



**Jesus and A Man Who Had it All**  
**Mark 10:17-22**  
*Pastor Mike Chapman*

Today's message begins with another question for Jesus. Most of the time when someone asked Jesus a question it was to trap him in some no-win, double-bind situation where any answer he gave would be a wrong answer. Today, such is not the case. It is a sincere question from a young man – "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus' answer is one of the astonishing – even troubling - statements in Holy Scripture.

**THE YOUNG MAN**

The young man was society's ideal young man.

He was wealthy.

He was young.

He held a position of authority and influence.

He had high moral standards.

He was spiritual.

He asked one of life's most important questions.

Eternal life should not be limited to life after death.

The biblical concept of eternal life does not place the emphasis on the **quantity** of this life but the **quality** of the life.

In the Old Testament, it is summed up as ***shalom***.

## THE GOOD TEACHER

The young man posed the question to the **right person**.

*John 6:68-69, Peter replied, "Master, to whom would we go? You have the words of real life, eternal life. We've already committed ourselves, confident that you are the Holy One of God." (Msg)*

One of the most poignant statements in this story is in verse 21:

***"Jesus looked at him and loved him."***

## THE ASTONISHING MESSAGE

Jesus loved this young man enough to tell him the **truth**.

Jesus attempts to stop the man in his tracks three times in order to get him to see that he's starting from the wrong place.

1. He is mistaken about **goodness**.

*Isaiah 64:6, We are all infected and impure with sin. When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags. Like autumn leaves, we wither and fall, and our sins sweep us away like the wind. (NLT)*

2. He is mistaken about the **commandments**.

James 2:10, *For the person who keeps all of the laws except one is as guilty as a person who has broken all of God's laws.* (NLT)

3. He was mistaken about his own **heart**.

Mark 10:21, *"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."*

Jesus invites him to "come and follow him."

He invites him to discover eternal riches.

The man who had it all, lacked one thing – to follow Jesus, all **idols** have to be destroyed.

Walking around sad is a lousy way to spend your life. Imagine walking around sad for eternity!

Today, will you place yourself at the right starting point? The right question is not, "Lord, what must I do?" but "Lord, what must you do in me?"