



Gathering In Yucapa, California 1996

By: Raj Christ Jesus -

ANSWER: Good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

ANSWER: I'm very glad to be here with all of you. And without further ado we will open it up for any questions or comments you may have.

QUESTION: I'm so nervous I have to write it down and read it. In romantic relationships I seem to wind up always confused and disturbed. The confusion takes the shape of not knowing how I feel about the person after awhile. And I wonder is it all worth the work, getting through all the garbage and staying there. I get confused about my motives. And I get into this dilemma of what to do, should I stay, should I go. So I'm wondering if you could elaborate on what constitutes a good relationship? How important are things like common interest, compatible temperaments, I like evenings, he likes mornings, he wants hamburgers, I want carrots, he's a city person, I'm a country person? And my particular pattern seems to be initial excitement, then disillusionment, anger, thoughts of leaving, panic over leaving, confusion, questioning. And part of the panic is that I'm going to go somewhere else and have the same dilemma come up. And so this time in my seven year relationship I decided to learn how to forgive. And I'm making lots of progress, but I'm still unsure as to when it's appropriate to stay and when it's appropriate to go.

PAUL: I'm sorry, this is me Paul. Did you say you are in a seven year relationship?

QUESTION: Yes and I'm working on forgiveness. And I feel like I'm progressing. But I still have these questions as to when is it appropriate to stay and when is it not? And also I tend to take any answer given me and make it into a dilemma: Did he mean this, or did he mean that?

ANSWER: Well, we have three days! (much laughter) And there's no excuse for you to leave without having become clear about whatever it is I say.

At the bottom line, the issue with you is that you don't keep your integrity in tact, you don't keep your integrity clear within yourself, about yourself. And as a result of paying more attention to the other person in the relationship you override your integrity, you sacrifice it in other words. When I speak of integrity, your integrity, I'm really speaking about a very clear inner experience of who you are. I do not mean by that a female, a career person, I'm not talking about labels. I'm

talking about, that sitting right there regardless of what you're wearing, what roles you've put on in this lifetime, that you are utterly Meaningful—and I mean that with a capital “M”—utterly Meaningful, because you are not the offspring of two human parents, but are at this instant and every instant the direct, active expression of God. You are a divine one sitting there, standing there, cooking, bathing, pumping your gas, whatever you are doing is extraneous to the divine one who is doing it—the utter Presence of God in His/Her fullness right there.

When you forget that, when you stop paying attention to it and you start being for someone else, trying perhaps to be for them what they feel is fulfilling for them, you disregard this utterly divine one that you are. And that's where you get into trouble. “Well, if I'm just who I really am that will ruin the relationship.” Well, better to ruin the relationship than to ruin your self-experience by overriding your own integrity. But there's something more than that here than just being able to say, “well, the relationship isn't worth overriding my integrity.” The more that's in it is the potential discovery that you will have, that when you do express your integrity it blesses rather than curses you and everyone else.

I will tell you that the whole world is waiting for all of you, for all of mankind, to stop being distracted from letting who they divinely are find expression. When any of you withhold the love that you are, when any of you block the expression of the Presence of God in you, the whole world suffers from that of God finding expression in you that's not getting expressed. “Well, if I do that I'm going to look like some kind of odd-ball.” Well, you see there you are deferring to “them,” the one's who would define you as an odd-ball. And so you don't express yourself clearly, your integrity is held back. And Everyone loses out.

Now, to one degree or another this does apply to everyone, it tend to apply more to women, and in some ways this is a key issue for you. You're not here to be someone else's servant. You're not here to make some man happy. That's not your function in the world. You're not here to save him, or whoever the partner might be in any relationship. Helpers—and I'm using this term loosely—helpers tend to sacrifice their integrity more than anyone else on this globe because they feel a sense of purpose in being present for others in a capacity that makes them whole. And then when you have others that look at you and say, “indeed that is your function. I agree with you. And here's how exactly you can help me.” They suck you in.

That is why it is so important for you to not forget that regardless of roles you have taken on, regardless of any roles you have been thinking about taking on, regardless of how others see you, you in your own right as you exist have integrity that is the integrity of God in you that you were not meant to override or ignore. You are meant to let it be embodied in every expression that you engage in throughout the day. You know what that means? That means being in touch with

yourself enough all the time to recognize when you're not about to join with another in an activity that lacks integrity. "But he expects that of me." Tough luck!

The minute you find yourself seeming to be called upon to do something that you're not comfortable about, you must recognize that and stop doing it. No judgment about the call for an activity that lacks integrity needs to be brought into play. And this is the important point: If someone invites you to override your integrity, don't waste your time judging them. Just stay clear yourself. Be paying attention enough within yourself to notice that this is a call for you to over step the bounds of your comfort zone. And your rule of thumb should be a simple uncomplicated rule that says, "I don't have to do what is uncomfortable to me. And so I'm not going to do it. And that's it."

Now you said that in this relationship you are beginning to practice forgiveness as a new approach, a new style of relating. Forgiveness is never a matter of saying, "I forgive you for your thoughtlessness. I forgive you for your bad behavior and therefore if you engage in it it doesn't upset me." Do you see what I'm saying? Forgiveness is when you withdraw judgment. It's not when you withdraw intelligence. And so when you recognize that you're being called upon to do something that doesn't fit within your comfort zone, that asks you to override your integrity and you say I won't override my integrity, you are truly expressing love.

When you forgive another, which means when you withdraw judgment you have placed upon them for whatever reason, what that really means is you've only taken the first step. Because there's another step. By having disengaged from potential tension, by having withdrawn your judgment you are now able to say, "what is consistent with my integrity." In the absence of the tug-of-war that goes on when judgment is present you have the peace of mind, you have enough clarity to pay attention to what feels comfortable to you so that you can simply say "yes" to what does and "no" to what doesn't without judgment coming into the picture. You see?

I'm going a little beyond the scope of your question here. If someone hits you—and it really doesn't matter whether it's a woman hitting a man or a man hitting a woman, but I am pressing more from the standpoint of women who are hit by men—forgiveness is not just a matter of saying, "I forgive you for the bad treatment you have been dishing out. Forgiveness says, "I forgive you," which is the first step. And the second step is to pay attention to your own integrity and your own worth and your own decency as a direct expression of God. And then you say, "don't do it again." Whatever the mistreatment is you can withdraw the judgment so that you aren't caught up in the turmoil of judgment and then in your peace, which is a result of your forgiveness you can pay attention enough to your integrity to say, "No more!" You see?

You could say that the practice of forgiveness brings you into a frame of mind where simple dignity and intelligence regarding yourself can register with you and be the basis upon which you act. It may be a marvelous feat to forgive someone for something awful that they have done. But if that's all that happens the feat is a stupid feat.

The expression of dignity and integrity begets dignity and integrity in your world. That's very important. Your expression of your dignity and your integrity begets dignity and integrity in the world, just as love expressed begets love.

So the real question, the real crux of the issue for you is not, "when do I leave and when do I stay." The real crux is, "when do I override my integrity and when do I abide with it." Because when you can see the borderline and the points at which you cross over you can cross back into your integrity and not violate it. And by not violating it you will not withhold its expression from your world and your partners and your friends and your family will benefit. Sometimes they won't like it, but they will benefit.

So don't misunderstand and think that your expressing your integrity is always going to make everyone happy all the time. Because if they are used to having designs upon you and use you, and your integrity comes forth and makes you unavailable for use or abuse the users will say, "dirty pool, you're not playing the game right. The game says you yield. You let me use you." Well, that's when you say, "I'm sorry, I'm not available." And you don't defer to their expectations or their anger or their upset or disappointment in you, because you're keeping clear the boundary between your integrity and the abandonment of your integrity.

You're the Daughter of God and you are worthy, not worthless. And you have dignity by Birthright you could say. And you can learn to say "no" when there's a call for you to override and disregard your integrity.

The answer to your problem is not difficult. That is it and it is simple. The difficulty lies—in terms of practice—the difficulty is in the fact that you tend to want to be there for other people. And so you will defer to what they're expecting, or what they're saying they need.

People ask me for things all the time. And most of the time they are asking for what they want and not what they need. And when I give what they need, they don't recognize it because it's not what they were expecting. Oh, and then they get mad at me, and say, "why weren't you there for me." But I'm not here to cater to people's egos. I don't mean I'm not here in Yucaipa today to cater to your ego's, although that's true, but in a more universal sense I'm not available to anyone to cater to their ego's.

And you're not here to cater to other people's egos. You're here to dare to feel your integrity because of who you are—the Daughter of God—and to feel it and to not violate it. And let it be embodied in your daily life. It is a most lovable thing. It is a most respectable thing. And above all, because your embodiment or

expression of it ends up being an expression of God's Will, it blesses and transforms the world beyond the scope of any single act you engage in because it's like the leaven that leavens the whole lump. It doesn't take much leaven to leaven the whole bunch of dough, you see. And so it blesses everyone, when any one of you lets your divine integrity into expression. It registers universally.

And It's important for you to know that, so that you don't say, "well, what can I do? I'm nobody!" Well, see right there you've forgotten your integrity, you've forgotten who you are. Each time anyone lets God through by honoring their integrity which is derived from the Father then the Father has found expression in the world and it is transforming and blesses everyone.

And I guess you could say if I have anything to say, and if I am here to say anything it is that which encourages all of you to feel your actual Birthright. And to encourage you to let it find expression, so that the end of suffering can happen, because it's everyone's Birthright not to be suffering. But as long as everyone is trying to keep the status quo and override their integrity in favor of what everyone else expects of them God is withheld from expression here. And it is such an unnatural state that everyone hurts from it. You see?

So I'm going to ask you, what is the essence of what I have said to you in my answer to you?

QUESTION: That I need to really stay with what I feel is comfortable and right for me.

ANSWER: And not override your integrity.

QUESTION: Right stay in touch with myself and my needs.

ANSWER: Yes. Now, that is the answer. And now I'm going to expand and address everyone a little bit more.

The intellect is a wonderful tool that the ego uses. And so some of you might already have found the suggestion being made to you, "well, if I'm going to pay attention to what feels good to me, might not some of what feels good to me be ego oriented? How can I trust what feels good to me?" The ego would analyze and call into question a simple motive that you might have to not behave in a manner inconsistent with your comfort zone. Don't let any intellectual processes distract you from what I'm going to call down-to-earth common sense. And don't let any arguments of the intellect distract you from whatever sense you currently have enough wits to have. Do you see what I mean?

The experience of revelation, of insight, of communion with truth is never a matter of standing taller than your humanness, like reaching for the stars, reaching for the brass ring a little bit further away even than just your common sense. "Well," the ego says, "you can't trust your common sense. You can't trust the human part of you."

You want to know why people who have experienced utter failure tend, ever after that, to be the wise one's that everyone will turn to? Because in their abject

failure where all of their roles that had given them a sense of purpose and success, when all of those are gone, when all of their pride in anything is gone, when everything they had valued is gone they find that they are still there—there's something still present. And one of the aspects of real failure is that one is too exhausted to put on a front any more.

And part of the front that everyone puts on is a set of ideas that sound good but don't mean shit. And when one arrives at a point of failure where everything that had given them a sense of meaning isn't giving them meaning, and where all of the ideas that sounded good are seen not to be good any more, one finds oneself truly in touch with his common sense. And so, one, if one is not angry at the failure, but is allowing himself or herself to just be apparently nothing, one begins not to do anything that's not essential. One begins not to engage in anything that's meaningless. And their utter common sense and their wisdom that was there all along underneath the roles and the successes and the good ideas and everything that they had been employing, that comes forth and it blesses everyone.

You have common sense, all of you do. And so rather than rising above your problems, rather than standing taller and taller and taller, which simply gets you further and further away from your capacity to recognize truth, I encourage you all to start right where you are and value your comfort zone, whether it can be called ego oriented or not. Because you know what? No matter how far you get away from the Father's perspective you bring with you all of His wisdom because it's your Birthright, well because you are His/Her presence.

So value where you are. And value who you are. And value what you recognize to be comfortable. Because you all always have the capacity to feel what is comfortable. Comfort isn't intellectual, it's real. I can't put it more simply than that. We will elaborate on it as we got through the three days.

I will end up the answer here by pointing out that where your divinity lies to be found, where it is present to be discovered is right in the middle of your humanity. You do not rise above your humanity to connect with your divinity. You value your humanity and get in touch with it. And from there everyone is blessed. And from there you find—for lack of better words—the trap door or the little gap that you would slip through into the direct experience of your divinity. But it will not remove you from your humanity. It will open your humanity up into fuller expression.

Was your question relative to this? If you would pass the microphone to her.

QUESTION: May I ask a follow up?

ANSWER: I'll come back to you in just a moment.

QUESTION: What do you do with the fact that something very unhealthy may not only have become comfortable but the lack of it feels very uncomfortable?

ANSWER: We will address that, we will have a break in a moment and when we come back we will address that. I hear what you're saying. You had a follow up?

QUESTION: Yeah, sometimes something feels comfortable with me but since I get so much flack I begin to think well maybe I have a blind spot and my motives are not clear to me. For instance I read a "Dear Abby" once and the man had written in that his wife stays up half the night writing and doing all these things in her jogging clothes and when she finally falls asleep it's on the couch. And he wants her not to be doing this. And Abby wrote back and said, "well your wife is obviously afraid of intimacy." And so, since I'm an active person I like to connect with a lot of different people including old boyfriends—totally on a friendship level—and this upsets my boyfriend, I begin to think well maybe I have this problem, a fear of intimacy. And I'm not aware of my own motives in the things I choose that I really like to do. So, I'm wondering do I have a blind spot or do I really enjoy these things I think I enjoy?

ANSWER: Inseparable from your divine integrity is love. And so, when you are wanting to stay within your integrity and be in touch with it, you are wanting to be in touch with your capacity to be love expressed. And so in paying attention to what your integrity is and who you are you will be listening for and paying attention to what the expression of what love would be under this circumstance or that circumstance or this situation.

We are going to take a break. Your questions move beyond what I was specifically addressing, which was to value your comfort zone and to not violate it. Now it's an entirely different thing for you to expand your comfort zone or alter it, but to violate its limits because of what someone else wants is what brings confusion. And when you know that you have the right to pay attention to your comfort zone and honor it, you become comfortable. And in that comfort the opportunity to grow can occur without threat. And that's what we'll talk about when we come back from the break. And we'll take a break now.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: One of the last things you said was that you thought maybe I am afraid of intimacy. And my response to that is: So what? I mean it in the sense that everyone in the group has their own potential flaws or unseen flaws, and none of you say, "so what"! You take your flaws seriously. You know what? Maybe you are afraid of intimacy, but I love you anyway. Do you know what that means? And it's true of all of you. It means that in spite of and regardless of any of the things you need to learn you are lovable. And you know what that means? You can dare to get in your comfort zone.

Most all of you get out of your comfort zones to try to achieve lovability, credibility and respectability. And the only place you can get them from is from

“them,”—those who have judged you as being unlovable as being this or that. Part of your innate integrity is the fact that you are at this very moment, with your thousands of flaws perhaps utterly lovable. And as each one of you hear that and let it sink in I know that it’s a relief. It is the truth. So from within yourselves you have the capacity to recognize the blessing of realizing that no matter how imperfect you think you are you are lovable.

“This is my beloved Son. This is my beloved Daughter in whom I am well pleased.” I am quoting. This is not God’s voice speaking to you. It is also not me calling you my daughters or sons. I had not ascended when my Father said that about me. That means there was still some growing for me to do, humanly speaking.

Now if each of you can in the slightest way feel the relief of knowing that one who is fully Awake finds you totally and utterly lovable, if each of you can feel the relief of knowing that, then we can go to step two, which is you have some comprehension of the meaningfulness of your finding your fellow man with all his or her faults utterly lovable, worthy of the extension of love, because that will be felt also.

As you open up to the Voice for God, let us say, the Holy Spirit, you will find that everything you learn about yourself you’ve learned about your brother. And the way you have been treated by the Holy Spirit is an example of the way you are to treat your fellow man. And because you have the experience of the communion of Love, and it’s not just a head trip, you have something substantial to base your valuing of the place you have to extend Love to your brother with all of their flaws at the moment, with all the things they have yet to learn.

Now I have not immediately gone into the subject we were going to talk about, because it’s important not to gloss over this first step of staying within your comfort zone. Let’s understand a little more fully what that means.

When you give yourselves permission to abide in your comfort zone—no matter how much the ego has provided definitions for that comfort—when you have given yourself permission to honor your comfort zone, what you’ve done is you’ve taken away any authority other’s have for letting you or not letting you be in your comfort zone. In psychological terms you could say you have become self-empowered rather than other-empowered. This is healthier than to be other-empowered.

Now the thing is that if you truly have given yourself permission to function within your comfort zone, you don’t have to be defensive about it. You don’t have to protect yourself against invitations by others to step out of your comfort zone. You can just say, “no, I don’t feel like that right now,” with no charge to it, positive or negative—just a simple statement of fact like two plus two is four. When you say two plus two is four you don’t feel that you have to prove it, nor do you have to defend it. It’s just the way it is.

When you are not having to defend your integrity your behavior changes. When you're not feeling as though you have to grab your integrity away from someone or something else who is holding the reins, there is no call for you to be angry, rude, impolite, argumentative, arrogant—"no, I don't feel like doing that right now. I just don't feel like doing it." Your behavior becomes more loving, because it becomes more genuine. You've slipped into that place where you are sort of the equivalent of being too tired to be polite—artificially polite is what I mean, standing on ceremony. There's no need to state anything more than the fact. "No, I don't feel like it right now. No, I don't feel like coming to bed right now. No, I don't feel like doing that." And when it is said without an edge to it, without any defense, without any arrogance, without any attempt to get even it can be more easily heard. Because the genuineness, the simple unhaughty genuineness of it is expressed.

You must value your comfort zones, whatever they are. Because until you value it and honor it by not attempting to be different from it, until you do that you can't help but try to defend it, you can't help but have an enemy and you aren't in your peace.

You realize Paul can't hear me until he becomes still, until he abandons the right to have the stage exclusively, if I may put it that way. That means he can't have the opportunity to grow until he abandons the right he thinks he has to provide his own opportunities for what he conceives growth to be.

So it's in the yielding, it's all in the yielding. And when you yield into your comfort zone you become more real and your behavior does change. It is kinder, even though one might say, "well, she really has to overcome this fear of being intimate." No one easily or gracefully overcomes a limit, when there isn't something first in them that they are able to honor. And so you start with your comfort zone at the moment to honor.

You must be able to find God in you. You must be able to find something worthwhile in yourself first before you expand the borders of your tent, so to speak, before you attempt to violate boundaries that the ego has established for you.

So that's why it's so very important to go ahead right where you are and honor your integrity where you find it in your present level of comfort in behavior in the world. When you know you are not vulnerable, because your comfort zone is just what it is.

You know when the phone rings you don't have to answer it. Did you know that? And likewise you don't have to defend your comfort zone. You really don't! There's no law! You don't have to defend your comfort zone, and you don't have to behave inconsistently with it. And when you realize that and risk the chance that it's true and simply be from it, as I said there won't be any anger, there won't be any haughtiness, there won't be any arrogance, there won't be any defense in

the expression of it. And what a relief you will feel. And it's in that state of relief that you can then begin to look at areas in which you want to become free of limitations or impositions on your freedom that you have become bound by. But you don't try to break those boundaries, or violate those boundaries when you haven't even found anything about yourself that is respectable in your own terms. You see?

Indeed it's true that one can become comfortable doing what is out of sync with their integrity for whatever reason. And changes need to be made in what constitutes a real experience of comfort. But as I said, it's very difficult to change those things if you don't have a place of some substance within yourself where you feel okay about yourself. That really is the first step. Then what follows is not a time of testing, is not a time of struggle, but a time of discovery. From that place of self-honoring and peace you can begin to explore limits that you may not have thought you had, and limits that you do know that you have. And you can explore the potential for violating those limits. They're like fences, circular fences. You can only go so far and no further. But it's only when there's an experience of your own lovability that you can begin to find a natural inclination and desire and anticipation of the fun that will be involved in climbing that fence and moving beyond it, or leaning into it and finding out that it had no real substance to hold you back and you fall through and are able to move on.

Waking up is a divine adventure, an adventure in realizing, recognizing the infinite capacities that are your Birthright that for one reason or another you had overlooked, abandoned, ignored, but which are still there. Now I'm expressing it in very pleasant words that are inspiring, the fact is that some of it will be work, some of it will take persistence. But the courage to stay with the motivation to persist comes from that place in you that you decided to honor, which we've called your comfort zone this morning. You see? And an unwillingness to engage in trying to defend your comfort zone to another.

Would you like to bring your part of the question more into focus?

QUESTION: What do you do with this unhealthy situation that has become very comfortable, and in fact, without it you are very uncomfortable, but yet you know it is unhealthy even though it is my comfort zone as far as I can reach?

ANSWER: Well, you're going to have to become a little bit like the eight year old who has been told to play in the yard and not go outside the fence. You are going to have to let some curiosity about what's beyond the limits of this comfort zone that's uncomfortable for you now. And you're going to have to dare to find imaginative ways to get out without being caught. (laughter)

Now it isn't the threat of being caught that I want to emphasize here, because that isn't what you will find happening. What I am addressing is the need for playful curiosity to explore beyond the boundaries of the limit that is not

healthy. You see? You need to engage that vitality within yourself that delights in being disobedient to the boundary, because it's a boundary of something unhealthy that does not in fact call for your obedience. You see? Instead of being the victim of it, and especially instead of being someone who has something psychologically dark within them that is self-defeating and has something wrong with them, you see, that they have to overcome. Bring the playfulness back in that the child in you has, that naturally does not want to abide by boundaries. And then when no one's looking, which means when your ego isn't looking, you dare to behave beyond the limits of the behavior that this unhealthy comfort says you must abide by.

You see, I'm encouraging you to let yourself be inspired out of the unhealthy comfort zone rather than fighting your way out, or somehow overcoming some supposed unhealthiness in you. It isn't the unhealthy behavior patterns of the comfort zone that is what's unhealthy, it's the fact that you have somewhere along the line abandoned the inquisitive rule breaking child in yourself which needs to be resurrected so that you might explore being in a new way. You see?

There are many ways to skin a cat. There are many ways to wake up. The simplest way, the simplest way to wake up is just to say, "Yes," to God, "Thy Will be done." It can be done in the twinkling of an eye with a little willingness. You may think that there are so many psychological factors bearing on this unhealthy comfort zone that it must be very complicated, and take a lot of straightening out of your thinking to wake up. And then there are others of you who are studying the Course who think that you have to get to lesson 365 before you can wake up.

The steps, the lessons will certainly help. And any psychological steps you take to bring yourself to a point where you can say yes to a new behavior will help. But that approach tends to become one full of studious behavior which lacks this vital, essential, rule breaking nature within you that finds itself unable to comprehend any sanity in limits.

And so I encourage you always to try to skin the cat in the way that has the least process to it, even if in addition to that you utilize processes. Does that answer your question?

QUESTION: Thank you very much.

ANSWER: You are welcome. I have a feeling that... I have a feeling that we are not leaving this subject permanently.

QUESTION: Raj, I think I find I have brief moments of peace that are interrupted by sort of the rantings of my ego, which has taken on the guise of—it has many disguises—but the one it takes on is that of a medical expert or something. So that if I just have a headache, it's a brain tumor; or if I have something else it's prostrate cancer; or if I get a freckle, it's skin cancer. So that everything becomes just exaggerated, it's like this hysteric that seems to, usually whenever I'm happy for just a few moments, these little bulletins or

medical alerts or whatever they are kind of come along. Even though I'm a student of the Course I find myself somehow paying undue attention to them and really letting them sort of run my life. And it's just kind of like it's always there, around the corner. And I was wondering what is the best way to deal with these, to put them in perspective, or in their place—besides outlive them, which I've managed to do?

ANSWER: The first thing you can do when these medical alerts come is to tell your ego, "I'm a Christian Scientist." Being a comedian yourself you could begin to define the ego as a comedian also and learn to laugh at whatever it says. Don't argue with it, just laugh at it.

Now you've gotten all you need and you can go home.

What I've already told you is all that it takes. But I will give you a little more than all that it takes.

If you're going to be a student then you had better decide who your teacher's going to be. If someone came to your door and in all seriousness in a business suit, briefcase, very official looking, and said, "please let me in, I am here to teach you how to sin, suffer and die." Would you let them in?

QUESTION: No.

ANSWER: Then use at least half as much common sense as that. And when the ego suggests these things, say, "No thank you." And then ask within yourself, "What does Love say—capital 'L' Love? What does the Father's perspective say?" It may say, "wash your face more frequently, so you don't have a pimple." It may say, "change your eating habits." Yes, divine guidance is very practical, relevant, or it may say, "you've got to let go of this anger that you are holding towards so-and-so," or, "you must abandon this cause you have for gaining justice in your life," or whatever. But it will be an answer that expresses love and that will be reflected in evidences of perfection manifesting, including the disappearance of the inclination to be fascinated with an advisor who is the epitome of unintelligence.

Most of all I want you to work on finding your capacity to laugh from the tips of your toes when the ego's up to its dirty business the next time and the next time. Laughter is not a defense, but it is an absence of engaging with serious response that seems to validate the teacher or what the teacher has said.

Again, you will find that I am suggesting to you that you do something which doesn't bring discipline into play. If you can manage to skin the cat without bringing discipline into play you will save yourself from bringing all the other elements that you have acquired in your life around the practice of discipline. One of which is seriousness, studiousness, fear of the grade that is going to be received, and on-and-on. The fascination with coping with a bad teacher is compounded by the seriousness that you bring to the process. The quickest thing to heal an illness is laughter, is joy!

When I was tempted, I said, “get thee behind me Satan!” That was the word in those days that meant the same thing as the, “ego get thee behind me—get thee behind... behind me! I’m going to be at the head of the line. If you’re going to be there, you’re going to be in second place.” You see? I put him in his place. But really what I did was I kept myself present with the preference.

You see, even though Paul is not originating anything at this moment, he is being fully present in his presence, but the personality Paul has been put back there so to speak. You see what I mean? And so what Paul really is can be present. But Paul isn’t really anything unjoined with the Father. And when he’s joined with me he’s joined with the Father, because I’m joined with the Father.

So choose your teacher well. And if you choose for the teacher of small mindedness, be aware that you are choosing for it. Everything that follows will be invalid, no matter how frightening it is. But being a comedian you have the capacity to turn the tables and laugh. You see? But you’ll have to make the decision, you’ll have to make the choice. All of you are always making the choice because there are only two teachers. And the ego, to put it simply, is nothing but memory.

As each of you grew up you tried out different ways of behavior and you finally decided on certain ways of behavior that felt good to you and have come to identify you. And so you engage in those behaviors thinking that they are arising out of the moment, when actually they are arising out of the past. You’re Fifth Grade teacher said you were lousy in math and you would never make it in math. And to this day you’ve said, “I’m lousy at math.” You think you’re stating it in the now, but your statement is from the past, it’s memory, it’s locked you in and it squelches any little bit of curiosity that might arise in you to explore something mathematical like balancing your checkbook without fear. You see?

And so your present is governed by the past. The sense of yourself that you have acquired, tried on, modified and finally settled on, that’s all there is to the ego. It’s not an intelligent presence with a life of its own and an ability to assert itself. But either you are acting in the present from memory, which means you’re not responding to what’s really happening in the present, or you are abandoning memory with a willingness to be in the moment with innocent eyes—with eyes that have no assumptions about the moment. And then the Moment, which always has a capital “M”, has the opportunity to register with you and you find yourself being taught by the Holy Spirit.

And what the Holy Spirit is disclosing to you is the presence of God that is what is really going on in this Moment. And you say, “my eyes have been opened. It’s mind boggling! It’s wonderful!” And then if you’re not careful you take that wonderful experience and you add it to your memory banks, and you let that experience become what prompts your actions in the moment instead of continuing to stay at the threshold of an experience of “behold I make all things new,” where

what happens isn't what you expected because it expresses the ongoing originality of the Movement of Creation that God is Being and which is the only thing going on.

So, there's always one of two teachers that you are allowing to guide you. You are never authorizing anything yourself. You're always being lead around by the nose—flat out! There is no alternative to that. And part of Awakening is the humiliating revelation of that fact, and then the empowerment or the clearer experience of your integrity that comes from expecting it, so that you pay attention to who the teacher is, so that you let yourself be lead around by the only Real presence there is, which is the Movement of God. You see?

And that's how everyone is going to wake up. So you must make the choice consciously and close the door on the teacher you don't want to hear from. Or choosing for that one, do it knowing that you're choosing for it and that what will follow will not be true, although probably terrifyingly exciting! Until you become exhausted from being terrified and you decide to abandon that teacher and ask again, "what's really going on here." You see?

QUESTION: How can it be that one can be really fascinated by evil? If you know it's evil, I mean how can it be fascinating? Why doesn't it become repellent the minute you know what it is always?

Because it always appeals to your need for security. It seduces you by suggesting that what it has to offer you is protection. You see, when you are feeling separated from God, which really means when you are feeling separated from your direct experience of your own integrity, there's only one thing available to you and that is a feeling of vulnerability. That means that the prime thing on your list of things to attend to is defense. And the ego seduces you by providing you with what it calls defenses. And so you play into it because it promises relief. You see?

QUESTION: If you're feeling very frightened it offers you, "if you do this you will feel safe."

ANSWER: Exactly! If someone threatens you, if someone is rude, unkind and behaves in a way that is threatening to you, it is really that one's cry for help—that one is feeling vulnerable and is reaching for help, for safety in the only way that seems reasonable. And it feels reasonable to behave in an offensive way. So really what that one is doing is making a call for love. That one is behaving in a way to try to get an experience of safety. If you see it as an attack then your ego will say, "the response needed here is defense." And you may slam the door in that person's face, you may tell them to shut up, you may punch them in the jaw, you may take any number of defensive actions, when what might really be needed is for you to walk up to that one and put your arms around them and say, "It's okay, you don't need to be upset around me." You see?

So often when children are cantankerous they're really asking for a hug and they don't even know it. But when the mother recognizes that the way they are behaving is not really a call for discipline but a call for love, and provides the love, the behavior ceases because the need is met. You see?

And so, indeed, part of the unhealthy comfort zone that everyone is at the threshold of learning and the change of behavior that is coming lies in the realization that the appropriate response to unbecoming behavior is love rather than defense. That isn't necessarily easy when one has been so conditioned to using defense in order to feel safe. Because in order to love one has to let down the defense or it cannot reach the one being loved. And as long as the conditioning towards defensiveness is still very strong, the learning is that the only appropriate response to attack is love.

Does that answer your question?

QUESTION: Yes it is, but I do not know. If I don't see the situation with complete clarity how not sometimes encourage in a child particularly behavior that will not serve them at all if I response with love when they like whack their next door kid on the head with a toy. They think, "wow, if I whack three more kids on the head I'll get a lot of love." I mean it sounds funny but they do.

ANSWER: Again, it's like forgiveness. Forgiveness isn't saying when somebody has whacked you over the head, "thanks, I needed that, I forgive you." One says, "I forgive you and don't do it again." And you love the child by not calling his integrity into question, while at the same time teaching him that it is an inappropriate behavior and not to do it again. You can teach someone what is not appropriate without calling their integrity into question. You can teach something what is appropriate and inspire in them the fact that they have the integrity to recognize the truth of what they are saying. You see?

ANSWER: Good afternoon.

QUESTION: I have trouble forgiving myself and judging myself for things of the past. I can't get beyond that. What do you have to offer on that?

ANSWER: It all depends on what you're identifying yourself with. And the only two things you have to identify with is either the Voice for Truth or the voice of the ego. Now the fact is that you have forgiven yourself a lot. And it would be well for everyone to learn to look at the donut instead of the hole. It's so easy to look at what one hasn't yet accomplished and treat that as though it were the whole truth about you, when the progress that has been made has in many instances been miraculous and makes the bigger statement about you that is worth paying attention to.

What's the one biggest thing you can't forgive yourself for?

QUESTION: Actions against others.

ANSWER: Actions that you have taken?

QUESTION: Yes, against others.

ANSWER: If you had known better, would you have done better?

QUESTION: No!

ANSWER: That's not true. If you had known better at the time you would have behaved differently. At any given moment you always behave the best you can. At all times you are doing what you believe is the very best thing you could do, as I said earlier, to provide yourself with the sense of safety that you think you need, or that the ego has told you that you need because you are a vulnerable piss-ant mortal. And if you had known better, in other words, if it had been clearer to you that you aren't a no-good piss-ant mortal you would have behaved differently.

Now, maybe you can look at yourself today and say, "there isn't nearly as much about my living that I can't forgive myself for as there was twenty years ago." But there is going to be a point sometime in the near future where you will look back and you will say, "wow, if I had known this then I would have behaved differently. And by contrast I can see that I behaved poorly, poorly in the sense that the behavior I expressed didn't promote the maximal blessing."

Now, we started out the day today talking about the fact that everyone has flaws. And my response was what?

QUESTION: God loves us regardless of our flaws.

ANSWER: But I said, "so what, you're still lovable."

Now, it will help greatly if you can grasp that everything that you did no matter how unloving it was was perfectly understandable under the circumstances. Then you will begin to grasp that there is less that is horrible about you that has to be forgiven.

Again, forgiveness so often is related in everyone's minds as somehow within yourselves becoming equal to whatever degree of horribleness you expressed or that was expressed towards you. The factors are, an act of forgiveness and something horrible needing to be forgiven. When that isn't the arena in which forgiveness occurs and those are not the factors, forgiveness is an inner act that has to do with your arriving at a point where you're saying, "I refuse to let my mind and my emotions be used to create and maintain a state of conflict in me that inhibits me from experiencing my peace." You see?

That has nothing to do with someone here engaging in an act of forgiveness about another thing out here that was horrible. It has to do—for lack of better words—with a decision not to function in a split state of mind. It's the abandoning of a willingness to practice judgment, to be the decider between good and bad and the weigher—the one who weighs the factors—and comes to a judgment. You see? It's abandoning that and it's saying, "no matter what happened I am no longer willing to continue to exist with a state of conflict in me that I am validating and energizing. I am going to choose for my peace." You see? Forgiveness is the withdrawal of judgment, the abandoning of engaging in the practice of judgment.

It doesn't change what apparently was done. And it doesn't change the one to whom it was apparently done. But the real you that is present at this moment changes because you've decided not to practice aggressively judgment. Why do you practice judgment—any of you? The only reason you practice judgment is so that you can get justice. And like I brought out before, the only reason justice is important to you is because you don't know how to heal sin, sickness and death. What that means is then that where the attention needs to be is on healing not on justice. You see?

Where is healing going to occur? Not in the past! And not between actors and actions. It's going to occur within you and it's going to occur when you cease seeking justice and instead you desire to experience healing. Healing is only going to occur where there is peace. And again, that's why we started out this morning talking about your comfort zone, no matter how flawed it might seem to be and no matter how much the definitions of your comfort have been established by the ego. It doesn't matter. Arriving at a place within yourself where there is something in you that you can honor allows you then to abandon the search for justice and experience your peace in which the healing can occur. In the absence of judgment on yourself, presently or in the past, you'll find that the forgiveness, the experience of balance within you will simply emerge as an experience as yours. And you'll see that there's nothing to forgive.

So forgiveness isn't some heroic action that expresses the greatness of your love for something awful, or for someone who did something awful. It's a very simple, in itself, unprofound shift in which you abandon the act of judgment. That's a lot easier to do than what everyone thought forgiveness was all about.

Everyone's on their leading edge, literally everyone is as far forward in terms of their spiritual growth as they can stand to be. And in a way it is like standing at the edge of a cliff and you don't know what's next. And so everyone moves forward gingerly. And they behave where they are standing—I'm going to put it this way—with the least amount of defense that they are able to practice. But they are still practicing defense because until you're awake the feeling of vulnerability is going to be present. Now you don't ask yourself, "well, why am I feeling vulnerable? What did I do wrong? I must be creating this for myself." Because that's nothing but a distraction from the willingness to lean into what is immediately ahead of you, which is the unknown, which is your expansion, which is your enlightenment, which is increased clarity, which is always a bigger experience of being loved and therefore safe.

Forgiveness doesn't exonerate the perpetrator of an evil act. Forgiveness heals the one who saw something less than God appearing there, by dissolving the practice of judgment. You see? Forgiveness is always about the forgiver. I'm sure that in one way or another all of you have had the experience of someone else

withdrawing their negative judgment of you. It's a blessing when someone else abandons their quest for justice relative to you. It's always a relief.

So you see, it isn't about you being big enough to be equal to the horribleness of someone else's act so that you can somehow express the fact that you weren't hurt by it.

If your eye be single your body shall be full of light. If you refuse to be in a state of conflict within yourself so that there is a singleness of the experience of yourself and a singleness of intent, no conflict there, indeed you become as a light. And the one that the old concept of forgiveness would have forgiven will be seen by you as someone who never called for judgment. And in the absence of your judgment there will be something there—utter Love.

No matter how hard anyone's leading edge is at this very instant, no matter how hard it is for them, and no matter how awkwardly they are dealing with it, you know what? They're literally at the same spot that everyone else is, everyone else's leading edge. Are you going to look at the half empty glass or the half full glass? Are you going to judge them for their leading edge? Or are you going to be humane enough and compassionate enough to understand that although their issues are different from yours you're not in any better place than they are. And that you're both, or that you are all standing at the threshold of discovery, enlightenment, a clearer experience of love and a more substantial experience of your safety and therefore invulnerability.

And if you find yourself unable to abandon the practice of judgment, if you find judgment, words of judgment, thoughts of judgment running through your mind then I encourage you to ask for help, ask the Holy Spirit. All of you are so surrounded with those who are ready to help you that it is amazing you don't ask for help more than you do—with a belief at least that someone is hearing and responding. But ask for help to not be distracted by your peace by the constant rhetoric of the ego claiming that justice is indeed what is called for and it will help you get it.

Again, it's sort of a matter of choosing your teacher—which voice is going to be your teacher. There's always arrogance in judgment. And the one's practicing judgment are the one's who need healing. And in their healing the world will be healed.

I'll tell you all something else. At any point in your lives the awkward and perhaps unkind and thoughtless things that you have done when you were on your leading edge... (just a moment)

When Paul got distracted with what I was in the midst of saying he lost the train and now he is trying too hard to catch the train again. And so I will slip it in. But we will not pursue the continuation of that sentence right now.

You understand what I have been saying however?

QUESTION: Absolutely. Right on target!

ANSWER: Being on your leading edge no matter how awkwardly you be there is not a cause for self-evaluation. It's the threshold of discovery. It is as though Paul were to walk up to the step here and say, "I'm not standing squarely on both feet. All the weight is on this leg. Is there something in your nature that doesn't want to face life squarely on both feet," you see, and get into an evaluation of how one is standing on the leading edge when the reason for being here is to take the next step. You see? That is what I was about to say when Paul got distracted. How well, or how poorly you are behaving when you're on your leading edge is not what matters. What matters is whether you take the next step. Whether you embrace greater fulfillment. Whether you embrace and make room for revelation, you see.

I could look at you all on your leading edges and I could say this looks like a circus of clowns. There is so little grace to it. Now I didn't just slip one under the door to you so that you could go home and worry about how badly you look like a clown. I simply mention it because whatever degree of awkwardness you're exhibiting is so irrelevant to the fact that you're daring to be on your leading edge and right in front of you, one millimeter in front of you is insight—clarity! And an even greater experience of your innocence. So where is the call for judgment? And really, where is the call for this thing called forgiveness in the sense that forgiveness has been conceived for so long?

One hears of miracles like a mother and a father and a daughter who were in an automobile accident, the result evidently of the carelessness of a young man driving the other vehicle. And in the process of the accident the daughter falls out of the car and the car lands on top of her and she is killed. And the mother is healed of her judgment and forgives this young man and goes so far as to become friends, so as to truly convey to him that he need not judge himself. And one says, "my, that was a forgiveness of something that is almost impossible to forgive." In other words, it was a great forgiveness.

Again, this is using the act of forgiveness and the thing needing to be forgiven, it is utilizing them as the factors involved. And one might say, "I could never do that. That is just something that I could never forgive." But if we become a little more grounded in our consideration and you realize that all the time you are not forgiving you are actively engaged in the practice of judgment, and that you are keeping alive a memory that calls for justice and that this amounts to a ball of conflict within yourself, and then you think about carrying that ball of conflict—an inner war waged within you—for ten years, fifteen years, twenty years, and like an alcoholic whose addicted to the war your life begins to fall apart. Because the hate that you're practicing is unrelenting. There's going to come a point where you're going to say, "this call for justice is too expensive. It's costing me my life. It's costing me my joy. I can't do it anymore."

We talked about failure this morning, because when one comes to that point one can feel like a failure with regard to what as a parent you feel you owe to your daughter, and all kinds of obligations that somehow contribute to or detract from your felt integrity. But you come to that point where the honest fact is you don't have the energy any longer to actively engage in this inner conflict and you give it up—truly give it up. When you do that, where you thought there would just be a void, a humiliating void you find instead love embracing you and filling you, and joy, and that's when the forgiveness has occurred—not of the person who was driving the other car—that's when the withdrawal of judgment has occurred and your capacity to be the presence of love has returned to your life. Certainly it is going to bless the young man who was driving the car. It's also going to bless your whole world because you have ceased claiming the right to maintain a personal vendetta for the purpose of getting justice.

Each one has the experience of love waiting for you when each of you abandons the practice of judgment. You don't have to become equal to a horrible act that calls for forgiveness. What you really have to do is to have enough common sense not to engage in judgment to begin with. And if you have engaged in it and carried it forward pay attention to what it is doing to you. Now it will become easier to let go of it. Because not one of you can tell me that it reflects the Will of God for you to keep yourself in an unmerciful ongoing state of conflict that distracts you from the experience of God's Love for you, because you're so busy keeping on the quest of justice. You see? You can't tell me that. And so now common sense and intelligence says to you, "there's no valid reason for me to do this any longer and I'm going to give it up." That's much easier.

QUESTION: Hi, Raj. I have a big question and a mundane question. The big question is, this is something that's in the back of my mind a lot: I don't understand why we're here having to go through often times nightmarish things, but I understand I want to Awaken, and you are Awakened and there are people from my perception that are less Awakened than me and maybe there are people beyond you who are more Awakened than you. It just sometimes seems like this big conveyor belt and we all want to Awaken... Okay, once we Awaken then go on to greater levels at one time you said. You've got 2000 years of experience—I don't know if that's the right word or not—but why, what is this all moving towards. And then once God is Awakened and pulled all the parts of Him back then does it all start over. And I don't understand that big picture or if it's understandable or worth thinking about. But I do think about it a lot and I don't know why. I'd love clarity. Why bother to work so hard to Awaken now when I get to that level I'm just going to have to work hard to Awaken to the next level and then does this ever stop? Why can't I just relax and not come down and sit on a bench for three days, even though I like doing it.

ANSWER: I will be glad when I don't have to come here anymore either.

QUESTION: I know you would be. I would be if I was you.

ANSWER: To be Awake does not mean that you have Awakened into another dream from which you will need to Awaken. You see, add infinitum. You know, I could speak to a packed crowd if I would give 12 steps to wake up by. You think that it would be easier for you to wake up if I would tell you what's coming once you're Awake. That is because your perception of existing is one of a linear movement, which is dependable and predictable. I cannot tell you what is coming. Because being Awake is not about a future.

I will do my best to try to put into words here what will answer your question. Because you think linearly, because education was a linear experience, dependable—1st grade, 2nd grade, 3rd grade, 4th grade, etc.—and you could even find out if you talked to the right person what you would be learning in the 10th grade, what would be covered and then in the 1st year of college, etc. Awakening isn't about what's coming. Awakening is about being, which is always a now experience. Waking up is about remembering, but it's not about remembering something from the past. It's about remembering how to be Love.

When you drop a pebble into a pond that is still it creates a ripple that goes out on the surface of the water. And if it met no resistance the ripple would go to infinity on a plane surface. Being Love is like a Movement that moves like a sphere that's getting larger and larger, which if it meets no resistance goes to infinity. What I'm saying is not literal, but figurative.

The Movement of God is Love, which extends at infinitum. The impulse of Love will never arise from you personally, or you individually. The impulse of Love is always God in the act of being Love. And when you're no longer claiming any presence or mind separate from God—in effect when you let that Mind which is God be all there is to you—then you become the experience of God being the impulse of Love. Time and space have nothing to do with anything any longer. And there is nothing linear, nothing predictable. The impulse of Love that finds expression and which is not experienced by you as something you are individually expressing, constitutes an experience of bliss.

Always the impulse of God—and impulse is not the best word because it implies a starting and a stopping of a movement, but it comes close to being as good a word as the word expression of God because there is an authority to the expression that the word impulse implies a little bit better than the word expression—this impulse/expression of Love is Creation. And the Movement of God is perceptible to God as the embodiment of His Will expressed in infinite variety. Being is no longer progressive. And because the impulse of God that constitutes Creation is God in action all of the variety of expression is experienced in a unity, not implying distinct, self-existent presence. God you could say is the conscious experience of being it all. This means that when you are not claiming

the right as Paul does from time to time to have your own point of view about things you have available to you the true experience of being One with All That Is even though there is still distinct and identifiable Creation to experience.

What this means is—and it's difficult to translate these things into terms that will not be misleading—what it means is that perhaps it might appear that Paul would be sitting on a chair. But because it's an experience of unity he would experience what the chair was experiencing of Paul sitting on it, as well as having the experience of being Paul being supported by the chair. You see? Or conversely because there is no density to anything, Paul could pass his arm through the arm of the chair, or the two of you could pass through each other and experience the interaction from both standpoints, because there isn't a private experience. In fact, the experience of the two of you passing through each other would not only be experienced by each of you as a total experience of what's happening, but all of the brotherhood not passing through the two of you would experience your experience. What is difficult to communicate in words is that when you are Awake experience is always infinite, even though there is an infinite variety of specific manifestations of this Movement of Love that is Creation. It is far from dull.

And as I have brought out before, all of you value your privacy greatly, but in Awakening you let in, you lose privacy. You don't need it for protection. That gives you a clue as to what Love really is. It's letting in, not just one thing at a time, not just one person at a time. It is actually a matter of abandoning the defense that fools you into believing that you can have a private experience and that everyone else can and is having private experiences also.

The Movement of Creation is not progressive. God isn't practicing at becoming a better Creator. Creation is incredibly flawlessly, perfect and infinite. Again—because there are not good words for this—when you are Awake and claiming no right to have a different perspective from the Father's you will find that you will be experiencing infinity from every possible angle simultaneously and you will not be confused by it.

Now why should you endure three days here?

QUESTION: (He's not using the microphone and I can't hear his comment.)

ANSWER: Or this lifetime, yes. Well, because you don't have any other choice. You're right in the middle of this experience of being Awake and of Reality—you're right in the middle of it. And so every moment is the opportunity to let it in more fully. Because you can't be outside of the Movement of God there is no alternative to the moment you're faced with. And the only thing that can alter your experience of it is your remembering that you are the Presence of Love, which is the absence of defense and remembering it significantly enough for you to let down your guard so that more of it can be experienced and you may come back

into your Right Mind, if I may put it that way, where you are having God's experience.

But I will tell you that waking up from here is not level one into level two and then you've got to go to level three and four add infinitum. You either are experiencing the Kingdom of Heaven or Reality as it is or you are not. And there aren't any other choices. That would imply that there are states and stages of being Awake and it would still be a linear process—you're at three, not at two and the next one is four. No!

Again, it all revolves around the real meaning of the word Love. You cannot hear too much about Love. The importance of it is centuries old if we want to speak in linear terms. And I don't care how New Age things become, if it's the truth you're hearing it's going to be talking about the same old thing—Love—and getting over being afraid to be embraced by it and letting it become embodied and finding expression through you right here. Because that Love allowed in and through [you] is what will illuminate Reality, the Kingdom of Heaven, the Movement of God that is the only thing going on no matter how you're currently perceiving it.

We will close the day on that note. And I will consider answering other questions on this topic tomorrow if any of you have questions.

What I want to leave you with today is what has turned out to be the general theme of today and that is that you must find something in yourselves to value—your integrity. And you must honor your comfort zone. You must dare to be grounded and practical in your spirituality, which means letting yourself be more human, which is where real humaneness can be found, because stripped of all of your roles and concepts that which is essentially real remains. And what is there is Love and the capacity to be in the world without defense. Do you see that I have been saying, instead of trying to grow beyond or above or out of this experience, the necessity is to let yourself be more really in it, with less farce, with less that is false.

Again, the most direct route to your divinity is right through the center of your humanity. And that is what the ego would distract you from, with twelve steps to enlightenment or a knowledge of what is to come or in the suggestion that somehow your salvation lies somewhere outside of you and somewhere else than the universe—another dimension, another this, another that. And I promise you that the more people who believe that and reach for what is beyond them the more hellish life will become, because they're not paying attention where Reality is happening. And in their neglected of it they will stub their toes against the Kingdom of Heaven, they will break their legs against the Kingdom of Heaven because they will constantly be acting at odds with what God is being. That's why waking up is simpler than anything anyone is expecting, because the experience awaits you in the unvarnished, unpretentious presence of you that lies underneath

everything that you have covered yourself over with in order to appear to be competent, and reputable and full of integrity.

This is so very important, because once you grasp this the influx of insight and clarity and revelation will occur more rapidly, with more grace. And although in the beginning you may feel that because no one else is doing it you're going to look like the odd ball. The fact is that you will appear to be more congruent to everyone else and you will be more obviously in possession of something that is of great value as far as everyone else will be concerned. And you will be the inspiration to them to dare to do this also. And you will not be met by scorn or ridicule or mistreatment.

I look forward to being with you all tomorrow. Thank you.

ANSWER: Good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

ANSWER: We will not waste any time. Who has a question?

QUESTION: Good morning. Mine is kind of a follow up question to the one we finished with last night. And speaking for myself, but I think also for a lot of people on this planet that feel like square pegs in round holes, and I sometimes feel like the whacky aliens on that sitcom on television "Third Rock from the Sun," kind of as an observer here, wondering what it's all about and not fitting in too well, especially with those closest to me, blood relatives, let's say. Let me look at my notes now, because I worded this last night. If there's anything to predestination, or pre-purpose before we come in here I wonder...

ANSWER: There is only one thing that you are predestined to do.

QUESTION: Um huh, that's what I've gotten from the Course.

ANSWER: And that is to be who and what you are without any covering over it. What you are predestined to do is to wake up to your Birthright. What you are predestined to do is to finally stop experiencing any kind of misperception of Reality. Continue.

QUESTION: Okay. And that's what I'm really working hard for the past few years, especially when I've been studying the Course more deeply...

ANSWER: What I want you and everyone else to understand is that if you are having a dream you are having a dream—for a lack of better words—on a grassy knoll in the middle of the Kingdom of Heaven. If you understand that you will realize that you're already at your destination and that you never left. Another way of putting it would be that you're sitting on a grassy knoll and were at one point, and all of Reality was your experience. And then you had a thought—thoughts are foreign to the Kingdom of Heaven—and you had a thought and it distracted you, it fascinated you. And it is as though you went into a reverie of thinking and you're having a daydream. This is even better an illustration than a night dream where you associate that with being unconscious, because you wake

up from a daydream through a simple shift of attention, a shift of attention from whatever you are thinking about to whatever is really going on in your presence which you hadn't been paying attention to. You see?

The Course is a very big book with a lot of words and a lot of ideas expressed and it could therefore seem to imply that waking up is complicated, when it is really a help, a nudge, a subtle push to distract you from your reverie and cause you to bring your focus of attention back to your surroundings. And so the Kingdom of Heaven isn't a long way off and it isn't somewhere else. You've all seen cartoons where the children are in school and they're looking at the teacher and imagining her with horns... or with nothing on... or whatever. And all the time they are having their fantasy about her, who she really is and what her function really is she is engaged in and being. But that is not what they are experiencing. And if they are particularly fascinated with their daydream about her they may start giggling and laughing out loud, you see, completely absorbed emotionally even in that which they have projected onto who she really is. And their projection is false.

So this is very important. If you think everyone in this room is just a body, having started from a sperm and an egg, and as I said yesterday, who will grow and get older and finally die and perhaps suffer along the way, that is the same thing as projecting horns and tails or no clothes onto the teacher in the room. And we talked about forgiveness yesterday, and forgiveness is really the withdrawal of the caricature that we project on each other. You see?

What I mean to convey very simply is that although you may be working hard at waking up don't imagine you are working hard to complete a very long process or trek. Because at the bottom line, if the Course has any benefit at all it will trigger a shift of perception, a shift of your attention. You see? And that's why it's so very important not to imagine that the Kingdom of Heaven is a far-off, because if you think it is somewhere else there will not be that little bit of curiosity that causes you to pay attention to what's right in your face. You see?

Now I interrupted you again. Continue.

QUESTION: Well, I'll modify my question I guess a little bit. So if this only purpose that we have here... I feel that I'm closer to fulfilling mine and I wondered if there was any input along that line? And what is the purpose of continuing once you've fulfilled that purpose? I guess it goes along with why are we here?

ANSWER: Well, very simply, where is this here that you're talking about? You're here because God is being you as His self-expression. Why the Kingdom of Heaven looks like this to you, rather than the Kingdom of Heaven is because there has been a fascination with the creative ways you could imagine it. So we could say you are here where you perceive yourself to be because you're more enamored with your definitions of everything than the capital "M" Meaning that

God is expressing in everything. And although it might be interesting and even an exciting experience it's not real. The reason that you can be here in the middle of what you're perceiving is because the divine one that you are is here in the middle of the Kingdom of Heaven being what God is expressing.

Now, you are used to thinking in terms of ego concepts. The ego is a sense of one's self that is separate from the whole, separate from Reality. So it feels very small. And it feels vulnerable. And so it experiences the Kingdom of Heaven and all of the Brothers and Sisters as threats to its safety and then it behaves in a manner to establish and preserve its safety so it can have some level of peace.

Now, this has been called self-preservation, the purpose of the ego as it engaged in this, became obvious and definable as self-preservation. And so everyone has a personal sense of purpose that started out as self-preservation. And as egos, ego's sense of selves, worked together and developed skill at self-preservation in a mutual context of friendliness, let us say, many other sense of purpose were developed. It's my purpose to be a comedian. It is my purpose to be a doctor. It is my purpose to be a helper. It is my purpose in life to be the best darn mother that ever existed. It is my purpose in life to save the whales. It is my purpose in life to, etc., etc., etc.

Now, as one experiences triggers that cause the shift of perception that brings one back to the teacher without the horns, or the Kingdom of Heaven without the conflict, something else accompanies it and that is the disappearance of a sense of purpose—the disappearance of a personal, private sense of purpose. And of course, from the ego's standpoint that is utter failure. And so one resists abandoning or letting go of or having taken away from him a personal sense of purpose.

As the words, "Thy will be done" become your theme you begin to find God's reason for expressing Himself as you beginning to register with you. And if you do not resist it and you let it in further and further so that there is less and less of a you present with a personal, private intent of her own, you begin to feel what the Course calls becoming a co-creator with God, because in not holding yourself apart from God's Movement that constitutes your presence you begin to feel Purpose, with a capital "P". In some ways it feels like a great personal loss, except you'll come to realize that whenever you used the word personal it always had reference to an ignorant you—the ego sense of yourself. And so this is why Awakening doesn't happen in a twinkling of an eye, because one doesn't abandon his ego sense or her ego sense of herself quickly. One sort of tests the water of his or her divinity cautiously. You see?

So what is your purpose for being here? Here is really the Kingdom of Heaven. And as a private, separate entity you have no purpose, because in actuality you do not exist as a private, separate entity. But you do exist as the presence of God Individualized. And the presence of God Individualized that you

will forever be has Purpose. And for purposes of illustration I'm going to say, your purpose is borrowed from God.

As you yield to the Father's will it will seem as though you are yielding to something other than yourself, something different from you that you will be letting in. But as you let it in you will begin to remember the experience of your Birthright, the experience of being without any misperception of the Kingdom of Heaven. And you will slowly, shall I say, become fascinated with this experience of your Birthright that feels as though it is borrowed from something other than yourself. And as rapidly as you are able to let it in more and more you will find that the experience will seem less and less borrowed. It will be like, "oh, it's just like me. It's just like me. I'm feeling more like myself than I have ever felt in my life." But it won't be this private, separated sense of self, it will be who you divinely are.

And ultimately, when the last vestige of who you thought you were has disappeared the term co-creator with God will become meaningless, because your very presence, your very being will be the embodiment of the words, "Thy will be done." And there won't be anyone there any longer to say, "Thy will be done." Nothing will be said. But if something were said it will be, "My will be done," you see, except it won't be said it will be what is being.

So you start out in your Awakening process by literally and really saying, "Thy will be done." "I need to go to the store, I think. Thy will be done. Is it appropriate?" As I said yesterday, "is it appropriate to get one pound of ground round, or three pounds of ground round," because your desire is to be in the flow of the moment of God. And you know what? As more and more people do this the more and more the world you are perceiving will begin to be illuminated by the presence of God. In other words, it will be more apparent. And it will make it easier for everyone else to begin to do this radical thing—apparently radical thing.

Do you have a "yes, but"?

QUESTION: No I don't have a "yes, but." I just wanted to say, I don't know if some people come in with more ego than others before they are born here. But I feel in a sense I've been lucky, that I've come in with... I've never felt that I had a purpose, so I don't know that I've had to unravel too much in that regard. And more and more I've been asking for Thy will to be done through me. But I'd like a confirmation or not about that ego thing. Do we come in with...

ANSWER: Well, I'm going to say this, comparisons stink! Not only that, they're meaningless, because you could be ninety-nine and ninety-nine one hundreds percent free of the ego and someone else could be only twenty-five percent free of the ego, and that next one percent for you isn't going to be any easier than the next one percent that the one whose only twenty-five percent free is going to open up to. And so I say this so that you might understand that all of you

deserve the same degree of compassion. And those of you who feel that you are further ahead need not to feel too good about it, because the better you feel about where you are the less humility there is and humility is the essential element to your moving to that next one percent you see.

QUESTION: I wasn't expressing pride. I was just expressing almost the opposite, that I felt humbled in a sense that I don't have so much to work on as I think a lot of people are struggling with...

ANSWER: Well again, if everybody is already Home, if everyone is already at their destination, everybody has less to work on than they think they do. My point is that comparisons are irrelevant. No matter what each one's leading edge seems to be it is a call for one thing only, Love.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: You see, it's like everyone has already graduated, because everyone is already at their destination. But some people say, "but I'm only in the third grade," and maybe you feel like you're in the twelfth grade, but you're all graduates. And so don't become preoccupied with your level of progress, because it's really humorous to us. Because you're here with us and your dream of progress is funny. It's as though Paul were to stand here and say, "I know someday I'll be able to stand up." You see?

If you can pin-point where you are in your progress, you're lost. And depending upon where you feel you are in your progress you will determine for yourself that you either have a lot of work to do or not a lot of work to do, and yet again, no matter where you are that next step in your Awakening is going to be just as difficult as any other's next step. You see?

So again, don't become too enamored of comparisons, where you are in your progress. You see? I understand that there is someone who uses a figure that looks like a hat, and you can figure out where you are on the hat, the highest point on the hat being totally Awakened state. And I guess some people aren't even on the hat yet. And all of this is completely misleading, because everyone is in the only place available to be and that is the Kingdom of Heaven. And everyone is the only thing they can possibly be and that is the direct expression of God. There is nothing, no other choice available unless you resort to your imagination and have a daydream.

QUESTION: Or a nightmare.

ANSWER: It can be a wild daydream. I really do encourage all of you when you use the term dream to associate it with a daydream, like a student looking out the window thinking about fishing instead of paying attention to the teacher. His attention is distracted but he hasn't gone anywhere. And all that is necessary for him to come back to reality is for him to shift his attention, not to a different place but to the place he's in. You see?

This will help you to remember that waking up is uncomplicated and not difficult and it's why the Course calls it a "journey without distance." If you are wondering where you are in your progress then you are conceiving of yourself on a journey with distance.

Now you might say, "why don't those of us who are Awake, seeing you in your reverie, just grab you by the shoulder and shake you Awake so the whole thing would be over? It's so easy." But the thing is that you have the right to give your attention to whatever you want to give your attention to. And if you have for whatever reason chosen to give your attention someplace else, you are the one who must say, "I want to bring my attention back to what's Real." You must arrive at a point where the truth is what you love more than the illusion that you can imagine. And that is what will bring you back out of your reverie.

And we cannot make you love the truth. I'm not talking about the truths in a book. The truth is what's Real. And so you must love what is Real more than what you are capable of imagining. And of course, the key is the word Love. Well, unfortunately when you are imagining yourself as separate your primary purpose is self-defense or self-preservation, it's not love. And love seems to be the opposite to self-preservation, because you cannot be in a state of self-defense and love.

And so a choice has to be made to abandon self-protection for love, which seems risky from the separated standpoint. But remember that you are having this fantasy of separation right in the middle of the Kingdom of Heaven, and you are the Daughter of God, and therefore the fantasy of separation isn't actual and its abandonment in favor of remembering that you are the presence of Love is not a risk. But you've got to find that place in you where Love becomes more important than self-defense. So if you want to know what your purpose is, that is your purpose. And it won't be a temporary purpose, because once you commit to it you will wake up and you will continue to be the presence of that which has commitment to Love, because that is what God is. And that is what God is being right where you are. Love is the purpose of Being, capital "B", God. It therefore, has to be the purpose of your being.

And so as long as you are feeling separated you have to make a choice for Love rather than self-protection, and make commitment to it so that the apparent, the fantasized need for self-protection can disappear, and you can see that the choice and commitment to Love is your very Function, with a capital "F", as the divine expression of God. And so you come Home that way.

So if you want to look for a purpose, don't look for a purpose in the world. Look for your purpose in the Kingdom of Heaven right here, which will not relate to the world's concepts, the general beliefs about what purposes ought to be, and you will become a light in the world that will seem to transform the world. When the child is snapped out of his reverie of horns and tails on his teacher his teacher is

transformed. Suddenly she has no tail and no horns, you see. It isn't that a devilish teacher was changed from a devilish teacher into a normal teacher. You see?

QUESTION: Thank you, Raj and Paul.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: Hi, Raj. First of all I want to tell you thank you for everything you've done for me in my life. I really appreciate it. And I have a question that's hard for me to...

ANSWER: Thank you for not resisting what is constantly being done for you in your life.

QUESTION: You're right. Thank you. Anyway, I have a question that's...

ANSWER: Do you realize that the gratitude really does go in both directions?

QUESTION: Well, I don't know. I don't think I did.

ANSWER: Indeed, as long as you feel separate and don't experience the presence of the Brotherhood we experience loss. It is like you trying to communicate with someone who is on drugs. You experience a loss of communication. You can't reach them. They seem to respond but they are incoherent, what they are saying isn't relevant to what is happening. And so when you let in Love, it is your defense is less and you are more coherent, if I may put it that way. And it is a gift to us, which we are grateful for, because we are experiencing less loss of your presence. You see?

Every little opening that any of you engage in to let in God or to let in Love is experienced by us as your being more present with us right here. And so you would be amazed at how much gratitude and joy goes on each day, except that so often you don't recognize the gratitude that is extended toward you and you think that it was a fluke of some sort that you experienced a blessing. And so you become fearful again cause you still think you're alone and you become a little more incoherent again and we lose you—we lose the connection, you see.

As I said yesterday at the end of the day, there is no privacy in Reality. We all know each other inside and out you might say, all the time. It is an infinite communion. And so it is utterly unnatural for us to experience some of us as out of communication. You see? And so there is a natural joy that we all universally feel as each one of you lets Love in and allows herself to be transformed. It means you're a little more Awake, a little more present with us. I bring this out because you really do all need to know how much you are embraced by all of the Brotherhood/Sisterhood that is Awake. It's a universal embrace. And such intimacy could only seem to be frightening to someone who feels a need for self-protection and a need for privacy in order to maintain it. Love not only counteracts fear but it dissolves fear. And fear is really the only element of unconsciousness

that is keeping any of you from perceiving everything as it truly is, as well as all of us that are inseparable from you. Continue.

QUESTION: Thank you. Okay, my question is hard for me to say so I hope I can say the right words. I grew up in Utah, so I grew up as a Mormon and I embraced the religion most of my life. Sometimes I strayed and searched for other things, but for the most part I think I grew up believing it was true, hoping it was true but deep in my heart I would pray continually and all I wanted to know is the truth. I didn't want to be fooled by anything. And sometimes I felt like I was trying to be fooled. Although there are certain things I do believe about it—and a belief and a knowledge I know what you say is the difference. And I feel like I have a certain knowledge that things are true in it, but there are some really big differences between the Course In Miracles and the Mormon religion. But yet Joseph Smith had a vision...

ANSWER: I'm going to interrupt you. Let us say we could take that spot where you are sitting and draw a circle around it so that the ground and the floor and the seat where you are sitting would be present and then everything outside of that circle would disappear, so that you were sitting there all alone in the middle of the universe, Would you be helpless in terms of Awakening?

QUESTION: I think so.

ANSWER: No you wouldn't. I didn't say we would wipe out your mind or consciousness, your capacity to be aware. And if your capacity to be aware were present, then your capacity to be aware of the truth would be present.

Now, the fact is that no matter what you read, no matter what anyone says, no matter how many inspired statements you hear truth is always a revelation. It is always revealed by the Father to you in the only place available for you to experience it, which is in your awareness, your mind, your capacity to know.

Now, when you went into this little reverie that we've been talking about today, you didn't go into it alone. You have never been left alone because you can't actually have separated yourself. You can't dissociate yourself, you cannot actually become separate from what you divinely are, you can just ignore it and give preference to flights of imagination. Therefore, even if you are ignoring your divine Self in preference for a body of imaginative thoughts, who you divinely are, which is the presence of God is right there and it has been called the Holy Spirit. At the moment of the fall, in Biblical terms, at the moment of the distraction and the beginning of the reverie where your conscious experience of your divine Self seemed to be lost it became the Holy Spirit.

This is very important to understand. I've said it before, the Holy Spirit is your divinity held in trust while you dally with the ego. You see? Now, it's not really being held in trust, it doesn't need to be held in trust because nothing can happen to it. But it conveys a meaningful thing to put it that way, to say the Holy

Spirit is your divinity held in trust while you dally with flights of imagination. Okay?

Therefore, here you are on this little circular piece of ground, floor, seat on which you're sitting and nothing else exists, nothing else is available to you, you can't be lost. However, if you insist on your imagination that you are a finite separate entity you will feel completely that you are lost, until you arrive at a point where you can't take it anymore. And out of the very depths of your being and in spite of your definite sense of separateness you will do this ridiculous thing and you'll say, "Help." It only seems to be ridiculous because you think there really is nothing outside of you. You see? But somewhere from the depths of the Sanity of your Being you will cry out for help and in effect you will embrace more than just yourself.

And your divinity that has been held in trust will seem to penetrate the tinniness that you had limited yourself to quite imaginatively and truth will be revealed. Your Right Mind will begin to infill you and you will begin to remember the truth. Okay?

Now I took a drastic illustration of getting rid of the rest of the world, but let's bring the rest of the world back now. Waking up will still occur in the way I've described, because you can still feel separate, isolated, lonely and vulnerable with the whole world in your presence. If you have read any book and experienced insight where the truth became clearer, I assure you it didn't come from the book. The book may have helped you arrive at a point of less defensiveness, more trust so that your divinity held in trust could penetrate the seeming boundary of your tinniness that you have been maintaining and reveal truth to you. Truth is always and only a revelation. And the revelation of truth will help you see truth wherever it is written.

A Course In Miracles does not bring truth to you, but in a mirrored of ways addresses all different ego levels and constructs in such a way that certain levels of trust can occur within the reader that allows defenses to lower allowing that one's divinity that's held in trust, called the Holy Spirit, to penetrate and be experienced as revelation. If you know that God is the source of the revelation of truth and that it's always a direct experience within you that has nothing to do with anything other than your awareness, your capacity to be aware of truth, then what any book says will never concern you. And you will be able to read with innocent eyes, meaning without defense. And you will recognize truth. And it might be just a gem here or there, and it might be every word of the book. But it is the truth revealed to you before you set eyes on the book that allows you to see the truth that is in the book.

This is important because it is emancipating to you.

QUESTION: What about the rest of the junk, you know there's a lot of stuff there that makes absolutely no sense. And it's taught, it's believed, it's you know relied upon.

ANSWER: Oh, we're getting very broad now.

QUESTION: I know.

ANSWER: Everyone's being taught, blah, blah, blah. And the Catholic Church is doing a disservice to everybody because they keep God at a distance. And we could say that a lot of Course In Miracles teachers are doing a disservice to the Course students because they insist that everybody accept that the world doesn't exist, that it's all an illusion rather than a misperception of the Kingdom of Heaven.

It doesn't matter what they are doing or what is happening to them, because the revelation of truth is something that happens within you and something that happens within them. And if you will attend to that place in you where the revelation occurs and you invite it and nurture the happening of it, again, you will become a light unto the world, not a teacher, but a presence of nondefensiveness that wordlessly inspires others to dare to be nondefensive themselves.

The moment you begin to think what they are doing to them—you know, like maybe you understand it now but what about all those other poor bastards who are being misled—you are abandoning the attentiveness to that place in you where revelation occurs and you will find that you have moved into a realm of justice. And oh, what a cause justice can be, and how completely it can distract you from giving your attention to where revelation can occur in you that will illuminate the world by removing the mustaches and the horns and the tails, etc. from the Kingdom of Heaven.

You let them take care of themselves. Because their salvation lies in their discovery of that place in them where the revelation can occur. And I will tell you something else: No one forced you to come today. Oh, I know that you had a lot of help. But no one could actually make you be where you didn't want to be. That's my point. And so no one is not waking up because somebody kept them from waking up. They are not waking up because they have a high investment in their beliefs, in their ego structures. So they gather together with those who are of like-mind. And so those who like to teach limitation will find in their presence those who are fascinated and committed to limitation and the students will not be there because the teacher is excellent but because the teacher agrees with what they are committed to. Do you see what I'm saying?

QUESTION: Yes, I do.

ANSWER: So them who are being limited by those will stop being limited only when they become uncomfortable with the limits they've imposed upon themselves and they say, "help." You see?

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: Thank you. In Matthew 20 there's a story about labors in the vineyard who come at various times of the day and they're all paid the same at the end. Would you talk about that?

ANSWER: It is one of my favorite stories because at the bottom line it refers to coming Home, it refers to waking up. For purposes of illustration let's say that all of you who are aware of the idea of being on your spiritual path are the labors who come to the vineyard early in the day and you seem to be doing it all alone. You don't have huge groups of people with whom you can identify and get support. You hear nothing of your interests and what you are alive to from the media. And nowadays your media brings to your immediate presence information from around the globe, and so the lack of those of a like-mind seem to be global even, not just local. And it makes you feel fewer and smaller.

To the degree that each of you choose for truth and make commitment to finding that place in you where truth is revealed and then persisting in remaining there so that you might at every moment know what is Real and what identifies fulfillment that the Father is being, as each of you do that the density of the, I'm going to say mass commitment to dreams or illusions lessens, the density of it lessens as there are fewer and fewer dreamers the global organization of dreams becomes smaller. And as a result it makes it more difficult for those insisting on dreaming to continue because now their support group is diminishing.

And the simple fact is that the last of the dreamers are going to start their Awakening process at the end of the day. And because there is so little support for dreaming their process "of Awakening" will seem to be minimal. They'll get it just like that! And those who started in the beginning of the day could say, "this isn't fair." And yet those who started at the beginning of the day have by their commitment to being the presence of Love made it easier for everyone else. So those who might think it isn't fair, tuff luck!

Expressions of love are not quantitative. An expression of love compounds itself like compound interest in the bank—where what you put in increases and you take out more than you put in. All expressions of love are compound by nature and become more than that little expression of energy that was put forth. You just can't escape the fact that the expression of love blesses all.

So there is something that isn't brought out in that parable. And that is that the efforts of the workers in the beginning of the day actually will make the end of the day come sooner. In other words, because of the compound nature of the commitment to the expression of love all of those who are sleeping will wake up sooner in the day. And so you could all end up working only half a day, those of you who started at the beginning. Of course, if you grouched the first half of the day... You get the picture. That's the end of the answer.

QUESTION: Warren Hill, from Wrightwood. I'd first like to express my gratitude for the work that Paul and Susan, Chris and Judy have been willing to do, and some of those others that are involved that I don't know and being available for the work with Raj and the benefit that I've experienced in my life.

I have a question concerning terms, and I'm trying to find clarification concerning the perceptual state of mind that you've spoke of, the Right Mind. As I understand it it's guiltless, there's no experience of guilt in that Mind. And you use the term Christ Consciousness, and without being a nit-picker I'm trying to see if I'm understanding your use of that term. Is that where the state of mind from my point of view is willing to be guiltless, and that is that guilt is no longer a matter, forgiveness is complete. And yet the mind is in a perceptual state. Is that Christ Consciousness? As I understand the Christ is was as you expressed it earlier today where my will is currently understood. I'm fully integrated. There is no such thing as another at that point, there is no question asked, there's no thought. But the Christ Consciousness might be a perceptual state, an awareness of that knowing mind.

ANSWER: When it says in Genesis that "God saw all that He had made and behold it was very good." It means that God saw something. God's self-expression is not unknown to God. God's self expression is God's self in action. For mind not to be conscious of something would be for mind to be unconscious. But the infinite Mind that God is, the infinite Intelligence that God is, is conscious of something. And all there is for it to be conscious of is It's own Movement. And you could say that God's ideas are recognizable to God. If you want to call the recognition of Self that is the Movement of Mind that is God, called Creation, if you wish to call that perception then I will agree with what you are saying as you use the word perception.

The Course uses the word perception to identify the fantasy that everyone is engaged in, their daydream, their imaginative distraction. And I am not absolutely strict with the use of the word perception, because all of you must understand that you are going to be experiencing something as you Awaken. It is just that the misperceptions that have been overlaid upon Reality will have vanished, leaving Reality perfectly clear without any distortion applied to it at all. So, the experience of recognition will be uninterrupted. I use the word in most instances I use the word misperception when speaking of what the Course calls perception. And I use the word perception for the undistorted recognition of the Kingdom of Heaven. Because you will arrive at the point where you will not be blocking the experience of God's recognition of what He is being.

The Christ Consciousness could be called that experience of being aware in which there is no assertion of any private bias or any right to have a private biased

perception—which would be a misperception of Reality. Does that clarify it for you?

QUESTION: Yes it does. Thank you.

ANSWER: You are welcome. It is very important, if you don't understand that the world is not going to disappear, if you don't realize that you're not going to disappear, if you don't realize that the experience of being conscious isn't going to disappear all of you will find the most ingenious things to do on your path of Awakening so as to delay it as long as possible. Because none of you wants to arrive at the point of oblivion

Through the use, through the rational use of the mind, and even through the use of reason you can arrive at a point where you can explain everything away, even the mind that is explaining it away. If you manage to work yourself into that state you will find nothing to trust. You will find no comfort zone. You will find no place from which you can dare to entrust yourself, yield, succumb to anything outside yourself, because in that state you will mightily practice self-preservation, even though you're in a state of complete turmoil.

This is the way the ego works though. This is the way the limited, vulnerable sense of self operates. It is this mode of operating which has bled into the study of the Course, the study of Christianity, the practice of religion. This is why everyone is trying to overcome the world, rise about the world, rise above sex, rise above anything that means anything. And so there are students of the Course who are insisting that the Course wipes out the world, wipes out the body, wipes out every manifestation, every evidence of anything.

And I will tell you that it takes a great leap of faith to step off the edge into an emptiness that you are assured is there. And that is not what the Course teaches, that is the way it is being interpreted because the vantage point from which the study of the Course has begun was one of defensiveness, was one in which the world has already been conceptually split into material and spiritual, good and bad, etc. And for those to whom the getting rid of the world is important, they will perceive the Course as stating that absolutely. When the fact is that if God is All, if God is infinite then All Is God. If something is being experienced, if something is in your face it must be Reality perceived clearly, or in Biblical terms perceived through a glass darkly. But which ever way it is it is Reality of the Kingdom of Heaven that is being experienced.

Now, this doesn't make it easier, but at least your approach is not a conscious attempt to confirm the nonexistence of everything. The reason I say it isn't easier is because you're still faced with having to give up the misperceptions that you are convinced of. And they are perceptions that you have great commitment to because they are a part of yourself preserving motive as a frightened, limited ego sense of self.

So, it does indeed feel as though you are stepping out of the known into the unknown when you genuinely say, “what does this mean? What is the meaning here in this cup? If my husband isn’t a dirty so-and-so, what is he?” If part of your happiness in life is converting dirty old so-and-so’s, then to lose that perception of him is to lose your purpose for being. You see. All of the ways that you see each other and that you see each thing, you see that way because it serves you, in terms of your safety and your self-preservation. And so in the willingness to look at your brother with innocent eyes you must be willing to abandon the one who has been judging and proclaiming guilty and basing your lives on that judgment. You see. In order to see your brother transformed, the seer of your brother has to let herself or himself be transformed, some other function and self-preservation has to be allowed to happen. I am looking at you but not nailing you.

Is there an additional question regarding this?

QUESTION: I’m Ray from Riverside. Why do you think the 12 step programs are an effective means of therapy in many cases?

I would say first of all because essential to the program is a requirement that one acknowledge that there is a God. Without that acknowledgment there will be no further steps. It is helpful because the very first thing that is required is a willingness to acknowledge that you’re not alone, that there is a God, that there is a resource, if you will, beyond your best or anyone’s best judgment, best thinking, best skills, etc.

The dilemma everyone experiences, the suffering of whatever form that everyone experiences arises out of a basic premise that one is alone and able to independently define everything and be responsible for maintaining the definitions. And what happens is that when you attempt to redefine the Kingdom of Heaven, when you attempt to redefine and maintain the definitions of something that’s infinite it becomes overpowering and overburdening and one is constantly in a state of denial of something that is actually unchangeable. So you could say the basic premise is that I am alone and I am responsible for everything and since you can’t be you are constantly engaged in doing the impossible.

What is Real constantly reasserts itself—Reality, the Kingdom of Heaven, the will of the Father—being what is really there constantly conflicts with what one tiny individual wants to try to turn it all into. That conflict is or has been called “the human condition.” And the way out of it is the abandonment of that initial foundational premise that, “I am alone and I am responsible for everything.” And you do that by acknowledging something greater than you and then increasingly practicing reliance upon it. That is the way the misery of trying to maintain a separate selfhood is undone. And that is the way one comes back into their Right Mind. And that is fundamentally why the 12 step program is so helpful to so many.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: Since we are all on our leading edge and are basically where we are supposed to be, will you please tell me...

ANSWER: When you say basically where we are supposed to be...

QUESTION: As we're on our path, other than when our ego interferes with out direction, would you please explain to me the need for prayer, the power for prayer. Scripture tells us pray without ceasing that things can change. I'd like that clarified please. Thank you.

ANSWER: Again, prayer, if it is genuine, is the means of reaching out beyond yourself, abandoning pure self-reliance, inviting in that which is greater than you. It is an act of joining rather than an act of maintaining and being separate. It also expresses the common sense we were talking about yesterday, because no matter how confused any of you might be by your fantasies, you know that it is illegitimate for you to be experiencing pain. You know it's not natural. You don't have to be spiritually educated. You don't have to be advanced. You know that it's not legitimate and that you have a right to be free of it. That's what's so wonderful about humanity, because when it's not overridden it's humane.

So, it also happens that whatever pain any of you are experiencing at anytime it is the dissonance that occurs when you are aggressively trying to do the impossible. When you are trying to redefine the Kingdom of Heaven and usurp the authorship of God, you might say, you are attempting to do the impossible. And it hurts. You're going against the grain. You're a hundred and eighty degrees out of sync. So the moment you're in touch with your humanity enough to recognize that it's illegitimate, it's unreasonable for you to be suffering and you couple that with reaching beyond your own best judgments, your own best concepts, your own skill, you are actively withdrawing commitment to the redefinitions you've been giving to the Kingdom of Heaven.—which is what has caused the pain.

Pray without ceasing. “God, you don't mean... you mean I don't get any relief from praying?” Well, if you stop thinking of prayer as a petition and asking of God for a favor and you see prayer as an act of glorifying God, now why would you want relief from being in an active state of conscious appreciation? Because that's what glorifying God is. When you look at your neighbor or your mate or the flowers in your garden or the sky or the stars and you are filled with awe and gratitude, that's prayer.

And everyone has for the most part forgotten how to do that. You watch the news too much. What I mean is you watch the news and you don't realize the degree to which they are providing you with the definitions of what's going on in your community. You say, “that's pretty bad,” and you forget to look with appreciation. And when appreciation sinks out of sight then you look with fear.

And you don't know if you want to get on the elevator with "them!" And Carl Saggin has told you that the world is indeed, with all of his degrees and intelligence and so on, has told you that the world is just a physical event, a fluke. So what is there to glory in? You see? And so you stop, you forget to glorify God. You forget to engage in active appreciation.

The reason you do is because you have accepted certain definitions. And the one definition that has been totally abandoned is that this is the Kingdom of Heaven and everything that exists is the direct and current expression of a living God that is pure Love, and therefore the nature of all that He is being is utter and pure harmony. Such harmony that you will find when you are Awake you will be able to hear the beauty—you will be able to hear the beauty. And what you hear will be beautiful.

Now, I've said before that Love is the willingness to recognize that which is Real in each and everything. That's prayer. Prayer is the willingness to recognize that which is Real, divinely Real in each and everything. So, praying without ceasing would be to have the experience of seeing that which is Real in each and everything unceasingly. Do you have another preference? I'm not asking you specifically.

It's not only your Birthright not to be experiencing aches and pains or fear or terminal disease, it's your Birthright to be experiencing what is really there where the pain seems to be aggressively present, not only to see what is really there but to hear its beauty.

I want to come back to this idea of the world not being real and the body not being real. If it is all illusion, flat out illusion, and when you Awaken it will not exist then you have no bases for asking for healing of it. Because healing of it would constitute its disappearance. And so when I healed the man with the withered arm, his arm should have disappeared instead of whole like the other. You see? If it's all illusion then there's no need for prayer. And I will tell you that the only alternative you would have left to Awakening would be to be forced in it through excruciating suffering. Doesn't that sound a little bit like the voice of the devil? But it's true. And it's important not to get sidetracked from glorifying God. And you only have one place in which to glorify God and it's right where you are, and it's with your house plants and your windows and the colors and your relationships. You see?

It would be foolish to love an illusion wouldn't it? Metaphysically speaking, you all would say that you could comprehend the concept that cancer was an illusion and you wouldn't want to love it. Well, few of you are so inconsistent in your logic and thinking that you would say, "well, cancer is an illusion and I am not going to love it. And I'm beginning to understand that the world is an illusion and I'm going to love it." No one is going to be that

inconsistent, you see. So if you're going to call the world an illusion you're going to have to stop loving it. You're going to have to stop loving yourself, your body.

What is the absence of love? Like what is the absence of light? The absence of light is not another presence, but it's called darkness. The absence of love is not another presence, but it's called hate. So if you're not going to love it, you're going to be denying it—that's hate. And you're going to be indulging in this impossible thing called denying the Presence of God and it's going to hurt.

So let's remain clear, prayer is a valid activity to engage in. And it is the means by which you wash the scales from your eyes that have been blinding you to reality right here. Love is the willingness to recognize what is Real in each and everything. That's prayer! That's your function! That is what will transform the world. And to do it without ceasing is to abandon some so-called right you think you have to have a different point of view about it all.

We will break for lunch.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

ANSWER: Good afternoon. When we raise hands this time I will select the person to whom the microphone will go, but from that point on for the rest of the day whoever has the microphone will pass the microphone to the one whose hand is raised that they choose to hand it to.

QUESTION: Well I had a different question yesterday, Raj, but you've answered most of it. But I had a question about prosperity. It's an ongoing subject. I've been a true student for many years in the Course In Miracles and I still struggle with issues of money. And I'd just like to know how I can get out of my own way cause I know there's no lack in limitation and truth.

ANSWER: There's a very simple principle, if you will. You always have exactly as much as you will allow yourself to have in spite of the fact that it's the Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom. So the gift of All is being made to you always. So instead of trying to create abundance you need to find a way to let it in. It's there and it's yours already. So let your prayer be, "Father help me to receive all that you are giving me."

Now there is another important thing to understand about abundance and that is that abundance doesn't have to be accumulated—stored up for a rainy day. True abundance is always having what is needed when it is needed. It is not having more than is needed when it is needed. If you understand that being, Being is always the Movement of fulfillment happening, then you will only ever pay attention to the moment you're in and the needs of that moment with an expectation of seeing those needs met simultaneously with there arising in your experience. What you want is not to amass a fortune, but to have the ongoing fluid experience of not having lack. And so if you need a newspaper, your abundance will appear as perhaps a dollar and a quarter. And thirty minutes later it may

appear as the exact amount needed for some other item. And tomorrow when your car dies the hundred and fifty or two thousand dollars that is needed to repair it, you see. Abundance is always having what is equal to the identification of fulfillment in the moment you're in.

Abundance then is not the amount of money you have, but the ongoing experience of total freedom to be and do what needs to be done. You see? Let that percolate.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: Raj, I wanted to ask why there's so much confusion about sex on our planet. Why there's so much shame and just sort of energy wasted censoring it, combating it, whatever.

ANSWER: Blame it all on Queen Victoria. (Much laughter)

QUESTION: I thought so. So better than a very serious bird and bees lecture I guess I'm wondering besides procreation what is the purpose of sex? How can it best be used to serve the purpose of Oneness? That's my question.

ANSWER: Say it... fulfillment.

QUESTION: Fulfillment.

ANSWER: Yes. Would you care to define the word "sex" as you are using it?

QUESTION: Uh oh! Gee, I was hoping you were going to do that. (Laughter) Do I have to? Joining with another in physical... Oh there is help coming from places... (People were making comments) People are prompting me, I'm in real trouble... I can't even say what sex means. So, no I guess it's just joining with other people for the purpose of physical pleasure or to share, exchange—I'm getting in really big trouble here. Thanks a lot.

ANSWER: I understand.

QUESTION: Okay, see that's why I asked this question I obviously need help to define this.

ANSWER: Enough!

QUESTION: Okay, thank you.

ANSWER: Where is your common sense? You can come up with all kinds of definitions and explanations of why! But it's the explanations that have created the guilt. How can I put it other than to say that it is a very fundamental way of embodying and expressing love. Unfortunately, because the sexual act is considered to be equal to the "original sin" guilt is inexorably partnered with it. A touch, a caress, a hug, they are always to express caring, love and the worst word of all intimacy. The worst word, because in order to be intimate one really has to become defenseless.

Now, it is an unfortunate thing that spiritual teachers have suggested that sexual energy depletes one's capacity to grow spiritually and that therefore a

spiritual seeker must be celibate. Well, if that's true, then it tells you all where you are. And that's enough to make you guilty if you think you ought to be on your spiritual path and doing everything you ought to progress in that direction. But I will tell you something, what will move you forward on your spiritual path more rapidly than anything else is the practice of becoming defenseless and the practice of extending love.

You see, the concept that we are all just physical organisms of the sort that Darwin described, then a sexual relationship is nothing more than an instinct for what? Survival of the species! Oh, this sounds a little bit like the ego and its need to survive. And so if that is the frame work in which everything is going to be interpreted then sex is a very base, physical, animal activity, having nothing to do with intelligence or consciousness or higher consciousness or anything, it is just a reproductive instinct that happens mechanically because survival isn't inevitable—survival existence is not eternal. You see?

The fact is that being Awake is the most intimate experience of all. Because it is the experience of not experiencing any boundaries between yourself and All That Is. And I will tell you that that intimate experience feels like something. It not only sounds like something, as I said earlier, you not only can hear the harmony you can feel, exquisitely feel the meaning of every aspect of every Individuality and everything that the Father is infinitely being. Thank God, when you're Awake there is no such thing as guilt to be felt.

Now, if indeed you are all divine beings, then your function is to embody and express the Love that the Father is being. That means extending it, embracing your brothers and sisters with Love without defense, which means intimately. If this is your function, then it is part of your integrity—the integrity we started speaking yesterday morning about. And so every expression of Love is divine. And if every expression of Love were expressed with love rather than being used as efforts to control or manipulate, the joy in the mutual sharing would naturally be associated with whatever might come of it, let us say if there were a child. And one could truly understand what it means when one says, “this child came out of joy.”

But sex is not, its purpose is not exclusively to generate offspring for the survival of the species. It is the opportunity to be present with another without defenses—like Paul is being with me right now, and like we are being with all of you right now. This is an act of Love that we are all involved in at this very moment. It is not a better act of Love than a hug, or a caress, or a gentle smile, or intercourse. It is just one of them. It really is important for everybody to more easily honor the expression of love sexually.

Now, there is much that is called love that is not love, as I said a moment ago. It is manipulation, attempts to control, the wife having the headache because she's mad at her husband and wants to make him sorry for what he did, and so she

withholds intimacy to try to control him, or any of the number of scenarios. What I need to say here is that I am not giving carte blanche to bed-hopping with every Tom, Dick, Harry, Henrietta and Mary, you see, because love is not casual. And so it will always find expression in a way that empowers and substantiates the integrity of all involved. It's never usury, it's never abusive. When sex is seen as impulsive because it is a survival trait, then it can become abusive and it can be justified as a thoughtless random act as with the dogs and the cats. But that isn't what love is and that isn't what sex is, because you are not an animal. You are the Son of God, you see.

I cannot too strongly encourage all of you to let your intimacy increase and to let it be a time in which you are willing to recognize that which is Real in your partner and in yourself. "Well," somebody says, "if I were really going to be Christ-like I wouldn't engage in sex because Jesus didn't." Bullshit!

I will set the record straight. It is so important for you all to understand that holy doesn't mean unlike everything you're familiar with. Holy means whole. Whole means Real. Whole means grounded. Whole means rooted in your humanity. How is it that all of you can manage to recognize real love when you see it? Because of what you are humanly, which is divine. You see?

The ego can use anything to create guilt. What you want to do is to bring love into every aspect of your daily lives, and not reserve it for Heaven. And when you do that. Earth will begin to register with you as Heaven.

Does it matter who or what the object of your love is? How could it? Is not everything deserving of love? Is not everyone deserving of love? This is important also, else you will have certain things with whom or with which it's not appropriate for you to be defenseless and therefore intimate with.

Love is never exclusive. And where the opportunity for it to be expressed presents itself, thank your lucky stars. I am not saying wherever the opportunity for sexual intercourse occurs take advantage of it. I said, wherever the opportunity for love presents itself take advantage of it. And if it's really love it will find expression that will be appropriate under the circumstances, not having anything to do with right or wrong, moral or immoral, etc. But it's like when you go to a restaurant you eat a meal, you don't try to check out a book. You do that at a library, not because checking out a book is right or wrong or even the meal is right or wrong, but under the circumstances you do what is appropriate—what fits. You see?

Oh, you could have asked me what's the purpose of cooking. It's the opportunity to express and embody love. Everything is the opportunity to express and embody love. You could say, "well, something's wrong here because I just enjoy cooking too much. I think about it all the time. When I get up in the morning I'm already thinking about what I'm going to cook for dinner." You see? (Much laughter)

What you don't want to do is hurt people! What you don't want to do is hurt yourself! What you don't want to do is to cause pain or experience pain! What you don't want to do is to misperceive and misjudge! But don't want not to love! And don't justify not loving for any reason! Stop doing the things that hurt! You see? That's where the attention needs to be.

And if you look out at your world and you see love being expressed in a way that you can't conceive yourself expressing it, well at that very moment choose to embody and express love by refraining from judging what you're seeing. Be grateful that you are seeing love being embodied and expressed rather than seeing another knifing or wounding or beating or harsh words or hurtful actions. It will light up your world. That's the end of the answer. Do you have a "yes, but"?

QUESTION: No, no but. No, I mean I have a butt. I mean a yes, butt, but not a "yes, but." (Laughter) No! No!

QUESTION: Hi, Raj.

ANSWER: Good afternoon.

QUESTION: I came out the other end of the tunnel.

ANSWER: We had a birth.

QUESTION: We had a birth. But I'm in real new territory.

ANSWER: And so the only thing confronting you is not only the opportunity but the requirement to pay attention with innocence.

QUESTION: That was the next birthing process I thought perhaps I was going to undergo. Having been sort of spit out the other end of the tunnel and finding myself in a new territory, you told me to pay attention when I was in crisis on the production. And I thought you had meant pay attention because the show needed attention more than I did. And you said, "no, that's not what I mean, pay attention to the show." And I was so over wrought at the time I spoke with you that I didn't exactly hear it.

So what I did was, when I felt the fear well up as I sat on the edge of the bed, I sort of nestled into it and I paid attention to the fear and the elements of the fear. And as I did that the healing team you had sent to me, I could feel the presence of the healing team. I got up and I moved around the set and the show and I watched with interest, with lightness, and with a growing joy the whole idea of me being dissolved right before my eyes. And I watched my credibility as a production manager unjustifiably be dissolved. And I laughed.

I didn't always laugh, because there were times at which I went and stated my truth and moved back from the situation and said, "no farther." And this was fine. But what happened through this thing was my joy increased, I danced, I was sung to, I quit the show, I left the show, I came home. And I came home with joy and a whole lot of nothing, a lot of nothing behind me and a lot of nothing ahead of me, very grateful for the freedom.

And yet what I will ask you in the last vision I had in which I was dancing with my arms out stretched to Heaven and it was as though I was looking at this through the glass darkly, what the meaning of A) the new territory is and B) the glass darkly?

ANSWER: No, I won't tell you anything about the new territory.

QUESTION: No? I knew you were going to say that.

ANSWER: It is for you to discover.

QUESTION: Yeah.

ANSWER: You are safe.

QUESTION: Yes, I feel safe and this is too stupid for words. I don't know whether it's trust or stupidity.

ANSWER: You see, trusting is like a canoe letting its shape be what it is. Too deep? Trusting is not doubting that the way things are is perfect for the function of the fulfillment of your being. The canoe doesn't doubt its shape. And its shape allows its function to occur perfectly.

What you want is something that will allow you to feel a certain degree of control. But the shape of a canoe has to yield to the environment that it is in. And its shape allows that to happen perfectly. You see? Its environment is water. It does this without requiring an understanding of it all. This is what can seem to be a little scary about yielding to the will of the Father, because ahead of time you don't know what the will of the Father is and so it takes trust. It takes trust for Paul to come to a gathering and sit down without any agenda. But in doing that and trusting the way things work when he isn't trying to be in charge the Movement of God, the Movement of fulfillment occurs. And there is an experience of blessing for everyone including Paul, including me, including all of us who watch as your light glimmers a little brighter, you see, and you're a little bit more with us even if you aren't seeing it as clearly as we are.

And so you must dare to let yourself be in this new place without being in control. And I will tell you that having a concept of what is going to happen is an element of control. You want an assurance that will allow you to trust. And I'm saying that your curiosity is your best ally at the moment. Just pay attention to watch how everything perfectly works and configures in a way that identifies your fulfillment.

QUESTION: I think you must know that I feel that way, that I am curious about what happens and I'm not afraid.

ANSWER: Yes, I just don't want you to try to get out of this not-knowing place too fast. Ultimately, you must learn how to forever remain in the not-knowing place.

QUESTION: It's curiously free?

ANSWER: It is wonderfully free. And you are not unconscious anymore than Paul is unconscious right now. When you stay in the place where tiny little

you doesn't know what is going to happen, what happens the Movement of God will happen and you will be fully conscious of it but you will not be able to take any credit for it and yet you will know that you were inseparable from it. And that will be a taste of what it's like to be Awake. You see?

The problem is that all of you from time to time will dare to trust and there will be a remarkable breakthrough, and you will find yourself knowing new things. And you say, "Ah, this is my new understanding!" And you jump out of the not-knowing place and you grab on to the new understanding and you work it to death, instead of experiencing the knowing, experiencing the capital "H" Happening that happened because you were trusting and continuing to trust and letting what happened be replaced by what is happening, being replaced by what is happening, being replaced by what is happening, being replaced by what is happening. You see?

QUESTION: Can I push it a bit further?

ANSWER: You may.

QUESTION: When I called you and you told me to pay attention, well what did you tell me to pay attention to? Because I don't remember.

ANSWER: I told you to pay attention in so many words to what was in your face—the production.

QUESTION: I got it! Okay, I got that, I saw it. Did I? Did I do right? I mean did I get it?

ANSWER: You did, yes!

QUESTION: Thank you! And was the pattern that I had broken...

ANSWER: Was the what?

QUESTION: Was the pattern that I had emerged through, the threshold that I emerged through...

ANSWER: I'm going to interrupt, because this is an example of what I was speaking about yesterday when I said that if you dare to be present with your job that it wouldn't necessarily mean that you would be stuck there forever because you weren't suffering from it. Okay. Daring to withdraw judgment and be present with what is happening allows the Movement of your fulfillment to occur with grace...

QUESTION: And joy.

ANSWER: ...and joy, and freedom, which will seem insane because you're not in charge. And your great need will be to get charge again, because that's the responsible thing to do, you see. And the lesson is to learn to stay in that place where you're not in charge so the Movement can continue. You see?

QUESTION: The specific recurring threshold through which I passed I sense is the injustice against which I had no defenses—which you spoke to me about in an afternoon gathering and I had forgotten what that was too until I

**heard it—was that the specific pattern or breakthrough that I made?
Essentially healing?**

ANSWER: Yes the question for justice evaporated. Yes.

QUESTION: Great! Thank you. Thank you.

ANSWER: You're welcome. This next answer is not going to be short.

And so we will take a break.

QUESTION: Okay, do we do it when we come back?

ANSWER: You may put the microphone on your seat and when we come back you will hand it to the next person who is going to have a long answer.

ANSWER: It is a(?) thing. Someone mentioned at the break that they didn't want to be the one to get a long answer. Connie is afraid that she will not pass the microphone to the person who is supposed to get a long answer. And Paul is afraid that I am going to give a long answer.

QUESTION: Thank you, I don't know quite how to put this question and I'll give a part B in case the answer's not long enough.

ANSWER: No, it's supposed to be a long answer not a long question.

QUESTION: Oh dear. Okay. I'm dealing with a physical condition and maybe a nervous condition. And I'm working to do my part in healing it and let doctors do the other part. And it's working absolutely miserable, I think. And I keep getting tangled up with which part is mine and which part is theirs. And I know there's a conscious volitional part in it and I know it gets tied up with a self-destruct somehow and some kind of unwillingness. And I really don't know. Um, I'm mixed up. I don't know how to sort out my role in it so that... I love to fix things—I have a feeling this is in here somewhere too. And as you can see I've been working on it now for several years. I think it's getting worse.

ANSWER: Well, very simply your perfection is a gift, a gift inseparable from the Movement of God being Himself/Herself right there where you are. Therefore, it is absolutely essential for you to abandon the idea that you have some part in this other than the willingness to stand in receipt of the gift. As long as you are trying to play a part you are entering into a pseudo role of authorship along with the Father. I say pseudo because you on your own can not have a position of authority.

I've used this example before, but back in the forties and fifties there was a little gadget in the novelty stores. It was a little black box. And on the top of the little black box there was a switch. And when you turned the switch on a little trap door came open and a hand came out and turned the switch off and popped back into the box. The whole purpose of this box was to turn itself off. Now this (he pauses for one person who is laughing) this is a perfect example of the right use of will. The only right use of will is the decision not to employ will. "Thy will, not mine be done."

So all the time that you are attempting to play a positive role in your healing, you are attempting to express some authority on your behalf, instead of saying, “I will not enter into this process from the standpoint of my present frame of reference other than to say, ‘God, Thy will be done.’”

Your body has the intent to identify the presence of your individuality perfectly. And that intent was established by the Father in the Movement of His self-expression that all of us experience as you. And when you withdraw personal intents of your own, the Father’s will, the intent of your body, its reason for being can, I’m going to say, assert itself. And its asserting its function will be identified as healing for all practical purposes because its intent is to identify the presence of your individuality flawlessly, perfectly.

When you are attempting to be causative and God is being causative, it is as though mixed messages are being put into the air. And you experience it as, for lack of better words, a confused nervous system. It’s time to get out of the way. That’s the end of the answer.

QUESTION: Okay, thank you very much. I didn’t know if I should ask that question about sexuality or not. You can ask Raj if he wants to answer it.

ANSWER: I am Raj. And I do indeed want you to bring it up.

QUESTION: Okay, great. Because I was raised to believe that very spiritual types like Christ were like completely realized beings and both half’s of their personalities were completely developed—both the male and the female. And that we incarnate alternately as males and females in order to develop one side and the other, but that it’s a split. And a completely evolved person is completely both. And being completely both in all complete, completely like that, there’s no need for sex either to complete themselves nor do they have needs or anything cause they’re all complete. And therefore, Christ didn’t bother with sex he was busy teaching or something. (Laughter) You know, I don’t get the details, but I have noticed that some very evolved, I’d call them people I’ve met, you can’t really tell if you’re talking to a man or a woman, because both their feminine side is very strong in them, and their masculine side, however you see it is very strong in them. And so the way that I would identify a man or a woman don’t show. So go with my question about that.

ANSWER: The realm of the ego is a realm of getting. The realm, we’ll say, as fully realized conscious being is a realm of giving. As we said earlier, prayer is praising God constantly by acknowledging that which is Real in each and everything thing. That is giving. When you look at your world, you do not look at it to see what you can get, you do not look at it to get data for your self-protection, you look at to acknowledge it. You see?

Now, love from the ego’s frame of reference as we talked about is always a means of getting, getting completion, getting control, getting even. One who is

Awake, One who is remembering to be the presence of Love is not engaged in getting in any aspect relative to his world or her world, but is involved in acknowledging, giving recognition.

Now why, no matter how Awake I might be would I not bother with the opportunity to acknowledge the significance and the meaningfulness of that which is Real in each and everything I see? You see? But it is not engaged in in order to fulfill myself. And God saw everything that he had made and behold it was verily God. You see? Acknowledgment, recognition, you see, that is the Movement of Being that is embodied or expressed in every individualized aspect of the expression of God, you see. So it is your function to give acknowledgment, to recognize God in each and everything. And in that practice you remember who you Are. And who you Are is the Movement of God, I'm going to say what you Are is the Movement of God in the act of recognizing Himself, not only that it is Himself but that it is Meaningful—in other words, it was very good. You see? There is joy in acknowledging and recognizing what is Real. That is Love. And all forms of expression fulfill purpose.

Now, what happens when you come into the experience of your wholeness, in other words, where the masculine and feminine qualities merge and blend into a wholeness. What happens is that the compulsive behavior associated with the partial experience dissolves. And so one does not express himself/herself compulsively anymore to get, like an addiction being met. It's a gift. It's a gift. The Movement of God is a gift. And God is the recipient you could say. And the recognition, God's recognition of the Movement of God's being is Creation.

Without meaning to be sacrilegious, you could say that Creation is an eternal orgasm. It is an eternal and infinite experience of ultimate and beautiful meaning. Not one aspect of which goes unnoticed by any aspect of the infinity of Creation. All of it because there is nothing to distract one from the recognition of what is Real in all of Creation. So one does not grow beyond, I'm going to say "the need to embody and express love," because one wakes up into the fact that such embodying and expressing is the function of being itself.

The kind of teaching that you had heard and just expressed is exactly what becomes confusing to everyone when it comes to their relationships with each other, and when it comes to experiencing what they call their sexuality, causing grief around it and guilt and self-depreciation. Again, love is what is present when defenses are gone. It is what spontaneously is or happens when defenses, when self-protection are abandoned. It is the joy of being. And there are so many ways to express it.

I'm glad you asked the question.

QUESTION: If I could ask another piece? Does one grow beyond the need for marriage, or the desire for it or something?

ANSWER: Oh yes, yes. Because if you are already absolutely joined in full conscious experience, in the full spectrum of joining with every single member of the Brotherhood of man—let's put it that way, the Son's and Daughter's of God—why would you select one out of the whole? That would constitute a special relationship. When the fact is that you're already in full communion with that one. You see what I mean? When you are Awake there's not one experience that you could have that I would not be aware of, nor is there one experience I am having that you would not be aware of. There would be no need for us to select each other out of all of the Daughter's and Son's of God to relate to each other. In effect, it would have to constitute somehow excluding to some degree everyone else so that we could have a unique experience. You see?

So yes, there will be no giving in marriage that occurs, because unity, union will be the conscious experience of being. It's far more profound than anything you can imagine at this point. It is what all of you are actually afraid of and it is what your acts of self-protection protect you from.

QUESTION: I feel there's no end to this topic, so I think I'd better stop.

ANSWER: We have covered it sufficiently for this time.

QUESTION: Thank you.

QUESTION: Thank you. I seem to have chosen my experience to be one in which I appear to work with feeling in the darkness. In trying to grow I decided to ask to become more consciously aware of my guides. And there upon found myself getting in trouble with my supervisors at work. I don't know what I am or am not doing. I need guidance there.

PAUL: I'm sorry this is Paul, and I did not hear everything that you said. And my confusion about what you said is getting in the way of my hearing his response to you. So could you say it one more time?

QUESTION: Okay. It's been my experience from as long as I can remember, to have always known things I don't know why I know them. To do things which other people call me weird for, and the ego makes me hurt. With a feeling it is love that initiates it and brings around the results. It is a total lack of fear of going into someone else's darkness and fears that I do what I do. I want to grow and in that growing I asked to become more consciously aware of my guides. And then found myself, having surrounded myself with people that are not in agreement with my way of doing things, being told literally not to speak or touch to other people. And I need to find a way of expressing this that does not offend people that are not where I'm at.

ANSWER: I understand. First of all you have been different since you were a child. What has been important to others has not been important to you. What has distracted others has not distracted you. And although you have felt like a fish out of water you have also known that you are right on the beam. You could not

explain to anyone else and you could not explain it to yourself. And not having the explanation that you could defend yourself with you have felt uncomfortable.

Well, I'm here to tell you that you don't have to have an explanation, and you don't have to feel bad. And you can—I'm going to put it this way—you can dare to align yourself with and rest with that part of you that knows you're right on the beam.

I will tell you this, although it may feel awkward at times, what might have seemed to be stupid devotion to being on the beam has been right on target. And it is—for lack of better words—maturing you so that the gift that you have to give can blossom fully.

Now, you know what? Love always meets you right where you are. And the love that comes through you always meets others right where they are. And what I encourage you to do is to listen for how this love can be expressed so that it does not raise animosity or misunderstanding. If you know that something that you are guided to do is likely to raise dust, don't just do it. Ask for guidance, object to your guidance that this is likely to create flax, and is this the way it needs to be done.

This is very important when it comes to listening to guidance, because in the process of getting guidance you are not to overthrow your common sense. You are not to violate your comfort zone—the same things we were talking about yesterday. Guidance will always move you beyond your comfort zone because your comfort zone is too limited. But you're not to violate the comfort zone without asking further when what is given is uncomfortable, so that the specific guidance can be given that will reduce the discomfort because there's more clarity until you are finally able to do what the guidance has said because you're no longer uncomfortable and in doing it you will not be violating your current sense or your current integrity.

Paul does not do everything I say. Some things he is just stubborn about. But some things he doesn't do because it's not understandable. It goes too far beyond his comfort zone. And so he expresses what is making him uncomfortable. The best way I can put it is, that I will say something to him that goes beyond his comfort zone and my saying it uncovers specific belief structures that are limiting him that he experiences as specific discomforts and he'll say, "Well, what about this?" And I'll say, "Well, here's what about this." And he may say, "I don't get it. You're going to have to tell me more." And so I tell him more, and he says, "Oh, I get it. But what about this?" And we walk through all the "yes, buts" until they're not there. And there is peace within him because "he understands." What I have said is appropriate to do is not uncovering limiting belief structures that he didn't even know were there. And once he is experiencing his peace about it, then he takes the step that I have indicated is appropriate, and there is no repercussions from it because he wasn't going against his integrity. You see?

So I'm going to say challenge the guidance with the doubts that your guidance brings up in you, or the impracticality that seems obvious to you that is inherent in the guidance. Counter the guidance with that so that that may be dealt with and you come to a place of evenness about it within yourself. Then when you act upon it there will be no repercussions.

It's very important, each of you will walk into the Kingdom of Heaven, so to speak, on your own two feet. You will not ride in on the shoulders of one who is Awake. Okay? And in order for you to walk in on your own two feet you are going to have to address the beliefs that are binding you as they are brought to the surface as a result of your being loved by one who is Awake who is your guide. And your guide is a light who will lead you a step at a time, but it will be a step beyond your comfort zone. And when that happens you work with your guide to become clear about why it's reasonable to do this absurd thing, you see, until what made it absurd to you no longer makes it absurd because you've become clearer and you've grown, and then you take the step.

Blind obedience to guidance will never be allowed. Briefly I will share with you that a number of years ago in one of the gatherings a young priest was sitting about four feet to my left and he asked me some questions. And for Paul it was a very intimate communication that he was privy to. And during the course of the communication there was discussion about my identity as Jesus. And somewhere during the course of that conversation Paul said to himself, "My God, it really is Jesus." And when that happened he slipped into automatic, based upon his earlier preconceptions about me and he became absolutely obedient to me.

Now because this happened I had to set up a circumstance that would uncover to him the impracticality of this because I could not allow it to continue. And so I set up a situation which he obediently followed and the situation with my guidance became more and more impossible for him. And he obediently did what I said. And he got more and more frustrated, because everything I told him in actuality led to a dead-end. And yet I continued to lead him further into this blind alley, so to speak, until finally one day in pure frustration and some anger he said to me, "Will you continue to talk to me if I refuse to have anything to do with this any further?" And I said to him, "Of course, I've been waiting for you to say that."

And then I explained to him what happened in that gathering, because he could see it. And he could also see that his blind obedience to me had constantly overridden his inner feeling of what was right. And yet because of his concept of who Jesus was he had insisted on being obedient even though he was uncomfortable. And he said to me, "why didn't you just tell me I would have stopped." And I said, "yes, most obediently you would have stopped." He had to stop for his reasons, you see, out of whatever his present sense of his integrity was, not because I with all of my integrity had taught him to do it or told him to do it. You see? Your guidance will promote your clarity but will not allow you to

sacrifice your integrity. And blind obedience has nothing to do with the experience of and the purpose of guidance. You see?

I'm very glad you asked the question, because you're not the only one who needed to know the answer.

QUESTION: Hi, Raj.

ANSWER: Good afternoon.

QUESTION: This is a continuation of the last question, because when you brought up the don't necessarily be obedient to your guidance. What happened to me was what you were saying earlier to God, let Thy will be done. I find there's a part of me that doesn't want to be obedient to that. I just think... I don't know, something about it, even though I know that to Awaken all those wonderful things will happen. I felt good that you said don't be obedient to guidance. But then my mind was going, "but ah ha, they'll get you later on when you're Awakened, cause you're going to have to be obedient to God one hundred percent. And when God says, "everybody has to wear orange," everybody's going to have to wear orange." I don't know. That's the first part of my question. I don't want to have that feeling. But I know that I'm angry, and I don't want to be. And then a part of me goes, "of course I want to be." That's where I am.

ANSWER: I could say don't do what you don't feel like doing. But the truer statement is you won't do what you don't feel like doing. And that's okay. Until you feel like doing it you won't do it. And I will not fault you on that, your guide will not fault you on that, the Father will not fault you on that. But when do feel like it what it's all about will not be foreign to you because we have had an association. So enjoy your daydream until it's no longer enjoyable. It's not wrong to be experiencing a fascination with an illusion. The Father will not punish you for it because the illusion is punishment enough. (Laughter)

To indulge in an illusion is not a disobedience to God. It is something each one of you is quite capable of doing. It's within the realm of, what I'm going to call, acceptable possibilities of a divine being. I'm going to put it this way: Right now you are aware of three-dimensions: Line, plane and space. And you are experiencing everything from the level of the third-dimension. You are, for lack of better words, fourth-dimensional being. And fourth-dimensional beings—which is not a proper word—but fourth-dimensional beings have the capacity to experience reality which is four-dimensional from the level of the third-dimension. You also have the capacity to experience it from the second level or the first level. And each level involves more extreme limit. And the perception of the Kingdom of Heaven that is experienced from each of those levels is increasingly weird. Okay? And learning to grasp it and cope with it as well as who you appear to be to yourself from within each of those frames of reference can be interesting?

Imagine a fourth-dimensional mother whose kids are getting on her nerves, we'll say. And she says, "Oh, kids go out and play in the third-dimension for awhile.

What I'm meaning to convey here is that the experience you are having does not constitute your engaging in anything that you need to feel guilty for. It's just that from within a lesser level of the four-dimensions you experience yourself in a way that guilt is inseparable from—that's all. But the guilt isn't laid upon you from the level of Reality. It's being laid upon you by the limits of the level of perception you're employing.

Now you're welcome to play in the third-dimension for as long as you like. However, that level is not your Home. It is therefore, not normal or natural to you. And so all of the time that you are insisting upon having a limited experience of infinite being you're going to get feedback, your divine Sanity, with a capital "S", is going to constantly convey to you that this is not your abiding place even though you have chosen to abide there for awhile. It is this Sanity that says to you "this is not normal," is felt by you as the simple experience of an absence of normalcy.

Literally this dissonance, this uneasiness that you experience is simply the reminder. It is the experience of the call Home, you see. But if you stay there for an extended period of time, "I'm being an aspect of these three-dimensions"—if you stay there for an extended period of time, what happens is that as you feel isolated and separate, which is an intriguingly new experience, not natural to you in your normal state, you begin to feel vulnerable, the call for self-protection comes into play and the dissonance in the background that's the call Home, the beacon Home becomes the threat, you see. It becomes perceived as a threat rather than the way Home. And it becomes the thing you protect yourself against. And you forget. You forget until this Sanity that you cannot abandon or block out finally registers with you in a way that triggers an unwillingness to no longer suffer the dissonance of this level of perceiving Reality.

So, I am not here to say you have to wake up. I am here and your guide is here to be present when you say in whatever inner way you say it, "I'm not enjoying this as much as I used to." So that at that moment, when like the Prodigal Son, there is an urge within you not to have to exist this way anymore, so that when that urge is present in you and there is an openness to something more we can speak to you and say, "This way, this way, this way." But the motivation, the motive for returning has to occur in you first before you'll even listen, you see.

Now, you're not doing something wrong. But what you're doing is unnatural. Okay? When you're ready to have a new experience we're here.

So, enjoy not being obedient for a little longer. And then when you're ready not to enjoy not being obedient, it will not be a matter of having to become obedient, it will really be a matter of your joy at having a friend who can help you move out of a way of being that's uncomfortable. But that friend will always

honor your integrity in a matter that will not allow you to further abandon it by being blindly obedient. I didn't say not be obedient, I said don't be blindly obedient. In the process of your coming Home you must come all the way with an uninterrupted sense of your integrity. And that's what we started out with yesterday morning. You must start where you are, no matter how confused you are or how flawed your perceptions are, you must start with whatever shred of integrity still is present in you and let that be illuminated into its fullness as rapidly as you will allow it to be so that when you come back into your Right Mind you will not say, "I don't deserve to be here," you see, "because I got in on the shoulders of somebody else."

So, you have no justification for kicking yourself around the block or demeaning yourself, because at the moment you're not particularly interested in putting forth whatever amount of energy you think it's going to take to listen to guidance so that you can wake up and have something that you don't know you even want yet. You see? Okay!

Guilt maybe what the ego employs to keep you confused. But guilt is not something that the Father employs or the Holy Spirit employs or anyone who is Awake employs because it is obvious to them that you doing anything wrong. And there is no consequence divinely speaking to what you're engaged in. And we know that the moment you have the slightest interest you will be able to hear what you're willing to hear. You see?

Now I must add that one never moves into the third-dimensional frame of reference, no one ever moves into an imaginative illusory state alone. There have to be two or more who agree to the characteristics of the illusion. And as more and more join it seems to substantiate the actuality of the illusion as well as its reality. And we spoke this morning about the workers in the vineyard who come in the morning and those who come in the afternoon. As more and more opt for abandoning the illusion there are fewer and fewer present reinforcing the illusion. So there is a point, if you were a holdout until the bitter end, there is a point at which it would become exceedingly difficult to maintain the illusion, because there would only be one other supporting it with you. You see?

So in spite of any insistence you have at delaying waking up you're going to find yourself wanting to. And no one will have to force it. No one needs to force it.

QUESTION: Thank you, that's very good. I have one more little thing for you to debunk and then I'll come in the House, I'll come Home. This other thing is, I don't know where I picked this up, I guess the secular world it would be "waiting for the other shoe to drop," from spiritual stuff I've gotten, "God only gives you so much that you can handle now." And it's almost like, okay...

ANSWER: No, you only let in as much as you can dare to handle, which really means you only let in as much as you can dare to let in without losing your sense of identity, your current sense of identity. God is never withholding anything.

QUESTION: I guess I'm interpreting that in the negative way, which is almost like, "okay, I've got a good job, I've got a good relationship, therefore God is going to fling cancer at me so I can deal with that and then I will Awaken." I know that sounds crazy. But it's almost like I leave seminars and then I'm like open, I'm flying and my neighbor will come by and say something and I'll go, "Oh," contract.

ANSWER: The parable of the Prodigal Son is wonderful, because if you remember the Father never left home. The Father let the Son go. He didn't chase after him trying to coerce him into coming back. In effect, the Father engaged in nothing unusual about His own activity until news came that the Son was on his way back, and then the Father went out to meet him.

God is Love. God is not wrathful. God is not jealous. God is conscious of the truth about you—the unchanging truth about you. And if you are having a fanciful, imaginative perception of Reality and the Kingdom of Heaven and the life of the divine one that you Are, okay! It isn't changing in any way Reality, the Kingdom of Heaven or what you Are. So there is no call for anything other than Love, you see, from the Father.

You will never be punished by God. You will seem to experience punishment, or what you could call punishment from believing that the three-dimensional frame of reference is the totality of existence. Because fourth-dimensional Reality will continue to function on a fourth-dimensional basis, which cannot be grasped from within the third-dimensional level, and thus you will constantly find yourself stubbing your toe against what is happening fourth-dimensionally but you were not perceiving the totality of. And this is part of the discomfort that occurs, you see. But it is not dished out by God. It is just behavior on your part that is based upon ignorance of how things work and coming up face to face with the way things work. Sooner or later you will stop resenting the impact—if I may put it that way—and you'll begin to recognize that it's a wake up call, rather than something to defend yourself against. You see?

I've mention this before, I've mentioned it outside: You're familiar with the picture of Jesus standing at the door, it is an illustration of the statement, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock." Okay? You on the inside, not you, but everyone on the inside experiencing the Kingdom of Heaven that this dwelling is in as just the world, immediately get on the phone and call the police to get rid of the intruder because you perceive threat, you see, in a divine event, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock."

So when you are stubbing your toe against the world and saying that you are having a problem that you need the help of metaphysics to resolve and get rid of, what you really needing is a willingness to look at this a different way. You might even consider answering the door, or looking through the peep hole, you see. But until you're ready to do that, it's all right. The Presence of Love, the Presence of God, the Movement of Reality will continue in it's loving and divinely perfect action to be what's going on, until it finally occurs to you that you're stubbing your toe against it because you're not in harmony with it is your ally, rather than something to get rid of through the use of more and more powerful spiritual truths.

The God of the Ten Commandments is not God. God is Love. It is the ego that would have you be afraid of God and His wrath. Walking through the fear of God—walking through your fears about God—will be essential to your waking up. And I am here to say that God is Love doing nothing to generate fear of any kind, not misunderstanding or misperceiving you in any way, and therefore not judging you except in the giving of the acknowledgment of what is Real right where you are. “This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.” And this is true of everyone.

This is a wonderful thought for me to leave you with for today. And we will resume tomorrow morning at 9:30. Thank you for your question.

QUESTION: Thank you very much.

QUESTION: Good morning.

ANSWER: Good morning.

QUESTION: My question has evolved over the last couple of days. Many of the questions that have been asked have not really pertained to me, but the answers have. Does that makes sense? I've listened and I've done a lot of writing because often times things don't seem real to me until I see them in black and white. And I've gone over the notes that I've made. I may kind of wander here a little bit. I also tend to be an analyzer from way back and I take situations in my life and I analyze them to pieces. And over the last few months I've analyzed situations, I've found peace of mind and then boom it's gone.

And I had a situation last night where I was with a group of friends that I've had for years, and I looked at them and I thought to myself, “you know, I love you and I bless you, but I don't really like you.” And I'm feeling a lot of sadness. And I realized that I'm at my leading edge in this situation. And I'm ready to move on, but there's still a sadness and there's some pain.

And a lot of things are going really well for me in my life and I tend to feel guilty because it's too easy sometimes. And of course, that was resolved for me because I've had some challenges put into my life by the Universe so that my sense of guilt will go away. (Raj and others chuckled) And I would like to... I guess my question is how can I look at this mishmash of confusion

differently, and how can I regain my peace of mind. I've asked several times to see things differently and a lot of answers have come to me, but at this point my confusion is manifesting in a pain in my chest that won't go away. And at one point I analyzed the situation to be, okay I'm willing to let down the walls and be love, but it seems that as soon as I let down the walls my ego throws another one up.

ANSWER: Sound familiar to anyone else? (Much laughter) Indeed, analysis, reason, these things can help bring you to a place where you are experiencing peace. But peace that you have reasoned your way into is not the peace you're looking for. It's the peace wherein you can feel safe enough to dare to yield into the unknown, to yield into something beyond what you can fabricate through the use of your mind. That peace is a place where you can dare to abandon thinking, even if it's only for ten or fifteen or twenty minutes. But in that place, in that silence is where, if you are paying attention, you can begin to feel Love. When I say that I do not mean that you can feel your capacity to feel loving. It is the place where you can discover that you are embraced by Love, which you will recognized to be what has been meant by the words, the "Father's Love." The words aren't as important as the experience.

When you experience that Love and you realize that you are still just this puny, piss-ant mortal that sat down to be still, what it does is it changes the way you think and feel about yourself. Because it becomes obvious to you almost immediately that you didn't have to change in order to be Loved, that you are lovable just the way you are as you sit there. Well, this is peace, this experience of Love that you are embraced by, this is the peace that you have been looking for. And because it's a peace you didn't create, a peace that is obviously a gift, you see, you will find yourself realizing that it must have been present always. And where you had been striving to be worthy, or to become equal to whatever it took to be loved by God...

PAUL: I'm sorry, this is me Paul, I just lost it.

ANSWER: The point is that because this love has always been embracing you and you are not experiencing it because of any striving that you have personally engaged in, it means that you must not be as guilty as you thought for anything that you thought you were guilty of. Because a love as pure as the love you are embraced by demonstrates to you your innocence. The experience of being Loved by God discloses to you that you are worthy of such profound Love. And in the presence of that Love it becomes clear to you that you are innocent, that there is something utterly pure about you. And in that experience a shift of self-perception has occurred, it has been revealed. And it gives you a new basis from which to be in the world. Now it may only last for ten or fifteen minutes and then when you open your eyes up and it's time to cook dinner you will slip back into

your old habits of doing it the way you've always done it. But the experience will not disappear from your mind.

There is another thing that happens at the same time that a shift of self-perception occurs and that is that it becomes obvious to you, but it's like another revelation, that this is true of everyone else, that everyone else is innocent and everyone else is embraced in this active presence of Love, which is the Father's Love.

Now, because this is not a common experience for you, what you would call a normal experience for you, it is well to nurture having the experience by taking the time frequently to become still. What's really important to know is that intellectual processes are unnecessary to the arriving at that experience. And so what's called for in order to have the experience is not greater intellectual skill.

Indeed, as growth occurs, as shifts of perception occur, things that before had seemed most meaningful which weren't really meaningful, will become obvious to you as less and less meaningful. And sometimes this does involve associates or activities, and yes, sometimes it feels like a loss. What I encourage you to do is to sort of look up instead of just the immediate circle of friends or the immediate activity or role or job, and sort of take in the horizon so that you will have the opportunity to observe those things or those individuals coming into your experience who are of a similar mind.

This is not a matter of arrogance or being hoity-toity or snobbish, it is a natural gravitation that occurs. It does not mean you're better than the ones you are departing from and they are not worse than you. But so much of what everyone does is based upon what they ought to do or what they should do, instead of the common sense that we've been talking about for the last two days, the recognition of what fits and what doesn't, what works and what doesn't. Taking a snack lunch in a tune box into a library to eat lunch and listen to music doesn't fit. But eating lunch and listening to music is not wrong and reading in the quiet of a library is not wrong—they don't fit. And so there's no judgment involved here. It's just paying attention to what fits, what works.

The sadness is because you see a gradual moving apart occurring and you are still eyes down seeing only the immediate circumstance of your life. And so if you will recognize that change is occurring, shift is occurring and you will look up you will find that not only are you moving out of this arena but you are moving into an arena which is already full of others and other things which stand in support of where you now find yourself. And it is a Movement of Love. It is not a movement of denial of them, and embrace of them, you see.

In spite of the sadness, gently let the shift happen. And try not to evaluate it, just be present with it and pay attention. These kinds of shifts happen infrequently where perhaps groups of friends seem to pass out of your experience, or a change of job occurs, because they represent what you would call thresholds. You don't

go over thresholds or change-lines everyday. You move across and you find yourself in a new [way of] being. And there is a time that you will find yourself in that area where you are paying attention and where the shift become consolidated, fully embodied in you. And then you will find yourself at another change-line, and another shift. It's natural. And it can occur gracefully.

However, for those who are at an analytical nature, who want to understand every bit of what is happening, you will find less grace in the shift. The need for analysis and arriving at conclusions about what is happening is an expression of lack of trust. "Well, I'm not sure if this is really meant to be. I'm not sure whether I'm even thinking straight." You see, that is doubt.

I am encouraging you not to practice doubt. Because what is happening to you is unfoldment. It is not the evidence of willfulness. It is not that you because of your analysis have decided these friends are no longer good for you, or you are better than they are and therefore you are going to do this or that or the other thing. You can trust this Movement that you're not responsible for.

Paul used to be analytical. Life is much richer for him, much fuller, much happier and there is much less fear on an ongoing basis since he has stopped trying to understand everything and has listened so that he might know the truth, so that truth known can register [with him in a way that so that] conclusions can come to through clear, correct, logical thinking, you see.

You see there's a sense of loss associated with giving up the skill of analysis, especially if the expert practice of that skill has contributed to your feeling that you are a creditable and a worthwhile human being, because you are having to abandon something that gave you a sense of worth. And so there's a sadness when that is released in favor of what I need to know. up to the right conclusion causes you to be in a place where you are no longer getting reinforcement of your worth. At least that's what you think. That's what anyone thinks who is an analyzer, a heavy-duty, highly addicted thinker, you see.

"Well, who are you, or who is Paul if he isn't thinking anymore and doing it well?" Well, interestingly enough you become the place where God shines through, not where you shine through, not where Paul shines through. That's about the worst thing that can happen to an ego. But it is where peace and joy come forth without the presence of fear goading one into taking things into his or her own hands, you see.

When shift is occurring it always feels confusing. Now that can cause you to do one of two things, either you vigorously attempt to get mental control of the situation or an understanding of the situation, or you become like a brand new baby who with great curiosity and delight pay attention to see what the new is that is not completely consistent with the old. Mind you I said with delight and curiosity. If fear comes into play you will resort to intellectual processes instead of

with delight and curiosity, paying attention. In other words, observing with innocent or fresh eyes, not clouded by past memories and definitions.

Everyone at one time or another and especially those who we'll say are consciously on their spiritual path are desiring to wake up, are desiring to have the influx of enlightenment, but when it is realized that it means letting go of old definitions and being in a new way, being with innocence, actually changing... "oh, I didn't bargain for that," you see, "I thought I would still be able to be in control like I used to be, but with more spiritual motives," you see, instead of more trust.

So what I'm telling you is that what's happening is wonderful. And that what's called for is not greater understanding of what's happening but more trust. That what is happening is divinely oriented? An expectation of God knows what. And I mean that in the most positive way, you see. Trust. That's the end of the answer.

QUESTION: Thank you very much.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: Good morning, Raj.

ANSWER: Good morning.

QUESTION: I'm so delighted to be here, it's a consistent delight that I've been feeling since you showed up finally for me. And I've got a lot of question and like the lady the other day, I wish I could kidnap you for a day. But I won't make that suggestion. So anyway, what's upper most for me this weekend, I've been giving a lot of thought about the things that you've been saying about thinking. And it's occurred to me before I heard you say this that we're not thinking if we're giving our attention to whatever is in front of us. And awareness seems to expand in the moment. In other words, ideas or insights occur in the moment of what is going on. This is the way I'm experiencing this. And in the moment it's timeless. Here in this moment is no time. If I'm seeing this correctly.

ANSWER: That is correct.

QUESTION: Now if that in fact "be here now, this is the Kingdom of God now with my full attention present I am not in time, which is the past or the future, the opportunity to be here now forever as I am in my body is possible as it fulfills purpose." What I'm trying to say is I'm approaching the "golden years" of my life span as we understand it, which means I'm going to be facing the wall of hypnosis of "well, the medical bulletins as we die on the installment plan, as our body begins to deteriorate on the installment plan I guess... I know the relationship between thinking and fear and all that accompanies all that. And what I guess I'm trying to say here or understand with you is I read in one of the "Conversations" that we can be here for a hundred years, two hundred years...

ANSWER: ...a thousand years...

QUESTION: A thousand years...?

ANSWER: Or until you simply wish to be somewhere else.

QUESTION: In other words, by choice, not by sin, suffering, death and all that.

ANSWER: That is correct.

QUESTION: So I remember in the scriptures you said, I think that it was recorded that you said, someone asked you something about death and you said, “that there would be those present who would not taste the second death.” I don’t know if this was related to. In other words, I was to understand there were those there present who would still be around until you would come to them again. At that time I understood it was in the cloud and the great Cecil B. DeMille production.

ANSWER: The first death was birth. The first death was your sudden ignorance of what you divinely are, at which point in your limited perception you took yourself to be only what you see and call your body. The second death is when you wake up.

QUESTION: Ohhhhh, I never... That makes sense.

ANSWER: Of course,

QUESTION: Okay, okay, so the second death is a living experience of translation.

ANSWER: The only experience, no matter what you call it, the only experience you ever have available to you is a living experience.

QUESTION: Right, because we’re here consciously...

ANSWER: Even in the belief of death and passing on, as friends have done, as relatives have done, from their standpoint there was never an interruption of living, of being conscious and of being themselves and of being identifiable. In other words, having what you would call a body. So no matter how many times you think you may have been born and died you have never had anything but a living experience—an experience of being. Continue.

QUESTION: So what I want to clarify with you today is I don’t want to walk that road of watching myself deteriorate and go through that process, that illusion called sin, suffering and physical death.

ANSWER: Then you only have one solution or one way in which to do that.

QUESTION: And that’s to be fully here in the present moment.

ANSWER: Doing what?

QUESTION: Not thinking and...

ANSWER: Being willing...

QUESTION: Being willing...

ANSWER: To recognize...

QUESTION: To recognize...

ANSWER: That which is Real in each and everything. (They say this together.) Because that is the act of Love. That is the fulfilling of your function. That is your nature. That is your being. And Love embodied because you are not claiming a right to express anything else is healing. Now healing simply means the uncovering, the bring into view that which has always been present—what has really always been present—right here, right here, right here, you see.

I'm going to address your specific question. The answer is yes. If you learn to be present in the moment with innocence—meaning that you are not applying your own personal definitions to everything and you are willing to recognize what is divinely present in each and everything, you will not have any further experience of death. You will not experience any further disease. And any disease that you might currently be experiencing will disappear in the uncovering to you of what is divinely real right where you are.

QUESTION: Yahoo! Now may I ask...

Now before you continue so that this doesn't sound so wonderful that it's impossible to achieve, or so that you don't all make it highly complex, remember the day dream we were talking about yesterday. Because a daydream is a fantasy.....

.....in his reverie and his distraction behaves in a way that's inconsistent with what's really going on. And what's really going on can at times interfere with his reverie. But in order for him to become free of whatever the details are of his reverie, all he has to do is shift his attention back to the obvious, to what is really going on. And this is not an intellectual feat. It's a matter of what you're valuing. So waking up is a shifting of what you value. It's not about being something better. And so there's no work involved. It's a matter of changing what you value.

And what we've been talking about for the last two days, coming to a point where you are valuing your capacity to Love more than you value the right you think you have to get even, to be angry, to feel jealousy, to hate and the list goes on and on. Every time you think you have a right to engage in these activities you are valuing them and you are in a reverie, a negative reverie. [Love] binds you to Reality, the Kingdom of Heaven, right here, a Son or a Daughter of God that you are right now and most of all God, which is the substance and activity of all of this as well as you.

You know, you can't love in the past and you can't love in the future, can you? The only place that you can feel love is in the instant of conscious awareness you're having. And the only place you can extend it, embody it is in the now, which is timeless. And so if you engage in love you are in perfect alignment with the only moment there is, if I may put it that way, you see. That puts you out of time. And how difficult is it to do that. You don't need a degree. You don't need any mechanical objects. You don't need money. You simply have to say, "I value expressing Love more than anything else." Well, you say, "that's very

magnanimous and wonderful but there are so few people who do it it must really be hard or everyone would be doing it. I don't know if I can do it."

So let's make it a little more relevant. You know the question is, "what's in it for me?" This really makes it more relevant, "what's in it for me." Well what's in it for you is that peace is yours, the absence of gut wrenching knots of fear. The uninterrupted experience of joy. I know joy doesn't motivate you as much as not experiencing pain. So we'll talk about that. It will be the absence of pain. It will be the absence of all kinds of hurting. On that basis I think you all could muster up enough energy to dare to at least begin to choose for Love more consistently at every moment.

You had something you wanted to say?

QUESTION: Yes, thank you.

ANSWER: You were in a reverie.

QUESTION: I know. No I thought you were talking about...

ANSWER: Come back, come back.

QUESTION: I thought you were addressing someone up near the front of the row. Okay, yes this leads me to my next part. Since our last conversation where you helped me look at my weight problem in relationship to my attitude.

ANSWER: Let's just say looking at your current weight.

QUESTION: Looking at my current weight, okay.

ANSWER: It's not a problem.

QUESTION: Right. But I want to tell you what I've experienced since our last... I've experienced a dissolving of a very deep core of insecurity. I can't explain that but I have a feeling that that's related to it. It seems like something's happening...

ANSWER: No, you know that's related to it.

QUESTION: Right.

ANSWER: Be simple, genuine, without unnecessary words like "I think." You see, you know it relates.

QUESTION: Yes, right. I wasn't looking for it to manifest like this, but this is what I have been experiencing.

ANSWER: Indeed.

QUESTION: There is a deep core. It seems to be... it's lightening up, not seems, it is. And my question...

ANSWER: You see, the reason I mentioned it is in everyone's hesitancy to be too direct or be adamant everybody couches what they're saying in some...

QUESTION: I don't want to say the wrong thing to you, Raj.

ANSWER: ...in nebulous terms and as a result you confuse yourselves.

QUESTION: This is ironic because with everyone else I don't have a problem, but talking to you I blow it the most. Which is silliness because I'm talking to you all the time.

ANSWER: Go ahead and blow it.

QUESTION: Okay, It's silliness because I'm talking to you all the time anyway you know what I'm saying. So that part of my being which I felt was feeling very insecure all these years is dissolving. And I'm feeling more confidence about everything, and less fear about everything. And I want people to really hear that your presence with us now is a healing experience for all of us. It's like psychic surgery is going on. You're doing something to all of us.

ANSWER: I'm just loving you.

QUESTION: I know, but I just want to say one quick thing before you say that. Two thousand years ago you said that no one comes to you unless the Father draws them. In other words, you're the Shepherd, we're the flock. Buddha has his flock and so forth. But we're drawn to you because the Father drew us to you. And I want to know if this is currently happening now in this time, that you are here audibly speaking to us, where we can hear you in our dream state?

ANSWER: The reason you're hearing me is because you're already at Home. And you are not as insistent upon your The only way you could be called to come to hear me, or called to hear me is because hearing the Father's voice is your function. And so you are bound by the very nature of your being to come back into your Right Mind. You now want to know what it was that was great that happening two thousand years ago, it wasn't that I came it was that there were those who were stirring in their dreams and were open to the experience of the revelation of truth. You see everybody leaves themselves out of it.

And that's what has made the [account] of Jesus down through the years become something extraordinarily special. And so it has come to be believed that Jesus is the only begotten Son of the Father. You poor souls. But the meaning really is that Jesus was begotten only of the Father and not of the ego or anything else, just as you are begotten only of the Father and not anything else. We're all in the same boat, that's why we're brothers and sisters, if you will.

So it wasn't that I came, that isn't what was great, that isn't what was miraculous. It was that there were those in their dream that were stirring—their sleep was restless, if you will. You think I'm holding a gathering, we are being together, we have gathered together. And we are being, if I may put it this way, as much of what the Father is as we can allow to happen at this moment. We're all being the divine ones that we are together, you see.

QUESTION: In our present state with you, with our full attention, hearing the Father speak to us through you is where we will see the Kingdom

of Heaven unfold, moment by moment in this present moment. And as we do this then we will see the fourth-dimension start to appear.

ANSWER: You will see all of what the Kingdom of Heaven is become visible to you. That is a better way of putting it, because you think of the dimensions as levels with boundaries and again you can conceive of it as something, the boundaries as something hard to move over. But if you begin to embrace the idea that all of what the Kingdom of Heaven is present and functioning fully right here, right now, your resistance to it will diminish. And when I say your resistance to it will diminish I mean that the definitions that you have given to everything—and those definitions are very different from what the Kingdom of Heaven is—will get less of your attention. You will stop reinforcing them. And in that way the veil will lift.

If there were a curtain hanging around us, around this church, and we could only see the boundaries of the property of the church, the veil lifting would be like the curtain lifting and you could see the whole view, because it was present the whole time. So instead of thinking of moving into the fourth-dimension I would encourage you to think in terms of having all of what the Kingdom of Heaven is become visible to you right here, which will include everything you are seeing plus much more. And again, the key to having that experience lies in the practice of Love, the being of Love, the valuing of that more than self-defense in all of its forms.

QUESTION: And not taking thought of about anything we see.

ANSWER: As long as you are taking thought you can't be listening. You create static or interference as it were in your mind that absolutely distracts you. That is the reverie is, is all the thinking and the uses you put thinking to in order to protect yourself ultimately. It's in the silence that the fullness can register with you.

QUESTION: So then its trusting God to take us on a marvelous, never ending adventure that we know...

ANSWER: Yes. Oh yes. Oh yes, that is what the Movement of Creation is.

QUESTION: So it's like falling back into His arms and trust.

ANSWER: But I want to add this little slant to it. It's not just trusting God to take you on a divine adventure, it's trusting the essential nature of everything that already exists. I say that because your sense of what God is still at a distance from you. So you think God will take us like a tour guide to Israel to some marvelous adventure. If you will begin to trust the essential nature of everything that already in you, through you, around you, in and through everything around you. You see, that will bring God in a more omnipresent way into your awareness. And so where is the divine adventure going to lead you? For right now the divine adventure is going to lead you to an enhanced experience of everything you're already experiencing.

QUESTION: Like everything becomes like a warm fuzzy, kind of?

ANSWER: You could say that yes, plus much more. That's why it's so important to take the time to be curious to wonder what is really here in the pedal of the rose, willing to see what is Real in each and everything because it's each and everything that's going to be transformed as a result of the veil lifting or the scales falling from your eyes, with innocence. You see what I'm saying? Without preconceptions and without using memory of things that have happened in the past, to provide you with some sense of security so that you have the nerve to stand at the edge and jump.

QUESTION: Yes, I have the nerve to ask you this. I'm willing.

ANSWER: I am saying do it without role model. Do it without any personal necessity to do it well. Do you see what I'm saying?

QUESTION: Yes, because of the love of what I'm feeling about it to do it with.

ANSWER: Do it because Love is your function and joy is your experience. And do it because you don't want to hurt anymore.

We will take a break.

QUESTION: Since I've been spiritually stirring, I have difficulty praying because I don't know how to pray anymore. I get confused with, you know in the Garden of Gethsemane when Jesus said, "not my will, but Your will be done." So sometimes when I'm staying in the present but at the same time of activities of living you sometimes have to make plans or have directions, so since I'm not necessarily at a spiritual level yet where I'm fully aware of the mind of God I feel funny asking God to help me towards a certain goal because I don't know if it's the will of God, or if it's my will. And I don't know if it makes any difference if I ask God to bless somebody...

ANSWER: Oh, I'm going to interrupt you right there. You're still going to have to ask the rest of the question. Does it make a difference whether you ask God to bless someone? It does! Never doubt it for a moment. For you to ask God to bless someone your expression of love. And when you are expressing love you are aligning yourself with the Father's Will. And at the risk of there being misunderstanding, there is power in that. At the risk of there being misunderstanding I will say there is power in that. But the power is the Father's power. When you express love by caring enough to ask the Father to bless someone you are bringing yourself into alignment with the will of God.

You know, people have referred to my presence two thousand years ago as "God with us," meaning, God with mankind, present with mankind. And every time you express Love to your brother it is "God with us," with mankind. It let's God in. That's why it is powerful. It isn't the power that you can exercise. But you see, the ego will never ask for your brother to be blessed. And so when you say, "Father will you bless so-and-so," you may know that it is that part of you that

is divine that is uttering that prayer. So yes, indeed it makes a difference. Continue.

QUESTION: Well, so for instance if we don't know the will of God or the Mind of God and I practice love to my spiritual consciousness as much as possible, at the same time in planning different activities, necessary kind of practical activities in my life I wonder how important it is that the activity be the will of God or that I just practice the will of God in the activity? Do you understand that?

ANSWER: Yes. It's always important for it to be the will of God because that's where the harmony of the activity and the fulfillment of the activity will unfold most gracefully. So be real practical and say, "Father we need to arrange for a function that's going to be held on the 17th, will you help me to know how to arrange for it appropriately. And if it's not appropriate will you find a way to let me know," you see. And if you don't get a totally clear answer, where you are completely at rest, then periodically ask again.

Now, it's very important not to abandon your common sense as, I'm going to say as you progress on your spiritual path. And so you start with where you are. You start with whatever your current common sense is. You know you're going to have to fly somewhere, your common sense says make the reservation where you can get the best price, don't wait till the last minute. So until you get guidance to the contrary use your common sense. Because your common sense has helped you to get to where you are.

QUESTION: And so for instance if there's a goal I thought might be good for me and my situation, so what I thought was well I would start going through the motions of meeting this goal or being ready for it to happen if it does. And then just allow to happen whatever is going to happen. Now is that sensible?

ANSWER: No, it is sensible to start going through the motions that express the greatest common sense. What you need to do is to add to that this extra dimension of inquiring of the Father, "is there a better way to do it? Is there a different way I should be doing it? Should I be doing it at all?" But start going through the motions, be grounded and be practical. But let there be an open inquiry, you might say, an ongoing inquiry for any modifications that might be appropriate. You see? As you do that and you begin to feel the nudges, the insights, the clarities that present themselves to you, you will begin to find them to be dependable and valuable.

And so the two things you're doing, going through the motions based on common sense plus listening for what is truly appropriate there will be a shift of emphasis and you will begin to value the listening and the inquiry more than the common sense, you see, because through experience you will have found it to be a better resource than your common sense. Pretty soon your common sense will be

recognizable as not using your best judgment any more but always inquiring, you see.

And so there will be a shift that will eventually occur where literally you don't do anything without wanting more than any thing else to know how your actions fit in with the Father's will. And the reason you want to know that is because first of all it's your function and your nature not to be out of alignment with His will. And secondly, but more importantly, being in alignment with His will blesses everyone involved in whatever the activity is, you see.

So you don't say, "okay, I'm going to abandon my common sense and I'm going to go a hundred percent for guidance." You see? You don't do that until you've had enough experience with guidance that you are trusting and it doesn't evoke a great deal of fear. You see? Your common sense is a combination of inherent natural divine intelligence and fear occasioned by misunderstanding who you are and what everything is. Okay? So you don't invalidate the whole thing, because part of it is your innate intelligence. What you want to do is to take steps that help you let go of the fear and the confusion and the ignorance of who you really are so that the intelligence that was present becomes aligned not with the confusion but with the clarity of knowing the Father's will. You see?

QUESTION: Yes I do.

ANSWER: In this way, people will not look at you and say, "oh, she's another one of those spiritual kooks, look at she's an idiot," you see. And that's not what waking up is about. Waking up is, and true spirituality is the most grounded thing there is. In fact, it is the belief that spirituality is an effervescent disembodied state of nebulosity that what it really is isn't being brought into play and transforming the world right here. You see?

QUESTION: Yes, thank you.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: I'm hoping that you can answer this more coherently than I can ask it, but in the things that you've said in the gatherings and in the Course it seems to me that you're urging us to look for the Movement of God in all things. And to appreciate that what happens is God's will. It seems to me there are also a lot of spiritually oriented people...

ANSWER: May I interrupt just a moment, so that there isn't a misunderstanding. I do not encourage you to see everything as God's will. Because sin, sickness and death, suffering is not God's will, and although many times the Holy Spirit will turn your infirmity to your advantage it doesn't mean that the infirmity was a legitimate item provided by God for your growth. Thank your luck stars that the Holy Spirit turned it to your advantage, but don't value it as though it was part of the divine order of things.

QUESTION: Okay, you may just have answered my question.

ANSWER: I have.

QUESTION: I'll have to think about that. Thank you very much.

ANSWER: If you have a "yes, but" after thinking about it, please express it.

QUESTION: Thank you.

QUESTION: The question I wanted to ask is kind of a two part, and it kind of had to do with what Trish was talking about. I kind of started this stuff a long time ago, the spiritual path a long time ago, and I've gotten to a point... I feel like I've been able to exercise unconditional love occasionally, you know when people have appeared to hurt me, and I feel hurt or offended by them sometimes I can look past it, often I've been able to look past it and love the part of them that didn't hurt me. If I'm explaining right. And when I do that I get this big sound from my ego that says, "you know, you really aren't very loving. Most of the time you are a witch with a "b". So why do you pretend to be so loving now?" So then on the times when I'm really not so loving and I am angry and I don't see the part of them that is lovable then my ego says, "I thought you were kind, I thought you could forgive these people. Why can't you do this?" And I constantly have a battle.

And so now I've reached a point and I don't know if this is related or not, where I sit back and I wonder about these things and I think you're right so really deep down inside I really have no goodness because it's serving some other purpose that my ego says it's serving, that I don't understand. And now after spending years in this state and after listening to some of the things you have been telling us throughout your gatherings, I am now at a point where I feel like I have no personality. I see these people and I'm feeling more love from people than I've ever really felt and acceptance. And I don't look at them and think they're judging me or hating me or I can feel like I can get in a little better now with the spirit, I can touch it, I can feel it, they can feel me. But yet I'm not excited to do anything anymore. If people don't get it I don't care. And I just feel blah, and energyless. I don't really have any energy. Like, when we go on breaks I don't even want to get off this bench. And that's how I feel. And I wonder what that's all about?

ANSWER: First of all it's part of what is called peace. It's the absence of the thrill of the ego, because from the ego vantage point life is usually considered to be a vital and exciting thing to be involved in, with positive connotations as well as negative connotations, one naturally has the expectation that to be Awake is going to be even more exciting, more meaningful in an exciting way than what you have already been experiencing. Because of the amount of time Paul spends with me—and there was one occasion when he was in Kauai where he spent twenty-four hours a day for three weeks with me—he has come to have the same sort of experience you are describing because being Awake is not compelling. He has found that to be joined with me doesn't give him a fix or a high, but rather an experience of utter evenness. That's peace. As a result, when he disengages from

our union and chooses to function “on his own” he doesn’t find—upon looking back at the experience of being joined with me—he doesn’t find anything compelling about doing it again. It was an interesting phenomena. The reason is, that it is the ego that looks for something compelling.

Now, ultimately what it means it that Paul and everyone else will have to arrive at a point where the choice is made for being joined and experiencing the peace, the love and the un compelling, unexciting joy of being, just because, if I may put it that way. Not because it’s fulfilling. Not because it’s exciting. Not because it’s meaningful. And yet it is meaningful. But the elements of meaningfulness are different from what the ego called the elements of meaningfulness. And I a way it is as though “nothing that I see means anything.” Nothing about what is seen is in itself compelling. You see? There’s nothing out there to get something from. And that’s because the function of love is to be given. Everything is out there to be acknowledged for what it Really is, not to get something from. And so instead of getting a fix from your world you finally have to come to a point where you value the gentleness of pure Being. That’s the best way I can put it into words.

In the process of shifting from the old ego orientation and its compelling, compulsive, vitality of life, so to speak, through the even balanced peace of being and the joy of love that arises out of that it will seem as though you must be making a mistake because you’re moving into something apparently less meaningful. But what that means is that you’re moving into a place where there’s less of an edge of fear and anxiety, which is popularly called the excitement of life. You see, this is why you never hear me give rousing talks, because it’s the ego that gets roused, gets excited and motivated. And that’s not where it’s at. That’s not the direction of Awakening.

And so you hear me speaking gently. You hear me speaking softly, not rousingly—maybe movingly—but not whipping up a storm of enthusiasm. Because ultimately the choice has to be made within yourself for something that ultimately you have to make the choice for an experience which is not in itself attractive. I didn’t say it was unattractive, but it does not have within itself elements that draw you in. The Kingdom of Heaven does not have elements that draw you into it. You cannot be compelled to come Home. What I must do is share with you whatever will help to trigger your capacity, you inherent divine capacity to recognize Home and to value it, so that you without any coercion having been applied to you make for your own reasons the choice because you can feel that as crazy as it seems this is the choice you need to make. That as surprising as it is to you, you don’t feel any longer compelled to change everyone else’s mind.

Your world is not any longer providing you with the motivation for living and at the same time it isn’t undermining your capacity to feel joy. That even

though this surprising turn of events begins to register with you and your life has begun to change and the excitement isn't there anymore, that this is what you choose for because you can feel within yourself that these experiences are identifying the [integrity of your] capital "B" Being, divine life. You see what I'm saying?

QUESTION: I think. What I want to know is how long do you stay in this state of not caring? From what you say, I think probably forever.

ANSWER: Well, no, yes that's correct, you will stay in it forever. Right now Paul doesn't care what you think. Paul doesn't care what anybody else thinks. Paul doesn't care what he looks like, although as I talk about him more he's beginning to feel self-conscious. But when Paul doesn't care, then his presence is utterly caring. You see?

QUESTION: Does Paul have any energy physically? I mean, other than the energy just to move himself about where he needs to go.

ANSWER: He doesn't experience this. I mean, although I am speaking of him, he is the one moving his mouth—I am not moving my mouth—and does not feel absent in any way. The experience is a very full experience. The movement, he feels the movement, but it's also obvious to him he is having the experience of not sitting separate from you. He is having to some degree a conscious experience, everything that is happening is a unified event that all of us are engaged in. So he's not absent and he's not void of an experience of meaning. What is absent is that he's not feeling or being responsible for anything that's happening. So therefore, it is impossible for him to feel at this moment potentially guilty for not having done well enough, so he's experiencing a great freedom from self-consciousness. You see?

QUESTION: Okay, so I know when he does the gatherings that's how he feels when he's on assignment or on call from you, he does have the energy to do what he needs to do, and he probably feels great doing it and everything. But it's kind of like a puppet in a suitcase. When the guy gets out the puppet and starts to talk then the puppets... But then he lays back in the suitcase.

ANSWER: Yes, but what you must realize is you are always going to be a puppet of something. You're either going to be the puppet of God or the puppet of the ego. You don't have the choice to exist with no strings. So your task is to decide who your puppet master is going to be.

QUESTION: Okay, that helps. Thank you.

ANSWER: You see, it's only when what the Bible has called the fall occurred, the separation from God occurred that you can even conceive of yourself as something separate that would or wouldn't have strings. That's part of the illusion.

Part of the great value of the Course is that it brings out clearly that the potential isn't there to be without strings, that indeed you're the puppet of one of

two masters. Existence isn't about being without strings. And if that registers with you so that you really feel it then you can with commitment abandon trying to be a good puppet without strings, and clearly attend to making the choice as to which of the two puppet masters you choose to be yours.

Now as you choose for God to be your puppet master, which is what the words "Thy will be done" mean, then the distance between the puppet masters hand and the puppet diminishes until finally there is no separation. Because you're not claiming a right to express your self. And when that happens then we can't talk about puppets and puppet masters anymore, because you're letting the Mind of God, which is your Mind be all there is to you without interference. You see?

The trickery of the ego is that although when you are listening to it is you puppet master, it is telling you, "you don't have any strings on you at all. Have a ball. Do anything you want, anyway you want." And then it sits there and pulls the strings and makes you dance the jig, always implying that you are authoring it. And all the time this is happening you are unconscious of the fact that none of it is happening, that this whole little jig that the ego is doing with you is this reverie, this flight of fantasy that is occurring as a daydream in the middle of the Kingdom of Heaven, in the mind of the Son or Daughter of God who has no capacity really to have a mind separate from God.

So let's be real clear again. You cannot be a puppet. You cannot be Pinocchio without strings. You see? You are the puppet of either of one of two puppet masters. Let that sink in. You aren't free. Now if you like we can go to lunch today and when we come back Paul can do the first session of the afternoon, on his own. (Laughter and a "no" response). Not that means that the ego will run the show, because Paul can't do it on his own. He either be's divinely natural as is happening right now to the best that he's able to do it, the only thing lacking now, which I'm encouraging him to do is to make commitment to being in his Right Mind forever. The little bit of difference between the almost complete allowing of this joining to occur, the only little bit left that goes beyond this is what to his ego seems like is the biggest step of all, you see, because he needs to do it forever, not test it out for a couple of days.

Paul is now self-conscious. And so we will just begin gently.

What is needed is not a temporary test, a day or two, a month, but a complete commitment forever. As I said this can't be forced. So the means by which I move Paul, you might say, to a point where making that commitment seems utterly reasonable is to provide the occasion for him to be joined with me in gatherings. Because he's willing to do this for you, whereas when he is at home and it's just him and me he doesn't necessarily find it worth doing, you see. But by providing the opportunity for him to have the experience of this divine state of peace he can begin to remember how to be Awake and can begin to feel the naturalness of being in this place. And by virtue of increasing familiarity with it he

will arrive at a point where without fanfare, even probably in an almost off-handed way he'll just say, "okay," and the forever commitment will have happened.

Now what I want all of you to understand is that what is happening with Paul is not special, my speaking through him is not because of some special gift he has, and that he has some role "in the world" to help fulfill scripture or anything else. It just happens that Paul arrived at a point in his life where he needed help and he asked for it and he got it and he didn't give up and stop asking for it. And so all that is happening is part of his waking up. He's no different from any of you. And he is simply doing what everyone has the opportunity to do and what everyone will end up doing, in terms of asking for help, letting it in and letting your lives be transformed.

This doesn't mean that you're going to end up traveling the world channeling Jesus. You will end up doing and being what uniquely and specifically contributes to your graceful arrival at that point where you will make commitment to something that's totally unattractive to the ego—your Sanity and your Birthright. In the process you will all find yourself engaged with your fellow man in ways that are meaningful and transformational because the function of love is the function of your being. And it is that willingness to embody and express it in the world that does the trick. And so everyone is going to have to arrive at a point where it seems more reasonable to do that all the time than again, to claim the right to be angry and jealous and vicious and rude, etc., because it's so satisfying.

I'm very glad that you asked the question, and before we go to lunch I want to reiterate this point: It is your nature. It is your function to be the presence of God expressing Himself/Herself because that is what you are. There is no other choice. And it feels so good when you're in your Right Mind, fulfilling your function. And because it is your Birthright and your function to be the presence of Love expressing, all of you will end up doing it, just like Paul is doing it. And if he doesn't hurry up someone might do it a little more gracefully and a little more quickly and do it before him. Don't be fooled into thinking he's further along than you are. You may not be nearly as stubborn as he is.

Let's eat.

ANSWER: You have a question about strings? Will you please give a brief synopsis of your question.

QUESTION: Are you asking me to give a brief synopsis or are you asking me to be brief?

ANSWER: (Chuckling)

QUESTION: Yes? Okay, I'll make it short. Since the night before the gathering I've been possessed by a song. And the song is from Mary Poppins and it's "Let's Go Fly A Kite." When we began the gathering I went into meditation with everyone and the song came up and I broke down and had to leave the gathering. I figured out the kite part but the part I'm not figuring

out is the theather, the string. And I need to know what the string means, that is to me.

ANSWER: Well, in the beginning when I first started speaking with Paul I told him to keep his feet on the ground and his head not too far away. Now, it simply means for you that no matter how high you sail do not become ungrounded. If you let go of the string a kite is on the kite will not continue to fly. It will do cartwheels and twists and eventually hit the ground. And so, for lack of better words, in order for your spirituality, or in order for your fulfillment to fly, as it were, you must keep your feet on the ground.

So as you now move with apparently more freedom, less theathers so to speak, don't abandon common sense, don't abandon that which identifies integrity for you.

QUESTION: Is that relative to the political situation that's brewing around me? Was that a warning?

ANSWER: Are you in the midst of a political situation?

QUESTION: Yeah, I am.

ANSWER: No, I mean, that there is a freedom of movement available to you relative to what is on your threshold. As you allow for it, stay grounded. That's all.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: You're welcome.

QUESTION: First of all, welcome beloved brothers. And thank you brothers and sisters who are here physically and spiritual.

The other day Karen had asked a question and it blew me away for some reason, I lost all centering and everything. And partly when I got to thinking about it Wednesday when I went home was that I had listened to all your tapes Rajpur, but one on Bear Mountain was about brain dead, and then one in Orlando was right to die. And what freshened it up into my mind was when I grew up in Christian Science my mother and my grandmother had always taught me that there's a period when we leave our physical body, the 72 hours and then at the time the person passed over you know you kind of commune with them within that 72 hours.

Well, what if that was true, because now I have some lack of understanding that I had for so many years, what happens when a person, number one, is laying in a hospital bed and then they do tests and find the person's brain dead. And then they decide two or three days later to pull the plug. What I'm trying to ascertain and understand whichever way I should say it is when is the person actually physically out of their body and where there supposed to be, because I remember what my mother always said, "the dead know not."

And then when you were answering Karen's question then that even threw me a little more of a kilter, of course, I knew it was me, probably my ego getting in the way or I was just plain ignorant. And then just recently after they had the memorial for this dear brother of ours Kirborkian got again quitted for helping someone to die and that was considered a suicide helped. And yet in one of your tapes I remember you said that we all commit suicide in one way or another. So, where are the one's who supposedly "actually do a suicide" or the one who is brain dead and they pull the plug on him? Is there any difference in between there? And where are they at then? Are they in the fourth-dimension? And I have had too many experiences since I've been a child that I truly believe that they come when they are needed here to talk to us or whatever, commune, so they're not dead. And they're there. And sometimes I see them as their physical body or I just sense them in their spiritual body. And so now I'm getting really confused and I'm saying, "SOS."

ANSWER: The manner of death is irrelevant, whether it is suicide, whether it is brain death, whether it is an automobile accident or a heart attack, a disease, the manner of death means nothing. And just to elaborate slightly, every death is a cop out. It's a point at which an individual gives up. It is not the giving up that constitutes the yielding to the Father's will. It's a giving up of the attempt to control one's life, still believing that having control is the primal need. And literally one arrives at a point where they can't maintain the control any longer, but they don't yield the control up to the Father. And so there apparently is a death. It is a death that they bring on themselves. It is a decision, believe it or not.

Now, everyone who passes on goes to the same place, as it were. It is a receiving place. And they are met with love. In fact, the movement to that receiving place is as it has often been described, one in which the experience is one of great love. And they are met with love and they are for lack of better words, ministered unto, made comfortable. You could say that questions are answered. Those who have passed on prior to the individual who has passed on do gather to welcome. But the individual who has passed on is not required to meet with them, they can remain for awhile in the receiving place if they so wish. And they do not move on until there's a motivation within themselves to do so.

No, indeed, they have not moved into the fourth-dimension. Because the so called event of death was not a part of a process of Awakening. It was an ongoing dynamic of the assertion of the need to be in control of their lives, which they hadn't yet relinquished. And until they relinquish that the process of Awakening cannot occur. And so they find themselves exactly as they were before, except that whatever they thought it was that killed them they know didn't kill them. And so, if I may put it this way, if they had been suffering from cancer they realize that it

did nothing to them, and they are no longer subject to that belief or disease, you see. So there is healing in that respect.

There is one other aspect. And that is that if during their life they have lost a limb or an organ or whatever, they find themselves physically whole. They still believe they have to eat. Believe it or not those who were addicted to alcohol may find themselves still addicted to alcohol. And even while they are in the receiving place they are not prohibited from indulging in their alcoholism.

You must begin to understand that no one else can force you no matter how Awake they are, no one else can force you to be well, because to not be well is your decision based upon beliefs that seem rational and reasonable to you that tell you that whatever your problem is is essential to your self-protection. And if one feels they need to be dulled by alcohol in order not to be overcome by the “realities of life,” you can see that it is a decision they have made to maintain their sanity from their standpoint even though it can’t accomplish that. But each one’s suffering is decided for by them because they have arrived at a point in their reasoning where they believe that what they are doing is protecting them from something.

Indeed, when physicians arrive at the determination that brain death has occurred, the individuality that you have known has moved on. The body you see is the after image left in your eyes. That which identifies them to themselves is still with them. And you will never be without that which identifies you, without that which renders you visible and tangible as a conscious experience for everyone.

What you also have to understand is that when I speak of something that is tangible and visible I don’t mean something that is material. And what you all further need to understand is that your scientist are clearer about the fact that there is nothing material about your body right now “physically speaking,” because when they examine it with an electron microscope, they find out that there are not billiard balls of matter but just energy pattern, nothing substantial there at all. And the pattern—it will ultimately be found out—is you might say, the pattern of the idea in God’s Mind that constitutes God’s self-expression.

So right now you don’t have a material body. And as this fact begins to register, as this news filters down in practical terms from the scientists to the general public, people will begin to think of their body in a new way that will allow for healing to occur, that will allow for perfection to occur spontaneously, instantaneously because there is no requirement, no “physical,” I mean by that material requirement for processes of matter to occur because there ain’t no such thing there. It’s energy patter than can shift because it has no density to inhibit the shift. You see?

Now you didn’t ask about this, but I’m going to continue. As one identifies himself or herself with this body and experiences not the fact that all that is being experienced is the infinity of conscious individuality—that it’s all me, it’s all you

because it's all God—as this all inclusive awareness of self was lost with a preoccupation with identifying just this body as self. Then in that separate sense, as I said, there was a sense of tinniness and vulnerability and a call for defense. And so life itself has been one of self-preservation.

Now fear is what promotes acts of self-preservation. And so, in the attempt to make one's tiny definition of himself or herself more substantial and therefore having greater defense or invulnerability there has been a contraction that has occurred and pattern that is what is really here has become, you might say, packed and relatively immobilized. And so your experience of what is really flexible and fluid energy is not being experienced by you as what it really is and it seems to be subject to injury.

But nevertheless, even though you hold your body in this tight grasp for the sake of self-protection it hasn't become matter. It is still nothing but energy pattern. The pattern of which was and is held in its original divine intent by the Father, because the Father is from moment to moment establishing the pattern as that which identifies His intent in being You. Therefore, that which identifies you specifically, will forever be that which will identify you specifically.

In waking up, in remembering all that's here instead of just what you have chosen to see, you are going to discover that you are always at one and the same time specific and universal just as the Father is. But you will less and less identify with the specific and more and more embrace and embody consciously the infiniteness of you, the universality of you. The specific, meaning what you call the body, will not disappear but it will not fascinate you anymore. You will not choose to view anything from its standpoint anymore. And it will be your body but so will the pedal of the rose, and so will the wall, and so will the tree and so will much more of the Kingdom of Heaven that isn't registering with you right now be recognized by you as part of your infinite being.

So, I want to make this clear for those who are students of the Course. The Course talks about the "happy dream" and the "real world," which is perfectly harmonious. And then it says that, "then even the real world will disappear." That is what it says. What it means is that it's like finding and having the experience of your body as the presence of energy pattern that isn't matter but is itself the idea God is expressing that identifies Himself/You. You will find it not manifesting the evidence or evidences of self-protection, not manifesting the density and therefore not manifesting or showing forth illness, capacity to die, deformity, but utter beautiful perfection.

Mind you, as I said, as this happens you will also be becoming aware of the infiniteness of you and your attention, as I said, will shift from body identification, from identifying with the specificness of you and embracing the universality of you. When this shift occurs into the universality of you being the vantage point from which you experience All That Is, as I said, the body won't disappear but it

won't be important to you anymore. It's in that sense that you could say your body will disappear because it will no longer be present in the function that you had been using as you are in this moment today. You see?

The real world will disappear only in the sense that it will not be getting your attention as an object of your attention, but will be experienced simply as an aspect of the infinitude of you as consciousness or the Mind of God that is having the idea that is the pattern that can be recognized as Creation. The use to which you had put the world will disappear because you won't be using it to define yourself or to gather data for your self-protection and you, I'm going to say, will sail merrily on your way enjoying it all from the infinite view. And that is what the Course means about even the real world disappearing.

I've said this before, it's as though you get up in the morning and you're ready to get dressed and you go to your bureau drawer with all your pretty panties there, and you pick out one, a pair, and if you're a certain kind of individual you'll be sure to pick out a pair that you won't be embarrassed being found wearing if you are in an accident. (Laughter) I use that example because people can be concerned about what underwear they're going to put on in the same way that people are concerned with their body. Nevertheless you go through the process and you put them on, you finish getting ready for the day and you don't give a second thought to your underwear. You don't even know you have them on. They disappeared, you see, but they're there. They are just not a concern. You see?

(A comment must have been made that I couldn't hear.)

Oh, no, they are of value or you wouldn't be wearing them. But they're simply not a focus of your attention. And so the world will not be a focus of your attention, being the state of mind which is able to observe and consciously embrace Creation with the intent of acknowledging what is real in it all, which is God not the form, so that you may glorify God always, which is the function of being, which is love, the form becomes secondary to the function. You see?

Now you said where are they—those who have passed on? Well, they're in the same place you are still. I mean by that that they are still in a state of ignorance of who they Are. It doesn't have a location in the universe. But where you are doesn't have location in the universe either. And I'm not going to try to explain that. Except I will say, that you're not in anything, everything is in you. All of these conscious experiences of all different sorts are occurring within consciousness, and that is dimensionless and infinite.

How much of what God is being as consciousness? How much of what God is being as divine consciousness? All that God is being as divine consciousness isn't registering with you at the moment. But that's what this shift of attention out of one's reverie, out of one's preoccupation with her underwear, that's all that's needed is that shift of attention that will begin to allow you to see the more that is right here to see. And I will keep saying this over and over, all there is to see of

Reality is here for you to see. And if you don't go home from this gathering remembering anything else, please remember that there is so much more of God's Reality to see right here than you can imagine, you will not be able to help but to find a little bit of curiosity surfacing from time to time. And I'll tell you something else, curiosity is what creates an opening in your current, firmly held definitions of everything and allows something new to register with you. That's all the more work there is to wake up is daring to be a little bit curious right here.

Now, I've gone on and on. Did I answer your question?

QUESTION: Yes, you did, and I'm eternally grateful and blessings to you.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: I'm wondering about spirit guides. All my life I've sensed the presence that was with me, sometimes more than others, but the last few years since I've been in the Course I feel like they're more with me now. And I'm just wondering who they are?

ANSWER: I'm glad you asked that question. I cannot tell you. (Laughter) I can tell you more than that, but I cannot tell you because it is your guides prerogative to be the one to tell you his or her name. And I bring this out because very often in New Age circles you will find somebody who is psychic or intuitive saying, "Oh, I can tell you your guides name." No, they can't.

Your relationship with your guide is a very intimate relationship. It is disclosed to you, its existence is disclosed to you as an experience by your guide in a response to your desire, in response to your having arrived at a point where you have a conscious desire to be in touch. And no guide will tell another person their guides name.

A very close friend of Paul and Susan's had talked with me for a number of years, and finally arrived at a point of wanting to get in touch with his guide. And when the connection occurred this fellow asked his guide what is your name. His guide said, "LeRoy." Well, this friend was very unhappy, because he had hoped to have an important guide, you see. Well, he accepted LeRoy and was disgruntled about it and for perhaps a week worked through this realizing that there had been some ego interest in having an important guide. And when he finally was at peace about it and was grateful that his guide was LeRoy, on an occasion when they were speaking LeRoy said, "okay, now try LeRoi," which is French for the King.

Now it didn't mean that he had an important guide, but the shift in pronunciation and the shift in meaning conveyed that he had a guide of quality, if you will. The reason I'm bringing this up is because even the providing of a name at the very inception of the establishing of communication can become part of the teaching/learning process, you see. And one guide never interferes with the teaching/learning process between another and his or her guide, you see.

Do you have an additional...

QUESTION: So we can have several?

ANSWER: You will always have one specific guide who is assigned to you. You all have additional—and I do not like this word—but I’m going to say, additional entities or individualities who are Awake who work on behalf in conjunction with your guide. And sometimes they will speak to you and sometimes you will never hear from them. So on occasions you will find yourself hearing from more than one. And although there is not a pecking order, as it were, a hierarchy, those working with your guide are always in harmony with the primary relationship between you and your guide.

Now, there is such love in the way things work. And because you aren’t Awake, because ego dynamics are present and operating in each of you, you will always find that the Christ Consciousness embodied as your guide will present itself to you in a manner that is perfect for you. Your guide maybe wonderfully silly. And yet through the silliness points will be brought home to you in a way that will move you and feel good to you. So do not expect your guide to sound like me. Or if your guide is particularly funny don’t say, “oh, well, this must be the ego because Raj is the example of how a guide speaks.” You see? Each of you are approached in a manner that is perfect for you. And so some of you might find that your guide is named Red Feather or Hawk Feather or Isis, whatever it is do not jump to conclusions as though having heard Raj speak you now know all about guides and what they ought to be like.

When I first spoke to Paul he didn’t know what to expect. And so he had to abide with what was happening in the communion between us. And you need to approach your communion with your guide without expectations or preconceptions. It’s going to be new for you. You don’t want to say, “well, you aren’t what I expected you to be.” You can, it won’t be offensive. But don’t even waste your time with that. Let there be open curiosity. The point is not whether your guide is who you expected them to be, but nurturing the line of communication so that it might become stronger. So that, let us say, in Paul’s case, so that if he was sitting in the front of a large group of people he wouldn’t be distracted from the line of communication. Or in other cases, so that an emergency in your life will not succeed in distracting you from the connection. Be innocent. Be as innocent as you can in your opening communion with your guidance. And don’t jump to the conclusion that something must be wrong because your guide doesn’t sound like me.

No matter what style of presentation your guide gives you will find the same lessons being provided that I would provide. And you can also count on one other thing, your guide will be Totally Awake. And therefore, although your guide’s name might not be Jesus, your guide will be a fully realized Son or Daughter of God, the Christ.

So you say, “hum, if this one is fully Awake how could it really be a him or a her?” It will be whatever you need it to be in order for you to feel the least need

for defense. Your guide will present himself/herself in whatever way nourishes and nurtures trust. And if you remember, as I said yesterday, that you never have to abandon your common sense, and it's never appropriate for you to override your integrity, whatever integrity you find that you have at the moment, then you will realize that you never have to give up control. Now I'm saying that very carefully, because all we've been talking about this weekend is giving up control.

You must know because of the prevailing fear of evil spirits that in this process of listening for guidance you are always the one in charge, and that therefore you can stop the communication any time you want. I can tell you as I did today, that no matter how enlightened or Totally Awake one is they cannot make you do anything. But you tend to be afraid of Spirits controlling you and usurping you of your authority and presence. And so I am making clear to you that first of all that is a misunderstanding of how things work. There are no such thing as evil Spirits that can overwhelm and overtake you. Secondly though, as long as there is a fear that such Spirits exist, you need to know that your guide will not take control away from you. I'll be very frank with you there have been times when Paul has cut me off. And each one of you can do that, because we can't, shall I say, inflict your good upon you, or anything else for that matter.

So I want you to know that listening for guidance is not going to put you in a position of potential vulnerability from Spirits that you would be afraid you might not be able to stand up to. You understand? And if you stay in touch with whatever degree of integrity you are feeling, and if you insist upon not stepping outside of your comfort zone until you have enlarged your comfort zone, so that you have stepped out of what it was before, then you will stay grounded in the process and you will never feel vulnerable. And this is very important to know. That's the end of the answer.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: Hi, Raj, and thank you very much.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: At the present time I'm experiencing some very troubled times in my family life. My husband is becoming very agitated and aggravated when I show signs of spiritual growth, my ego not getting involved. And I think it's quite threatening to him. And at times my ego truly does get involved and I fight back, which causes it even more havoc. It's effecting my children and I'm just wondering if I might end up on the other side sooner than I want to. I just feel like... he's made threats in that direction. And I just wanted to find out if it's true, if it's serious?

ANSWER: All of this just because of your spiritual growth?

QUESTION: Possibly not. He's been this way throughout quite a bit, and I haven't really been that spiritual throughout our relationship. But he's had a volatile temper for quite awhile.

ANSWER: How does he respond to love?

Very threatened by it. It's like I turn and I respond to him in a loving way and his attitude is very hostile and angry and hateful. It's like there's no response as far as love goes that I can see. It just makes him even more defensive.

ANSWER: He resists hugs?

QUESTION: Very much.

ANSWER: The answer to your question is the same as the answer to the first question on the first day. You must see to it that you honor your integrity and that you do not violate it by being where you are not comfortable, by continuing to be where you dishonor yourself. And it is necessary for you to have the courage to act consistent with yourself as a woman of integrity, rather than a helpless second class citizen who must take whatever she can get. And who will therefore tolerate what is unprincipled, unloving and unreasonable because she thinks she has no other right or choice.

There is a need here for you to pay attention to and use grounded common sense. And trust that in so doing everyone will be blessed, even if your husband might not be happy about it. I am not going to say anymore than that in answer to your question so that the real factors don't become confused by a lot of words.

QUESTION: Thank you. I had one more question if that's okay? My daughter wants to get out of the situation. And she's had a real difficult time with schooling and not going to school. And we were thinking about... she wanted to join the job corps and I'm wondering if... that with just a yes or no would be great, if that's a good direction for her?

ANSWER: No that is not the answer.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: I will say that the two of you need each other and have more to give each other. It's too soon for the two of you to be apart.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: Before the break we were talking about guidance. And one of the things that I was wondering about, was when I go into meditation and ask for guidance I get one phrase and it's, "do nothing." And I haven't figured out what that means yet.

ANSWER: Now you know what to ask the next time you meditate and ask for guidance, you say, "what do you mean by 'do nothing'"? In other words, participate, keep the dialog going. You see? Sometimes one overlooks the obvious. This is a circumstance where it is not appropriate for me to share with

you what it means or elaborate on it because the next step is for you to get that from your guide.

One thing I will say and that is, that since the guidance was “do nothing,” you have nothing to feel guilty for not doing. Inquire further. Express ongoing inquisitiveness.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: You’re welcome.

QUESTION: Thank you. I seem to have an amazing capacity to feel guilty. And to feel guilty about feeling guilty. And I’ve been wanting to ask you some advice about this, and so just in wanting to I’ve been listening to my own inside and one thing that I got is to love myself, just to laugh about it and be humorous about it. And what this last gentleman just asked and you advised him to be inquiring, I’m wondering if it’s something that I could inquire or have a dialog with with my guide.

ANSWER: About?

QUESTION: About guilt or feeling guilty or learning how to let go of it?

ANSWER: Of course! Of course! But I want to address this from a slightly different angle. What you need to understand, what all of you need to understand is that the ego is not able to do anything. It can threaten, but it can’t follow through. The ego is like a hypnotist, all it ever can do is make a suggestion. It can suggest that there is justification for you to feel guilty. It can suggest to you that there is justification for you to be miserable or jealous or whatever. But it cannot make you feel that way. You have to then take the ball yourself and energize it and flush it out with emotion. If you understand that when the suggestion that guilt is justified is whispered in your ear as though you were the one thinking it, that it is an invitation to become mesmerized, you would more quickly recognize it for what it was and say, “no I will not allow myself to be hypnotized.”

It’s very important to realize that the ego functions through the means of suggestions. And then it is important to understand that it’s goal is for you to become mesmerized, which is another way of saying to get you to go into a reverie or a fantasy. None of you is really interested or really willing to be subject to mind control. There’s perhaps a better phrase there, and I’ll save Paul from having to use the word but it’s called mind efting (sp ?). None of you is really willing to be involved or be subjected to that. But the ego is sly and makes its suggestion always in a way that seem to be to your advantage, or seem to be reasonable. And so you say, “yes.” And the minute you start saying “yes” you provide the energy that flushes out the suggestion and creates the illusion as though it were a fact. But when the ego says there is justification for feeling guilty it is no different from a hypnotist saying, “you have an apple stuck to your nose.”

Always the ego suggests with a whisper in your ear, so to speak, that there's justification for you to abandon your peace. And no matter what the details of the suggestion are, it is lying. Because there is no justification for losing your peace because without your peace you're not going to have the clarity to see what is really going on and to know what is really appropriate. And in the realm of reality and what is really going on, knowing what is appropriate that demonstrates that there is no problem is available to you. Knowing what is going on, experiencing what is going on and what actions are appropriate, those things are available to you in your peace. And your experience will reflect harmony and fulfillment, let us say, and not what the ego had whispered in your ear was the likely scenario that you would need to react to with guilt.

The primary thing that I want you to remember in my response to your question is that guilt is something you experience as a result of a suggestion having been whispered in your ear that there is justification for it. And it has only been a suggestion to entice you into a state of fear and it's called mind-efting, something which you have no interest in being subject to. So that when it happens you can say, "no, I'm not available, get another subject."

QUESTION: It looks to me like that would take courage sometimes. Sometimes the way that guilt seems to occur for me is it's associated with something that looks like I did wrong or some mistake. So it seems to be this evidence there...

ANSWER: What is the answer to a mistake? A correction. Two plus two equals five, mistake. Correction, two plus two equals four. The ego says, "two plus two equals five, you stupid jackass, you're never going to amount to anything. You don't have what it takes to understand simple mathematics, simple addition. Don't even try to get into division or multiplication. Don't even think about becoming an accountant." What does a mistake call for? Correction! No emotions to it. No moral judgments to it. No reflection on your character. A mistake calls for correction: Two plus two equals five. No, two plus two equals four.

QUESTION: So it doesn't really take courage. It just takes recognizing that there is an apparent need for correction?

ANSWER: Yes, there is a need for the real answer, which means you listen again, you add it up again. You do it again, paying more attention. Guilt calls your integrity into question and that is not essential to correcting a mistake.

QUESTION: Right.

ANSWER: But?

QUESTION: No, I don't have a "but." Thank you very much.

ANSWER: You are welcome. The tendency is to think that because a problem is complex or a ploy of the ego that you have succumb to is so complex that it is going to take something equally complex to extricate yourself from the

problem. If you are guilty, if you are somehow unworthy, therefore, you must do something to regain your worth. Well, that's not true. If there has been a mistake there needs to be a correction, a reevaluation of the factors without emotion. And you do not have to do something to become worthwhile again or to reestablish your integrity, because the mistake didn't call your integrity into question. The suggestion of the ego called your integrity into question.

QUESTION: So it's just a suggestion that I don't need?

ANSWER: It's a suggestion that is untrue, that you would be foolish to embrace. It also, is a suggestion which if you embrace means that you have turned authority for your experience over to a mesmerizer. The next time you feel guilty ask yourself, "did God suggest this to me?"

QUESTION: Okay.

ANSWER: The answer will always be, "no." And if God didn't suggest it to you, nothing happened, nothing of substance happened. A lie arising out of ignorance was presented invitingly to you for you to take on and energize and embody. And if you accept it and embody it in your life it will seem to be real to you. And you will seem to suffer from it until the correction is made. The correction being coming back to that point at which the suggestion was made and refusing to accept the suggestion as something you wish to embody.

QUESTION: Amazing. It's very simple.

ANSWER: I said at one point that the devil is a liar and the father of it, meaning the father of the lie. The devil is the father of the whole mess you might say. And yet the mess is a lie and therefore not true, and therefore has no governing capacity. It's always just a suggestion, "throw yourself off this cliff and prove that you are the Son of God." It's just a suggestion, because the ego has no substance with which to push you. You have to say, "Okay," and jump and then say, "the ego made me do it." All it did was suggest it. "Wouldn't it be interesting to find out what kind of invulnerability you actually have as the Son of God by jumping. Wouldn't it be fascinating to you to experience your invulnerability," you see? It always is enticing. It always makes it reasonable in some way, but still it's just a suggestion, "Wouldn't it be interesting. Why don't you do this, you know, considering such and such and such and such maybe you don't have as much reason as you thought you had to feel good about your life." It's just a suggestion. You see?

QUESTION: Yes.

ANSWER: Just like a hypnotist. And then the only thing that has presence—which is the Son of God to whom the suggestion was whispered—then the only thing which is present which is the Son of God to whom the suggestion was whispered, must take his actual presence and energy and embody enact so called substance of the suggestion, you see.

QUESTION: Yes.

ANSWER: But the ego, the devil, whatever, has no presence with which to force you to do anything, because it has no actual presence, because it's not real.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: Simply put, feeling guilty is a total waste of time.

QUESTION: I like that.

ANSWER: It has never accomplished anything. You will not find in any schools or any teaching of any sort that guilt is a valuable asset which will help you to be more productive, to be more successful. Because the fact is that guilt undermines any capacity you actually have, if it's embraced, it undermines any capacity you actually have to be successful, by undermining your direct experience of your integrity. And you become sidetracked by an apple stuck to your nose that isn't there. And then you spend days trying to pull it off and not clocking in at work and doing your job that you enjoy.

The world will not collapse and everything around you will not go into ruin if you neglect to indulge in guilt. You can simply procrastinate indulging in energizing guilt and there will never be a disastrous effect or any negative effect to it.

I want to come back to this one point, because it's the one point that you can feel some motivation around.. You're not about to let someone else mentally control you.

QUESTION: Right.

ANSWER: And so if you'll remember that the ego's role is to engage in mesmerizing you, then when suggestions of guilt or whatever are presented to you, you can recognize that an attempt at mesmerism or hypnotism is being applied to you and you won't tolerate that.

QUESTION: That's right I won't.

ANSWER: It will say you a lot of grief. No, it will leave your time free to have a great deal of joy.

QUESTION: That's wonderful.

ANSWER: You have two advisors and only two: The Voice for Truth and the voice for fear—the voice for the ego. The voice for the ego is nothing more than the suggestion of the presence of a mesmerizer making suggestions. It isn't really there doing anything. That's why making the choice for the Voice for Truth is so transformational, because not only does it seem to eradicate the effects of mesmerism it also demonstrates the fact that there isn't a mesmerizer actually present to be a voice for anything. And that's why there is real emancipation—emancipation from suffering.

So from now on if you're going to talk about the ego, “oh the ego this, and the ego that, and the ego the other thing,” you can afford not to be so light hearted about it. It's the ego whose intent is to mesmerize. It's not your friend, so don't speak too lightly about it. You can say, “there goes my ego again,” in order to

acknowledge that something is going on that you don't want to become subject to. But don't be too casual about it, "there goes the ego again trying to be the presence of that which has my misery as its goal." It's not an enemy. I do not mean to be giving it power, or to make it sound too threatening. What I do want you to understand is that its goal is to distract you from the joy of being and to distract you from experiencing your function as the presence of Love. And the only means it has with which to do that are suggestions, which can have absolutely no power over you at all.

So it is as though I am saying there is a threat to your existence that has no substance to it, no capacity to carry out any threats to your existence and therefore you can gain freedom from any potential susceptibility to it by understanding what I've just said about it. You will not become free of the guilt by proving your innocence. You will become free of the guilt by neglecting to listen to the suggestion that screws up your perception. You see?

QUESTION: Yes.

ANSWER: What I have said is not confusing, even though you may have to listen to the tape a number of times. But it's the answer. It's everyone's answer.

Another thing I hope all of you go home from this gathering remembering or having a sense of is that what it takes to wake up is any of a number of really simple things. And that it doesn't take a tremendous amount of effort and skill and persistence and the acquiring of some sort of spiritual power to overcome the devil. If this begins to register with you, you will begin to become curious about what are the simple things. "Wow, let me have God, one of these simple experiences." You see?

I also want to tell you that although I have used a lot of words, the real meaning of what I have been expressing has been reaching you through channels other than my words—through Love. So you don't even have to worry about whether you can remember everything that was said. That doesn't mean that I have been whispering suggestions into your subconscious and taking away your authority and integrity. It means that I've been talking to you as my brothers and sisters, my equals. And I've been talking to you as my equals and not as piss-ant mortals who need to grow up and improve in order to become equal to me. And the experience of sitting with a brother whose treating you like a brother and a sister has more impact and more meaning in terms of undoing a mired of false concepts than any words that I might use.

I've told Paul that if he's afraid of what I might be going to say to him, then I will just sit here and say, "blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah." Because it's not about the words. It's about the communion. It's about the Brotherhood. It's about the undeniable and unchangeable unity that it is our Birthright to be experiencing and which is a fact that is available to be experienced at every moment.

So who has a question?

QUESTION: Thank you for seeing my waving arm. My question is short and the answer should be just “yes” or “no.” I mean it doesn’t take a lot of explanation. You were talking about the spirit guides contacting us before. My question is and before I ask it, well I’ll ask it first.

ANSWER: I thought it was a short question?

QUESTION: I haven’t got to it yet! Does our loved one’s that have passed on before us can they or do they contact us? And the reason I’m asking is a few months ago I had a voice on my answering machine that I swear was my husband. And I want to know if it is possible or am I dreaming. That’s all I want to know, “yes” or “no.”

ANSWER: Yes.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: “Yes” I was dreaming or “yes” it’s possible?

ANSWER: Neither one. Yes it was your husband. Wipe that silly grin off your face.

QUESTION: Hi, Raj.

ANSWER: Good afternoon.

QUESTION: Could you say something about the difference between co-dependence and being the Presence of Love?

ANSWER: Are you implying that there is in any way a similarity?

QUESTION: There’s ultimate confusion in my mind.

ANSWER: When love is something that one uses to get, what follows is co-dependency. When love is given, it is love. It’s as simple as that.

QUESTION: I’ll try to remember that. Thank you, Raj.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: Hello, Raj.

ANSWER: Good afternoon.

QUESTION: Thank you very much for being here. My question is one that has to do with experience of profound illumination. There were three or four of us talking about the subject yesterday and comparing notes. It seems that some of us, particularly myself, I had a profound illumination. And it happened at a time when I didn’t think I had an active spiritual bone in my body.

ANSWER: Isn’t that wonderful.

QUESTION: But it happened...

ANSWER: Excuse me...

QUESTION: Sure.

ANSWER: This is not an uncommon experience. And what makes it wonderful is because it demonstrates that so many people have that they have to

become spiritually prepared for enlightenment, or they have to study for it in order to bring it about are off the track. Illumination will occur in moments of utter defenselessness. And it has nothing to do with education or skill or knowledge or anything else. A baby can have it. An idiot can have it. A highly educated person can have it. That's why all of you can be hopeful.

QUESTION: That kind of leads to the rest of my question and that is that the experience is so profound and it was such a massive inflow of love and peace that it totally transformed my life. It flip-flopped it. I had a profound physical as well as spiritual heeding. Since then I've had occasion to work with a lot of people on a basis of friendship as well as those that have been ill, and I've tried to explain to them, even though I guess it's not my part to try to do so, what I have been through in hopes that they could experience something similar. Because I believe that, Raj, if everybody in this room could experience what I experienced and what probably perhaps some of the other people's experience, the process of all of us coming to a collective consciousness that is One with God would be so much more faster and so much more, I don't want to say the word easier, but for lack of another word. Because I don't see how anybody could resist wanting to become closer to God once they have an experience like this. But it doesn't seem to happen that easily. I'm talking about people that are deathly sick and they seem to really put out a conscious effort, if you will, to make this communion. But it doesn't happen.

My question is, I guess, why doesn't it happen more often? And is there anything that we can do other than to impart love to help another one along the way when we feel that there may be a need and are guided to do so?

ANSWER: What more than the totality of what love is is there for you to share with your brother? Please don't refrain from sharing your experience with others. Just don't become a Zealot. You know when you have shared it there is a humility in the sharing, because you are less conscious of yourself sharing it than you are of remembering the experience. And in remembering the experience the wholeness or holiness of it ends up being communicated. And whether the person hearing it can believe it or not something in them is touched about you—something in them is touched about you. And that about you which has touched them makes them want to have an experience that allows them to feel like they see and hear you are feeling as you share your experience. It is called witnessing. But witnessing can become a career for some people. And that's not what it's about. But that doesn't mean that witnessing is a poor activity to engage in.

This is the kind of news that everyone needs to hear more of. Many people have the experience thinking no one else has had the experience and so they keep their mouth shut. When other's share it they feel relief, not only because they don't feel like odd-balls, but because they can begin to see that there is a

Movement afoot in the world because people are beginning to have these experiences. And more and more they'll speak up.

Now, as you have found out, although you've had the experience you can't make it happen again.

QUESTION: That's right.

ANSWER: But I will tell you that because you've had the experience and you know it is there to be had, you are more open to it and it will happen again. That's the simplest way I can put it. And in your sharing with other's that it has happened and because of the connection that occurs between you and the person you share it with, although it might seem unbelievable to that person, it is not an idea that is foreign to them and it makes it easier for it to happen to them. But it always happens in a moment of defenselessness. And unfortunately few of you feel defenseless unless you are in a very dire circumstance in which you feel totally hopeless. And in that moment you can't muster up any feeling of self-confidence to even defend.

And so it has been said that "man's extremity is God's opportunity," or, "it's always darkest before the dawn." Why? Because in that moment of crisis, as I mentioned day before yesterday, in that moment of crisis is where you feel powerless, lacking the energy to put up a front any longer, a falsity, a farce about yourself. All of those things constitute your defenses. So in this place of utter exhaustion that feels like the end of the world, you arrive at a state that you could call normalcy, divine normalcy. You arrive at the point where you know you're a puppet on a string, and you can't try to manage to prove to the world that you have no strings. And in that moment where you are innocent of trying to do the impossible, revelation occurs. And as I said, once it has occurred, even if you don't stay with it and the experience seems to pass, you're forever changed. Never again can you be in as much of the dark as you were before. And so you are less dense mentally and because you know the experience is true you are open to another experience of truth and hopefully your next point of defenselessness won't be in a crisis, but will happen in a more comfortable circumstance. But it will come.

How many people in this room have had one or more experiences of what they would call illumination? I want you all to look around at each other. I want you all to see how many there are. It's happening. Does that answer your question?

QUESTION: Sure does. Thank you.

ANSWER: Is there anyone here who has a burning question, which if they didn't ask it they would feel severely disappointed?

QUESTION: Okay, my question is about pain. How do we go about releasing long-lasting pain? X-rays have proved the reason but can't seem to

find the answer. After innumerable doctors, innumerable medication and exercise the pain effects the everyday activities, but can't seem to find release.

ANSWER: Very literally I want you to write on your refrigerator, "it is the intent of my body to identify the presence of my Individuality perfectly."

Now, something new for you to write down, a separate statement: "I authorize my body to release whatever is not necessary to its perfect functioning, and I withdraw any prior conscious or unconscious authorization to the contrary." I will say it over again, "I authorize my body to release whatever is not necessary to its perfect functioning, and I withdraw any prior conscious or unconscious authorization to the contrary." And then I want you to remember what I said about your body or form being nothing more than energy pattern that is perfectly fluid, so that you might understand that there is no matter that has to physically adjust in order for the pattern to reconfigure. You understand what I mean? So there need be no delay.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: You are welcome. Anyone else who doesn't want to go home without... Let me tell you what I have afoot. As soon as we are through with questions, we will take the remaining amount of time until six o'clock for a healing session—a quiet time in which, what has been referred to as the healing team will work with each one of you as you sit there quietly. Knowing that, who still has a question. I am not dissuading you from having a question.

QUESTION: My question is somebody else's question, but it is truly a "yes" or "no" answer. Have you ever at any time either before or after the crucifixion physically been in North America.

ANSWER: Yes.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: When I say that I have been physically here, I mean that I have been here in form.

QUESTION: You can answer this "yes" or "no" too. In the twelve step programs they have a tool they use called "acting as if," and I was wondering if "acting as if" will help progress us on our spiritual path like they say in the "Journey Without Words," do this and you'll save yourself a thousand years?

ANSWER: Certainly acting as if you are Love will be beneficial.

QUESTION: This could be short too I'm sure. In the workbook lessons you talk about the great rays and God and all His Thoughts. And I think it may...

ANSWER: You're right. It is going to be a short answer because it is not yet time for me to address that.

QUESTION: Okay, thank you. I thought it might tie in with the healing though, so that's why I asked it.

ANSWER: I understand.

QUESTION: I just want to say so many questions are being answered I think of them and I'm getting the answer. It's really neat. But is it any of my business if my father is reincarnated?

ANSWER: No, he is not. And he is not likely to do it again.

QUESTION: I didn't think so. Oh, thank you.

QUESTION: Hello, this is quick. The gentleman who raise the question...

ANSWER: I do not want to rush you.

QUESTION: Okay. The gentleman who raised the question about guilt and then your extensive answer seemed like it really settled in for me. So my question is could most of what you answered to us on that question be applied to worry?

ANSWER: It can apply equally to any of the suggestions that the ego makes to distract you from your peace. Yes.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: I just had a quick question. I have a niece who has Down Syndrome. And I had a question on children that have down syndrome. It seems like she sees something other than we do. And I had a question: Is that true?

ANSWER: Very often that is true, yes.

QUESTION: Thank you, very short. Is twin reincarnated now and is there anything I need to know about it?

ANSWER: No and no.

QUESTION: Thank you.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: Hi, again. In one of the tapes that I borrowed from Helen—I don't remember if it was Australia or not—but there was a comment from you sir, that there would not be anymore reincarnations. Did I misunderstand that particular tape, like anyone passing over from that time, whatever '89, '80 whatever, to the present time, up to 2012 there will be no more reincarnations from anyone passing over as we know it?

ANSWER: What I indicated was that the time is coming shortly when no one will be returning. There obviously are those still returning because you have births everyday. But there is a point at which it will stop.

QUESTION: And does that also entail like those like Elijah who just went zip up or whatever? Or is it Elijah, maybe I'm getting my scriptures wrong? Where there's people that don't know what we call our dimensional death? Did I say it right, or is it confusing? In other words, there will be no death?

ANSWER: Oh, you'd better believe that there are many here who will not go through a death process, yes.

QUESTION: Great! Thank you very much.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: Hi, Raj. I asked a question a few years ago about if I should try to locate my brother. And at that time the answer was “no.” And I don’t know if he’s still alive now. And sometimes I do feel guilty, like maybe that was just for then and maybe I should try to locate him. Is there anything you could say about that, if I should try to locate him?

ANSWER: It is still not appropriate.

So it’s okay that I didn’t until now?

ANSWER: That is correct.

QUESTION: All right, thank you.

QUESTION: I’m feeling a little ridiculous about this, but it’s so obvious to me: The gold birds that are behind you, all six of them are looking like they’re suspended in space, they’re not glued to the wall like I’ve always seen them. And what is happening? What is this about?

ANSWER: It is for you an experience of illumination. You are experiencing the idea that was given expression in the form. You are not being preoccupied with the form, but what you could call the artists intent, the idea, which with love was expressed in this form. You see? I’m very glad you are having this experience.

QUESTION: I keep looking at them and they’re still suspended, they haven’t gone back to the wall or the podium. And it’s making a sense of awe, a-w-e, and a oneness. Thank you, Raj.

ANSWER: You are welcome.

QUESTION: This may be another short one you could probably tell me you can’t answer it. But thank you for letting me ask it. I’ve heard about groups who may incarnate together and all that sort of thing. And to increase their learning and expressions and all that. And if so...

ANSWER: Ahhhh, my, my, my, my. I don’t want to hear the rest of the question. I only mean this, you don’t incarnate in groups. You don’t wake up in groups. Experience is always individual. It’s that simple.

QUESTION: Thank you, that is all. Thank you very much.

ANSWER: I was not impatient with you. It is some of the ideas that...

QUESTION: No I’m just impatient, cause I know what is coming...

ANSWER: It is some of the ideas that get expressed are so ridiculous.

QUESTION: But that’s thrown around so much that I thought I wanted to talk to you.

ANSWER: Yes, I understand. You hear of group souls and group entities and so on. Groupness is still separateness. And so it’s still an ego concept and not representation of an experience of enlightenment.

It has been my blessing and my pleasure to be able to be with all of you during this gathering. And I thank you all for being you. And I look forward to the opportunity to do this again here.

Thank you, again.