

A rich man asks Jesus a question.

Matthew 19:16-26; Mark 10:17-27

All day long Jesus had been busy teaching people about God. Now Jesus was leaving town. A very rich young man ran up to Jesus. He knelt down in front of Him. "Teacher," asked the rich man, "what should I do so that I can live forever?"

Jesus said, "If you want to have life that lasts forever, do all the things God has said to do." The young man asked what those things were.

"You know what God has said to do," Jesus answered. "Do not kill anyone. Do not take anything that doesn't belong to you. Do not tell lies. Love and obey your father and mother. Love others the same way you love yourself."

The rich man said he had obeyed all of these things since he was a little boy. He had done a

lot of right things! Jesus loved the young man. But Jesus knew the man loved his money more than he loved God. So Jesus said, "There is one thing more you need to do. Sell everything you have. Give the money to poor people. Then come and follow Me."

That rich young man had a lot that he could sell! But he didn't want to share any of it. He wanted to keep it all! The rich man stood up, turned around and sadly walked away.

Jesus told His friends, "It is very hard for people who love money to love and obey God." Jesus' friends were surprised! They wondered then who could have life that lasts forever. Jesus said that only God could help them.