

Limited Worth of Enjoyment

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic
By: Sis. Techie Rodriguez, Elder-Founder
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The Story of the Rich Young Man (Mt. 19:16-26)

A very sincere, religious and rich young man asked Jesus about the way to eternal life (v. 16) and Jesus told him to keep the commandments (v. 17).

Reflection: Have you kept the commandments?

The young man asked God which of the commandments must he keep (v. 18). Jesus gave him a review of the commandments (v. 18-19) and his response was, "All these I have kept. What do I still lack?" (v. 20)

Jesus told him to sell his possessions, give to the poor and follow Him (v. 21). When he heard this, he went away sad for he had great wealth (v. 22). The cost is so high and it turned out that the total cost is higher than what he was willing to pay.

Many of us are like him. We become interested in spiritual things, come face to face with Jesus, but turn our back on Him after realizing it is too costly for us to follow Him.

In asking him to sell his possessions, Jesus was reminding him that he should not have other gods before Him (Exo. 20).

Reflection: Do you have other gods?

Many of us are trying to serve God, but then we worship our career, possessions, etc. Despite giving us everything, we prioritize other gods and serve Him only when it is convenient for us. He would never be satisfied to be among our other gods for He is a jealous God (Exo. 20:5).

Reflection: Do you only give God time when it is convenient?

Like the rich young man, many believe that money brings joy. Some are willing to compromise their values for money. Some become proud and greedy.

People craving greater riches can be caught in an endless cycle that brings destruction (1 Tim. 6:9-10). We must learn to be content, for Godliness is contentment (1 Tim. 6:3-7).

There is nothing wrong with having possessions as long as we trust God and share our blessings (1 Tim. 6:17-18).

Reflection: Who/what are you trusting to get you to heaven?

We must trust Jesus to get us to eternal life, for with man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible (Mt. 19:26).

Let go of all those worldly possessions that hinder us from loving and following Him. Let Him forgive us and pay the price for our salvation through His suffering and death.

Reflection:

1. To what did I devote most of my time in the past week?
2. Where did I expend the most energy?
3. On what did I spend the most money?
4. When I let my mind wander, where does my attention usually travel?
5. What needs might I be trying to meet that could be better met in my relationship with God?

What has Jesus done for us to inherit eternal life? He has done it all.

Transcriber/Writer: Sis. Jennifer G. Ilagan
Editor: Sis. Rhia G. Ilagan
Printing Sponsor: Sis. Rhia G. Ilagan