



## Putting Humility Over Ego

*Father Richard Rohr*  
*Founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation*

There are two stages of life. The first is when you're still building your ego structure — insults that come your way in this season of life feel definitive. For example, if a father tells his teenage son he's a failure, that teenager will spend his entire life trying to prove himself. This drives the man to seek wealth and status, which unfortunately will not satisfy the soul or his need for meaning.

The second stage of life is once you've encountered the great mystery — God. That's when you're humbled and realize how much you don't know. That humility is what makes a leader worth following.

Once humbled, you'll realize that the origin, the engine, and the end goal is love. Anything that leads you away from love will be destructive.

### MAIN POINTS

**1. Intention can be immaterial.** Even if your intention is good, consider the impact you'll have. How will your well-intended words or actions impact others?

**2. Try to live "on the edge of the inside."** If you're outside, you're going to fight your boss, and if you're inside, you'll simply be a conformist and not add value. Thus, be inside, but barely.

**3. Sometimes you need to leave home — literally.** New things can happen when you exit your environment and its predetermined definitions of success.

**"Dreaming small can catapult us from waiting to creating."**