

TITLE AND NUMBER: 49. Everlasting wealth



REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S): Mark 10:17 and 21-24

As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" (v17)

Jesus looked at him and loved him. "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." At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth. Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!" The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! (v21-24)

LOOKING FURTHER: Mark 10: 29-31

What does this Bible passage tell us?

In this passage, Jesus helps us to understand God's attitude to wealth. While there is nothing wrong with money itself, it can become a big problem if we spare no thought for those around us; especially those without means of looking after themselves.

The man in the story has fallen on his knees before Jesus to ask how he can inherit eternal life. Jesus sees the man's desire to follow Him, but sees that he is distracted by his own wealth. Jesus looks on him with love. Jesus can see that he has replaced his love of God and love of his neighbour with money. He offers the man a way out. We don't know what this man decided to do, but he went away sad.

When we use what we have, not only money but talents too, to help those around us, we are demonstrating that following Jesus is the most important thing in our lives. It does not take a lot of money to make a difference, every time we go out of our way to help those who are less able, we are making ourselves rich in the sight of God.



Like the man in this passage, it is important to find out what God expects from us in every situation.

Reflections:

- The man in the story was distracted by money. What might be distracting you from following Jesus?
- What do you think the man in the story did after he left Jesus? What would you do?
- What skills could you use to help someone you know?

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.



Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



Has God responded to your prayers this week in the way you had hoped for? It's okay to talk to God about this.

