WHAT IS REALLY IMPORTANT?

At that time, a man asked Jesus a very important question. He asked, "What do I need to do to get to heaven?

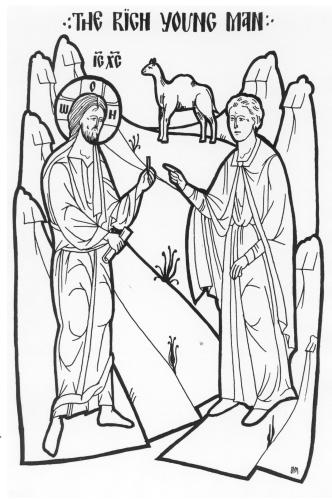
Jesus helped him remember God's commandments, like "do not steal, and do not kill." Jesus also reminded the man that we should love our neighbor.

The man said that he had kept all the commandments. Jesus then told him that if he wanted to be perfect, he could do one more thing--he could sell what he owned, give the money to the poor, and follow Jesus as a disciple.

The man became sad, because he owned many things and did not want to give them up to follow Jesus.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- 1. What was the question the man asked Jesus?
- 2. Sometimes we have hard choices. Maybe we have been invited to the movies, but we need to visit our aunt and uncle. Our parents help us know what is most important.
- 3. Jesus wants us to learn what is more important than anything. It is to be a Christian.



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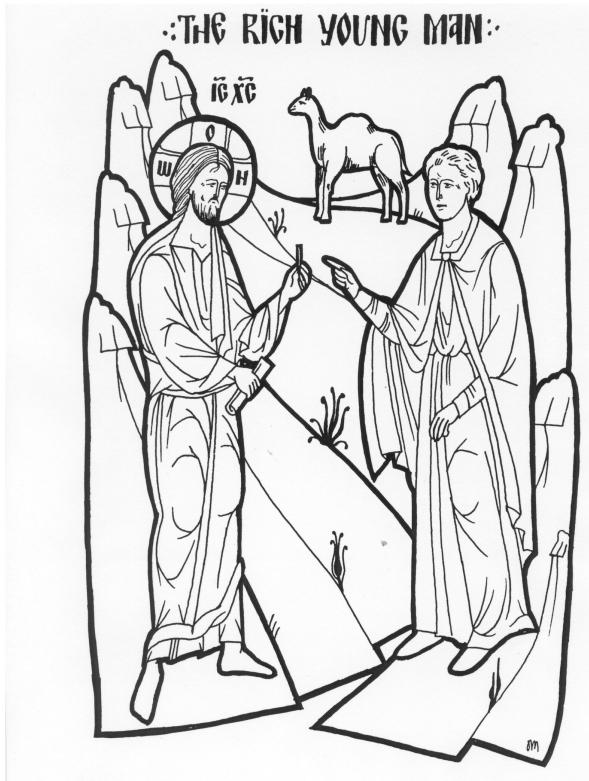


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WHAT IS REALLY IMPORTANT?

One day, a young man came to see our Lord Jesus Christ. The young man knelt before Jesus and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing must I do, to have eternal life?"

Jesus said, "Why do you call Me good? The only good one is God. If you want to really live, keep the commandments."

The young man asked Jesus which commandments he should keep, and Jesus answered, "Do not kill, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not lie, honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as you love yourself."

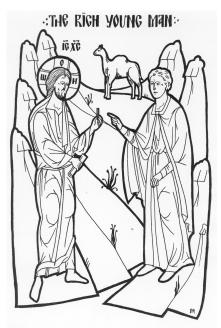
The young man said to Jesus, "I have been keeping these commandments ever since I was young. What am I missing?"

Jesus said, "If you really want to do what is right, go sell what you have and give it to poor people. Then, your treasure will be in heaven. Then, come and follow me!"

When the young man heard that, he left. He was very sad. He had so many things and he loved them all.

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "It will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter God's kingdom."

When the disciples heard this, they wondered who could really be saved! Jesus looked at them and said, "With men, this seems like it cannot happen. But, with God, anything can happen!"



Icon courtesy of Iconographics (www.theologic.com)

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- 1. What did the young man want to know, when he came to see Jesus?
- 2. What did Jesus tell him he should do?
- 3. How many of God's commandments do you know? Are you obeying them, like the young man did?
- 4. The young man thought he was still missing something. What did Jesus tell him to do? Did the young man want to do it?
- 5. Do you have favorite clothes, toys, or pets? Would you be willing to share them with someone else? Why or why not?
- 6. Pray, and ask God to help you to love Him and his kingdom more than even your FAVORITE things. He will help you, because "with God, anything can happen!"



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FIRST, FOLLOW GOD

At that time, a young man came to Jesus, kneeling before him and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?"

And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? There is no good but One, and that is God. If you would enter life, keep the commandments."

He said to Jesus, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

The young man said to Jesus, "All these I have observed from my youth; what do I still lack?"

Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.

And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?"

But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- 1. What did the young man want to know? What did he ask Jesus?
- 2. What did Jesus say he should "keep"?
- 3. How many of the ten commandments can you name? How many of them can you obey?
- 4. How many did the young man say he kept?
- 5. What did Jesus say he must do, to be perfect? Do you think the young man did that? Why or why not?
- 6. Jesus used the metaphor of a camel going through the eye of a needle to illustrate how hard it is for what to happen?
- 7. What did Jesus say to calm the disciples' fears about who can enter the kingdom of God?



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MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANYTHING

Characters: Narrator, Man, Jesus, Disciples

Narrator: At that time, a young man came to

Jesus, kneeling before him and say-

ing,

Man: Good Teacher, what good deed

must I do, to have eternal life?

Narrator: And Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Why do you call me good? There is

no good but One, and that is God. If you would enter life, keep the com-

mandments.

Narrator: He said to Jesus,

Man: Which?

Narrator: And Jesus said,

Jesus: You shall not kill, You shall not com-

mit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as

yourself.

Narrator: The young man said to Jesus,

Man: All these I have observed from my

youth; what do I still lack?

Narrator: Jesus said to him,

Jesus: If you would be perfect, go, sell

what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.

Narrator: When the young man heard this he

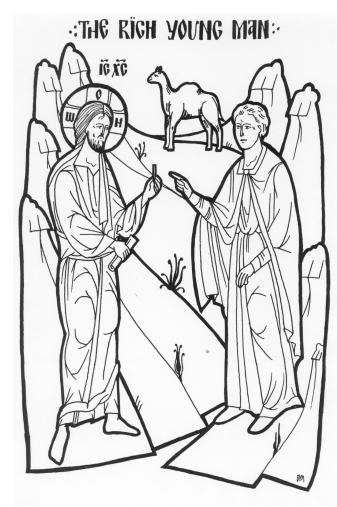
went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions. And Jesus said to

his disciples,

Jesus: Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for

a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to en-

ter the kingdom of God.



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A BURNING QUESTION

At that time, a young man came to Jesus, kneeling before him and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?"

And Jesus said to him,
"Why do you call me
good? There is no good
but One, and that is God.
If you would enter life,
keep the commandments."

He said to Jesus, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

The young man said to Jesus, "All these I have observed from my youth; what do I still lack?"

Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven;



and come, follow me."
When the young man
heard this he went away
sorrowful; for he had great
possessions.

And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man



Images courtesy of sxc.hu

to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?"

But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- Is it hard to live according to Jesus' teachings?
- 2. What are some things you try do to do to live as a Christian?
- 3. Do you think it is hard for a rich man to go to heaven?
- 4. How does wealth affect people in today's world?



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DO YOU WANT TO GET TO HEAVEN?

At that time, a young man came to Jesus, kneeling before him and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?"

And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? There is no good but One, and that is God. If you would enter life, keep the commandments."

He said to Jesus, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

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Image courtesy of sxc.hu

When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?"

But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- Is it hard to live according to Jesus' teachings?
- 2. What are some things you try do do to live as a Christian?
- 3. Do you think it is hard for a rich man to go to heaven?
- 4. How does wealth affect people in today's world?
- 5. What would have been on your mind if Jesus posed the challenge to you, that He gave to the rich man?



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