

“Stumbling Block”

A Lord’s Flock General Assembly Topic
By: Sis. Techie Rodriguez, Elder-Founder
April 23, 2022

Stumbling blocks are obstacles that hinder our progress in our walk as Christians. In the Parable of the Rich Young Man (Matthew 19: 16-22), the wealthy, young man made a bad decision because of a significant stumbling block. He was on a quest to find out what was missing in his life and there were 3 questions that he asked of Jesus: *1. What good things must I still do to get eternal life? 2. Which among the commandments? 3. What do I still lack?* The parable reminds us that Jesus must be the center of our lives, as only He can fill that missing piece. This means we must let go of our other gods and follow all His commandments.

There are 4 Truths about the passage:

1. **Everyone is on a quest to find the real meaning of life.** Despite his wealth and power, the rich man was looking for ways to get eternal life. Eternal life equates to a life of abundance. There is a misunderstanding of the term “eternal life” for some Christians; some say it is living forever- a life after death. However, Jesus teaches us that eternal life is living a quality, enjoyable and abundant life right now (before our death), and continuing on after death. When we surrender our life to Him, when we truly accept Him, and when we follow His will, we will experience eternal life. He alone satisfies.
2. **There is room for only one God in our life.** Jesus says anything in this world wouldn’t save us. If we want to attain eternity, let us obey the commandments. The rich man said I have kept all these commandments; however, there was one that he intentionally did not mention - “Thou shall not covet.” Jesus knew that this was the only thing preventing the man from getting eternal life. Jesus challenged him to put God ahead of his riches: “Go sell all you have and give it to the poor.” Unfortunately, the rich man couldn’t give up his riches and walked away. In our world today, we face a lot of stumbling blocks: material things, possessions, money, idols, time, work etc. As Christians, can

we give up everything we treasure for God? Like the young man, a lot of people today give their love to money. We cannot serve 2 masters. As it is in the commandment, “You should not have other Gods before me” (Ex. 20:2).

3. **It is tough for a rich person or any person to earn salvation.** Jesus also reminds us that we can only enter salvation through God’s love and mercy (Eph 2). God is the only way: the truth and the life (Prov 30). No one can come to the Father except through Him. While poor people find it easier to trust and follow Jesus, the rich people put their trust on their money. Thus, it is more difficult for them start trusting God (Prov 30).
4. **We have hope because God specializes in the impossible – with Him, all things are possible.** It is impossible for man, but possible for God. Wealth was God’s reward for righteousness. Jesus meant that He is giving us wealth and abundant blessings so we can be His vessel to others, to be instruments to glorify His Name.

Conclusion:

Jesus reminds us that we must actively do our part to obey His will and that is the life He wants for us. We will enjoy abundant blessings when we put Him above everything. Furthermore, He will reward us a hundred-fold when we do good things for other people.

Reflection:

1. Can you honestly say that there is nothing lacking in your life?
2. What are the things blocking you in surrendering your life to God?

Transcriber/Writer: Sis Malou Boriga
Approved/Final Edited by: Sis Jo Advincula
For more teachings, visit our website:
<https://lordsflock.org/teachings/>
Tags: #Faith, #Obedience