

Mark 11:

- 17 And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”
- 18 And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.
- 19 You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.’ ”
- 20 And he said to him, “Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth.”
- 21 And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”
- 22 Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.
- 23 And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!”
- 24 And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God!
- 25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.”
- 26 And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, “Then who can be saved?”
- 27 Jesus looked at them and said, “With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.”

Observations

1. He came to the right Source for answers (Jesus).
2. He had a sense of urgency (ran).
3. He displayed piety (knelt).
4. He asked questions.
5. For the moment, He was seeking the right areas (eternal life).
6. he was seeking to attain eternal life by his own doing (vs 17, “I do)
 - morally speaking, he a was “good guy”
 - but to have eternal life I need to place my trust in God’s doing, not mine
 - Eph 2:8-9 **For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.**
6. Jesus agape loved this young guy.... ***THUS***, He told him what he needed to hear
 - Jesus didn't withhold this needed truth
 - even though Jesus knew how he was going to react!!!
 - he walked away!!!***
 - if I really agape love someone.... I must tell them God's whole truth...
 - & sometimes there is no way to soften the blow
7. What Jesus said simple, understandable, and do’able.
 - he had something he needed to give away
 - becoming a Christian –AND throughout the Christian walk-- requires repentance, which in every instance I can think of means giving something away / up
 1. Habits (drinking, drugs)
 2. Relationships (ungodly friends)
 3. Ungodly books or movies
 4. Recreations (going to the bar, the beach)
 5. !!!my tongue!!!

8. As the case always is, the choice was left to the young man on how he would respond/react.

9. The fact of having money will not keep anyone from entering eternal glory.

10. One thing that will keep people from Heaven is a *misplaced trust* issue.

--trust:

--riches

--people

--myself

--that there really is no God

11. There is not a shred of evidence that this young man ever came back to Christ.