

If you appreciate this magazine (and our many other projects and services), we hope you will take a moment to make a contribution.

Without your assistance, *The Holy Encounter*, and our Center itself, will not be here to help.

Your gift supports all of Miracle Distribution Center's services for *A Course in Miracles* students . . . and for U.S. residents, it's tax-deductible.

[Click to Contribute Now](#)

[Receive the printed version](#)

then continue to the magazine . . .

The HOLY ENCOUNTER



JULY / AUGUST 2019

A Miracle Distribution Center Publication

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



What You Truly Deserve

by Beverly Hutchinson McNeff

Many years back, comedy legend Jack Benny was being honored with a distinguished humanitarian award. Upon receiving the award he said, "I don't really deserve this award, but then I have arthritis, and I don't deserve that either. Thank you very much."

When tough things happen in our lives, we often silently ask, "Why me?" Ironically, when good things happen, we often ask the same thing. It is not a question of whether we "deserve"

function in this world is forgiveness, it would only be logical that we would need to allow the Holy Spirit to direct our minds and thereby our actions. After all, when was the last time extending or accepting forgiveness was an easy thing for you to do?

We all have areas of our lives in which we

have less resistance towards extending forgiveness: "Please forgive me for stepping on your toe," or "I'm sorry for... (insert any small infraction or little error in thinking)." But we also have areas in which we feel justified

"Upon receiving the award he said, 'I don't really deserve this award, but then I have arthritis, and I don't deserve that either. Thank you very much.'"

the things we experience in life, but rather, "How will we handle them, now?"

A Course in Miracles' counsel would be: don't handle them alone. This entire classroom



Jack Benny and Ed Sullivan

of life is teaching us our purpose and our function. In the Course, we are told the proper function of the mind is to be in service. Since the Course reminds us our

in our feelings of anger, injustice, or attack – biggies like war, murder, robbery, or even personal slights, disrespect, and plain rude behavior. It becomes clear that we can't handle this process alone. We need help.

Many of us have read workbook lesson 193 from A Course in Miracles, "All things are lessons God would have me learn." This lesson does not say God puts lessons in our way. Rather, it indicates that every experience in life is an opportunity or "lesson" to remember the presence of God. Every event is a steppingstone to the awareness of God and His peace for us. All things, therefore, are an opportunity to allow forgiveness to lead the way (meaning

Continued on page 12

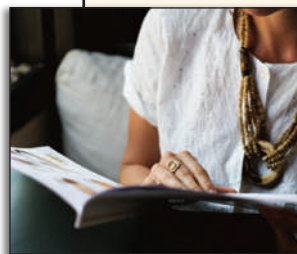
Beverly is the co-founder and president of MDC, one of the longest running organizations based on A Course in Miracles. As a student, lecturer and author on the Course since 1977, her recorded weekly commentaries on Course principles have become a wonderful source of inspiration and study for many around the world. Receive a FREE recording by contacting MDC.

The Power of Print

...Keeping the Connection

THE HOLY ENCOUNTER has been a printed publication since the Center's inception, and we intend to continue making it available in tangible form. We receive many letters attesting to the importance of keeping it in print, including this recent note from a reader in Puerto Rico. It's easy to take internet service for granted, but we are reminded that this essential modern utility can disappear at times.

It is a year and a half since Hurricane Maria hit our beautiful island of Puerto Rico. I've been studying A Course in Miracles since 1984. Maria hit us hard.



I have stopped receiving the printed copies of THE HOLY ENCOUNTER. I'm up in the mountains and our previously great internet is still a bit sketchy, so it's hard

to read online. And I have just about every edition saved from way back when, and I treasure them. They have been so true to the Course from the very beginning. I send you all a big "abrazote" [hug] and heartfelt thanks for all that you do. Please let me know if I can get my "friend" back. Also, is there any way I can obtain back issues? So, before I lose this wonderful connection, I bid you "hasta luego."

— Kate in Puerto Rico

We are so honored to be here for Kate,

Continued on page 11

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

For more information go to
www.miraclecenter.org or call 714-632-9005

● **Our first, in a series of Seminars on A Course in Miracles, "Getting God's Guidance,"** took place in April. Presented by Beverly Hutchinson McNeff, this day-long workshop featured multimedia presentations, lectures, and guided experiences, and was enthusiastically received by viewers around the world. Making the Course understandable

and practical to our lives, Beverly weaved an experience that produced a lot

of "aha-experiences," as Petra in Germany wrote. She went on to say, "I watch videos of Course teachers often and your seminar was one of the best." Visit our website and click on "Events" to get all the details — AND what can we learn from a paddle ball about our relationship with God? Find out by viewing the archived videos which contain the entire day's activities in four sessions.

● **In a presidential first,** A Course in Miracles was mentioned numerous times in an appearance by Marianne Williamson during her Presidential CNN Town Hall. The candidate remarked, "Once I started reading the book, I realized the book is not the Christian religion. The book is not a religious text. It's a psychological mind training on forgiveness. It's a book about how to forgive. It uses Christian terminology, but there's no dogma, there's no doctrine. It's not a religion. And A Course in Miracles is based on universal spiritual themes that are at the heart of all the great religious teachings of the world... There is a part from the Talmud that says the following: Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief. Do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly. You are not obligated to complete the task, but neither are you permitted to abandon it."



I think a study of A Course in Miracles has given me more practical understanding of how to do that, how to love mercy, how to do justice, how to walk humbly, and how to make sure that I — although not obligated to complete the task, I certainly — certainly do all I can to get it done in the time that I have here." Will other candidates mention the Course during primary season? If they do, we will happily mention them as well!

● **Retreat Experience - Come BEE with us!**

Now is the perfect time to reserve your place at our next **Holy Encounter Retreat** on **September 20-22, 2019**. This is what Tina Shelton of CA has to say: "Thank You for BEEing messengers of Light and Love. Thank You for BEE-ing willing to create an environment where people feel safe as well as inspired to make CHANGES. It's no COINCidence that you have been called to serve in this capacity. Job Well Done!" 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.*



● **Giving a truly meaningful Gift—**

Here's what many students of the Course have done: Given a tax-deductible donation to MDC in someone's honor or memory. If you would like to give in such a way, send your donation and request, and we will send him, her, or the family, a personalized letter acknowledging your appreciation and support. It's a wonderful honor for that dedicated someone or their family. And, what a blessing it will be to those the Center serves, for your donation will go to support its free services! **Gifts in memory**

of... **Robin McBee** from her husband, James in New Jersey, whom she introduced to the Course.

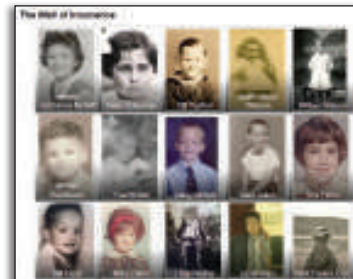


● **"I thank you for continuing to send me THE HOLY ENCOUNTER."**

I read it front to back when I receive it. I especially enjoyed the article on 'God-Friended Me' as I enjoy this show also. I plan to use

the envelope in each publication to respond with a donation. Many thanks" — Rachel in Lexington, SC. We are honored to have such dedicated readers like Rachel who let us know they appreciate this publication and are willing to give ongoing support. This type of tax deductible support is critical to continuing this free magazine for everyone! If it has been a while since you supported, or feel a desire to give more often, you can use the postpaid envelope included in the center of the magazine, or consider becoming a *Holy Helper* of the Center and your monthly support can be made automatically! See page 15 for more details, and thank you very much!

● **Wall of Innocence** — It is amazing the smiles we have seen on people's faces when they look at their own 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. Our innocence, no matter what we have done, can never be lost. It is time for us to awaken to that truth. We invite you to include your childhood photo (age 5-6 or younger) on



Continued on page 13

Don't Miss Out on this
Incredible Weekend!!

SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2019

Holy Encounter Retreat

This retreat is designed to help students to not just talk about A Course in Miracles but to deeply experience 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.



International lecturer, author, and founder of the Center, Beverly Hutchinson McNeff 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.



"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."



Come and
experience first hand
the healing power of
A Course in Miracles!

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.



environment and food were great...I just had a great time overall!!"

"I came away with down-to-earth principles that helped me make sense of things in terms of forgiveness, judgment, etc. The



**Register
Today!
Space is
Limited**

Everything is included: the weekend 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.

Registration begins at \$499 and includes all retreat activities, six organic meals, and lodging.



To register visit www.miraclecenter.org or call 1-800-359-ACIM (2246)





Miracle Musings...

The Absurdity of Happiness

by Paul McNeff

"The joy of the Lord is your strength"... (Acts 16:25-26)

My part is essential To God's plan for salvation. (Lesson 100)

"God's Will for you is perfect happiness. Why should you choose to go against His Will? The part that He has saved for you to take in working out His plan is given you that you might be restored to what He wills. This part is as essential to His plan as to your happiness."

On the happiness scale from one to ten, I would rate my experience at about a two." To my amazement, these were the exact words a Christian friend offered up to me a couple of years ago when the subject of happiness came up.

I countered, "Really!?"

He responded, "Yeah, happiness is way overrated. It is not important for a Christian life." Clearly, however, that seems to be a misunderstanding of Jesus' message in the Bible and in *A Course in Miracles*. But, for far too many people, happiness seems to be an underestimated life necessity.

To varying degrees, we all have gone through life's assaults – death of a spouse, disease, sickness, war, personal failings, relationships gone sour, unachieved dreams, to name a few. These can certainly contribute to sad outcomes which can potentially rob us of our happiness. To those who want to remain victims of these circumstances, they might say, it is absurd to expect your life to be about happiness.

As the Chinese saying goes, we can let these events cause our decline, or we can see them as an opportunity to look the situation squarely in the eye, seek spiritual guidance and learn how to transcend them to healing. As the saying goes, "When life gives you lemons – make lemonade."

So, amid all these worldly absurdities, how do we parlay our happiness from a two, up the scale to a ten? Can we do it by: (a) Magic,

(b) A special "secret" formula to which only an exclusive "few" are privy, (c) A special intelligence, (d) All of the above, or (e) None of the above?

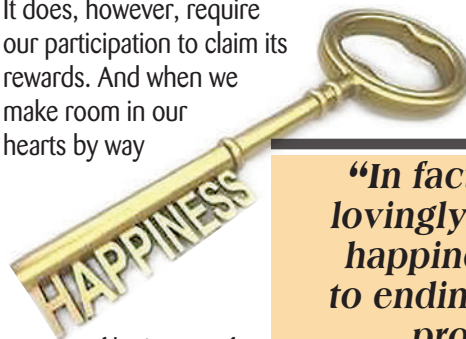
The Course's answer to the questions posed above is . . . Buzzzzz!... (e) None of the above.

By way of systematic spiritual training



that teaches happiness through love and forgiveness, the Course teaches the product of joy as one of its

primary outcomes. In fact the Course lovingly guides us to happiness as a key to ending the world's problems. And, it is not for just a few chosen ones, as the Course patently teaches that all will achieve this heavenly state of being. There is no time limit or expiration date. It does, however, require our participation to claim its rewards. And when we make room in our hearts by way



of letting go of our grievances, "The world will end in joy, because it is a place of sorrow. When joy has come, the purpose of the world has gone. The world will end in peace, because it is a place of war. When

peace has come, what is the purpose of the world? The world will end in laughter, because it is a place of tears." (M-14.5)

Sound good? Let's explore a little further.

Joy, considered by most authorities, is the same state of mind as happiness. Interestingly enough, "joy" appears 214 times in the Bible and 213 times in the Course. "Happiness" appears 25 times in the Bible and 104 times in the Course. Both are used interchangeably. And both reference an "abiding" joy or happiness, which carries the connotation of something more lasting and deeper in contrast to say, "a rollicking good time." Even though there is certainly room for that!

And then, there is "laughter" which appears 42 times in the Bible and 14 times in the Course. Though laughter can be associated with various states of mind (sometimes in an ugly way as to bully someone with a contemptuous laugh), most often we experience it as a physical manifestation of joy and happiness. The use of laughter in the Course is mainly used as a manifestation of joy. Happiness is a mental state and laughing is a gesture.

I'm sure we've all heard the old proverbs: "Laughter is the best medicine," and, "it is said that a merry heart is like medicine." Perhaps we too have experienced these healing remedies after encountering various assaults on our well being.

In 1964, psychiatric professor, author, and critic Norman Cousins was diagnosed with

a crippling connective tissue disease otherwise known as collagen disease. Using his research on the bio-chemistry of human emotions, Cousins, along with his

doctor, prescribed regimen of medication, developed his own recovery program.

Along with massive intravenous doses of Vitamin C and self-induced bouts of laughter

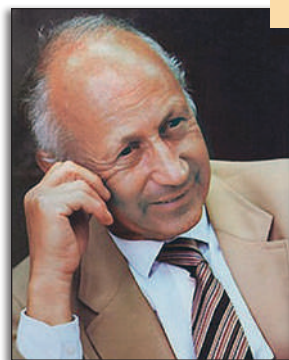
"In fact the Course lovingly guides us to happiness as a key to ending the world's problems."

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

brought on by viewing Marx Brother's films and humorous television shows such as *Candid Camera*, Cousins went on to relieve much of his pain and lasting effects of his disease. He went on to live thirty-six years longer than was ever expected by his doctors. "I made the joyous discovery that ten minutes of genuine belly laughter had an anesthetic effect and would give me at least two hours of pain-free sleep," he reported.

As previously stated, achieving a happy life does not mean we will develop a magical resistance to ward off life's sad and sometimes devastating events. Jesus certainly wasn't immune to this. How many of us can say we have gone through the horrific event of crucifixion? To that end, over the centuries, the "man of sorrows" characterization of Jesus, rather than the "happy one," became church's most prominent depiction of Jesus in both art and theological disciplines. Isaiah 53 says, "He is despised and rejected of men, a Man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief." Perhaps that is where my Christian friend drew his justification for placing his metric so low on the happiness scale.

But, the good news is, the Course



Norman Cousins

is nothing more than an extreme example. Its value, like the value of any teaching device, lies solely in the kind of learning it facilitates."

(T-6.1.2) ... "You are free to perceive yourself as persecuted if you choose. When you do choose to react that way, however, you might remember that I was persecuted as the world judges [betrayed, abandoned, beaten, torn, and finally killed], and did not share this evaluation for myself. And because I did not share it, I did not strengthen it." (T-6.1.5) In the Course, Jesus tells us that he used this extreme teaching device so we would not need to crucify ourselves any more. He wants

us to learn the joyous lesson that "a happy outcome to all things is sure." (W-292) This lesson goes on to say, "We thank You, Father, for Your guarantee of



the happy endings You have promised us for every problem that we can perceive; for every trial we think we still must meet."

"Here's Cal Worthington and his dog Spot!" Though, 'Spot' was never a dog. Often, Spot was a tiger, a seal, an elephant, a chimpanzee, a bear or even a hippopotamus, which Worthington would actually ride..."

only happy outcomes in the end. Help us not interfere, and so delay

California car salesmen during the 1960s through the 1980s, was a real happy

character named Cal Worthington. He was best known for his hilarious television advertisements, most of which began with the announcement "Here's Cal Worthington and his dog Spot!" Though, "Spot" was never a dog. Spot was a tiger, a seal, an elephant, a chimpanzee, a bear,

or even a hippopotamus, that Worthington would actually ride in his commercials as his signature tune rocked on in the background enthusiastically exclaiming: "If you want to buy a car. . . Go see Cal, go see Cal, go see Cal." These happy, lighthearted, and crazy commercials were highly effective as he grossed \$316.8 million in 1988, making him at the time the largest single owner of a car dealership chain.

The Course says our happiness is paramount to God's plan. And that plan cannot be sold by a sad face. "Your joy must be complete to let His plan be understood by those to whom He sends you. They will see their function in your shining face, and hear God calling to them in your happy laugh." (W-100)

Continued on page 13

"I made the joyous discovery that ten minutes of genuine belly laughter had an anesthetic effect and would give me at least two hours of pain-free sleep," he reported."

St. Francis of Assisi once said about the good news, "Preach the gospel, and if necessary, use words." I don't know of anyone in their right mind who would preach the good news by selling or promising sadness in return.

One of the most successful Southern

Available from the Center

Essential Additions to Your Library!

The works of Kenneth Wapnick have assisted students with their understanding of *A Course in Miracles* for over forty years. Because of his relationship with the two scribes of the Course, Ken had a unique window into its beginnings and thought system. We often direct seekers to his titles, especially when they are just beginning their study.

The *Glossary-Index for A Course in Miracles* references more than 130 terms found in the Course with their important references. For an overview of the Course, including its emergence and a sketch of its thought system, we suggest *A Talk Given on A Course in Miracles*. For a more in-depth exploration of the Course, the two-volume set entitled, *The Message of A Course in Miracles* is excellent.



Ken's 45-minute summary of the Course's thought system is available in both audio CD (\$15) and video DVD (\$24) formats. **What It Says** is a succinct summary of the Course.

\$13

GLOSSARY-INDEX
for
A COURSE
IN
MIRACLES

Eighth Edition - Enlarged
Kenneth Wapnick, Ph.D.

\$10

A Talk Given on
A COURSE
IN
MIRACLES
An Introduction

\$25

THE MESSAGE
of
A COURSE
in
MIRACLES

Volume One
ALL WHO CALLED
Volume Two
FEW CHOOSE TO LISTEN

Prices Plus
CA Sales
Tax, S&H

800-359-2246 (ACIM) or www.miraclecenter.org

click on "Store" to see our large selection of books, CD's and other Course related items





Change Your Mind Change Your Life

Jesus, At Last I Have Found You

by Gerald Jampolsky, M.D. and Diane V. Cirincione-Jampolsky, Ph.D.

Being brought up in a Jewish household and having been confirmed in the Jewish faith at my Bar Mitzvah, I was very resistant to believing that Jesus had anything to do with dictating *A Course in Miracles* to Helen Schucman.

Writing a poem dedicated to Jesus was not something I ever imagined doing. And yet, when I wrote it in 1976, I was actually talking to Jesus from the depths of my being each and every day.

On that particular day, I was talking with Helen Schucman on the phone. When Helen asked me what I was doing, I told her I was walking on the beach in Hawaii talking to Jesus. Helen actually yelled at me on the phone, "Jerry, don't do that anymore! People will think you're crazy!" These were strange words coming from the woman who received the entire Course as a dictation from Jesus.

Somehow my original copy of the poem to Jesus disappeared. Nowhere could Diane or I find it for many years. Finally, only a few years ago, Diane was cleaning out one of our cabinets and the original copy of the poem fell on the floor.

I decided to include *Jesus at Last I Have*

Found You, in my recent book, *Poetry and Notes to Myself: My Ups and Downs with A Course in Miracles*. Now, Diane and I listen to the recording of the poem every single morning as part of our morning ritual. We wanted to share it with you and have made it available for you through our *A Course*

in *Miracles Family*, Miracle Distribution Center.

To hear Jerry read his poem, go to:
www.tinyurl.com/y2vbp5xv

Jesus, At Last I Have Found You

Oh Jesus, my elder brother, you have been here, within my still mind all the time. It was but my guilt and fear that kept your presence hidden from me.

Your quiet certainty, your gentleness, your song of unending love resonates in my heart as an ancient melody that makes all creation dance with joy. You have touched me, and I feel the abundance of God's Love within me and within everything I see.

The sky is bluer,
The mountains more majestic,
The trees more serene,
The ocean more gentle, and the light of Christ is shining in everyone I behold.

Oh Jesus, my dear brother, my savior, the completion of myself, you have touched me and purified my thoughts and my heart.

You have touched me and made me free of my physical Identity.

You have touched me and for this everlasting instant, I am once again free.

I am free of all illusion.

I am free of fear.

I am free of guilt.

I am free of pain.

I am free of all problems, of all questions, and of all preoccupations, worries and concerns about tomorrow.

You have touched me and for this eternal instant every aspect of myself knows that there is only joy in the now; there is only peace in the now; there is only love in the now.

Oh Jesus, my beloved teacher, I release all; I let go of all.

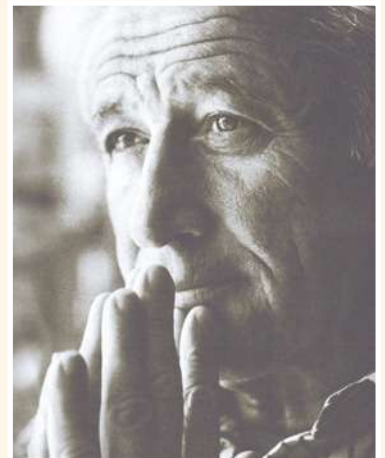
I come toward God with empty hands and complete myself with you.

Oh dear Jesus, my beloved brother, I know that all I need do is be.

I thank you for your patience.

The essence of my being is full of joy and laughter, as the song of gratitude continues to resonate from my heart to God, to myself, and to all of God's creation.

Thank you, Jesus. Thank you. Thank you. I will never walk alone again.



Daily Reflections on

A
COURSE
IN
MIRACLES

 **Vibe™**
Upgrade Your Consciousness

The Vibe Mobile App
www.vibe.me/acim
\$2.99/mo.

Reflections by Gerald Jampolsky, M.D.
and Diane Cirincione, Ph.D.

Gerald Jampolsky, M.D. and Diane Cirincione-Jampolsky, Ph.D., international lecturers and bestselling authors, share their insights and experiences in applying the principles of *A Course in Miracles* in our world. Diane's therapeutic counseling practice specializes in applying ACIM to all aspects and situations in life. Their books are available from the Center at www.miraclecenter.org



Recognizing Spirit

Question and Answer with Jesus

by Lee Jampolsky, Ph.D.

More than ever it seems people want the truth. They argue what they believe it is or isn't and set forth many ways to verify or disprove their version. It is a dysfunctional cycle that creates an increased amount of fear and division, and very little actual truth or peace. It has been essential for me to personally be aware that what my ego calls the truth is often a lower truth of sorts. This lower truth is usually about who did what, when, why, etc., or about physical reality, science, intellectual knowledge, etc. This truth is indeed not unimportant, but misuse is not uncommon.

Below are a few questions I have asked and then looked to *A Course in Miracles* for guidance. Note that the answers are direct quotes from the Course.

"I like to think that because the answers to my questions are direct quotes from the Course, in essence, what follows is my personal Q & A with Jesus."



On the one hand, some of the answers at first glance may seem obtuse or vague, but I have found the answers to be meaningful points of contemplation and meditation. I have also discovered more depth and wisdom by using them in this manner. I remind myself that *A Course in Miracles* is written in the voice of Jesus. Although it may be stretching it, I like to think that because the answers to my questions are direct quotes from the Course, in essence, what follows is my personal Q and A with Jesus. For this reason, I have used his name and mine.

I hope you may find this personal approach helpful for your own contemplation. In addition to what I have included, you may

want to try this on your own by holding a question in your mind and slowly reading any portion of the Course, waiting patiently for the direct answer in a phrase to emerge. If nothing else, it is fun to do!

Lee: There seem to be endless places to look for the correct answers, knowledge, truths, etc. Where is the most critical place to look for answers?

Jesus: "In quietness are all things answered." (T-27.IV.1)

Lee: If reality is a reflection of truth, what is reality, and what does this have to do with my daily experience?

Jesus: "Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists. Herein lies the peace of God." (Intro)

Lee: I have many beliefs I think are true, about the world, myself, and other people. How do I know which beliefs are false or need releasing?

Jesus: "What you think you are is a belief to be undone." (W-91.6:7)

Lee: What should I remember when having discussions with someone who may not agree with me?

Jesus: "Infinite patience produces immediate effects." (T-5.VI.12)

Lee: Can you say more about what is helpful for me to say or do?

Jesus: "You cannot be hurt, and do not want to show your brother anything except your wholeness. Show him that he cannot hurt you and hold nothing against him, or you hold it against yourself. This is the meaning of 'turning the other cheek.'" (T-5.IV.4:4)

Lee: The world is full of division, perhaps more than ever. Conflict and arguments seem to be everywhere, and the media seems to thrive on it all. How is it best to approach other people who may not agree with me about things I find fundamentally important?

Jesus: When you meet anyone, remember it is a holy encounter. As you see him you will see yourself. As you treat him you will treat yourself. As you think of him you will think of yourself. Never forget this, for in him you will find yourself or lose yourself. Whenever two Sons of God meet, they are given another chance at salvation. Do not leave anyone without giving salvation to him and receiving it yourself. For I am always there with you, in remembrance of you." (T-8.III.4)

Lee: When two or more people disagree and point to the truth as they see it, but there is no agreement in this truth, what should I remember or do?

Jesus: "The one correction possible for false perception must be *true perception*. It will not endure. But for the time it lasts it comes to heal. For true perception is a remedy with many names. Forgiveness, salvation, Atonement, true perception, all are one." (C-4.3:2)

Lee: It is not uncommon for a person to say or hear something like "Today I learned the truth about..." or for the media to start a report with "Breaking News..." What is the relationship between learning and the truth? Is wanting the truth as we see it to be known and agreed upon important?

Jesus: "Those who remember always that they know nothing, and who have become willing to learn everything, will learn it. But whenever they trust

Continued on page 13

Tag, You're It!

by Beverly Hutchinson McNeff



I watched the Golden Globes earlier this year. Usually these award shows are a mix of boring speeches, crazy fashion, and shows I've never heard of. This year, however, it seemed to have a very cohesive message of self-empowerment and kindness. One speech really stuck out to me. It was delivered by Jeff Bridges, who received the Cecil B. DeMille Award from the Hollywood Foreign Press Association for "outstanding contributions to the world of entertainment." Bridges' career spans over sixty years, having appeared in his first movie at age two, and then on his father's television show, "Sea Hunt."

I've always enjoyed Bridges as an actor, but that night I was really struck by what he said. Some critics and attendees thought he was rambling in his speech, but for many his words were profound. He told a story about walking into his director's office, the day before the movie they were shooting was to begin, and telling the director that he wasn't feeling the part – he felt too inadequate to play the role. He told the director he had made a mistake putting him in the part and to please fire him and get someone worthy.

The director asked, "Jeff, do you know the game 'tag'?"

Bridges said, "Yeah."

His director looked straight at him and said, "Well, tag you're it. You are this guy. You couldn't make a mistake if you tried."

Bridges said that really made sense to him, not only for the character in the movie, but for every other movie he did and for his life in general. He went on to explain that we have all been tagged. We are all here right now to play the part we have been handed – our lives – and no one can play your part better than you.

This is a great lesson for us right now in our lives. It is easy to feel unsure or hesitant about what to do or whether the choices we are making will help or make a difference, but we are told in the Course, "I am as God created me." We are not a mistake or incapable, we are as God created us. It is time we stop listening to the shouts

"One speech really stuck out to me. It was delivered by Jeff Bridges, who received the Cecil B. DeMille Award... for 'outstanding contributions to the world of entertainment.'"

as well as the subtle whispers of the ego that say we are incomplete or incapable. This is our part, we are the perfect one to play this



role, and we have been tagged to be it – and that is a good thing! As the Course tells us, we are the answer we have been seeking. It says...

...you are the Will of God
...you are the treasure of God
...you are the work of God
...you are the Kingdom of Heaven
...you are the light of the world
...you are the co-creator of all things that live
...you are the Son He [God] loves
...you are the holy Son of God Himself.

As much as you think you can mess things up, you can't. You are the Will of God, you've got this. Now, we just need to get out of our own way and remember we have been tagged by God who has infinite faith in us. Let's get out

Keep Connected to the Inspiration

Every week, MDC sends out an email blast of inspiration and information. The article "Tag You're It" is one such piece of inspiration. This particular article received so many responses that we wanted to share it with readers of *THE HOLY ENCOUNTER* who might have missed it. Thanks to Richard in Virginia for his kind comment.

I am fairly new to ACIM, and to the Miracle Distribution Center. I have been receiving emails with links to your articles for a couple of months now. I just want to express my appreciation for your words and insights. Your articles bring me a great deal of peace and healing. Thank you!

We are honored to be able to offer support and inspiration through so many different formats: on computer via our live stream (which, if you are a subscriber, can be viewed at a time convenient for you), on our website, and also through the printed version of our magazine, *THE HOLY ENCOUNTER*.

Your support of MDC's free services is always appreciated and is tax-deductible. Thank you!

If you would like to receive the inspirational weekly emails, please send your email address to MDC: info@miraclecenter.org or give us a call: **714-632-9005**

of our own way and let God's Answer come shining in, in full awareness of the truth of who we are.

"The Holy Spirit is perfectly trustworthy, as you are. God Himself trusts you, and therefore your trustworthiness is beyond question. It will always remain beyond question, however much you may question it. I said before that you are the Will of God. His Will is not an idle wish, and your identification with His Will is not optional, since it is what you are. Sharing His Will with me is not really open to

"As much as you think you can mess things up, you can't. You are the Will of God, you've got this. Now, we just need to get out of our own way and remember we have been tagged by God who has infinite faith in us."

choice, though it may seem to be. The whole separation lies in this error. The only way out of the error is to decide that you do not have to decide anything. Everything has been given you by God's decision. That is His Will, and you cannot undo it." (T-7.X.6)

Tag, you're it! It is time you have a miraculous day! 

"I really appreciate the recent addition of the *Daily Lesson E-mail Service*. I would like to increase my monthly donation!"

— A subscriber in Texas



Experience this new, **FREE** service as you increase your mindful meditation of the Course. Find out more under "Services" on our website.

"I am thrilled to get my daily workbook lesson via e-mail every morning. I sit down with my coffee, pull out my iPad, and have a sacred moment as I start my day."

— A subscriber in North Carolina

www.miraclecenter.org

A Gift of Peace for our Planet

Last year on the anniversary of 9/11, as we do every year, we sent out an email blast featuring a powerful music video that was created in 2013 by Steven Halpern and Miracle Distribution Center. The five minute video entitled *Peace for the Planet* features

Steven's healing music and passages from *A Course In Miracles* read in Hebrew, Arabic, and English.

We always receive such powerful comments from viewers, but last year Rachel in Arlington, Virginia shared her story of working in the Pentagon on that fateful day in 2001. We hope you will be as moved by her experience and awakening as we were.



"Thank you so much for sharing this video with us on this, the anniversary of the attack on the Twin Towers, the Pentagon, as well as the plane that was taken down in Pennsylvania. I was working in the Pentagon that morning and will never forget feeling the impact of the plane

tearing into the building and the ball of fire that rose up outside our windows on the fifth floor.

Although I had not yet 'found' the Course, I remember praying to Jesus and my recently departed mother and thanking them as I safely walked through smoke-filled corridors and exited the building to a safe gathering spot.

Looking back, I often think about the anguish I felt that day and in the following weeks as I digested the fear and enormity of the situation. It was only in studying the Course, in the years that followed, that brought me to a place of acceptance and forgiveness.

This beautiful message is what we all need, not just on this day, but every day and always. Thank you for a wonderful way to start my day."

Like Rachel, may we all learn that forgiveness is the answer to any attack so that peace may finally prevail. The video may be viewed here:

<https://www.miraclecenter.org/wp/peace-video/>

[miraclecenter.org/wp/peace-video/](https://www.miraclecenter.org/wp/peace-video/)



Forgiveness ends the dream of conflict here. (Lesson 333)

Conflict must be resolved. It cannot be evaded, set aside, denied, disguised, seen somewhere else, called by another name, or hidden by deceit of any kind, if it would be escaped. It must be seen exactly as it is, where it is thought to be, in the reality which has been given it, and with the purpose that the mind accorded it. For only then are its defenses lifted, and the truth can shine upon it as it disappears.

Father, forgiveness is the light You chose to shine away all conflict and all doubt, and light the way for our return to You. No light but this can end our evil dream.

No light but this can save the world. For this alone will never fail in anything, being Your gift to Your beloved Son.



The World I See

Accept Atonement – and Find Yourself

by Joseph Miller

We all know the oft-repeated statement from the Text: “The sole responsibility of the miracle worker is to accept the Atonement for himself.” (T-5.V.7:8) It has taken me a long time to really get behind this statement. It is not low-hanging *A Course in Miracles* fruit, in my experience.

But lesson 139 offers an invaluable key. Atonement, of course, means reconciliation. Atonement is the antidote to estrangement. An aspect of the mind has wandered

in dream from its divine Parent. Although the mind in reality is rooted safely at home, it is victim of its own “vain imaginings.”

The reconciliation of man to God is not accomplished through payment of pain for guilt, as in the traditional Christian scheme of Atonement, but through forgiveness and illumination. “Enlightenment is but a recognition, not a change at all.” (W-188.1:4) To accept Atonement for oneself is to reaffirm the *Ever Is* on behalf of the entire Sonship; to consciously accept the shared unity that only appears to have been violated or fractured. The worldly mind, on the other hand, regards the fracture as real and irreparable (sin), calling for blame and punishment. The unregenerate mind delusively believes it can only find peace (relief from guilt) by nailing someone else to the cross.

Turning to lesson 139, we find something unexpected – a rhetorical detour about self-knowledge. It is delightful, amusing, beguiling. There is this stunning statement: “Nothing the world believes is true. It is a place whose purpose is to be a home where those who claim they do not know themselves can come to question what it is they are.” This description of the world is like a strange masquerade party for those

running away from themselves, intentionally drowned in amnesia. That means – us! (Get a load of Cleopatra in the corner – she’s really had too much to drink!)

The lessons leading up to 139 have dealt with psychological defenses. We defend our cherished illusions against the laws of God, and then believe we are under attack.

Lesson 139 deals with a specific form of defense – self-doubt.

“Self-doubt is the defense against self-knowledge, and Atonement is identified as the specific remedy.”

Self-doubt is the defense against self-knowledge, and Atonement is identified as the specific remedy. “It is for this denial that you need Atonement... Atonement remedies the strange idea that it is possible to doubt yourself, and be unsure of what you really are.” Sounds good, but how does that work? The answer requires a further detour, through choice.

Lesson 139 carries forward the theme of choice from the immediately preceding lessons. The first

come to a decision to accept ourselves as God created us.” Remember the deeply philosophical treatment of choice in 138? Even though *GOD IS*, and the oneness of creation is an inviolable metaphysical fact; the illusion of otherness and duality prevail in the mind of the Son. Therefore, on this plane, choice is meaningful in dual terms: a rejection of hell and an acceptance of Heaven. And it is necessary to overtly declare this choice because the default position for hell has been hidden and protected by unconsciousness.

Now back to self-doubt. Lesson 139 declares that all choice is rooted in the question of identity. “And what is choice except uncertainty of what we are? There is no doubt that is not rooted here. There is no question but reflects this one. There is no conflict that does not entail the single, simple question, ‘What am I?’” To accept the Atonement for yourself is to finally answer this question!

The verb, *accept*, is significant in respect to the theme of *defensiveness*. Acceptance is open-handed and undefended. To accept Atonement means to relinquish defenses

against the *Oneness-That-Is*. But more, it means we don’t have to do anything to remedy a problem which has never occurred. Heaven has not been shattered by guilt until a ransom is paid in blood. “This does Atonement teach, and demonstrates the Oneness of God’s Son

“Acceptance is open-handed and undefended. To accept Atonement means to relinquish defenses against the Oneness-That-Is. But more, it means we don’t have to do anything to remedy a problem which has never occurred.”

sentence reads, “Here is the end of choice. For here we

is unassailed by his belief he knows not what he is. Today accept Atonement, not to change reality, but merely to accept the truth about yourself, and go your way rejoicing in the



Joseph Miller is a writer, broadcaster and drapery tradesman. He has practiced the Course for twenty-five years, and participates in a weekly study group at Unity Church, Santa Barbara. He is also an associate of United Lodge of Theosophists. He lives in Goleta, CA with his wife, Kim.

endless Love of God.” (ibid)

The statement “This does Atonement teach” is a reference to the previous paragraph. And what exactly does Atonement teach? That’s the million-dollar question. It is this:

“We have a mission here. We did not come to reinforce the madness that we once believed in. Let us not forget the goal that we accepted. It is more than just our happiness alone we came to gain. What we accept as what we are proclaims what everyone must be, along with us. Fail not your brothers, or you fail yourself. Look lovingly on them, that they may know that they are part of you, and you of them.” (ibid)

By the end we realize that “accepting the

Atonement” means remembering reality on behalf of everyone. Accepting the Atonement for yourself means accepting the Atonement as yourself; accepting the ever-unified Sonship as your only Self.

Is all of this too abstract? “Accepting the Atonement for yourself,” has often confused students for just that reason. The lesson ends by addressing just that — breaking it down into four specific how-to points, rendered in iambic pentameter. We may learn to recall:

“How dear our brothers are to us in truth,
How much a part of us is every mind,
How faithful they have really been to us,
And how our Father’s Love contains them all.” (ibid)

The Power of Print

Continued from page 1

and everyone who enjoys **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER**. This publication has become a welcome friend to many, and we definitely want to make sure they keep the connection. We have honored Kate’s request and were even able to send back issues, so she never has to miss an issue.

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to keep the printed copies coming to anyone who requests it. You may use the envelope in this issue, call us at **1-800-359-2246**, or go to **www.miraclecenter.org** to donate.

Update: Prison Project

The **Prison Project** of Miracle Distribution Center sends *A Course in Miracles* and other Course-based items to those in prison.

Through your generous donations, we have been able to supply many newly-started spiritual libraries in prisons. In some cases we have been able to provide multiple copies of books. These principles are truly making a difference and quenching a thirst for truth that many in prison have found no other place.

The following letter gives an indication of the importance of our **Prison Project** in many inmates’ minds and hearts. We are grateful that we are here to supply books and **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER** magazine to those who are incarcerated so they might experience the hope and healing *A Course in Miracles* offers.

Dear Prison Ministry,

I finished the entire workbook today and I just feel the desire to thank you again for helping me in my ongoing personal study of *A Course in Miracles*. The teachings of this Course are more consistent and empowering than any other source I have ever found. Now I eagerly begin the *Manual for Teachers*.

Special Request: Another inmate has asked that I help him by writing to request that *An Introduction to A Course in Miracles* be sent to him.

He already began a personal study of the Introduction before it was taken from him by a guard and thrown away because it had my name and inmate number in it rather than his. He is uncommonly bright and well-read. I feel that he will become a devoted follower of the Course in time.

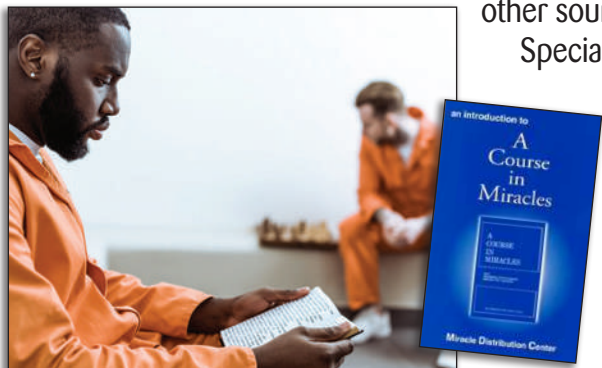
Thanks, Andrew, Washington State Correctional Center

We feel honored to be able to meet Andrew’s request and each request that is sent to us because of your generous support of the **Prison Project**. If you would like to support this project, we invite your tax-deductible donations.

If you are aware of an inmate who would like to receive books related to the Course, or **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER** magazine, let us know. Because of strict rules for sending items into prisons, please check with the particular prison authorities before you request items to be sent.

Thank you for your support! Together we can experience healing by demonstrating healing through our willingness to be truly helpful to others.

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



we allow the Holy Spirit into our error-filled thinking). All experiences are an opportunity to remember the unity we share with another. As the Course so poignantly reminds us, "When you meet anyone, remember it is a holy encounter." (T-8.III.4) ...as you see, think, or treat others, you do the same to yourself. "Never forget this, for in him you will find yourself or lose yourself. Whenever two Sons of God meet, they are given another chance at salvation." (ibid)

Perhaps there's a situation in your life right now where you can't see forgiveness as a practical answer. And yet, the Course tells us forgiveness is the only answer that will finally transform our lives and end the cycle of pain we (and the world) seem to find ourselves in. As we read in lesson 193:

"Each lesson has a central thought, the same in all of them. The form alone is changed, with different circumstances and events; with different characters and different themes, apparent but not real. They are the same in fundamental content. It is this:

Forgive, and you will see this differently.

Certain it is that all distress does not appear to be but unforgiveness. Yet that is the content underneath the form. It is this sameness which makes learning sure, because the lesson is so simple that it cannot be rejected in the end."

It is not up to us to figure out how forgiveness could work in this or that situation. We are asked to trust God's Voice which assures us forgiveness **is** the answer and allow Him to show us the way. Forgiving does not mean the situation will magically change; it means the way we view the situation will be transformed. A willingness to forgive opens our hearts and minds and allows us to see as God would have us see a situation or person ...with love and compassion. "Forgiveness is the only thing that stands for truth in the illusions of the world." (W-134)

The following article was sent to me years ago by a reader of **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER**

who lived in Cortland, New York. A story was published in a New York newspaper about a woman who had struck and killed a little boy with her car. There had been a lot of negative press and letters about this woman and the incident, so much so that the mother of the child who

"A willingness to forgive opens our hearts and minds and allows us to see as God would have us see a situation or person... with love and compassion."



was killed finally sent the following letter to the Editor of the newspaper:

To the Editor:

I am very distressed by the letters I have read and heard aired by the news media concerning the death of my son, Russell. I am afraid that many people are using this tragedy as license to express their lower instincts.

My small son is dead. There is no waking moment that I am not acutely aware of this. The only relief I feel in my grief is in finding some kind of positive action to occupy my days. There is little I can do now for Russell except in spiritual ways, but this letter is written to ask everyone who is aware of this tragedy to help me safeguard the memory of my little boy.

Please try not to be judgmental concerning the person whose car struck my son. Being compassionate and non-judgmental toward her does not mean condoning her action; it is simply accepting her humanity with an awareness of our own weaknesses.

Please expend your energy and release

"Please expend your energy and release your feelings of helplessness in the face of irreversible tragedy by doing something positive. Please hug your children more..."



your feeling of helplessness in the face of this irreversible tragedy by doing something positive. Please hug your children more or stop smoking, give your

beer money this month to UNICEF, or rake an elderly neighbor's leaves. Just do something in a spirit of love for little Russell's memory instead of letting his death be the cause of vindictiveness. If you need inspiration to

help you change your attitudes, look to Christ's teachings or the Baha'i writings.

My little boy was so full of light and love. Help me to spread the joy of his life to light up the world a little bit. Let me know what you are doing. Seriously, it will give me strength to go on.

We **can** forgive, because we do not do it alone. The strength of God awaits our little willingness to let Him help us. Let us together forgive by allowing the Holy Spirit to enter any confusing or distressing issue, and begin the process of seeing the world differently. Let the miraculous transformation of the mother in the above story, the example of the life of Jesus, and the many seemingly small awarenesses (miracles) I know you have experienced, be the igniting spark to let forgiveness find a home in your heart.

Whether or not we feel we "deserve" the things that happen to us in this world, we all are entitled to the peace of God. Forgiveness is the means by which we escape the pain, suffering, and random happiness of the world, and find the eternal peace and consistent happiness God has promised us. Is there really any anger or seeming "rightness" worth the peace of God?

Let us affirm:

"I will forgive and see this differently."

When anger begins to find a home in your heart, say: **"I will forgive and see this differently."**

When feelings of injustice cause you to question the value of God's children, say: **"I will forgive and see this differently."**

When you begin to value the projection of attack over the extension of mercy, say: **"I will forgive and see this differently."**

The words are not magical. What they do is allow you to stop the frenzy of your mind for just a moment, cause you to question the value of maintaining anger and separation, and allow the presence of God to return to

your awareness to help you even when you may see no hope.

The goal is not to change the world and the circumstances we find ourselves in, it is about being willing to change our minds and allow God to show us a peace that passes all worldly understanding. This awareness will bring us the kingdom of Heaven here and now, and that IS what you truly deserve. ❖

What's Happening

Continued from page 2

our **Wall of Innocence**. Please include your name, city and state, and approximate age at the time of the photo. Then find yourself on our website under "Services" and "Wall of Innocence" and watch our wall grow with love and innocence.

● "Let me be still and listen to the truth."

This lesson in *A Course in Miracles* shares the secret to our healing. We are entitled to miracles, but we will never experience them as long as we are distracted by our frenetic world and lives. God does not ask us to give much, just an instant – a holy instant – to allow truth to reign in our life. We invite you to take that holy instant with us daily in prayerful thought for yourself, loved ones, and those in the **Miracle Prayer Ministry**. Every day at 4:30pm (Pacific Time), we invite you to stop and join us. Together, let us be still and listen to the truth.

Thoughts for:

July: My part is essential to God's plan for salvation. (L100)

August: I will there be light. (L73)

September: God is my strength. Vision is His gift. (L42) ❖

Q&A with Jesus

Continued from page 7

themselves, they will not learn. They have destroyed their motivation for learning by thinking they already know. Think not you understand anything until you pass the test of perfect peace, for peace and understanding go together and never can be found alone. Each brings the other with it, for it is the law of God they be not separate. They are cause and effect, each to the other, so where one is absent the other cannot be." (T-14.XI.12) ❖

Absurdity of Happiness

Continued from page 5

The thing about the Course is, in my 33 years of study, I've never felt forced to put on a happy face. As have you, I have gone through my share of sad times, but when you practice the Course it imbeds itself in your core, of which a happy face is the organic expression. Nothing fake about it; just pure unadulterated, abiding joy, which is founded in this truth: if you extend joy and forgiveness to others, it will yield its natural return via happiness in your experience. Joy is always a collaborative venture.

Finally, we learn we are all equal in our identity as God's holy children. "You are indeed essential to God's plan. Without your

"...driving home from work and I heard on my radio the incomparable entertainer and late comedian Jimmy Durante in that raspy signature style of his, singing a song that he actually wrote..."



Jimmy Durante

joy, His joy is incomplete. Without your smile, the world cannot be saved." (WB 100.3)

So the next time someone asks you, "On the happiness scale from one to ten, what would you rate yourself? Do you know what your answer would be?"

The other day I was driving home from work, and I heard on my radio the incomparable entertainer and late comedian Jimmy Durante in that raspy signature style of his, singing a song that he actually wrote, "Make Someone Happy." It made me happy, especially the most remembered part of the song that says...

*Make someone happy,
Make just one someone happy;
And you will be happy, too.*

I think we could safely say making "just one someone happy" can be anyone to whom we extend our love to throughout our day. So, sing along with me... "Make someone happy, and you will be happy, too." An absurd idea or our salvation – you decide. ❖

FREE FOR A LIMITED TIME

Live Stream Wednesdays

Wednesday Evenings @ 7pm PT / 10pm ET

View our weekly meetings with Beverly Hutchinson McNeff

Become a Subscriber!

Subscribers have access to additional features:

- Archived meetings to view on-demand
- Receive audio recording via CD or mp3
- Ask questions and make comments during the meeting, communicate on a private group message board, 24/7, with viewers around the world



www.MiracleCenter.org

Visit our website & look for the link in the right hand column **www.miraclecenter.org**



"Getting God's Guidance"...

First in MDC's series of seminars on *A Course in Miracles* with Beverly Hutchinson McNeff



In April, MDC launched its new series with founder, Beverly Hutchinson McNeff, to deepen your understanding of the Course and its transforming principles. The day-long workshop featured multimedia presentations, lectures, and guided experiences, and was enthusiastically received by viewers around the world.

Making the *A Course in Miracles* understandable and practical to our lives, Beverly weaved an experience that produced a lot of "aha-experiences," as Petra in Germany wrote. She went on to say, "I watch videos of Course teachers often and your seminar was one of the best. Thank you very much, and I hope that you continue with this format."

"What an awesome workshop seminar! Thank you so much for your amazing ACIM teaching and loving hospitality. We are looking forward to the September retreat in Lucerne Valley!"

—Marti and John in California

"Everything about the seminar was perfect. The love you have for teaching and sharing just shines through! The blocks to 'the awareness of Love's presence' were removed, and I experienced my natural inheritance; peace and happiness beyond anything I imagined. (And believe me; I have waited too long for my inheritance). As I write this tears are coming to my eyes. Thank you so much for all the effort you put into making this so successful. I'm sending an extra donation because I want the center to thrive."

—Lyn in Washington

"Thank YOU! Wonderful seminar! I hope you will make this a regular thing - it was great. Congratulations to the whole MDC team! Beverly, you are such a blessing to us all."

—Peggy in Minnesota

"As a woman, it was so empowering to watch you for the entire day present so brilliantly on the Course. It's not often we see woman speakers on the Course, and I can't tell you how much I appreciated your example. Your confidence and conviction of the Course is very inspiring to not only women but to all Course students. Your knowledge on the Course and examples were very impressive and your effortless ability to teach it was so enjoyable — your style of humor and flair make it so much fun and digestible. I was amazed at all the different elements you brought in to help teach us all; the physical props, the video clips, the goodie bag of items to bring home to help us remember (my mustard seed has helped me tremendously a few times already!), your personal examples, the exercise hand-outs at the breaks; (and links for those who were watching in live) you covered all the gambits of education styles so that anyone who has a certain learning style (i.e visual/audio) was able to receive your messages. Spirit is strong in you! Thank you so much for your obvious hard work, and everyone's hard work at MDC, for creating and providing such a wonderful and heart opening day."

—Whitney in California

"I wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the seminar. I loved the way Beverly used movies, videos, and so many other things to teach us the principles of *A Course in Miracles*. I was viewing live, but after the first break, I didn't get back on for at least 20 minutes. I missed a few things but because of the archive feature, I went back later to watch — a great feature. I loved the clip on the dog and him protecting his bone! Too funny, and oh so much like all of us at times. The whole seminar was awesome."

—Bobbi in Nevada

It is quite possible to reach God. In fact it is very easy, because it is the most natural thing in the world. You might even say it is the only natural thing in the world. The way will open, if you believe that it is possible. (W-41)

www.miraclecenter.org

We feel rewarded by the positive feedback we received for this new series. Our goal was to make those who viewed live as connected and involved as those who joined us in person. Plus, you can still participate in the experience through our video archives. Visit our website and click on "Events" to get all the details — AND find out what we can learn from a paddle ball about our relationship with God. Find out by viewing the archived videos which contain the entire day's activities in four sessions.

Here's what others shared about the seminar...

"I loved every bit of the seminar. What you and your staff put together was perfect. Love how you are able to put the Course in a way that we can understand it. The way you put modern day examples to help explain what the Course is talking about. Thanks for all you do, please continue."

—Maria in California

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO ENJOY THIS SEMINAR!
- AVAILABLE ON-DEMAND -
Four video sessions and handouts.
Go to our website and click on "Events"

\$49



"Thank you for presenting such a wonderful seminar. I know it took the effort of many and it was so well done. You all deserve applause. Beverly's always understandable explanations of *A Course in Miracles* are invaluable. I had wandered from the Course and this seminar brought me back. THANK YOU!"

—Pam in Georgia

We invite you to become a Holy Helper



Available in print, CD or mp3

For over 40 years, Miracle Distribution Center has been an oasis of support and guidance for students of *A Course in Miracles*. Our life-affirming outreach, however, would not be possible without our Holy Helpers, our core group of donors whose support provides the Center with a constant



source of funding that can be relied upon to guarantee that the Center and its valuable services will be here when you or others need them.

Join today & receive a FREE welcome gift

Now, when you become a new Holy Helper with an ongoing commitment of \$15 or more each month, we will send you our Course Prayer Plaque. This beautiful 5"x7" navy blue, wooden plaque with the words of a Course prayer that has become a mantra for Course students around the world.



I am here only to be truly helpful. I am here to represent Him Who sent me. I do not have to worry about what to say or what to do, because He Who sent me will direct me. I am content to be wherever He wishes, knowing He goes there with me. I will be healed as I let Him teach me to heal.

Plus as a Holy Helper you will receive a 10% DISCOUNT on purchases from our bookstore and FREE Shipping for orders over \$45.00

We look forward to welcoming you to our Holy Helper family!

If you have any questions please contact us at: 1-800-359-ACIM (2246) or www.miraclecenter.org

The HOLY ENCOUNTER

JULY /AUGUST 2019

In This Issue...

- What You Truly Deserve
- The Absurdity of Happiness
- Jesus, At Last I Have Found You
- Question and Answer with Jesus
- Tag, You're It!
- Accept Atonement – and Find Yourself
....And More!



**Miracle
Distribution Center**
Founded 1978

3947 E. La Palma Ave.
Anaheim, CA 92807
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Free Support!

It's easy to forget how many free services Miracle Distribution Center provides. Our interactive website allows you to access these services anytime, around the clock.

- Holy Encounter Magazine
- ACIM Study Groups
- Weekly Live Stream Meetings
- ACIM Lookup
- Miracle Moment Podcasts
- Miracle Prayer Ministry
- The Prison Project
- Wall of Innocence
- Pledge for Peace
- Create & send e-cards
- Choose-a-Quote
- Daily Lesson e-mail

Visit our website at:

www.miraclecenter.org

then click "Services"
and the picture icon for the
service you are interested in.

Or Call:

1-800-359-2246 (ACIM)
or **714-632-9005**



Non Profit
Org.
**US Postage
PAID**
Santa Ana CA
Permit No 949

Don't Miss Out on this
Incredible Weekend!!

SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2019

Holy Encounter Retreat

*Experience the healing power of the Course through
lectures, meditation, group sharing, music, and laughter!*



International lecturer, author, and founder of the Center, Beverly Hutchinson McNeff 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.

Held at the majestic RW Ranch Spiritual Retreat Center in Lucerne Valley, California. Everything is included: the weekend retreat activities, well-appointed lodging, and six organic, chef-prepared meals.

Come and
experience first hand
the healing power of
A Course in Miracles!

Register Today!
Space is Limited

Registration begins at \$499. See page 3 for more details.



To register visit **www.miraclecenter.org** or call **1-800-359-ACIM (2246)**

