

Children's Message

10.15.06

When I was getting dressed for church this morning I discovered that my favorite shirt was missing a button. I was in a hurry and didn't have time to sew it back on, so I saved it until now, when I knew I'd have a minute to get it done.

See, I brought my needle and some thread with me. Now, 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." Hmmm, 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 (put on glasses.) This really is pretty tricky sometimes.

You know, this problem of threading the needle does remind me of something that Jesus once 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 *thread* through the eye of the needle can be pretty difficult. But how about putting 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 people, this is impossible, but not with God. With God, all things are possible."

It's true-we know that with God all things are possible. We know that God could thread this camel through this needle (I'm just not sure why God would want to! I think Jesus must have been making a joke when he said that.) In the Bible we hear about and read about amazing things that God has done and we know that God has been and is still doing impossible things everywhere. (At least things that are impossible for people to do.)

But sometimes we completely forget. Sometimes we let things stand in the way of our relationship with God. Maybe you begged Mom and Dad to let you stay home and watch Spongebob Square Pants rather than come to church on a Sunday morning, or maybe you have sat down to dinner and been so hungry that you gobbled up your hamburger before you thanked God for the blessing of the food in front of you, or maybe you had so many things you wanted to buy with your allowance that you forgot to bring some of it to put in our Sunday School collections. It is difficult sometimes to remember to keep God first in line and to try to see the impossible things that God is doing in our world and in our lives.

God does do impossible things. That is the God we serve: The God of the impossible!

Reverend Wiley, will you please lead us in a prayer?