



October 14, 2018 Mk. 10: 17-31 & Wis. 7: 7-11

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Link to [Beck](#) (paywall) other [Beck](#)

Stone, Naomi. [Love Hears Our Cries](#)

Rolheiser, Fr. Ron. [The Way of Surrender](#)

[New Melleray Monastery Sunday Homilies](#)

#### ENTERING THE SCENE:

[Fr. Rolheiser](#) says; "For the first forty or so years of our lives ... we are still seeking to come to bloom. We are young and looking to grow and thus are like a flower that still needs to take in things in order to bloom and come to seed. There is then more place for assertion, ambition, achievement, for accumulating. The rich young man was still young. His case would be infinitely more tragic had he been an old rich man who declined Jesus' offer.

In the ideal order of things, surrender is for the mature, for the flower that has come to bloom and needs to give off its seed. That is less true of us during the first half of our lives, for we are still building, but it becomes the deepest truth of the second half of life. After forty, understood religiously, life is not about claiming worthiness, or about building things, especially our own egos, but about getting in touch with helplessness." How old am I in this frame of reference?

#### Mark 10: 17-31

17 As Jesus started on his **journey**, a man ran up to him and **knelt** on his knees before him. "**Good teacher**," he asked, "what must I do to **inherit everlasting life**?" 18 Why do you call me **good**?" Jesus answered. "No one is **good**--except God alone. 19 You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother.'" 20 Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since my **childhood**." 21 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**." 22 At this the man's face **fell**. He went away sad, because he had many **possessions**. 23 Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for the **rich** to enter the **kingdom of God**!" 24 The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the **kingdom of God**! 25 It is easier for a **camel** to go through the **eye of a needle** than for a **rich** man to enter the **kingdom of God**." 26 The disciples were even more **overwhelmed**, and **exclaimed**, "Who then can be **saved**?" 27 Jesus **looked** at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God." 28 Peter said to him, "We have left everything to **follow** you!" 29 I tell you the truth," Jesus replied, "no one who has left **home** or **brothers** or **sisters** or **mother** or **father** or **children** or **fields** for me and the **gospel** 30 will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (**homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields--** and with them, **persecutions**) and in the age to come, eternal life. 31 But many who are **first** will be **last**, and the **last first**."

**DISCUSSION QUESTION:** Do I think the rich young man will eventually understand Jesus and sell everything to follow Jesus when he is 65?

**PRAYER:** Lord, so often it isn't material things that make me "rich" but my ideas. Ideas that seem so rich in understanding but fail me when it comes to the hard questions of what life is all about. A paradox often slams me into the wall of reality when things are going "well" but I don't feel well. Like the man in this gospel, I come to you over and over with the same question; "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Thank you for liberating me from a doing way of being, to a being way of living. Amen.