

**Key Scripture:**

1 Peter 3:15 NIV

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord.

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect

**Rich Young Ruler**

Mark 10:17-22 NLT

17 As Jesus was starting out on his way to Jerusalem, a man came running up to him, knelt down, and asked, "Good Teacher, **what must I do to inherit eternal life?**"

18 "Why do you call me good?" Jesus asked. "Only God is truly good. 19 But to answer your question, you know the commandments: 'You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. You must not cheat anyone. Honor your father and mother.'"

20 "Teacher," the man replied, "I've obeyed all these commandments since I was young."

21 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."

22 At this the man's face fell, and he went away very sad, for he had many possessions.

**Mistakes people make...**

✓ **Think they're humble:** v. 17 "a man came running up to him, knelt down"

✓ **Think they're good:** v. 20 "I've obeyed all these commandments..."

Romans 3:23 NLT

For everyone has sinned; **we all fall short of God's glorious standard.**

✓ **Think they know Jesus:** v. 17 "Good Teacher"

**The most important questions...**

✓ **Asked by lost people:** "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

✓ **Asked by the church:** "Who then can be saved?"

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**Sound like Jesus...**

**1. Humbly point people to God.**

Romans 3:27-28, & 31 NLT

27 **Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No,** because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith.

28 So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law.

Well then, if we emphasize faith, does this mean that we can forget about the law?

Of course not! In fact, **only when we have faith do we truly fulfill the law.**

Mark 10:26-27 NLT

26 The disciples were astounded. "**Then who in the world can be saved?**" they asked.

27 Jesus looked at them intently and said,

**"Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But not with God. Everything is possible with God."**

**2. Let people know being a Christian requires sacrifice.**

Mark 10:21 NKJV

"...come, **take up the cross,** and follow Me."

Mark 10:28-31 NLT

28 Then Peter began to speak up. "**We've given up everything to follow You,**" he said.

29 "Yes," Jesus replied, "and I assure you that everyone who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or property, for My sake and for the Good News, 30 will receive now in return a hundred times as many houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and property—along with persecution.

And in the world to come that person will have eternal life.

**3. Give everyone the opportunity to choose Jesus.**

Mark 10:22 CEV

**When the man heard Jesus say** this, he went away gloomy and sad because he was very rich.

Mark 10:31 NKJV

But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

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