



Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

“What Must I Do to Inherit Eternal Life?”

October 12-14, 2024

Mark 10:17-27

¹⁷ As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸ “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’” ²⁰ “Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.” ²¹ Jesus looked at him and loved him. “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.” ²² At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth. ²³ Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!” ²⁴ The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, “Children, how hard it is ^[b] to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶ The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, “Who then can be saved?” ²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

1. Why do you think Jesus responded to the rich man's question by listing the commandments instead of telling him to "believe in Him" as the way to inherit eternal life?

2. How does the man's reaction to Jesus' instruction to sell all his possessions reflect his spiritual condition?

3. Agree/Disagree: “It's easier for wealthy people to rely on themselves instead of God.”

4. Agree/Disagree: "Obeying the commandments is enough to get into heaven."

5. The rich man claimed he had kept the commandments. Yet he still wondered how he would get into heaven. Why? (What's the connection between those two ideas?)

6. Why do you think Jesus highlighted the first commandment, "You shall have no other gods," when dealing with the rich man's wealth?

7. What role does wealth play in your spiritual life today? How can it be both a blessing and a potential obstacle?

8. How should the knowledge that Jesus has "done it all" for us influence how we prioritize our lives?

9. In what ways can we guard our hearts against loving the gifts (wealth, success, etc.) more than the Giver (God)?