

Wednesday Devotional 10/29/25

Scripture: Mark 10: 17 – 31

The Gospel is Risky Business By: Catherine Doherty

The security to which most people cling is mere illusion. We are not secure walking big-city streets. In planes we never know if we'll stay up or not. Wars flare up in almost every part of the world. So where is that security everybody is supposed to value so dearly? God doesn't give us this material security. Instead, he offers faith.... which begins, in a sense, where reason ends.

God's security begins when we start loving him with our whole heart, our whole mind, our whole soul – and our neighbor as ourselves. I speak of this so often, but it is the only message that can never be overstressed. We must clothe the skeletons of our lives with the flesh of his love, or we shall perish.

For this kind of loving we have the Holy Spirit in us. With his help, we will have the courage to risk loving our neighbor. It's a tremendous risk, because we must also love our enemies. We have the power to change them into friends and beloved neighbors. To love one's neighbor is the ultimate risk, for it may even mean death for my brother or sister's sake if need be.

All this sounds idealistic and unobtainable, but Christ assures us it is attainable. Through little steps day after day, one slowly accepts the other as he or she is, and begins to love totally, tenderly, compassionately. Once begun, the involvement becomes deeper and deeper and deeper.