



Song Written by:
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Nothing Else

Day 2: Verse 1

I'm sorry when I've just gone through the motions
I'm sorry when I just sang another song
Take me back to where we started
I open up my heart, to You

Scripture Reference

As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"...Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

– *Mark 10:17, 21-22*



As we explore Verse 1 of this song, we dig into the story of a rich man seeking eternal life from Jesus. Mark 10 tells us the man had followed the commandments. We could say he had done everything “right.” And yet, as we’ll see, he still had not fully grasped the gravity of the kingdom of Heaven. By following the commandments, he was just going through the motions, rather than truly connecting with Jesus through his obedience. Our song would say he just sang another song.

Have you or are you currently just going through the motions of your faith? Have you or are you just singing the song because it's what you're supposed to do? Where do you feel yourself struggling to take hold of the love of Jesus?

Jesus told the young man to gain treasure in Heaven he must sell all that had, give it to the poor, and follow Jesus. Yet, the man went away sad...because he had great wealth we're told. Although the man was obedient to the commandments, he had placed his trust and love in wealth. When asked to give it up, the man could not bring himself to relinquish his comfort and security of wealth. He wasn't willing to open up his heart to Jesus.

Is there something in your life – maybe wealth, maybe something else – that you find yourself placing more trust and love in than Jesus? Has something besides Jesus become an idol in your life? How can you open your heart to Jesus and overcome that which binds you? What is Jesus asking you to give up in pursuit of Him?



Hidden in the middle of this story is such a precious nugget...Jesus looked at the man and loved him. Even though Jesus knew the man had let his wealth take hold of him, Jesus loved the young man. The instructions Jesus gave were not to shame him, but rather to lovingly correct the man – so he could have all that Jesus so graciously desired to give him. Don't we all wish that Jesus would look at us and love us – even in our most disappointing or disgraceful times? Dear one, Jesus looks at you today and loves you. Regardless of your situation, He can take you back to where your faith and relationship started.

Do you need an extra dose of Jesus' saving love today? If so, ask Him for it! Surrender your will, your comforts, your idols and ask Him for His love and guidance. He so graciously gives it to each of us.

The step in Jesus' directions to the man – come, follow me. This is an invitation to leave everything that hinders and join Him in His perfect and amazing plan. However, what hindered the man was exactly what the man enjoyed – wealth and comfort. If we're being honest, it can be hard for us to leave behind our human comforts and securities to follow Jesus, can't it? Yet, He invites us to open our hearts and follow Him. Better yet, in following Him, we gain more than we could ever give up.

End today letting Jesus take you back to where you started. Recall some of your young-in-the-faith excitement and trust that you had with Jesus. Speak to Him about how you've let comfort (in whatever form) seep into your relationship, rather than His will.
