



# Daily Reflections

**July 9, 2017**

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## Scripture

### **Matthew 11: 25-30**

At that time Jesus exclaimed:

"I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
for although you have hidden these things  
from the wise and the learned  
you have revealed them to little ones.

Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.

All things have been handed over to me by my Father.

No one knows the Son except the Father,  
and no one knows the Father except the Son  
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him."

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,  
and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,  
for I am meek and humble of heart;  
and you will find rest for yourselves.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

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## Our Scripture Reflection

Why were the people Jesus encountered along the road so heavily burdened? They only wanted what we desire in this life: Peace and a path to Heaven. Their teachers, the scribes and Pharisees, had taught that only through strict observance of the hundreds of laws was this possible. Many could neither

read nor write and access to a learned scribe was difficult for the common person. They felt shut out and hopeless. Jesus offered them His way, a way of living that would fulfill their heart's desire.

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## **Food for your Journey**

There's a story about a troubled mother who had a daughter who was addicted to sweets. One day she approached Gandhi, explained the problem to him and asked whether he might talk to the young girl. Gandhi replied: "Bring your daughter to me in three weeks' time and I will speak to her."

After three weeks, the mother brought her daughter to him. He took the young girl aside and spoke to her about the harmful effects of eating sweets excessively and urged her to abandon her bad habit.

The mother thanked Gandhi for this advice and then asked him: "But why didn't you speak to her three weeks ago?"

Gandhi replied: "Because three weeks ago, I was still addicted to sweets."

And there's the lesson: We must do more than just point out the right road to others, we must be on that road ourselves. For this reason, the integrity of our private lives and private morals, down to the smallest detail, is the real power behind our words.

--Ron Rolheiser, Internet column, "Our inability to cast out demons," October 2, 2005. ronrolheiser.com. Retrieved August 5, 2016.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, As I continue to learn Your way, help to put Your way into practice in my life each day. Amen.