

03.30.22 – A Weekly Word for Covenant Church

Title: “The Right Question”

Scripture Reading: [Mark 10:17-22](#)

Reflection: Rev. Evan Heerema

The following story has captured the hearts and minds of many. “There once was a rabbi who roamed the countryside meditating on scripture. From morning to night he would walk aimlessly through the wilderness inquiring of the Lord. As he walked, he would tap his finger on his forehead as if to pound the truth directly into his mind.

One morning he set off into the wilderness pondering the nature of God’s holiness. Off he went into the glare of the sunrise, tapping his forehead as he went. He wandered and wondered. Where his feet landed is where he went, without a care, without a worry.

At near dusk, with his feet dusty and swollen, the silence and solitude were shattered with a loud voice that rang out to him.

‘Stop! Right there!’

The rabbi looked up, completely unaware of his surroundings. Before him stood the high wall of a Roman fortification. Perched at the top of the wall was a Roman guard who was both alarmed and upset at the sight of this roaming rabbi.

‘Hello,’ responded the rabbi.

‘Who are you and what are you doing here?’ commanded the Roman guard.

The rabbi smiled up at him and responded with a question of his own, *‘How much do they pay you to ask questions like that?’*

“5 denarii a day,” declared the guard, with pride.

Still smiling the rabbi said, *‘I will pay you double that to come to my house and ask me those same questions every morning.’”*

Who are you and what are you doing here? Even though this is not the same “right question” that the young man asked Jesus in our Bible reading, the wandering rabbi did well to offer the Roman guard good pay to ask him those two questions every day. We would do well to ask ourselves those same questions or have someone ask us those questions daily. The answers you give to those questions will dictate whether or not you understand your identity and where your personal identity (or the one in whom you are identified) is taking you.

If your identity and life’s direction are found in yourself, your feelings, morality, circumstances, possessions, or

occupation, your answers will change continually, and your joy will be short-lived. But, if your identity and direction are found in the living, Spirit-breathing, life-giving constant love of Jesus Christ, then your answer will never change and your security will be eternal.

What must you do to inherit eternal life? Know that your identity is found in no one, or nothing other than the King of kings, Jesus Christ. You must be teachable and humble in spirit, walking obediently under the power of the Spirit of God.

As Pastor Doug said in his message, “The one (the young man) who came to Jesus has been going through the motions of life, but he longs for a sense of completeness, connection, and community. He longs for a purpose and a reason to live.” That purpose and reason to live can only be completed with and in Jesus.

Prayer:

Our father in the heavens, King of the universe, blessed art thou, for giving us peace and the purpose to walk in the dust of our Rabbi Jesus. Fill us continually with your Spirit so that we may be humble, seeking you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and be able to be yoked with Jesus, allowing him to lead and guide, for your glory and honor. AMEN

Action Item for the Day/Week:

During the season of Lent, we are encouraged to give something up to deepen our relationship with God and each other. Each day, take time from doing something else to pray for one of your neighbors. You could pray for a different neighbor each day of the week or for the same neighbor every day.

Songs for today:

[I'm A Child of the King](#)