



Jan. 11, 2021 Mk. 1: 7-11 Is 55:1-11

Connie May © 12/6/14/08

Drawing with permission by Fr. Robert Beck

www.theark1.com [Zoom Connection](#)

Link to additional [Beck](#) (Choose this week's column)

Stone, Naomi. [New Beginning](#)

Rolheiser, Fr. Ron. [The Loneliness of Leaving Home](#)

Additional [Resources](#) Trending Today

[Monastery Sunday Homilies](#) (right click & open)

[You tube link](#)

ENTERING THE SCENE:

Mark's telling of the good news begins at the river. But I got to wondering what preceded this day. Did Jesus toss and turn all night? Did that last person he met the day before get to him? Did he come to the realization that he could free all those people being held hostage by their inadequate understanding of his Father? Did his mother sense that something was going on in his soul at breakfast this morning? When she saw him striding out of the shop did she sense that something big was coming down? Maybe his talk about his cousin John last night at supper tipped her off. After all, he was well past the leaving home time at what was then advanced middle age. The women at the well often gave her a pitying look as if to say what no

grandchildren yet? Let us walk with Jesus to the river.

Mk. 1:4-11

4 John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. 5 And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins. 6 And John was clothed with camels hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey;

7 and John preached: There comes one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. 8 I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit. 9 And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. 10 And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him: 11 And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Jesus knew and accepted the fact that he was God's beloved. Do you also know you are God's beloved, and if not, what would it take for you to realize this?

PRAYER: Lord, why is it that I so easily let others tell me that I might be your beloved child only IF... if I do this, or if I don't do that? Yet every time I take quiet time with the gospels I find all kinds of people coming to you only to find that God's love isn't conditioned by anything but their ability to receive that love? Strangely enough, that seems to be the only real source of conversion. Help me to grow into a mature understanding of God's love, the kind of understanding you had at the river that day and then help me live in a way that reveals that to others. Amen.