s face clouded over. This was the last thing he expected to hear, and he walked off with a heavy heart. He was holding on tight to a lot of things, and not about to let go.”
 - He missed the truth that the love of Christ always precedes the command of Christ.
 - Calvary’s love precedes the missionary’s calling.

*“Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.”*

— Isaac Watts