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The HOLY ENCOUNTER



JULY / AUGUST 2023
A Miracle Distribution Center Publication

...when you meet anyone, remember
it is a holy encounter.

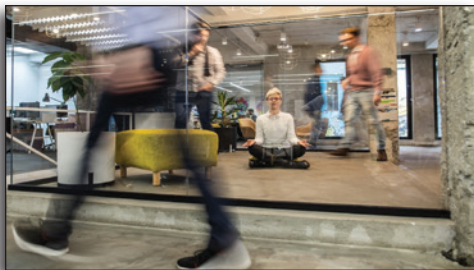


Cultivate a Consciousness of Peace

by Beverly Hutchinson McNeff

The world is never without chaos. Whether it is current wars in our world, conflicts in relationships, or personal upset in our lives, there are plenty of opportunities for worry and concern.

You might be wondering, "What can I do?" That question really has two layers.



The first is: "What can I (little ol' me) do to make a difference in the 'big picture' (globally)?" And the second: "What can I do right now in my life (personally)?"

I think dealing with the second question really is the answer to the first. Our egos would want us to believe that finding peace in our personal lives is just ignoring the "big picture," but *A Course in Miracles* would tell us that ignoring the experience of peace in our everyday lives and relationships in favor of the "big picture" out there is what got us into the problem we now

experience: the feelings of inadequacy, anger, hate, and hopelessness.

The Course advocates something radically different than the world. It does not ask us to fight against the issues in the world but rather to support the presence of peace. That means looking at the daily compromises to peace that we all make ... the anger we have in traffic, the judgments about those in "power," the frustrations we have over day-to-day issues that we allow to rob us of our peace. We hand over our peace daily and then wonder why our world leaders can't find a

peaceful solution. We need to start being the leaders of peace by making peace a priority in our daily lives. We need to stop waiting for others to be nice to us and for the world and our

lives to change before peace can be found within.

In a recent email, author Marianne Williamson asked, "What would Martin Luther King Jr. do in the face of our world situation?" She then answered her query with King's words,

"The Course advocates something radically different than the world. It does not ask us to fight against the issues in the world but rather to support the presence of peace."

Continued on page 14

Beverly is the co-founder and president of MDC, one of the longest-running organizations based on *A Course in Miracles*. As a student, lecturer and author on the Course since 1977, her streamed weekly commentaries on Course principles have become an inspirational study and spiritual family for many around the world. View her free weekly livestream meetings at miraclecenter.org

Healing Livestreams

The Center began with a small study group at a local church, only to grow into our own Center and then grow beyond form as more *A Course in Miracles* students joined us each week via our livestream broadcasts. In the last year, we have been



joined by over 214,000 viewers watching on phones, tablets,

and desktop computers in over 137 countries (shaded in blue on the map), including remote areas like Afghanistan, Ukraine, and Swaziland!

Each week we create an experience of the Course that touches hearts and minds in miraculous ways. Here's what Monica in Nairobi, Kenya, recently shared...

"The Livestream starts here in Nairobi at 5 a.m., which is a perfect start to my day. Watching is such a blessing. I felt the strength of God today as I navigate this crazy maze that my mind has made up. I felt a fundamental shift occur in my mind. I will join regularly!"

Join us on **Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. (PT)** for our free livestream, or become a subscriber to watch anytime with access to over 450 archived meetings. Go to: www.miraclecenter.org

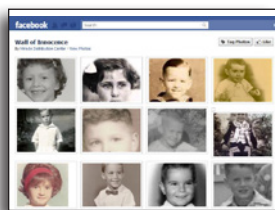
What's Happening...with the Course and the Center

For more Information go to
miraclecenter.org or call **714-632-9005**

● **Hugh and Gayle Prather are walking home to God together.** Gayle passed into her next experience of life eternal on May 22, 2023. Her husband, Hugh, passed suddenly in 2010. Gayle had been in hospice for the last two months; she passed peacefully at home. We were honored to have shared their practical message of peace and healing with readers of **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER** and conference-goers on many occasions starting in 1987. We will miss her loving presence, but we are so glad that she is no longer limited by a body that could not serve her mighty spirit. She is free!



● **You say it's your birthday?** Discover what Troy Duvall in Georgia did. *"I realized on Facebook I could celebrate my birthday by inviting a donation to MDC. Great idea. Love it."* Or what Joyce Miles in Florida did. For her 84th birthday, she donated 84 dollars and shared that she reads **THE**



HOLY ENCOUNTER every morning. We hope you consider this birthday challenge, and we will thank you

personally in **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER**.

● **Wall of Innocence** – It is incredible the

smiles we see on people's faces when they look at their childhood photos. They remember their innocence, and if they can remember theirs, perhaps they can think that way about people who tempt them to anger. No matter what we have done, our innocence can never be lost. It is time for us to awaken to that truth. We invite you to include your childhood photo on our Wall of Innocence. Click on our website's "Services" page to find it. Then add your photo and watch our wall grow with love and innocence.

● **Retreat Experience** – Last chance to come be with us this year! Now is the perfect time to reserve your place at our next **Holy Encounter Retreat August 18- 20, 2023**. "I've enjoyed this weekend tremendously, being around so many loving people, feeling such love for them, and getting so much wonderful wisdom! It's just been wonderful. Plus, being in such a beautiful space, too, it's so gorgeous." These retreats give students time to go deeper into the experience of *A Course in Miracles* while enjoying the peaceful setting of the incredible ranch property. If you are ready for a transforming experience, we encourage you to join us. See the facing page for more details. Space is limited and some room types will sell out.

● **"Despite owning hundreds of smooth jazz CDs, I prefer listening to Beverly reading passages from ACIM on CD as I drive. (Yes, I still have a CD player in my car!)"**

Driving in Central Florida is made easier by listening to 'ACIM's greatest hits' read by my favorite teacher, Beverly." We want to thank Linda for her comments and, yes, we still



have CDs too, while they last! This series of seven recordings featuring the Course and Steven Halpern's healing music, each deal with a unique concept in the Course. Currently, each CD is on sale for \$1 each, but you can download for free all of the recordings as our gift to you. Just visit our website.

● **Wristband Reminders** – We can all use reminders that we are not alone, so why not put a reminder on your wrist? Course quotes on these wristbands include: "The peace of God is my one goal," "I Am Entitled to Miracles," and so many more. Each of the eight bands is a unique color and quote. Order one or all eight as a set and join in the awakening! To see the collection, visit our online store.



● **"The memory of God comes to the quiet mind,"** says *A Course in Miracles*. When we take those quiet moments during the day to have faith that God can and will settle every problem now, we call upon the power of the universe, the power of love to work miracles in our lives. We invite you to stop and join us each day at **4:30 pm (Pacific Time)** for a moment of prayerful support for yourself, your loved ones, and everyone in the prayer ministry. Thoughts for:

July: "My part is essential to God's plan for salvation." (Lesson 100)

August: "I will there be light." (Lesson 73)

September: "God is my strength. Vision is His gift." (Lesson 42)

Our 2023 Bookmark is Available!

Thoughts in the Miracle Prayer Ministry 2023
Each day at 4:30 p.m. (Pacific Time) we stop for a moment of prayer as we join our minds with God for the healing of all his children. We hope these lessons from the Workbook of A Course in Miracles will serve as a guide for your prayerful joining.

January: I am as God created me. (94)	July: My part is essential to God's plan for salvation. (100)
February: Love created me like itself. (67)	August: I will there be light. (73)
March: Light and joy and peace abide in me. (93)	September: God is my strength. Vision is His gift. (42)
April: I am sustained by the Love of God. (50)	October: Let me remember I am one with God. (24)
May: God's Voice speaks to me all through the day. (49)	November: I thank my Father for His gifts to me. (123)
June: I am as God created me. (130)	December: I am as God created me. (162)

If you have a prayer request, please send it to: prayer@miraclecenter.org • Include a postal address for a personal response

Request your **FREE** full-color bookmark today which lists all the thoughts in the prayer ministry for 2023.

call **714-632-9005** or at **miraclecenter.org**

AUGUST 18-20, 2023

Holy Encounter Retreat



This retreat is designed to help students not just talk about A Course in Miracles but to experience deeply its healing power. Through lectures, meditation, group sharing, music, and laughter, you will be helped to see, and look beyond, the limitations of this world and experience the possibility of God in every aspect of your life.



Beverly Hutchinson McNeff

is an international lecturer, author, and founder of the Center. She brings over forty years of Course study to this weekend that will leave you

with the tools and understanding you'll need to experience miracles in your life.

Known for her ability to take seemingly complex lessons and reveal their truth and simplicity, Beverly will help you open up to the worth and beauty inside you now.

"I came away with down-to-earth principles that helped me make sense of things in terms of forgiveness, judgment, etc. The environment and food were great... I just had a great time overall!"



**Register Today!
Space is
Limited**



"Beverly made the Course so easy to understand. I'm always getting this message that the Course is so hard and she makes it so simple."

The **Holy Encounter Retreat** will be held at the majestic RW Ranch Spiritual Retreat Center in Lucerne Valley, California. Sessions will be conducted in comfortable meeting rooms and time for reflection and meditation may be experienced in various landscaped parks, intimate flower gardens, beside a tumbling stream, or peaceful ponds... each offering

privacy, seclusion, and a distinctive setting.

Everything is included: the week-end retreat activities, well-appointed lodging, and six organic, chef-prepared meals. Our caring and experienced staff, coupled with an oasis in the heart of Southern California, will

provide you a safe and wonderful atmosphere for learning and sharing – a weekend where you can truly spend time on your own internal healing.

Please join us as we take a "journey without distance" to find that even in a world of chaos, our goal of peace and forgiveness has never changed.



Register now, space is limited. Price includes all retreat activities, six organic meals, and lodging.



To register visit miraclecenter.org or call 800-359-ACIM (2246)





Miracle Musings...

Self-Realization and Beyond

by Paul McNeff

"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5: 43-45)

"Your brother's sinlessness is given you in shining light, to look on with the Holy Spirit's vision and to rejoice in along with Him. For peace will come to all who ask for it with real desire and sincerity of purpose, shared with the Holy Spirit and at one with Him on what salvation is. Be willing, then, to see your brother sinless, that Christ may rise before your vision and give you joy." (T-20.VIII.3)

During a particularly challenging time of my personal life, I was dramatically impacted when I discovered the Hindu-influenced spiritual teachings of Paramahansa Yogananda through his seminal work, *Autobiography of a Yogi*. At first, I was wary of reading it. As an ordained Baptist minister coming from a lifelong devotion to fundamentalist Christianity, Eastern religions were considered heretical. Opening your mind in meditation was tantamount to opening it up to the devil.

Yogananda's teachings appeared to be different from what I thought. He introduced meditation as a tool for waking to higher consciousness, a concept he called self-realization. As he said, it is the "knowing – in body, mind, and soul – that we are one with the omnipresence of God." He taught that we all have the potential for spiritual awakening, and the motivation for this is not out of the fear of escaping hell but the joy of gaining heaven once we get our ego-self out of the

way and allow the Christ consciousness to shine through.

About a year after reading *Autobiography of a Yogi*, I came across *A Course in Miracles* and was astonished at how parallel the teachings were. The Course idea of self-realization posits a very similar and profound teaching,

"I am one Self, united with my Creator, at one with every aspect of creation, and limitless in power and in peace."
(W-95.11)

While visiting the United Kingdom over the New Year's holiday this year, Beverly, Jeff, and I had a chance to take in many London sites, including the Abbey Road studios and Liverpool, the holy grail of the

Beatles' beginnings. We toured their birthplaces, got drinks at the Cavern Club (the continuously operated local night club that helped to launch the Beatles' career), and visited

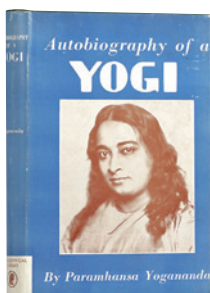
the geographical locations which served as inspiration for two of their No. 1 hits, "Penny Lane," and "Strawberry Fields Forever." Our final stop was The Beatles Story Exhibition/Museum, where we marveled at Beatles memorabilia and learned more of the musical back stories that contributed to the Fab Four's consistent ranking as

the greatest rock and roll band of all time.

While at the museum, I discovered that George Harrison had also been profoundly influenced by the spiritual teachings of Paramahansa Yogananda. Just as a friend had gifted me Yogananda's book, so too had Harrison been given the book by his friend and renowned sitarist, Ravi Shankar. Shankar became a sitar mentor to Harrison and, perhaps a lesser-known fact, became his spiritual guru as well. Harrison's music quite often employed the sitar, and his song lyrics were often influenced by self-realization concepts. His "Within You Without You" and "The Inner Light" are exquisite examples.

Just as self-realization helps us awaken to the Christ presence in our lives, *A Course in Miracles* encourages us to take a step further. To truly know our divine nature, we must also recognize the sinlessness in our fellow human beings. This is perhaps one of the most challenging lessons to learn. My ego rails at the thought of loving my so-called enemies and anyone with whom I hold a grievance. After all, they are not worth it... and my "righteous" judgments go on and on. Seeing my brother's "sinlessness" is beyond my abilities, something not worthy of my striving for. But, miracle of miracles, the Course steps up and specifically guides us on how to do this.

"Do you not want to know your own Identity? Would you not happily exchange your doubts for certainty? Would you not willingly be free of misery, and learn again of joy? Your holy relationship offers all this to you. As it was given you, so will be its effects. And as its holy purpose was not made by you, the means by which its happy end is yours is also not of you. Rejoice in what is yours but for the



"But Yogananda's teachings were different. He introduced meditation as a tool for waking up to higher consciousness, a concept he called self-realization."

Paul McNeff is married to MDC's founder and has been a student of the Course since 1986. He is a professional singer and conductor and holds a master's degree in vocal performance. In 1997, along with Beverly, he founded *KidSingers*, an inner-city, afterschool children's chorus. The program has won many awards and been featured on *Good Morning America*. Learn more at: www.kidsingers.org

asking, and think not that you need make either means or end. All this is given you who would but see your brother sinless. All this is given, waiting on your desire but to receive it. Vision is freely given to those who ask to see.” (T-20.VIII.2)

Am I reading that right? The Course astutely teaches that the ego always speaks first. Its voice is caustically suggesting, “You’ve got to be kidding! You mean my worthless enemy can be seen as a holy relationship?” The Course answers this question with a point of clarity. This holy relationship with our perceived enemy is not made by me, and how it can be transformed is also not of my ego-making. What is needed for transformation, however, does not always require hours in meditation or whipping our ego into compliance; rather, it is ours for the asking. Again, the ego answers, “Nothing can be that easy.”

At this point in our inner dialogue, let’s stop. Return to that little willingness. That’s all that is required. Throughout the Course, it repeatedly says the decision is up to you. Do you want happiness? Do you want peace? Do you want salvation from this insane world of ego? “All this is given, waiting on your desire but to receive it.”

And to finish it off, let’s put the icing on the cake...

“Your brother’s sinlessness is given you in shining light, to look on with the Holy Spirit’s vision and to rejoice in along with Him... And place no value on your brother’s body, which holds him to illusions of what he is. It is his desire to see his sinlessness, as it is yours. And bless the Son of God in your relation-

ship, nor see in him what you have made of him.” (T-20.VIII.3)

A little strategy I learned several years ago for applying spiritual vision to transform one’s enemy is one the Course teaches with great coherence. If you are having



“While I had been gifted Yogananda’s book by a friend, so too had Harrison been gifted the book by his friend and renowned sitarist, Ravi Shankar.”

trouble seeing the person with whom you have a grievance as sinless, quiet your mind from worldly distractions and go inward to the place of eternal, unconditional love. From that sacred space of willingness, see that person you are having issues with in bodily form. See their face. Simultaneously recall the face of any other person who immediately evokes joy from you. What works for me is seeing my son’s face

as a happy, cute, and adorable one-year-old. Now see them both in your mind and let the beautiful face of your loved one slowly meld into the face of the other. Stay silent and just let it be. Gently step out of the way and ask for true vision. Let it rest. Be willing to wait; eventually, you will see the sinlessness of your brother arise out of the ash heap of the ego and into the light of truth.



And remember this the next time you feel the enemy approaching,

“When you have looked on what seemed terrifying, and seen it change to sights of loveliness and peace; when you have looked on scenes of violence and death, and watched them change to quiet views of gardens under open skies, with clear, life-

giving water running happily beside them in dancing brooks that never waste away; who need persuade you

to accept the gift of vision? And after vision, who is there who could refuse what must come after? Think but an instant just on this; you can behold the holiness God gave His Son. And never need you think that there is something else for you to see.” (T-20.VIII.11)

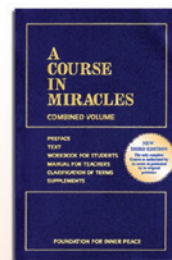
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Recognizing Spirit

Inspirational Psychology on Letting Go of Fear-Based Stories

by Lee Jampolsky, Ph.D.

Lost in the drama of our story, we forget who we are. This is our only real problem; losing sight of love, we make up fear-based stories about who we are and blindly defend this false identity.

Many years ago, I knew a Hollywood director. He was best known for a series of action B-movies with a well-known star. The director told me that the actor had difficulty separating his character from his life and that sometimes he believed his role as a spy was his real identity, even after the filming was complete. If anybody broached the dynamic with the actor, he would respond with rationalizations to substantiate the story. If this did not work, the actor became angry and defensive.

Though this was many years ago, the example often comes to mind to remind me: Be careful not to forget who you are and defend who you are not.

The ego is master at leading you to forget you are love, make up a story that is not true, and then defend the falsity. Though you may not think of yourself as a storyteller, you are if you have an ego. The ego is always in the background creating dramatic stories full of betrayal, deceit, and being done wrong; all fear-based in some way. Therefore, *A Course in Miracles* is a means of forgetting what has no meaning (fear-based stories) and remembering what does (the true identity of love). To this end, forgiveness aims to remember

only the loving acts and thoughts we gave, those given to us, and forget the rest. It is worth noting that forgiveness helps us let go of what the ego tells us to hold on to.

The more attention I gave to the elaborate drama, “The Story of Lee,” the deeper I fell into a perpetual forgetfulness of love. Fortunately, in the 1970s, I became a student of the Course, and it has helped me remember and reclaim my tender heart, the heart we all share, and the gentleness of the Holy Spirit that you may feel as you read these words.

The drama of your story and the world can lure you in until you forget and behave like the actor in the director’s story, believing your role is who you are.

Simply put, our story, which includes the world around us, makes us forget who we are. The Holy Spirit offers us a way home, remembering

through forgiveness. But the ego continues to do its best to take you on a long and wild ride of distractions and temptations to divert you from your function of forgiveness. Yet, the Holy Spirit’s patience is far more powerful than the ego’s distractions, and distractions become less until only love remains.

Without the awareness of love, we believe we are something else, often treating ourselves poorly with sharp internal dialogue. Over the years, I have helped people who initially saw themselves this way – convinced that who they are, deep down, was flawed, and no amount of self-improvement or spiritual

practice would make them any different. At one time, I, too, believed this to be true about myself. Such a belief is built by our ego, fueling a well-hidden fear that in the very center of our being lurks something flawed, broken, somehow deficient, void, less than, not good enough, or worse. How successful you are in the world does not make you immune to such feelings: many people who, on a surface level, are wildly successful also feel this way. The Course teaches us that all of this horror show is nothing but the ego keeping us from being aware of love; our self-condemnation keeps us from looking within deeply, and how can we remember who we are if we don’t look? Thus, the state of forgetfulness persists.

The way home is always within us. The Course says, “Enlightenment is but a recognition, not a change at all.” (W-188.1) Each lesson in the Course helps us live in this recognition of love. We remember who we are. We remember who we all are. We remember we are One.

To further help release our fear-based stories and remove the blocks to the awareness of love, I close with seven quotes from the Course and my suggestions for deeper contemplation. I suggest using one a day for a week. Then, after each reading, say a short prayer from the Course:

“Let me accept the strength God offers me and see no value in this world, [or fear-based view of myself] that I may find my freedom and deliverance.”
(W-130.8:6)

1. “You are never upset for the reason you think.” (W-7.1:7)

You may want to feel happier, but negative beliefs about yourself are difficult to change because your ego tells you the past is real and determines almost every-



“The ego is master at leading you to forget you are love, make up a story that is not true, and then defend the falsity.”

thing about you. The beliefs about yourself are almost always rooted in the past, and it is rare to question them. Your view of time keeps you tied to a self that has nothing to do with who you truly are. To find peace, you need new ideas about time. Ask yourself today what you know about yourself except what you learned in the past. Would you have any idea of who you are without your past learning? Was this “learning” reflective of God’s love or based on trauma, judgments, and falsehoods? Do you, then, see yourself as God sees you?

2. “To forgive is merely to remember only the loving thoughts you gave in the past, and those that were given you. All the rest must be forgotten.” (T-17.III.1)

You may not realize all that goes into your misperceptions about who you are; all the frightening and painful stories you believe are inescapably defining. Perhaps the Course can be best described as a means to choose between the ego and God, and you are *always* choosing between them. The ego seeks to reinforce itself by bringing you what it perceives as like itself. The good news is that holiness does the same. Always available to you is a means to choose holiness and forgiveness. My father used to say that the reason for forgiveness is to enter “celestial amnesia,” a state where all but loving thoughts are forgotten. Celestial amnesia transforms the past, so it no longer conflicts with *now*.

3. “What you see reflects your thinking, and your thinking but reflects your choice of what you want to see.” (W-130.1)

The above quote can be confusing at first, not because it is complex but because it is the most comprehensive statement of self-responsibility that somebody can make, and this is the last thing the ego wants. Such profound responsibility is central to the teachings of the Course. The ego uses fear to make you blind to this

level of responsibility, and this is its primary weapon: “That which you fear to see you cannot see.” Fear hides in the shadows, obscuring what is always there: love. Begin your commitment to finding love in every moment and situation by asking for a power far greater than your own to reveal who you are. Make the decision you will no longer believe in a story of yourself that leaves you holding hate and self-condemnation in your heart.

4. “Let no defenses but your present trust direct the future, and this life becomes a meaningful encounter with the truth that only your defenses would conceal.” (W-135.19)

It is difficult to question being defensive because you believe your defenses keep you safe. But, when you are being defensive, are you happy? Of course not. This is why the Course teaches that defenses always bring what they were meant to guard against. Key to all in the Course is love needs no defense. When you are defenseless, you become a beacon of light that brings healing, including to yourself. Perhaps one day we will all see that our defenses get us nothing we want and only terrify, and we will set aside our burdensome habit of defending a self that is not who we are.

5. “Miracles occur naturally as expressions of love. The real miracle is the love that inspires them. In this sense everything that comes from love is a miracle.” (T-1.1.3)

How often do you let your light shine? If, like most people, only sometimes. In our world, complaining and focusing on our problems seems much more acceptable than stepping back and letting love shine through us. But, when

you do, people around you often also start to. This is true in all of our relationships. When you shine love instead of complaining or being part of a problem, you inspire others to do the same. As we let go of our fear-based stories, our light becomes brighter and, in turn, liberates others from their false and negative internal narratives. The ego’s use of fear keeps us worried about the future or stuck in the past. With the Holy Spirit’s help, we can acknowledge our fear and realize that right now, in the present moment, we can give and receive love. Right now, we can accomplish this miracle of choosing to love. As we do, we become less anxious and tense, and we start to see the goodness in ourselves and others. So, the next time you’re about to judge someone or yourself, decide instead to see the light of love in both of you. As you express love to others, you will inspire and bring more love forth.

6. “Love holds no grievances.” (W-68)

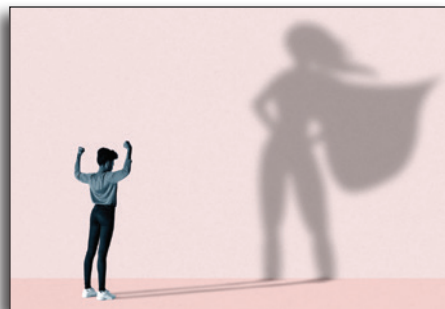
When wrapped up in the ego’s story of who you are, grievances are inevitable. However, as you practice the Course and discover the power of forgiveness, you begin to feel increasing peace and safety. This is because forgiveness is the antidote to grievances and the pain they bring. The truth is that when you hold a grievance, you hold yourself back because you are essentially wishing harm on someone.

Such is the bedrock of the ego, keeping you in fear because it is impossible to hold a grievance and experience love simultaneously. To believe that your grievances serve any positive purpose is to deny the truth and believe you are something other than love. How could you possibly experience love while holding any

grievances? A great place to begin to let go of the ego’s story of who you are is to see the insanity of having grievances. Think of it this way: grievances are the



“Without the awareness of love, we believe we are something else, often treating ourselves poorly with sharp internal dialogue.”



“Make the decision you will no longer believe in a story of yourself that leaves you holding hate and self-condemnation in your heart.”



45 Years in Retrospect...

The life of Miracle Distribution Center

by Beverly Hutchinson McNeff



In celebration of the 45th Anniversary of the Center, throughout the following several issues, we will be sharing with you its journey. Even though Beverly and Richard Hutchinson founded the Center, it has developed a life of its own. These articles will share the Center's birth, growth, life, and purpose as it continues to evolve and support students of *A Course in Miracles*.

Part IV: Divine Decisions

"We will not let the beliefs of the world tell us that what God would have us do is impossible. Instead, we will try to recognize that only what God would have us do is possible" (W-45.4:5)

The Course spends a great deal of time inviting us to withdraw our belief in what the world shows us and instead allow God's Voice to guide and direct our lives. This certainly makes sense, considering that for most of us, trusting in the world is a teeter-totter ride at best. Of course, the world and our ego want us to believe that God can't be trusted or that He isn't too terribly interested in our lives. If we let it be, the world can be a shining example of failure and despair.

A Course in Miracles says, "There is no limit to the power of a Son of God, but he can limit the expression of his power as much as he chooses." (T-4.IV.8:2) In this same passage, Jesus goes on to say, "Your mind and mine can unite in shining your ego away, releasing the strength of God into everything you think and do. Do not settle for anything less than this, and refuse to accept anything but this as your goal."

These passages highlight how we at Miracle Distribution Center (MDC) have made our "divine decisions." We do our best to release the strength of God into everything we think and do. If we are making a decision from fear or lack, we realize

we are Edging God Out (focusing on EGO limits). It then becomes our choice: with God or without God. It is amazing how often we have tried to "run our own show," only to find that when we let God in, the "show" not only runs more smoothly but practically runs itself!



An excellent example of this is the name of this publication. For years we struggled over selecting a name – and I would venture to say that **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER** didn't have an earlier birth because we didn't know what to call it! We would sit and discuss it for hours. It is now clear to me that during all those discussions, we were not inviting God in.

*"For years we struggled over selecting a name – and I would venture to say that **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER** didn't have an earlier birth because we didn't know what to call it!"*

We thought we could come up with the perfect name, it seemed a holy purpose, but we were leaving out our strength.

It wasn't until one late night when I couldn't sleep that I got up and prayed that my eyes would be opened to the perfect name for our magazine. As I opened my Course, my eyes were opened as I gazed down upon the section entitled "THE HOLY ENCOUNTER." As I read those words, I knew this was the perfect name since our goal for this publication was to remember our real purpose: joining together to heal the mistaken thought of separation between ourselves and God, and the way

to do that is by healing the thought of separation between ourselves and our brothers. The first paragraph in that section also again reminded me, "Ask and it shall be given you . . . If you want understanding and enlightenment you will learn it, because your decision to learn it is the decision to listen to the Teacher Who knows of light, and can therefore teach it to you." (T-8.III.1:2) Yes, we had asked for a name, and all it finally took was a decision to listen and learn from the strength of God.

Many of the "decisions" at MDC don't seem to occur in the traditional "decision-making manner." For example, years ago, we were advised by those who "knew" the way to "get the message out" was to purchase advertising that targeted our "market," to use other organizations' mailing lists, and spend more money than we had in order to give people a reason to support our organization through calculated donation appeals and the erroneous belief there is some need to get the Course's message out, above any other. (The Course may certainly be *our way*, but it is not the *only way*).

All these approaches never felt "right" for us, even though they may be sound, worldly approaches. The decisions we make at the Center are effortless, not because they are always easy, but because they are made "by releasing the strength of God" into them.

Let me go back in our history, to March 1987, to share an example. We wanted to premiere *The Story of A Course in Miracles*. This would be the first public showing of the 2-1/2 hour documentary film made by a producer from the BBC, Bridget Winter. Remember, this was before the ease of the internet to share this type of film, so we needed to rent a theater projector unit and a theater-size screen – large enough

for 500 people to view. The cost of the equipment rental alone was prohibitive. The decision did not seem easy, but the answer did,

"...[release] the strength of God into everything you think and do. Do not settle for anything less than this, and refuse to accept anything but this as your goal. Watch your mind carefully for any beliefs that hinder its accomplishment, and step away from them. Judge how well you have done this by your own feelings, for this is the one right use of judgment." (T-4.IV.8:3)



Bill Thetford in a scene from the documentary film

"We wanted to premiere The Story of A Course in Miracles. This would be the first public showing of the 2-1/2 hour documentary film made by a producer from the BBC, Bridget Winter."

After prayerful discussion, we went ahead and rented the necessary equipment. Exactly one week before the showing, when the rental payment was due, we received a letter and donation from a woman who had received support from MDC during a challenging time in her life. Her financial gift was the *exact* amount needed for the equipment.

There really is only one decision we ever have to make at the Center: does this bring peace or conflict? When we choose peace, we invite the strength of God into our minds and actions, and our decisions are apparent. However, when we get caught up in conflict and confusion, we split our minds. The way to get back on track is to stop in the midst of the confusion and turmoil and reflect on this:

"Think honestly what you have thought that God would not have thought, and what you have not thought that God would have you think. Search sincerely for what you have done and left undone accordingly, and then change your mind to think with God's. This may seem hard to do, but it is much easier than trying to think against it." (T-4.IV.2:4)



(from left) Bill Whitson, Beverly, Judith Whitson, Bridget Winter, Darin Zakich

Deciding with God is not so impossible – it is actually the only thing that is possible and inevitable!

Next issue... *"Vocation of the Center"* ❖

Inspirational...

Continued from page 7

glue that holds the ego's story of who you are together.

7. "I am affected only by my thoughts." (W-338)

Though this theme runs throughout the Course, most still need to accept it as truth. The ego forever wants to point at other people and circumstances as the cause of our upsets and problems. But this seven-word sentence – "I am affected only by my thoughts" – holds the gist of the Course. Suppose that all your anxiety, fear, worry, and unhappiness are because of your thoughts and the story about yourself you choose to believe. Then, this would mean you have the capability at your disposal to make a profound shift. The Holy Spirit is here for this purpose, to help you exchange fear-based thoughts and stories for happy thoughts of love. The Course is this forthright. ❖

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Miracle Distribution Center
A Course in Miracles Resource Center

Lessons in Light



by Beverly Hutchinson McNeff

As lesson 323 in A Course in Miracles says, "I gladly make the 'sacrifice' of fear." If you are ready to release the sacrificing thoughts that yoke you to fear, we can use the traditional time of Lent to do just that. The Course invites us to look with a healed vision, guided by the Holy Spirit, to view the ideas of Christianity in a new light. Not one that separates us from each other but one that unites us in healing. Therefore, during this time that leads up to Easter...

[Continue Reading →](#)

Free ACIM Livestream Tonight



This evening is the start of our Lessons in Light series here at the Center. We will be following the traditional Christian season of Lent, the forty days leading up to Easter, in a non-traditional way. We will use this time to embrace the abundant, healing love of God that is all around us and release our ideas of sacrifice and loss.

Tonight's first Lesson in Light will begin the healing process, as we affirm: "Into His Presence would I enter now." We hope you will join Beverly tonight at 7:00 pm Pacific. If you miss the live broadcast, consider becoming a subscriber to access the [video archive](#) and view meetings at your convenience.

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to speak to a live person



I Just Work Here

by Jacob Glass

"A miracle is never lost. It may touch many people you have not even met, and produce undreamed of changes in situations of which you are not even aware." (T-1.1.45)

I recently moved back to Santa Barbara, California, after moving away nearly 30 years ago. For many years, I taught monthly here until the pandemic shut everything down. But basically, I had been teaching all over Santa Barbara in churches, and theaters, doing Easter services at the Santa Barbara Bowl, and ministering and serving since 1990. During these decades, thousands of people have passed through the doors of my talks – and even though my language and topics can be very “salty,” plenty of kids came with their parents.

When I was teaching in a downtown theater, there was a balcony, and that is usually where the kids would be with their parents so that they could run around a little and play without disturbing anyone. I could see them, but they never bothered me, no matter what they were doing. It seemed like they were just playing – certainly not listening to what I was saying about God, philosophy, psychology, and the world.

Of course, I was usually wrong about all of that. Over the years, I've been blessed to hear stories every now and then from these “kids” who are now adults and have children of their own. Or I hear second-hand stories at just the right miraculous time when I need it most.

A few weeks after returning to town, I'd been looking for a dry cleaner to drop off the one article of clothing I owned that needed to be dry-cleaned. The town has changed drastically since I left here in 1995, and so I delegated the task of finding one to the Holy Spirit so that it would be a place that was easy and convenient for me. In fact, this year, I've really gone



“In fact, this year, I've really gone ALL IN on going as “woo-woo” as possible in not planning, scheming, strategizing, or running my life.”

ALL IN on going as “woo-woo” as possible in not planning, scheming, strategizing, or running my life. I've focused as much as possible on “living by grace” and “giving my life to God to guide today.” This is not because I am so wise and spiritual, so much as because MY WAY sucks and rarely works, and I've really given it up as a lost cause.

Consequently, this year my life has run more smoothly than effortlessly than it has in quite some time. I'm starting to become more obnoxiously focused on just DOING what the Course says as I understand it and just GET OUT OF THE WAY. At times I'm almost babbling, “I don't know what anything, including this means. I do not perceive my own best interests. I need do nothing. I want the peace of God.” You get the idea. I have stepped back to let Him lead the way.

So, one day as I got out of my car to go to one of my favorite restaurants, I saw a huge dry cleaner's sign just a couple

of stores down in this complex. Perfect! Thanks, God! I took my jacket in and gave my information to the woman at the counter, and when I told her my name, she gasped as if I said I was Oprah! She started talking very fast and was quite excited, so I didn't really get any details out of her except that she used to bring her little boy to the lectures back in the 90s, and now he is a grown man. She said that at some point, he went through drug/alcohol rehab, and he told her how much Jacob Glass had helped him.

Well, I don't know him. We never talked, as far as I can recall, so obviously, it was things he'd remembered from when she brought him to those talks – and perhaps he had one of my books. I really don't know. But I never heard from him directly. This is something I probably would never have known if I hadn't gone into that storefront and if that particular clerk had not been working that day. Thanks, God!

We often do not know our positive effect on others. We're much more likely to hear from someone if they DON'T like what we're doing than if they do. I've often said that human love is often very quiet and even silent. It's fear that talks its fool head off.

So often, I've thought not to write these articles anymore. I never hear from anyone after writing them, so it seems like no one is reading them or getting anything out of them. It seems like a waste of time and energy. But then I remember that my life is none of my business. Earth is a temp job, and I am on a “need-to-know” basis with the Holy Spirit. It's not my job to figure anything out or even to know if what I'm doing is having any positive influence. That's above my pay grade. “Living by grace” is about letting go of trying to control the outcome of things. I just show up on time, doing what I said I would do, with



“We often do not know our positive effect on others. We’re much more likely to hear from someone if they DON’T like what we’re doing than if they do.”

a good attitude. Everything else is out of my control. It’s true for all of us. We don’t know what we don’t know. I don’t have to know. I find great peace in that now. ❖

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This holy instant would I give to You. Be You in charge. For I would follow You, certain that Your direction gives me peace.

-A Course in Miracles

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Update: Prison Project

The Prison Project of Miracle Distribution Center sends *A Course in Miracles* and other Course-based items to prison inmates. Through your generous donations, we have been able to supply many newly started spiritual libraries in prisons. In some cases, we have provided multiple copies of books so more inmates can read about the love that is their essence. These principles genuinely make a difference and quench a thirst for truth that those in prison have found no other place.



We were so touched by Anthony’s letter (shown below), which shared how reading a couple of chapters of *A Course in Miracles* taught him some memorable lessons and gave him hope that his life may be just beginning. It reinforces once again how vital this project of the Center is in the lives of inmates. Miracles occur when those in these institutions know they are loved and valued.

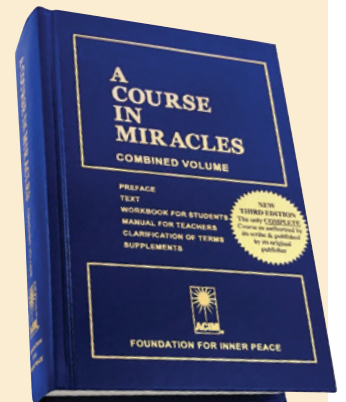
Hello Miracle Distribution Center,

I have recently been given ample time in the state of North Carolina D.A.C. While I was in county jail, a very kind nurse gave my friend and me an amazing book that taught of the oneness of humankind and how the real world lives inside every one of us.

That book opened my mind to a whole new understanding of life, but I was only able to study a couple of chapters before becoming state property. If there is any way you could send me a copy of this book, it will prove invaluable to getting my mind right. My addiction is ending my life, and that book was opening my mind to it not being the end but the beginning.

Sincerely,

Anthony in North Carolina, Department of Adult Corrections



We are honored to meet Anthony’s request and each request! Thanks to your generous support of the Prison Project and the Center, we can ensure these appeals are answered. Contact us if you know of an inmate who would like to receive books related to the Course or **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER** magazine. Rules are strict for sending items into prisons and secured facilities, so please check with the institution before requesting items to be sent. Together, we can experience healing by demonstrating healing through our willingness to be truly helpful to others. We invite your tax-deductible donations to support this project.

To read more click on “Prison Project” under “Services” at **miraclecenter.org**



True Debt Cancellation

by Joseph Miller

"When you know yourselves, then you will be known, and you will understand that you are children of the living Father. But if you do not know yourselves, then you live in poverty, and you are poverty." (Gospel of Thomas 3)

I have a friend who is fastidious about debt. He is a lifelong bachelor who never tangled himself in the financial uncertainties, economic loose ends, and credit rollercoaster that is family life. Debt appears to him a form of uncleanness or a pea under the mattress of life that will never lay comfortably until removed. He meticulously pays everything off as quickly as possible. He is, naturally, judgmental towards the loose handling of credit by others, the maxing-out of credit cards, the payday loans. Debtors fall into a hell of their own making, so far as he is concerned.

If debt carries a sense of guilt for some people – like my friend – guilt carries feelings of debt for many others. Guilt functions, in the analysis of *A Course in Miracles*, according to the dynamics of the psychology of lack – and is felt in terms of insolvency and inadequacy. This is embedded in Christian theology. The term "redemption," for example, means "to buy back" to recover ownership after loss. The virtue of "forgiveness" implies the absolving of obligation, just as we find in the concept of "debt forgiveness."

Traditional theology rests on a supernatural punitive economy: Jesus redeems human souls through payment of torture unto death. *A Course in Miracles* calls this a misunderstanding based upon the ego's economy, whereby sin always demands punishment. "Sin," according to tradition, is

guilt that cannot be washed out because it has damaged the very fabric of the soul. Sin ruins our innocence, separating us from God, leaving us not as God created us. The Course aims to awaken the mind to an understanding that there is no "sin" in that sense; there is only error that can always be remedied. "Sin" calls for condemnation and leads to war, burnt bridges, and estrangement. "Error," on the other hand, calls for correction and aims for the restoration of openness, trust, and love.

Guilt may be thought of as *moral debt*.



"If debt carries a sense of guilt for some people – like my friend – guilt carries feelings of debt for many others."

We see this in the King James Version translation of the Lord's Prayer in the phrase, "Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." Interestingly, the German word *shuld* means both guilt and debt. *A Course in Miracles* employs economic connotations regularly, with terms like "investment," "profit," "treasure," "poverty," "poor," and "lack."

We can learn to notice the implicit IOUs actively driving our moral and emotional lives and witness the force they leverage in relationships. You can be sure behind every grievance is some presumed debt. "My parents never treated me as I deserved." "My ex withheld the love and respect I needed." "My sister didn't send me a birthday card this year." "Why do you never call your mother?" Grievances are tales of lack that we treasure. They shift responsibility

to an outside incident or agent, and for this "relief" of responsibility, we only have to pay – *everything*. Of course, to "treasure lack" is an oxymoron. What better proof that the ego is a walking contradiction?

One powerful statement from the Course reads: "Those who see themselves as whole make no demands." (W-37.2:7) They are not debt collectors. To be forgiving is to be whole, to come from wholeness, and to lead by completeness. Those who are truly free push no guilt trips and leverage no moral IOUs. So long as you bind others to guilt, you bind yourself to lack. This dynamic characterizes what the Course calls the "special relationship." The self-story, "I am less-than because of what you have done," will always preserve a core of "I am less than," no matter how you dress it up. This story, according to one striking metaphor in the Course, is an ornate frame around an impoverished picture. We elaborate the frame, paint it, detail it, lacquer it, embellish it with diamonds of tears and rubies of blood, all manner of baroque distraction and rationalization. But for all that, the pale picture at the center remains, "I am not enough; there is not enough." Seen truly, it offers nothing of value because it offers *nothing*.

Forgiveness is the way we invite others to their wholeness. The word "forgiveness" literally means "to give entirely." It means to cancel *all* debt. Yet, the Course also describes ways in which we cunningly use the language of forgiveness actually to hold others in obligation rather than release them. Posing as morally superior, we elect to withhold "just punishment," all the while cherishing key opportunities to rub in reminders of guilt whenever it suits our purposes. The Course uses the concept of "sacrifice" to describe the personal ego's method for putting others under obligation.

Joseph Miller is a writer and business owner. He has practiced the Course for over 30 years, and facilitates a weekly study circle in Santa Barbara. He may be reached at jwm@thewritejoe.com

"For if there is sacrifice, someone must pay and someone must get. And the only question that remains is how much is the price, and for getting what." (T-15.X.5:12)

"Sacrifice," in this view, is the gamble of "giving to get" (T-4.II.6:5) that binds relationships within the realm of lack. It includes all the ways in which we play the martyr. The "special relationship" is entirely conditional, no matter how much we couch it in the language of love. It admits no giving that is not loss and no taking that is not harm. Every special relationship is secretly impelled by the profit motive yet destined for mutual impoverishment.



"Forgiveness is the way we invite others to their wholeness. The word 'forgiveness' literally means 'to give entirely.'"

"What you have given specialness has left you bankrupt and your treasure house barren and empty, with an open door inviting everything that would disturb your peace to enter and destroy." (T-24.IV.3:15)

"Guilt cannot last when the idea of sacrifice has been removed." (T-15.X.5:11) Because to remove the idea of sacrifice is to cease to identify with lack and harm; to stop licking wounds in an effort to manipulate others or justify one's own helplessness. To relate in love and holiness is to stop keeping points in personal relationships. As Stephen Levine once wrote, finishing business in relationships means to finish relationships as business.

One important meaning I gather from the Course's notion of Atonement is precisely this spiritual solvency. To be "at one" is to be whole, to cease the bartering of lack in relationships. And the Course is clear – the power to do so is ours now. We do not need to wait for anyone else to pay

up or for anything else to arrive. But we do need to draw regularly and reliably upon our inner resources, and learning how to do that takes time, beginning with the small efforts outlined in the Workbook. We find the motivation to continue as we taste "holy instants" of joyful completeness and spontaneous generosity.

All of this seems most important for understanding the Course's notion that forgiveness overlooks what "never happened." I don't take this as a denial of our experiences and an invitation to dissociation – a serious mental pathology. The idea is clear if we heed the Course's distinction between form and content. *Events do happen* (form), But what "never happened" was that some event or person compromised my Identity and Function (content). If that is the only loss that properly concerns me, I can forgive because *that loss is impossible*. And that is the lesson of the Resurrection. The crucifixion *did* happen; (form) but a loss to Christ and his Teach-

ing *did not* (content). I am the light of the world, and my function is to shine away darkness under any and all conditions. That is inherent to who I am, and "I am as God created me." (W-94)

As I discern my true treasure, I no longer fetishize external solvency. I still make house and car payments but no longer attach a sense of personal incompleteness to those debts. The world of form is a world of insolvency and interdependence – that is its very nature. Although you are in this world, you are not of this world.

"Your purpose is to see the world through your own holiness. Thus are you and the world blessed together. No one loses; nothing is taken away from anyone; everyone gains through your holy vision. It signifies the end of sacrifice because it offers everyone his full due. And he is entitled to everything because it is his birthright as a Son of God." (W-37.1:2)



45 Years in the Life of MDC

~ 1978 - 2023 ~

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We are here only

We'd be honored to hear how the Center has blessed you over the past 45 years. Submit a comment or video to us.

*We look forward
to hearing from you!*

to be truly helpful...



The heart of my MDC experience had been Beverly's deeply inspiring expressions of Guidance from the Holy Spirit. The Voice for God beautifully shines through in her weekly email essays, her weekly online meetings, and her bi-monthly articles in "THE HOLY ENCOUNTER."

She has been giving these gifts and more from the Holy Spirit for 45 years. What could be a clearer, more enduring testimony of faith and devotion to the teaching-learning practice of the Course and its application to living in this illusory world? To me, this spirit in itself is the overarching message of the Center.

Love to you all.

Marshall in Baker City, Oregon

"Just as health is more than the absence of sickness – but rather a positive state to be pro-actively cultivated – Dr. King recognized that peace is more than the absence of war. 'True peace,' said Dr. King, 'is not merely the absence of some negative force – tension, confusion, or war; it is the presence of some positive force – justice, goodwill, and brotherhood.' ... Dr. King's emphasis on our efforts to create what we want, as opposed to merely destroying what we do not want, was key to his spiritual authority as well as his political effectiveness."

We must begin cultivating a consciousness of peace

– not by making the world change, but by prioritizing peace in our daily lives. From this cultivation, we may be guided to march, state our thoughts, or start a movement, but we will do it from an awareness of kindness and love for all living things.

Nurturing peace

When my son Jeff was in preschool, he brought home a cup with a seed in it. We put the cup in the window, watered it, talked to it lovingly (we even gave it a name: Sid the seed), and nurtured it daily. Little by little, Sid began to grow. We continued to care for it just as we did initially since it was so small. But, as time went by, Sid got bigger and bigger. We put it in a larger pot, and soon he was blooming on his own and didn't require the same care we gave in the beginning – the roots were set, and Sid could easily grow outside on his own.

And so it is with us. We need to sow the seeds of peace in our daily life. At first, we need to nurture that consciousness carefully so it becomes an automatic reaction to the world. And as our consciousness of peace begins to grow and flourish, our

roots will be so well set that the events of the world will not sever our commitment.

Peace through forgiveness

Certainly, the Course's text and workbook lessons are wonderful tools for helping us cultivate a consciousness of peace, and so is the supplement booklet, *The Song of Prayer*. Many don't know of this powerful supplement that came in the same manner as the Course to its scribe, Helen Schucman. It provided an answer to her questions about prayer and delved deeper into the concepts of prayer, forgiveness, and healing. In the section on forgiveness, we are given a remedy for this world ...

"Forgiveness, truly given, is the way in which your only hope of freedom lies. Others will make mistakes and so will you, as long as this illusion of a world appears to be your home. Yet God Himself has

given all His Sons a remedy for all illusions that they think they see. Christ's vision does not use your eyes, but you can look through His and learn to see like Him. Mistakes are tiny shadows, quickly gone, that for an instant only seem to hide the face of Christ, which still remains unchanged behind them all. His constancy remains in tranquil silence and in perfect peace. He does not know of shadows. His the eyes that look past error to the Christ in you."

(S-2.1.6)

As this section suggests, we will make mistakes, have judgments, get angry, become fearful, etc. As long as we think this world is our home, we need to be forgiving of ourselves and others. Forgiveness is a process, a practice. It is our willingness to see the Christ in others and ourselves. The remedy that God has given us is Christ's vision. This vision does not look through our eyes and see what we have seen. Instead, we look through Christ's vision to see what God sees in another or in us. When we look through Christ's vision, we see as God would have us see ... we see the truth beyond the shadows.

But this, too, is a process. As *The Song of Prayer* tells us:

"Ask, then, His help, and ask Him how to learn forgiveness as His vision lets it be. You are in need of what He gives, and your salvation rests on learning this of Him." (S-2.1.7)

Practical peace

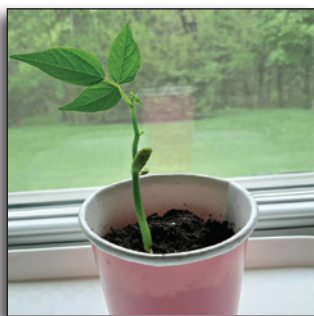
We always have the help we need in whatever circumstance we find ourselves in. Everyone's form of the problem may be unique, but the Answer is not unique. God's Answer is peace and unity, not hate and separation. These are the only paths open to you in every choice. Which will you take?

I have heard many impactful stories over the years about the power of forgiveness and the gift of peace. The following was told to me by a Course student who shared an encounter on an airline flight. My friend traveled a lot for business, so it was not uncommon for him to meet many interesting people. This flight was particularly fascinating. He sat next to a man who related the story of his grandfather, a Japanese American living in the U.S. during World War II.

The grandfather owned a produce factory, but during the war, he and his wife were placed in an internment camp, his three boys were drafted into the army, and his factory was given to the "white" man who worked for him. After the war, the grandfather returned and worked for the man who took over his business.

The business was never returned to him, but he refused to live in anger. He was able to send his three boys to college, and they became a doctor, a lawyer, and a professor. His boys were often upset by how their father was treated. But, when they brought it up to him, he would say that he had no reason to be upset over how the new owner had treated him. After all, he made a comfortable living by working for him and even sent his boys to college. Everyone had succeeded, and he was happy. That was what was important.

Without saying the words, this man allowed forgiveness to lead the way. He looked through Christ's vision and saw the opportunity for peace and healing, which would give him and his family much more



"When my son Jeff was in preschool, he brought home a cup with a seed in it. We put the cup in the window, watered it, talked to it lovingly, and nurtured it daily."

than hate and resentment. He refused to be victimized by other people and circumstances. Instead, he chose to be in control of his life by releasing his anger and feelings of injustice.

Right now, we have a choice. Whatever you may be facing in your life or whatever you may be experiencing in light of current world situations, you have a choice. You can either cultivate a consciousness of peace or not. You can experience the peace of God or not. You can see the shad-



“The grandfather owned a produce factory, but during the war, he and his wife were placed in an internment camp, his three boys were drafted into the army, and his factory was given to the ‘white’ man who worked for him.”

ows of hate and attack or look through Christ’s vision and see what God would have you see.

A Course in Miracles asks, “Do you prefer that you be right or happy?” (T-29.VII.1) The choice is yours. And remember, when we choose for our happiness and Christ’s vision, no matter how meager our efforts, we “are fully supported by the strength of God and all His Thoughts.” (W-91.10)

When we choose for our desire to be right and feel the separation between ourselves and others, we choose for a shadow of ourselves. A shadow will never content you, and behind that shadow will always be the presence of God. That presence will be unknown to you until you desire peace more than the shadows.

Let us cultivate a consciousness of peace by making it a practice to look at those shadows with Christ’s vision and allow the peace that is always present to bloom in our lives and world. ❖

FREE Livestream Wednesdays

Please join us for the broadcast of our weekly *A Course in Miracles* meetings with Beverly Hutchinson McNeff



Wednesday Evenings @ 7pm PT / 10pm ET

These free livestreams tackle real world challenges and view them through the healing power of *A Course in Miracles*. Each week we explore a workbook lesson and text section in the Course.

Sections are explained for their theory as well as their application into our daily lives. Bev brings knowledge, humor, and down-to-earth practicality to the Course’s principles. Watch free or become a subscriber.

LESSON 125
In quiet I receive God’s Word today.
1. Let this day be a day of stillness and of quiet listening. Your Father wills you hear His Word today. And so He calls from deep within your mind where He abides. Hear Him today. No peace is possible until His Word is heard around the world; until your mind, in quiet listening, accepts the message that the world must hear to usher in the quiet time of peace.



“Bev’s knowledge of the Course and all of her explanations are wonderful. I’m so glad you have the archives available of the classes, as seeing her when she teaches is so much more effective and enjoyable for me. And I can watch the class when it’s convenient for me, too.”

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