

Kingdom Parables - Stop or Start

Mat 13:44 ESV "**The kingdom of heaven is like** treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and **sells** all that he has and **buys** that field.

- He found something so wonderful - now motivated by JOY (not begrudging that he has to SELL)
- Let Go → Take Hold Sell → Buy Stop → Start

The Rich Young Ruler (something to stop, sell or let go of)

Mar 10:17-22 ESV **(a Slide)** And 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?"** 18 And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? **No one is good except God alone.** **(b Slide)** 19 You 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.'" 20 And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." **(c Slide)** 21 And 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." 22 Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

- a) The young man initiated this conversation - He wants to inherit eternal life
- a) He saw Jesus as a GOOD teacher, but not as God alone kind of GOOD
- b) The 6 and the 4 commandments
 - Great commandment, Great commission
 - **c) Problem was not loving his neighbor as himself, it was loving God with all his heart**
- **There is something he must let go of - to take hold of Jesus as Lord**

The disciples (something to start, buy or take hold of)

Joh 6:53-69 ESV So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless** you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, **you have no life in you.....** 54 **Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life**, and I will raise him up on the last day. 55 For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. 56 **Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.** 57 As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so **whoever feeds on me**, he also **will live because of me.**58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." 59 Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum. 60 **When many of his disciples heard it**, they said, "**This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?**" 61 But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "**Do you take offense at this?**" 62 Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? 63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. **The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.** 64 But there are some of you who do not believe." (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) 65 And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father." 66 **After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him.** 67 So Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" 68 Simon Peter answered him, "**Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life,** 69 and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

- "UNLESS you eat and drink" - a conditional statement - "you have no life in you"
- How do you process the HARD SAYINGS of Jesus?
 - Take Offense?
 - Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

SUMMARY - How deep do you want to go with Jesus?

- Is there something to STOP? - Is there something to START?