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... and you will have treasure in heaven!

(Mark 10:21)

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Who gives, wins!

Dear friends of go4peace,

He was well rooted in his Jewish faith. He knew the 10 commandments and had followed them. But there was still a deep hunger in his restless heart – a hunger for the meaning of life. He'd heard of Jesus. Suddenly there was a chance to meet him. He dropped everything and ran over to Jesus. He dropped to his knees and asked: "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" When Jesus mentions the commandments, the stranger said: "Teacher, all these I have kept since I was a boy." Jesus sensed the longing of this man. He looked at him, hugged him and said: "One thing you lack. Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me!"

Hearing this, he is lost for words. Suddenly he is sad. He can't deal with this invitation, to leave everything for Jesus. His heart is too attached to his life plan, his friends, his successes, and his wealth. To leave everything behind and to rely solely on Jesus was offered to him as a godly adventure.

"Do you have time to hear my confession" I was asked by a young student. We went to the church. After his confession he asked: "Have you got a minute for me?" We stayed. He started to talk – about his studies, his life, and of this deep unrest in his heart. Carefully, I asked some questions. His question was if priesthood was an option for him. I could see tears in his eyes. If he was to choose this path he would have to leave many things behind. We sat in silence. He was crying. After a while he said: "It's OK! Thank you for your open heart!" – Years later I was invited to preach in his first Holy Mass. I talked about his path and his courage. When we said our good byes after the celebration he said to me: "I never thought I could be this happy!" - **Who gives, wins!**

for the go4peaceTeam

Meinolf Wacker

