

Quest of Mickey Mantle

In a *Sports Illustrated* interview, baseball hero Mickey Mantle once described his long battle with alcohol and his heartbreaking problems with his family. The interviewer then asked, “So how are things going with you today, Mickey?”

“Better,” was the reply. “I haven’t had a drink in eight months. I’m starting to get my life back together, but I just feel like there’s something missing.”

Dr. David Jeremiah, senior pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, Calif., and author, says of Mantle in his book, *Turning Points*: “Here was a living legend who had played 2,401 games for the New York Yankees from 1951 to 1968, hit a record 18 homers in 12 World Series, and had entered baseball’s Hall of Fame in 1974. But he felt empty inside, for the accumulation of wealth, fame, and accomplishment didn’t satisfy.”

Dr. Jeremiah added: “Near the end of his life, Mickey Mantle found what he had always been looking for – Jesus Christ. Another former baseball player, Bobby Richardson, led him to Christ. At Mantle’s funeral, Richardson told of helping Mantle receive the Lord Jesus as his personal Savior. ‘I am trusting Christ’s death for me to take me to heaven,’ Mantle said on his deathbed.”



Is something missing in your life? Only in Jesus Christ can we find our true identity. He alone gives us a fulfilled, abundant life.

We are entering the Christmas season – the holiday that celebrates Christ’s birth, the greatest demonstration of love the world has ever known. He entered this world, lived a sinless life, became the sacrificial Lamb for our sins, died on the cross for us, and rose from the grave in a conquest of death – all to assure an eternal life with Him to all who believe in His name.

One’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses (Luke 12:15).

– Beecher Hunter