

“Looking at the man, Jesus felt genuine love for him. “There is still one thing you haven’t done,” he told him. “Go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” Mark 10:21 NLT

lectio // Mark 10:17-31

Mark writes the story of a man who is honestly searching for meaning, purpose and maybe more importantly, just an affirmation that he’s going in the right direction. That’s why I notice Mark’s commentary, **Jesus felt genuine love for him.** Jesus famously answers, **“there is still one thing.”** I remembered another famous scene from a movie made in 1991. “City Slickers” in which Jack Palance’s character Curly Washburn, a crusty old cowboy, turns to Mitch Robins (Billy Crystal), the city boy and asks the question: **“Do you know what the secret of life is?”** He then holds up his index finger and says: **“It’s just one thing”.** Mitch Robins responds by asking **“What’s the one thing?”** Curly answers with: **“That’s what you have to figure out.”** I don’t know how many people ask those deeply penetrating questions, **“what’s it going to take?”** or **“what am I missing?”** or **“what else should I do?”** I know **ONE THING**, don’t ask Jesus unless your serious about finding out and serious about obeying! Was this Nicodemus? People spend hours and hard money to ask leadership coaches this question. **Jesus will tell you for FREE**, but it will likely cost you everything. Two adjectives give us all we need to see where this mystery man was coming from - **RICH** and **YOUNG**. Well, people must have thought, he had everything he needed right there. He had money and time. Shouldn’t he be **happy, fulfilled, content?** Was his soul in jeopardy because of wealth and youth? Maybe. Maybe not. Maybe eventually it will be. Jesus loved this young man and gave him a **life-tip that would really set him up for success - go, sell, give.** You know what, I’m pretty sure he could have made it all back again. It is very interesting that giving to the poor had the ability to make this man rich in heaven...in eternity.

Dad,
I don’t have all that much money, but that’s not really the point is it? I am most certainly rich. **Rich in resources and relationships.** And, I am definitely not young anymore 😞. Am I bold enough to ask you that question - **“what must I do to inherit eternal life?”** And, be bold enough to obey the answer I receive? Oh, I can rationalize it by saying, I know you therefore I already have eternal life. But I know that’s not what this story is really about. **It is about the ONE thing and the willingness to do it, give it, live it and follow you.**