



Monthly Lesson
February 2015

“Be Faithful Unto Each Moment”¹

Tape 1, Side one continued

In our culture, the thought of “getting,” “achieving,” and “attaining” has kept us on a wheel like a squirrel in a squirrel cage. We race around and around until we lose what we are seeking – the zest, joy, peace, inner poise and graciousness of truly living without rushing. We lose the ability to live just by being. According to one of the ancient mystical writers, the word for “God” was “Being,” “to be.” To live by being totally aware, we must release the conditioning of guilt and our great ego that thinks it knows what fulfillment is.

God has a spiritual plan for each and every one of us but very few fulfill it. We must fulfill this plan by living each day in the *now* and realizing the wonder of just being alive - by doing nothing through personal effort, all is done. We prepare a meal and serve it, drive a car, go to work at our job, garden or walk on the beach – it makes no difference what we are doing because what we are, this Divine being, this Infinite Life and Intelligence is expressing Itself as our individual being, guiding and protecting us if we are “aware.”

All we need to do is to recognize that God is fulfilling His Life in an infinite way as our individual being. Be faithful to each day, and do each task in front of you as it needs to be done. “*Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on.*”² So don’t take anxious thought, just do what is presented for you to do. If you are retired, garden, love your garden, and realize that it is God’s garden. If you are a businessperson, do what is given you to do with brotherly love. Be faithful to the smallest thing that is given you to do and you will see how the currents of Love and Life carry you.

Life is a current of Love and these are strong currents. Seek your star, your Christ. Keep your vision on the Christ being who you truly are and realize this Presence is always with you. This outer form of body is like a boat. You are the helmsman, watching a fixed point or beam or light, and steering your boat as necessary to stay on course. As you steer this way and that with your course set on a fixed point, this divine Nature we call the Christ will guide you and will fulfill Itself *now*, each day. It doesn’t matter to the Christ who you are. Remember, Jesus had to seek among the general population to find his disciples. The only educated disciple was Judas the betrayer. It was the fishermen, Peter and John, who later followed that beam of Light and did the work.

And so it is with us. We do not need to know the plan. We have only to know that It is in operation – infinite Being is expressing Itself as our individual being *now*. It is expressing Itself and wonderful things are

² Matthew 6:25

¹ 1983 Asilomar Retreat, Tape 1 (8347), Side 1 continued

happening *now* because of oneness, is-ness, and the fact that God appears AS individual being. Do we need to tell God our destiny, our fulfillment? Do we need to think about it and plot it with our minds? Or is the great lesson of Life to be faithful to each moment and to do what is given us to do with zest and love? Let that moment fulfill itself in Love.

*“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”*³ You are the Word made flesh and the fleshly part of you can do nothing, not even inherit the Kingdom of God. It is your Divine Nature, the Consciousness that you are, the Soul of you that Spirit must fulfill. It will only fulfill Itself as you meditate and go beyond that point of a busy mind into an inner stillness and peace. This is a state of your being. It is not something you do, but is what you are. You don't do a meditation, but instead you are a meditation. Your life is a contemplative meditation of the Grace of God unfolding, disclosing and revealing Itself as you.

It makes no difference whether you are a gardener, a dishwasher, an artist or an accountant. Do what is given you while being that inner Peace, that inner receptivity and responsiveness to your Guidance, and realize that Christ is always fulfilling Its Life as you and your individual experience. Therefore, we cannot outline or say what we will do or where we will go or what we will be. We take each step as presented, and our attitude of prayer is to be a beholder and watch God in action. Be totally aware of being.

If you take this attitude consistently, peace and joy will flood your being. You will feel the happiness and satisfaction of Soul in the silence. You will become consciously aware of your Soul-filled being, all you have and all you are. In quietness and confidence, you will know that by doing nothing, everything is being done. You have opened out a way for the “imprisoned splendor”⁴ to escape.

The Wonder Worker – The Christ⁵

What a wonderful stillness and Oneness there is right now! The announcement for this class is entitled “Mystical Living.” Oneness is a natural way for children; we have to be taught that there are things to fear or hate. Fear and hate are acquired as we are taught that we live in a universe that has two powers. But a very young child has no concept of “good” or “evil.” We are all conditioned from the beginning of our experience: “Don't do this or that because it will harm you.” We are taught from a very early age to have a discriminating mind, and in the human scene, functioning as mortals, it is important to discriminate among the evil propensities of human nature and those qualities of unselfishness that are natural to us. Most of our religious life is built around a conflict between “good” and “evil.” Whether it is called “devil,” “carnal mind” or “God,” “Divine Mind,” it is a belief in two powers. There is really no way to avoid looking at this and understanding it. Children need to know that there

³ John 1:14

⁴ From the poem “Paracelsus” by Robert Browning.

⁵ 1983 Asilomar Retreat, Tape 2 (8348), Side 1

must be a certain amount of discrimination – not judgment, but discrimination.

When the Master sent his disciples out, he said to them, “Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.”⁶ We function in two ways because we are living between a material sense of existence and a spiritual sense of existence. The mystic does not reject the material sense of existence, but understands that evil in this world operates only on a personal level. The minute that an individual identifies with the Universal Principle, “The great *I Am*,” he or she loses the personal sense that is so vulnerable to “this world.” When we lose this personal sense, we don’t lose anything real because the personal sense is an impermanent identification with the body and human experience. So the loss of personal sense is not a loss of anything important. In losing our life, we gain eternal Life. We lose our human history, forgetting that sense of self, and being reborn into our divine nature, we experience a new life that is unrestricted, unhampered, and invulnerable to the temporal conditions of this world.

This Christ is born in us when we recognize that we have a divine nature. “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”⁷ This divine sonship Consciousness has no earthly parents. The government of all our affairs will be “upon his shoulder”

and that is why we *take no thought for our life, what we shall eat, or what we shall drink; nor yet for our body, what we shall put on.*⁸ Through faith, we have our freedom and fulfillment; not a faith dependent on a man who lived two thousand years ago, but a faith that Life is fulfilling Itself as individual being. This is being faithful unto each moment of the day, serving and fulfilling where we are. If we are doing our best and giving our full attention to each moment, we find that the Government that is operating in our life to fulfill Its highest good in us and through us each day gives us more to do. It opens doors and opportunities for service that may not be what we planned or even what we think we want to do, however It fulfills God’s plan for us.

To live mystically, we “become as little children.”⁹ No matter how menial our service may appear to be, it is acceptable in God’s sight as long as it is a service of love to mankind. When performed with the attitude that we are serving God by serving man, a fulfilling activity will lead progressively from glory unto glory. So we recognize that as we open ourselves to our Divine Nature, the government of our experience is no longer in our hands. This Divine Nature *shall be called Wonderful*, leading us to a life filled with wonderment and adventure. His name is not only *Wonderful*, but also *Counselor*. Within ourselves, we have a counseling activity to direct and protect us; we can turn within to our Divine Nature any time of day or night to receive counseling because God is Omniscient and Omnipresent, the All-Knowing, All-Seeing, and All-Wise. While this Divine Nature does not judge, it does

⁶ Matthew 10:16

⁷ Isaiah 9:6

⁸ Matthew 6:25 (paraphrased)

⁹ Matthew 18:3

discriminate. It may tell us, “This is not the time to move – wait, be patient and wait upon the Lord.” Often, success or failure in an endeavor depends upon the timing. We recognize that time is in God’s hands because all time is operating *now* – yesterday and tomorrow is also included in *now*. When we look at a barren tree in winter, we know that right *now* the fruit is there, hidden and unseen, but in due season, it will appear because that fruitage exists *now* as the Life of that tree. That Divine prototype is already there.

So it is with you and me. Christhood, the fulfillment of God’s plan for man, is already ordained and omnipresent in each of us. Where and how it is fulfilled occurs to the degree that we live in the conscious awareness of fulfillment *now*, regardless of what mundane task we may do. If our attitude of prayer is “whatever I do, it is a service of God,” it will be a divine service to God by serving man. Remember, there is only One man or self, but each life is an individual experience. Right now, in this room where there appear to be many, there is only One and that One is the *I* in each of us. Life is self-revelation, the revelation of your Divine Self. Everyone who comes into your consciousness is that Divine Self appearing as friend, wife, husband, child, and even as enemy. An “enemy” represents some feature of our human self that is reflected back to us – a feature to be healed. Often our enemies are our best friends because they offer a mirror to see what needs to be refined. And as we forgive, that refining and healing takes place within us.

(The Wonder Worker – The Christ, Tape 2 (8348), Side 1 continued in March Lesson)

Dear Friend,

The healing consciousness functions through the “unconditioned mind,” a mind that knows perfect peace. We develop this mind by “seeing” that all desire, intention, motive, objective goal or aim cannot be formulated except with images and thoughts supplied by memory from the past.

Therefore each day must be lived with a mind unconditioned by the past and focused in the Now. Then it is a transparency for our soul to be guided and directed by the Holy Spirit. Through the mystical union of Soul/Spirit, our spiritual destiny is fulfilling itself and we experience the new Heaven and the new Earth.

Aloha,

Virginia

© Virginia Stephenson, 2015