



2/24/19 Luke 6:27-38 & 1 Sam. 26: 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

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Rolheiser, Fr. Ron. [Measuring ourselves in Love](#)

[Monastery Sunday Homilies](#)

ENTERING THE SCENE:

When his advancing army stormed into a small town the general called his scouts before him. "Where are the citizens of this village?" he demanded.

"They have all fled in fear," the scouts replied.

"Is there no one left to pay tribute?" the general shouted.

"No one but the priest. He remains in the temple."

Quickly the general marched to the temple, burst through the doors and demanded to see the priest. After a search, the priest was found reading quietly in his study. The general, angry that the cleric refused to greet him as conqueror, shouted, "Don't you know that you are looking at one who can run you through without batting an eye?"

"Don't you know," the priest replied, "that you are looking at one who can be run through without batting an eye?"

For the moment the soldier stared in disbelief at the priest. Then, slowly, a smile danced on his lips. He bowed low and left the temple.

Lk. 6:27-38

27 But I tell **you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good** to those who hate you, 28 **bless** those who curse you, **pray** for those who mistreat you. 29 If someone strikes you on one **cheek**, turn to him the

other also. If someone takes your **cloak**, do not stop him from taking your **tunic**. 30 **Give** to everyone who asks you, and if anyone **takes** what belongs to you, do not **demand** it back. 31 Do to others as you would have them do to you. 32 If you love those who love you, what **credit** is that to you? Even '**sinners**' love those who love them. 33 And if you **do good** to those who are good to you, what **credit** is that to you? Even '**sinners**' do that. 34 And if you **lend** to those from whom you **expect repayment**, what **credit** is that to you? Even '**sinners**' lend to '**sinners**,' expecting to be **repaid** in full. 35 But **love your enemies, do good** to them, and **lend** to them without **expecting** to get anything back. Then your **reward** will be great, and you will be **sons of the Most High**, because he is kind to the **ungrateful** and **wicked**. 36 Be **merciful**, just as your **Father** is **merciful**. 37 **Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.** 38 Give, **and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.**"

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Jesus reveals a God unlike any God the people have ever known before. Are you attracted or repulsed by these words?

PRAYER: Compassionate Jesus, you will ultimately go the cross to live out these words in full. I think you knew all along that once you revealed God for who you knew God to be, the agents of power would start to align themselves against you. Yet you wanted us to know God as you know God and were willing to love your enemies and pray that they be forgiven. Help me to rejoice in this all forgiving love and give me the help I need to model this love. Amen.