

## **EAGER TO FIND**

### **Matthew 19:16-22**

**Introduction:** Ever keep all the New Year's resolutions you made? We are quick to make some resolutions at the first of every year, but somehow we don't keep all of them, if any. Why is that do you suppose? Didn't think it through before making the resolution? Circumstances came up which interfered in keeping the resolution? Wasn't really serious when making the resolution in the first place? Whatever the reason, all of us make decisions that we fail to keep or follow through with.

People do the same thing with Jesus. Countless have "quickly" accepted Jesus but just as quickly disappear. They profess faith in Jesus, even baptized but then fade away and are never seen again. Most people are quick to make decisions but slow to follow up and often never follow up at all.

A young man heard about Jesus and quickly made his way to Him. What he had heard about Jesus was just exactly what he thought he was looking for. Jesus would have the answers to his questions.

#### **I. HE HAD THE RIGHT REASON FOR SEEKING JESUS (v16)**

1. He came to Jesus seeking eternal life.
2. He was young, religious and up in social standing.
3. His heart was troubled, disturbed.
4. He wanted a right relationship with God, right then.
5. He knew he was missing eternal life.

#### **II. HE HAD THE RIGHT ATTITUDE WHEN HE CAME TO JESUS**

1. He was serious, not so-so.
2. He was bold, unashamed and courageous.
3. He owned up to his need.
4. He was a good young man, yet felt something was missing.
5. He was (in our way of speaking) "ripe for the picking."

#### **III. HE CAME TO THE RIGHT PERSON**

1. He came to Jesus, Himself, not one of the disciples.
2. He came believing what he had heard about Jesus.

3. He believed that Jesus had the answer he was looking for.

#### **IV. HE ASKED THE RIGHT QUESTION (vv17-20)**

1. He asked, "What good thing must he do?"
2. Jesus reminded him that ONLY God was good.
3. Jesus didn't tell him to believe on Him. Why not?

#### **V. HE WAS NOT FAR FROM SALVATION - BUT: (vv21-22)**

1. He had a lot of pride. He had no sense of sinfulness and was unaware of how offensive he was before God.
  - He needed to measure his goodness before God's standard of perfection.
2. He didn't confess his guilt. He was deceiving himself with his own goodness.
  - He didn't feel guilty of sin, he didn't have any idea of sin.
3. He refused to submit to Jesus' demands. He didn't want to do what Jesus told him he should do.
  - He refused to let Jesus be his Lord.
  - His possessions meant more to him than eternal life.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

1. Salvation is by grace through faith, but genuine faith. A faith that recognizes sinfulness, that senses one's offenses before God and accepts the Lordship of Jesus in all things.
2. Saving faith is willing to obey Jesus Christ in whatever He requires.
3. Jesus cannot/will not give salvation to those whose hands are filled with other things.
4. Anyone unwilling to turn from sin, self, worldly things will find he/she cannot turn to Jesus.
5. Take a look at what you call faith. Is it saving faith or are you deceiving yourself? Is it like one of your New Year's resolutions?