

## A Word from Our Preaching Pastor:

Sunday, June 28, 2009

“As He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before Him, and asked Him, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

### Mark 10:17

You know this story. We began looking at it a few weeks back. An eager young man runs up to Jesus with an urgent question: “*Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?*” Setting aside, for a moment, the fact that he didn’t understand what “good” really means, it is the right question to ask. One, I’m afraid, most people today don’t even know they should ask!

This man, you see, understood at least that there is more to life to be had than can be contained in *this* life! He got the fact that there is an eternity to be gained or lost by what you do here and now. And so, he was eager to learn, “*What must I do? How can I escape the punishment my sins deserve and gain the life that never ends in the presence of God?*”

And yet, before this interview is over this man will walk away grieving from the presence of Christ, **Why?**

Because despite his desire to have eternal life, despite his yearning to enter the kingdom of God, he cannot turn loose of what he has now in this world in order to take hold of Christ by faith alone.

That is where his life becomes a warning for us. Not only does this “rich, young ruler’s” life illustrate the danger of loving possessions more than you love God, as we’ll see this morning, he is also a tragic example of how tightly sin holds very man, woman and child on this planet apart from God’s grace. That’s what I want us to see this morning. Because of your love for this world, it is impossible for you or anyone else to be saved unless God does a miracle of grace that works a change in heart that frees you from the power of sin and gives you a desire for Him that exceeds all other desires!!

Seeking Him by faith alone, because of His grace,

*Pastor Scott*