



*[Jesus said,] "Go,  
sell what you have,  
and give to [the]  
poor and you will  
have treasure  
in heaven; then  
come, follow me."*

MARK 10:21

## Take Your Pick

**T**he vast array of possibilities in today's world is both an extraordinary advantage because it can so enrich life and a bewildering encumbrance as we face weighty decisions. Many think that life in the past was less complicated. It might have seemed that way, but women and men have always had to face the same fundamental questions: What is life all about? To what shall I commit myself? And answering such questions has seldom been easy.

Today's first reading underscores the importance of discernment or wisdom as we search for answers. It insists that such discernment or wisdom outstrips riches, or even health, as the goal to which we should strive. It further assures us that in our striving for wisdom we will discover that she does not come to us alone. Rather, she brings all good things with her.

The Gospel passage tells of a young man in search of true meaning, of wisdom, of eternal life. Having valued the law and the way of life it offers a believer, he is dissatisfied. He wanted something more satisfying; something deeper. He is still struggling to discover what life is all about, to what he should commit himself. Jesus tells him that he will not find what he is looking for in his riches. Rather, he should commit himself to the welfare of others. Unfortunately, this advice was too much. He went away sad. Even knowing that he was dissatisfied with his wealth, he still would not walk away from it.

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### FOR *Reflection*

- ✦ *Do you still cling to something that cannot fulfill your deepest desires? Why?*
- ✦ *Pray for the courage to commit yourself to what might make life more meaningful.*