

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



NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2023
A Miracle Distribution Center Publication

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



The Holiest of All the Spots on Earth

by Beverly Hutchinson McNeff

**"The holiest of all the spots on earth is where
an ancient hatred has become a present love." (T-26.IX.6)**

This is one of the most beautiful phrases in *A Course in Miracles*. We can all agree that our hatreds are such a burden to carry, and they also seem nearly impossible to release. That is why, though, we study *A Course in Miracles*; we need a miracle to help us heal.

"This world is full of miracles. They stand in shining silence next to every dream of pain and suffering, of sin and guilt." (T-28.II.12)

A miracle becomes a shift from our focus on the suffering and sin of a hateful world to the reality of love that stands next to these mistaken dreams. What could be more sought after in today's contentious world than this experience?

With dangerous threats of war by world leaders, hateful rhetoric toward those of different races and religions, and the loss of respect for each other and the values our founding fathers fought for, this has become a time when we need the birth of Christ, the sanity a miracle can bring, more than ever.

These seeming divides may appear deep, but they were also deep during the time Jesus walked the world. There was great injustice inflicted by the ruling power of Rome and the religious zealots of the time, but one man's message of



Charlton Heston as Judah Ben-Hur.
MGM, 1959

"Many of us have seen the movie and remember not only the iconic chariot race, but also the movie's powerful message focusing on the release of hatred."

peace was heard and continues to be echoed today. This should give us faith and hope because that same help Jesus came to remind us of

over two thousand years ago is here now. This is the gift the Holy Spirit holds out to us as we look at these ancient hatreds presented once again and move past them to love. When this is our intent, healing is not only possible but inevitable.

Continued on page 3

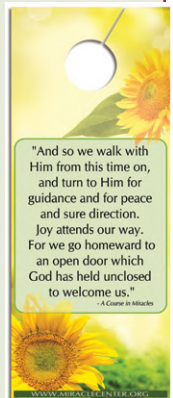
Beverly is the co-founder and president of MDC, one of the longest-running organizations based on *A Course in Miracles*. As a student, lecturer and author on the Course since 1977, her streamed weekly commentaries on Course principles have become an inspirational study and spiritual family for many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

Let's Keep it Going!

Your responses to our 2023 fundraising appeal began arriving last month. As always, we at the Center are grateful not just for your support during this annual appeal but for those of you who generously and loyally support MDC's work all year long.

Our monthly **Holy Helpers**, along with all our consistent donors, keep the Center functioning year-round, serving Course students and reaching out around the globe. While we do our utmost to see that each donation is gratefully acknowledged, it's important for us to remind you just how essential you and your support are to MDC's mission. With that in mind, our recent letter included a colorful door hanger that features two poignant quotations from *A Course in Miracles*. We hope you have already placed the hanger on a doorknob and have been comforted by its message.

If you have yet to respond to this year's appeal, please consider joining the ranks of those who keep MDC's doors open and the Course's teachings going out into the world. You may use the return envelope you received with this year's fundraiser, the envelope bound inside every issue of **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER**, or the donation link at miraclecenter.org. We are deeply grateful for your support.



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

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

● **Retreat Experience Made Easy** — Now is the perfect time to reserve your place at our next **Holy Encounter Retreat** on **September 27-29, 2024**. 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. Space is limited, and some room types will sell out. Our convenient payment plan offers low monthly payments throughout the year to complete your registration.

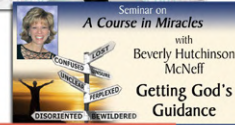


● **Celebration Challenge** — Celebrate your loved ones and support the Center! We hope you will do as **Molly in California** who donated \$45 for her 45th wedding anniversary and MDC's 45 years of service to students of *A Course in Miracles*. **Delores in New York** took the birthday challenge and donated her age plus a little extra. **Cheryl in Michigan** shared \$100 in honor of her 76th birthday and her 24 years of Course study. **Meg in Maryland** donated in honor of her husband's 58th birthday

after his recent heart attack. The Course and **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER** helped her through that difficult week. We thank you all for sharing your joy with us! Celebrate your special occasions with us, and we will thank you personally in **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER**.

● **On-demand ACIM Seminars**

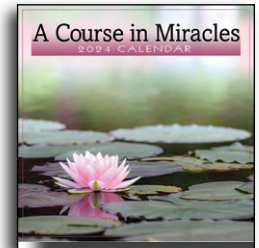
Continue your studies of the Course at your convenience, and in your own home, with these on-demand Seminars! We currently have three seminars on the principles of *A Course in Miracles* with Beverly McNeff for immediate viewing. Each seminar is six hours long, each having a unique focus. **Above the Battle Ground: Finding Peace in Turbulent Times**. Showing how re-focusing our minds on truth helps us to go beyond the illusion. **Getting God's Guidance** offers the Course's look at how we can experience



God's Will for us, and the *Fundamentals of Forgiveness* shares the Course's approach to its chosen path for our awakening. Beverly has a unique ability to cut through the complexity of the Course and put it in terms that will inspire your mind and touch your heart. Find out how to access these on our site or call the Center.

● **Looking forward to a Miraculous New Year!** Our **2024 A Course in Miracles Wall Calendar** is now available to give and receive as the perfect holiday gift!

This calendar features stunning full-color photos and inspiring quotes from the Course for each month. It will surely keep the Course's message of peace and healing in the forefront in your mind all year long. It's a meaningful gift you can give to all your family and friends — and the more calendars you purchase, the lower the price! See back page for details.



● **"This world is full of miracles."** They stand in shining silence next to every dream of pain and suffering, of sin and guilt." (T-28.II.12) 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 in prayerful thought for yourself, loved ones, and those in the Miracle Prayer Ministry daily at **4:30 pm (Pacific Time)**. We invite you to stop and join us. Together, we can experience the miracles we are entitled to. Thoughts for:

November: "I thank my Father for His gifts to me." (Lesson 123)

December: "I am as God created me." (Lesson 162)

A Holiday Blessing

from Your Friends at Miracle Distribution Center

"Each little gift you offer to your brother lights up the world." (T-22.VI.9)

It all begins with you! Please join with us as together we nurture and extend the light of love that is within us this holiday season. Remember, that "light" is the translation of this world into Heaven.

"I am the light of the world. That is my only function. That is why I am here." (W-61)



"If there is light in the soul,
There will be beauty in the person;
If there is beauty in the person,
There will be harmony in the home;
If there is harmony in the home,
There will be order in the nation;
If there is order in the nation,
There will be peace in the world."
Chinese proverb

"God's Word has promised that peace is possible here, and what He promises can hardly be impossible. But it is true that the world must be looked at differently, if His promises are to be accepted. What the world is, is but a fact. You cannot choose what this should be. But you can choose how you would see it. Indeed, you must choose this." (M-11.1)

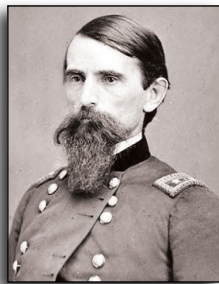
As the holiday season rolls around, I am reminded of one of my favorite movies, *Ben-Hur*. I know there have been remakes of this classic, but nothing will replace for me the 1959 epic starring Charlton Heston. Many of us have seen the movie and remember not only the iconic chariot race but also the movie's powerful message focusing on the release of hatred. Even though the film does not often use the word forgiveness, it is the pervasive theme. But here's a piece of trivia for you. Did you know the movie was based on a novel written by a Civil War general?

Lewis Wallace had served as a Union army general in the American Civil War, and in 1880, his novel, *Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ*, was published. It quickly became "the most influential Christian book of the nineteenth century." Upon its release, it became a bestseller and even surpassed in sales the then-current leader, Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

Juxtapose these two notions: a general in one of the bloodiest and most divisive wars our country has fought writes one of the most influential novels about the transforming power of forgiveness. The movie's culmination is not a worldly victory over persecutors but the hero's victory over persecution as he awakens to the transforming power of forgiveness that takes away his hate and need for revenge. Perhaps *Ben-Hur* is so compelling and enduring because it was written by a warrior who could understand the critical

need for the healing balm of forgiveness amid such hatred.

In the movie, we see the charmed life of a Jewish prince (Judah Ben-Hur) destroyed in an instant by a childhood friend, Messala, a Roman who has come



General Lewis Wallace

"Lewis Wallace had served as a Union army general in the American Civil War, and in 1880 his novel, Ben-Hur... was published. It quickly became 'the most influential Christian book of the nineteenth century.'"

back from Rome to rule Jerusalem with an iron fist. Over a misunderstanding, Messala unjustly enslaves Judah and imprisons his mother and sister. Judah's life as he knows it is destroyed, but these events also start him on a journey that will parallel the life of Christ. Judah has moments in which his life intersects with Jesus, but most of the time, these

miraculous moments are lost to Judah because his mind is filled with hate and revenge. One of the powerful aspects of the movie is that we never really see or experience Jesus directly; we only get glimpses of him and his effects on Judah. In one scene, Judah is in chains, marching with a group of slaves through the desert



to an unknown fate. The slaves are brought to a small village where Jesus happens to live. As Jesus offers the thirsty and demoralized Judah

a cup of water, the cup is kicked out of his hands by his Roman captor. Jesus' life-giving act is denied Judah, making him more hateful of his captors. The miracle standing in shining silence next to Judah's hate is not recognized, and so the hatred

goes on.

Judah is told of this remarkable man (Jesus) as the movie continues, but in each of these encounters, Judah's hate denies him the miracle that could heal him. Through a series of events, Judah rises to prominence again, as he has been embraced by Rome as a citizen and a victorious charioteer. His worldly success, however, cannot extinguish his loathing for what Rome stands for, especially when he learns that his mother and sister, whom he thought were dead, are still alive but living in the valley of lepers. Leprosy, at that time, was considered a fate worse than death.

Even though Messala, the man who started the circus of insanity, is dead, Judah's thirst for vengeance is not quenched. He wants "blood" and blames all of Rome for the inhumane treatment of his family. Here is where his life intersects with Jesus again, as Judah ends up at the foot of Christ at his crucifixion. It is here that Judah experiences Jesus' powerful message of forgiveness in the face of what the world would call an unjust act perpetrated on a man who had only taught peace. The irony is not lost on Judah, who, in that moment, experiences the miracle of forgiveness that releases him from his vengeance. As he recounts later, "I felt him (Jesus) take the sword out of my hand." Forgiveness had won the day, not hate and a craving for what the world calls "justice."

As you view the story of *Ben-Hur* and its message of the redemptive gift of forgiveness to heal a warrior, it makes sense that a Civil War general, who probably saw the need for a

"Judah has moments in which his life intersects with Jesus, but most of the time these miraculous moments are lost to Judah because his mind is filled with hate and revenge."

country and people to come together past their rights and wrongs, would want to bring forth this healing message.

Wallace's character, Judah Ben Hur, becomes all of

us as we journey through a world of hate and injustice. We constantly have moments of connection with Christ, but



Miracle Musings...

Fear Not!

by Paul McNeff

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." (Luke 2:10)

"I will not be afraid of love today."

"Father, Your Name is Love and so is mine. Such is the truth. And can the truth be changed by merely giving it another name? The name of fear is simply a mistake. Let me not be afraid of truth today." (W-282)

In one form or another, whether it is "Be not afraid" or "Fear not," this loving command appears 365 times in the Bible! *A Course in Miracles* speaks volumes about not fearing by instructing us to not be afraid of the truth.

Even if you do not celebrate Christmas, you are probably familiar with the Christmas story, as the Gospel of Luke recounts. As the shepherds watched over their flock at night they were visited by an angel...

"an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly frightened. And the angel said to them, 'Fear not: for, behold, I bring

you good tidings of great joy which shall be for all the people; for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.'" (Luke 2: 8-11)

Whether or not you ever encountered "the glory of the Lord shining all around you," as the shepherds did, you can equate their fearful experience with many of your own. Fear can paralyze us. It can render us helpless and manifest in many forms: the fear of death, the fear of flying, or the fear

of losing a loved one. Whatever the distress may be, I think the shepherds' story and *A Course in Miracles* can counsel us on a path where we can move through and overcome the fearful moments in our lives.

Instead of letting fear freeze them in their tracks, the shepherds found courage in the angel's "fear not" admonition, and they then embarked on the straightest path to Bethlehem, where they found the baby Jesus lying in a manger. Not only did they experience the love of the innocent baby Jesus in the manger, but the shepherds couldn't keep quiet about it and spread the news of their holy encounter to all who would hear them.



"Instead of letting fear freeze them in their tracks, the shepherds found courage in the angel's 'fear not' admonition..."

The Course expands the Christmas story and teaches us that the Christmas message is not limited to a one-day celebration. Instead, we can celebrate it every moment of our lives, anytime we allow love to be born in our thoughts. Just as the shepherds did, we can conquer our fearful thoughts when we seize the opportunity to quiet our hearts, tune out the voice of the ego, and listen to the thoughts of God, which the Course equates as angels as well as the still, small voice within. The issue is

not what we call the power of God to help us in our lives today, but how do we do it?

A Course in Miracles, ever practical, offers us three steps to still our fears and experience the thoughts of God. As it says in workbook lesson 106, "Let me be still and listen to the truth."

"If you will lay aside the ego's voice, however loudly it may seem to call; if you will not accept its petty gifts that give you nothing that you really want; if you will listen with an open mind, that has not told you what salvation is; then you will hear the mighty Voice of truth, quiet in power, strong in stillness, and completely certain in its messages."

Step 1: *"If you will lay aside the ego's voice, however loudly it may seem to call..."*

As a singer and choral conductor, I know what it is to experience debilitating stage fright before a performance. The ego wants nothing more than to convince me that I will have a disastrous performance and suffer a lifetime of shame. It sounds dramatic, but that is the ego at its loudest and most capricious. But, through the Course, I have found several encouragements that help me break out of fear's treacherous hold, lay aside the ego's voice even when it is at its loudest, and experience a glorious performance. One of my favorite affirmations before I perform is:

"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)

When I can affirm that thought or any of the powerful prayers in the Course, the words of truth help to calm my fears and allow me to stop living in the past or the future. It centers me in the moment and

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

circumvents the ego insanity. It reminds me that I am not alone and that all creation is rooting for me to succeed, for in my success is everyone's.

Step 2: "...if you will not accept its petty gifts that give you nothing that you really want..."

There are many petty gifts in this world that many have traded for the peace of God. But no one, when taking their final breath in this physical body, is really worried about the size of their bank account or real estate holdings; it is knowing they are not alone and love is all around them that will bring them peace. Therefore, the key to this step is to listen to the "appointed Voice," which is the same as that still, small voice within.



"Once Elijah realized that the world's mighty events could never conquer God's still, small voice, he heard the voice that would guide him..."

Some sources instruct us that the genesis of this peaceful state of mind can be found in the Biblical story of Elijah. Elijah found that appointed voice as he was running away from Queen Jezebel, fearing her ending his life for doing God's bidding. Elijah complains to God about his plight, and God sends a "mighty wind which broke the rocks in pieces; then He sent an earthquake and a fire, but His voice was in none of them. After all that, the Lord spoke to Elijah in the still small voice." (I Kings 19: 11,12) Once Elijah realized that the world's mighty events could never conquer God's still, small voice, he heard the voice that would guide him to fulfill his mission safely.

Step 3: "...if you will listen with an open mind, that has not told you what salvation is..."

The ego wants us to trade momentary satisfaction for long-term peace. When we get caught in the toys and trinkets of the world, we often lose sight and direction in our lives. I remember being fired from a prestigious job (at the top of my field) because I did my job *too well*. I was told "off the record" that it was a power-play and a political action from this person who threatened a financial calamity on

my employer unless I was released. I was appalled, and I wanted revenge.

Luckily, I had a friend who was a lawyer, and he convinced me that revenge might satisfy my ego but would never give me the real salvation I wanted and could drag on forever. He proposed a different approach, which allowed me to create the children's chorus, KidSingers, that has, for the last twenty-seven years, transformed the lives of thousands of inner-city youths. The momentary, close-minded thoughts of the ego would never have given me the joy that listening to the truth, spoken by my friend, gave me. He became the voice of truth, which led me to real contentment and salvation.

Listening with an open mind is encouraged in this lesson, as it says:

"Listen and hear your Father speak to you through His appointed Voice, which silences the thunder of the meaningless, and shows the way to peace to those who cannot see."

Once again, we find the key to mastering our fears is not found in the raucous, outer voices of the world but by quieting and opening our minds so we can let in the voice of Spirit. When we do this, we will, as the shepherds did, be freed to find the innocence in our inner manger of peace and spread this joy and love through a fruitful life of service and light.

"Be not afraid today to circumvent the voices of the world. Walk lightly past their meaningless persuasion. Hear them not. Be still today and listen to the truth. Go past all things which do not speak of Him Who holds your happiness within His Hand, held out to you in welcome and in love. Hear only Him today, and do not wait to reach Him longer. Hear one Voice today." (W-106.3)





FREE Livestream Wednesdays

Wednesday Evenings @ 7pm PT / 10pm ET

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

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 quietness, God's Word enters.
1. Let this day be a day of stillness and of quiet listening. Your Father will give you peace this blessed day. And so He calls from deep within your mind when the silence. Hear His Voice. His peace is in paradise and the world. Your mind is quiet listening, awaiting the message that the world must hear in the quiet time of peace.



MDC

Become a Subscriber

and have access to additional features:

- Previous meetings to view on-demand from our archive of hundreds of sessions
- Closed captioning now included
- 24/7 access to a private message board for viewers from around the world
- Become part of a worldwide family of Course students

Go to our website and click the "Watch" button

miraclecenter.org



Recognizing Spirit

Inspirational Psychology on How to Identify and Listen to the Holy Spirit - Part Two

by Lee Jampolsky, Ph.D.

"Healing is not creating; it is reparation. The Holy Spirit promotes healing by looking beyond it to what the children of God were before healing was needed, and will be when they have been healed." (T-5.II.1)

This article is the second in a two-part series. In Part One, I introduced an overview of the Fear-Based and Love-Based thought systems and the importance of coming to a place in our lives of wanting to find a loving approach. However, if you have not read part one, you need not be concerned; you will have no problem understanding what I present here.

The Holy Spirit helps us remember who we are by bringing awareness of the presence of love to every moment, enabling us to shift our perception. The ego doesn't remotely understand "healing by looking beyond it." To the ego, "healing" is of the body and takes place in time, always ending in inevitable death. The practice of *A Course in Miracles* gently brings us to living a life where we know that the Holy Spirit is forever in our mind, placed there by God, and looks beyond time, guilt, and death to help us see ourselves and each other as God created us. Nothing is more beautiful than the image created in our minds from the holy instant we see "what the children of God were before healing was needed." Seeing this in all sentient beings, no matter the situation is my motivation to turn to the Holy Spirit.

We can develop these shifts in per-

ception when we listen to other people. For example, when you hear someone say, "Boy, did I ever have a bad day," the automatic response is usually, "What happened?" Though on one level, this is helpful because listening is always useful, there are other questions. In asking, "What happened?" you may reinforce the belief

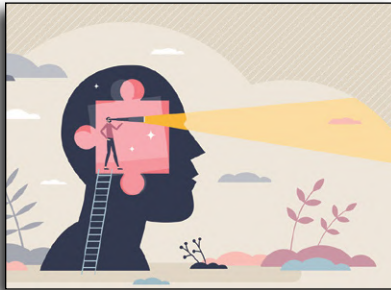
that circumstances are responsible for our feelings rather than perception. Even though it sounds awkward, the more helpful response may be, "What did you believe today? What voice were you listening to?"

Although not everybody is ready for such questions, we can certainly begin to ask ourselves two questions when upset, "What do I believe about this situation and myself? Am

I listening to the ego's Fear-Based voice or the Holy Spirit's Love-Based voice? In asking these questions, we are turning toward the only genuine place where help lives.

With the above approach, we choose to live from a foundational mindset that states, "No matter the circumstances, I am responsible for my peace of mind. My reactions and what I experience depend upon which aspect of my mind I utilize ego or Holy Spirit."

Many movies and novels share the theme of the protagonist becoming lost and facing challenges, trying to find clues or someone to help them get back home.



"In asking, 'What happened?' you may reinforce the belief that circumstances are responsible for our feelings rather than perception."

Similarly, the ego creates many dramatic events, conflicts, and challenges, resulting in losing our way home. Not to worry, the Holy Spirit is forever our communication link with God, showing us the way home. The Holy Spirit was given to us by God the moment we turned away from the oneness of His love and began to believe in separation. Even if only for a moment, experiencing the Holy Spirit as ever-present in your mind, softly calling you to return to love, changes your life forever. I know it has changed mine.

In answering how to recognize the Holy Spirit, I was reminded of the many passages in the Course that essentially teach me that the Holy Spirit is never demanding or controlling, attacking or dividing, harsh or angry. The Holy Spirit is always gentle and patiently waiting for me to be willing to quiet my busy mind and be open to listening to the gentle voice of love. The Holy Spirit speaks for God, so if what is being said or given does not lead to seeing "what the children of God were before healing was needed," it is not the Holy Spirit.

The ego's voice of Fear-Based Thinking does not give up without a fight and can be very convincing. After years of listening to the brazen voice of fear, it is often challenging to begin to turn to the gentle voice of the Holy Spirit. For me, making this shift is the core of my spiritual path. What helps me is a statement of intention to direct me. I often use the following quote from the Course to begin my day before a challenging conversation or situation I may be anxious about.

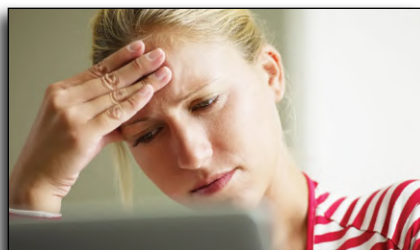
"This holy instant would I give to You. Be You in charge. For I would follow You, certain that Your direction gives me peace." (W-361-365)

If you are like many Course students, including me, even with the best inten-

tions, you may find yourself forgetful, uncomfortable, or reluctant to practice this in *all* situations. Being a writer, I do not have a shortage of words. A while back, a person unfamiliar with the Course or my books asked me what the essence of my spiritual path was. I stumbled for a concise and accurate answer. Later, I remember my father saying that the titles of all his books held the essence of what was inside, and if someone understood and put into practice what was in the title, he felt they made a difference; titles like *Love is Letting Go of Fear*, *Teach Only Love*, *One Person Can Make a Difference*. In five words or fewer, I asked myself what the essence of my spiritual practice is. What emerged was "Removing the blocks to love." I know I cannot do this without the Holy Spirit's help.

"The Holy Spirit is the spirit of joy. He is the Call to return with which God blessed the minds of His separated Sons." (T-5.II.2)

My five-word sentence reflects the importance of forgiveness to relinquish the fear and judgment created by the ego. Turning to the Holy Spirit or Jesus to remove the blocks to love is not just a tool; it can increasingly become a way of living that reflects our heart's genuine desire to give and receive love. My five words describe remembering who we are and the beauty of experiencing and expressing love.



"The ego's voice of Fear-Based Thinking does not give up without a fight and can be very convincing."

"The Holy Spirit calls you both to remember and to forget... The Voice of the Holy Spirit does not command, because It is incapable of arrogance... It merely reminds. It is compelling only because of what It reminds you of. It brings to your mind the other way, remaining quiet even in the midst of the turmoil you may make." (T-5.II.6-7)

My five words remind me I am on a path, with the help of the Holy Spirit, of forgetting fear and separation while remembering love and oneness. In closing, I offer seven days of excerpts from *A Course*

in *Miracles* to practice prayerfully asking the Holy Spirit to help us remember and forget.

Help Me Remember and Forget

When you heal, you are remembering the laws of God and forgetting the laws of the ego.

1. Holy Spirit, help me remember: "In quietness are all things answered, and is every problem quietly resolved."
2. Holy Spirit, help me remember: "Love holds no grievances."
3. Holy Spirit, help me remember: "What you think you are is a belief to be undone."
4. Holy Spirit, help me remember: "To forgive is merely to remember only the loving thoughts you gave in the past, and those that were given you."
5. Holy Spirit, help me remember: "Through prayer love is received, and through miracles love is expressed."
6. Holy Spirit, help me remember: "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."

7. Holy Spirit, help me remember: "What

would you have me do today? Where would you have me go? What would you have me say, and to whom?" ❖

Did You Know??

When you call the Center during normal business hours you will be talking to a real person!... Not a recording telling you to leave a message, or an automated greeting. Our caring staff is here, available to help you Mon.-Fri. 9am to 4pm.

714-632-9005

One of the many services your donations make possible



The Holiest of All...

Continued from page 3

perhaps we are missing them because of preoccupation with our judgments and anger. Forgiveness does not just come at the foot of Christ, but in every moment that we turn to love, seeking unity instead of separation — and experience a miracle instead of pain.



"Here is when his life intersects with Jesus again, as Judah ends up at the foot of Christ at his crucifixion. It is here Judah experiences Jesus' powerful message of forgiveness..."

Forgiveness can heal our lives. Even if we cannot figure out how it is possible, forgiveness can miraculously take the sword out of our hands. We are not asked to deny the feelings we are experiencing, but we must honestly look at them and decide if the perpetuation of hate, pain, and suffering is really what we want. If we are ready to allow our ancient hates to be healed, then it is time to take the Hand of One Who will offer a healing answer to release us and show us the present love.

Isn't it time for a miracle? Are you willing to let God's Answer heal your mind? As the Course tells us, a miracle stands next to every thought of hate you are holding onto. Peace is possible here because peace is God's Will for us, but for us to experience that peace, we must change our minds about the purpose of the world. It is not a place to dominate, attack, and only win; it is a healing ground to teach us the holiest of all spots on earth is where ancient hatreds become present experiences of love and unity.

May you have a healed and holy holiday season.



45 Years in Retrospect...

The life of Miracle Distribution Center

by Beverly Hutchinson McNeff



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

Part VI: 2023 and Beyond: A Miracle Odyssey!

"When you have accepted your mission to extend peace you will find peace, for by making it manifest you will see it." (T-12.VII.11)

The question we are frequently asked at Miracle Distribution Center (MDC) is: "Where is the Center going? Where do you see it in the future?" My first reaction to this type of question is the thought from the Course that says, "A healed mind does not plan." (W-135.11) And yet, since we do not realize that our minds are healed, we do tend to plan.

A Course in Miracles is not asking us to deny the world or our need to make plans, but it is asking us to plan nothing on our own. It cautions us in the text section entitled *Looking Within*,

"Everything you behold without is a judgment of what you beheld within. If it is your judgment it will be wrong, for judgment is not your function. If it is the judgment of the Holy Spirit it will be right, for judgment is His function." (T-12.VII.12)

So it is not so much whether one should plan or not plan, but with whom he will make his plans.

Our goal at MDC is always to ask the Holy Spirit, "What would you have us do?" That does not mean we will always follow

the path of peace because "The power of decision is your one remaining freedom as a prisoner of this world." (T-12.VII.9) We are given the freedom to condemn or release, to accept our mission of extending peace or projecting a conflicted, confused purpose.



"In my position as a writer and lecturer on the Course, I have the enviable position of hearing the stories of those who have been helped by the message of the Course and by the services and commitment of MDC."

will not change, for His direction *cannot* change.

The Center has been on a steady keel for the past forty-five years. It is quite clear to us, through the thousands of calls, emails, letters, and requests we receive each month, that we are exactly where we should be, doing exactly what we should be doing, and serving God and our brothers in exactly the way we should be serving them.

In my position as a writer and lecturer on the Course, I have the enviable position of hearing the stories of those who have

It is easy to look around and see the constant change in people's and organizations' purposes when they place the emphasis on things outside themselves. The Course asks us to look within and find that our purpose is to extend peace and allow the Holy Spirit to direct the outward expression of that purpose. His direction will be clear and consistent, even in the confusion and conflict. His direction

been helped by the message of the Course and by the services and commitment of MDC. For example, an attendee once told me at one of our events that *A Course in Miracles* and *THE HOLY ENCOUNTER* magazine had been his "foundation blocks for a new world and way of thinking." Another said, "I can already feel changes taking place inside of me. I've moved along so far in just one short weekend. It really gave me a big lift spiritually." Another wrote, "We are in gratitude and appreciation to MDC for supplying us with what we always need and ways (retreats, livestreams, and written articles) with which to soak our souls in miracles."

As I was writing this article, I received a letter from a lady in Finland who said how thrilled she was to receive *THE HOLY ENCOUNTER*, for it provided strong support for her development with the Course and provided her with such comfort and happiness knowing that help was only an email or phone call away!

I hear and read these kinds of comments daily, yet each one is unique and deeply touches my heart. With every comment, I thank God for being given the opportunity to serve you and Him. These kinds of comments are our answer to those who ask, "Where is the Center going?" The Center is not "going" anywhere! But we are going to accept our mission to extend peace, help, and joy and thereby find it.

There is no greater purpose in life than to serve and be of help. Postulating theories or building edifices might be one's direction, but success is not measured in things and theories. As Emerson said, "...to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life had breathed easier because you lived. This is to have

succeeded." Being of service is how we define success.

As we travel into the coming years, our odyssey is to continue our prayer that we will choose to look within, and follow the only true Teacher there is. This certainly does not mean we will be inactive; on



"The Center's varied activities and services are highlighted on our website at www.miraclecenter.org. There is so much going on..."

the contrary, God needs teachers of God now more than ever before, so be assured that if you choose to look within for His direction and purpose, you will be kept very busy.

Over the past forty-five years, MDC has been kept very busy as it has grown and developed into an international contact point, education, and information center for students of the Course, as well as a media contact point. The Center's varied activities and services are highlighted on our website at www.miraclecenter.org. There is so much going on, from our interactive website to our prison project, prayer ministry, daily lesson email and text service, free weekly livestream watched by 70% of the world's countries, inspirational weekly emails, and much more to come.

MDC is growing, but it is impossible for any of us here to say where it will be in a year or ten years. The moment one tries to place what is limitless within limits, its real meaning is lost. The purpose of the Center is limitless, for the extension of peace knows no boundaries.

So we continue our "miracle odyssey." It is a miracle because our purpose is about healing and shifting our perception from



God Is My Brand

by Jacob Glass

"Grace is the natural state of every Son of God. When he is not in a state of grace, he is out of his natural environment and does not function well. Everything he does becomes a strain, because he was not created for the environment that he has made. He therefore cannot adapt to it, nor can he adapt it to him. There is no point in trying. A Son of God is happy only when he knows he is with God. That is the only environment in which he will not experience strain, because that is where he belongs. It is also the only environment that is worthy of him, because his own worth is beyond anything he can make." (T-7.XI:2)

I began 2023 in Palm Springs, where I'd been living for a couple of years. They were years of great discovery, productivity, and a tremendous amount of failure and seeming loss. They were once again periods of sorting out, relinquishment, and unsettling that the Manual for Teachers speaks of in the section on "Development of Trust." For me personally, these have not been a "once and for all" set of lessons. Apparently, I like to repeat lessons now and then.

"I do not perceive my own best interests" is another one of those lessons that I keep on needing to repeat. When I realized that I could not handle another hot summer in the desert, the last place on earth I wanted to live was Santa Barbara, where I had lived twice

before. I had tremendous RESISTANCE to the whole idea. It really has none of the things that my ego LOVES — things that I once easily found in places like Los

Angeles, San Diego, and Palm Springs — things that had gradually disappeared from those places, including quite a few friends who moved away or passed away.

I suppose many people have had similar experiences of how much the world has changed

over the past few years — a kind of collective period of undoing and relinquishment where we are being "forced" to see the lack of value in certain outer things that seemed to have been "taken



"I'm far less concerned with what is going on with my body and thoughts and more interested in what feeds my soul."

Continued on page 13

Jacob has a global ministry and his recorded weekly talks and can be found at jacobglass.com

form to content, and an odyssey because we still have much learning ahead. But it is an exciting odyssey as we daily make the choice to accept our mission to extend peace and thereby manifest it in our lives and the lives of all who come in contact with MDC.

We thank you for sharing this continuing journey with us!

It's FREE



Each issue of **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER** is sent **FREE** to you!

To keep receiving, simply keep in contact with us once a year.

miraclecenter.org

45 Years in the Life of MDC

~ 1978 - 2023 ~

We'd be honored to hear how the Center has blessed you over the past 45 years. *Submit a comment or upload a video at:*
miraclecenter.org/45years

We are here



to be truly helpful...

I happily found Miracle Distribution Center (MDC) in the city where I lived in 1990, which was Fullerton, CA. I had found *A Course in Miracles* a few months earlier when I worked as a full-time hairstylist. I had been questioning my vocation for a while, but working as a stylist allowed me to bring spiritual concepts into my work, and people seemed to resonate with it. This was rewarding, but I still didn't feel it was my path. However, being in my late twenties, I did not know what else to try and thought I needed to stick it out. I began attending the weekly meetings at Miracle Distribution Center, and luckily my beautiful mother joined me.

In one meeting, Beverly led us through a visualization where we wrote down a worry on a piece of paper, then put it into a hot air balloon and watched as it floated up and into the Hands of God. I was concerned with my career path and wanted to do what He would have me do. I watched as God unfolded and read the worry I presented to Him. He then smiled and burst into a big belly laugh. I was surprised but not offended by this outburst because it was such loving laughter, and He quickly reassured me that although I may not understand at this moment, He had a plan and a handle on where I would be and what I would be doing.

I moved up to Northern California and kept God in all expressions of my hairdressing business, and a few years passed. But I still longed for a change; I moved back to Southern California and once again began participating in MDC's study group and praying for a new path to open.

Then one fateful day came my Cinderella moment, as I was literally scrubbing my laundry room floor on my hands and knees. I started praying and asking that God allow me to be in a work situation with people like Beverly and Darin that would help me to grow. Soon a phone call interrupted this fervent prayer, and since

this was still in the "old school days," the call came on my mother's home phone. The call was from Darin at MDC asking me if I would like to be paid to help them out a few hours a week until I found new employment. Without a thought, I said, "No!" I didn't know the first thing about working in an office. He then asked if I could answer the phones at the office and be kind, and I said, "Yes, I can do that."

Beverly's mother, Tona, was the perfect angel to train me, and she did that so well. I worked full-time for MDC until the birth of my oldest daughter in 1997, and then my career changed to being a stay-at-home mom and an MDC volunteer. When my two beautiful daughters were older, I returned to part-time and later full-time employment in 2010.

I found a home and a family in Miracle Distribution Center and have grown more than I would have thought possible in this lifetime. I went from someone with depression and anxiety problems who feared I was

incompetent to overcome the world's challenges to a person with a firm commitment and knowing I am capable and deserving to "be here now" for myself and to encourage others who are overwhelmed. "I am here to be truly helpful," and allow Him to use me as a channel of His love.

I learned all this by example from everyone at Miracle Distribution Center who displayed these characteristics and generously shared them with me. Together they helped me grow, be grateful, forgive, take responsibility for, and embrace this Happy Dream.

"Only what you have not given can be lacking in any situation. But remember this; the goal of holiness was set for your relationship, and not by you." (T-17.VII.4)

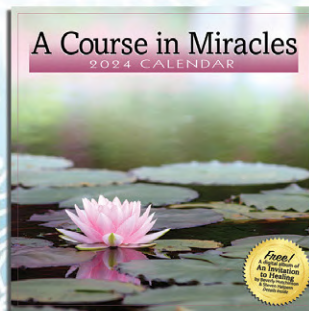
I am profoundly grateful for my holy companions at Miracle Distribution Center!

Tess in Fullerton, CA

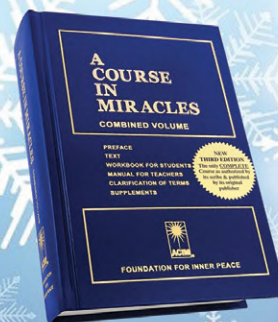


Darin, Bev, Paul and Tess in 1995

GIVE THE Gift OF Miracles



ACIM 2024
Wall Calendar



**A Course
in Miracles**
Available in
hardcover, softcover
and
paperback versions



Insight from
A Course in Miracles



Wisdom from
A Course in Miracles



Teach Only
Love
Tote Bag



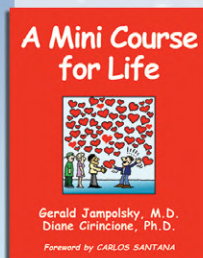
ACIM Perpetual Flip Calendar



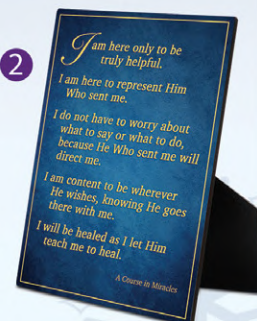
Teach Only Love
Water Bottle

*Your purchases
help to fund
the Center's
many
free services!*

Great Stocking Stuffers



1 A Mini Course for Life
Paperback, 60 pgs. & lesson cards



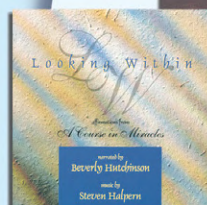
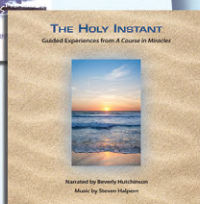
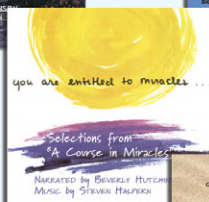
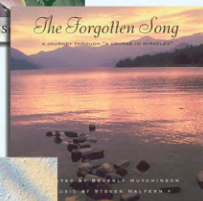
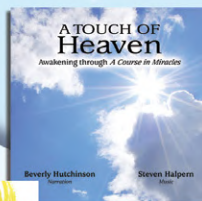
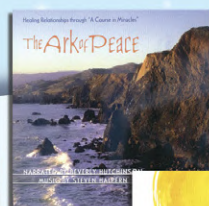
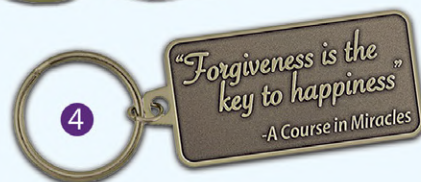
2 Miracle Plaque
5"x 7" wood, with
words of a prayer that
has become a mantra
for Course students

3 Wristbands 8 different ACIM quotes.
Purchase individually or as a set of 8.
See website for complete listing

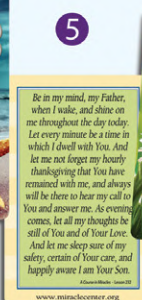
4 Key Chain Brass finish



5 Affirmation Cards
two-sided cards
affirmation on the
front & prayer on
the back



Inspirational Recordings from
A Course in Miracles by
Beverly Hutchinson McNeff
and **Steven Halpern**



To Order: **800-359-ACIM (2246)** OR **miraclecenter.org**
On our website click on "Store" to see our large selection of books, CD's and other Course related items





Worth

by Joseph Miller

*"For it is in the advent of God's Son
The light of resurrection is begun."*

(Helen Schucman, The Hope of Christmas)

When I was a child, our family sometimes attended Christmas midnight mass. I fondly recall the low, warm light and the mystic privilege of being awake during what is ordinarily a forbidden hour. But I remember something else too, something unforgettable — the singing of *O Holy Night* by Charles Podmore. Mr. Podmore was a tenor with operatic training who belonged to our parish. The song would begin during the lull as communion was wrapping up, with the congregation kneeling or sitting in silence. First, there were the low-rolling arpeggios from the organ and then Podmore's gentle beginning, full of devotion and wonder. The momentum and the volume would build until a soaring climax shook the air and every candlestick in the sanctuary - "O Night Divine!" The flames themselves appeared to tremble. My siblings and I exchanged glances in astonishment.

I will always regard that song as gloriously beautiful. And as I grew and began to think about the lyrics, one line, in particular, leaped out at me. "Long lay the world in sin and error pining — Till He appeared, and the soul felt its worth." That expresses the essence of the matter to me. That is the important point: the soul is reminded of its worth. Without that miracle, nothing is accomplished. With that, all renewal

and all reform become possible. The "new and glorious morn" that the song goes on to celebrate is just that — a morning of possibility, an atonement, a spiritual enfranchisement.

I think this message also lies at the core of *A Course in Miracles*. Salvation is not an abstract or theological affair but an immediate existential possibility. It is the light of meaning lifting your spirit today, illuminating your walk right now, ensouling your words and actions. If enlightenment is a brilliant lantern, the flame within is self-worth. And that flame is sparked and fanned by our elder brothers.

"The simple presence of a teacher of God is a reminder. ...As God's messengers, His teachers are the symbols of salvation. ...They stand for the Alternative." (M-5.III.2)



"If enlightenment is a brilliant lantern, the flame within is self-worth. And that flame is sparked and fanned by our elder brothers."

Jesus appears (or Pythagoras, Plato, Buddha, Muhammad, Krishna, etc. — choose your symbol), and the soul is reminded of its worth because the teacher is a symbol of salvation. His simple presence is enough

to "remind" — that is, "bring to mind again" — what has been buried but never lost. He stands for the Alternative. The alternative to what? The alternative

to madness, ennui, and antipathy; the nightmare of separation. The alternative to "the world" — a term which serves as shorthand for the ego's thought system.

I will never forget my seventh-grade teacher, Dorothy McDonnell. To this day, I keep a photo of her hanging on my wall. She paid her students the compliment and the trust of regarding us as young adults,

not children. Mrs. McDonnell taught my older sister and made it clear to me on the first day of class that she expected intelligence and maturity. In turn, I could not help feeling devoted to her. When we meet a clear-eyed and truthful person, we often desire their friendship and esteem. You may be able to disregard the distorting lens of a judgmental person, but a true teacher serves as a mirror for your very self. I love the statement near the beginning of the Course that devotion calls forth devotion and devotion alone is entitled to devotion.

"An elder brother... is also entitled to love because he is a brother, and to devotion if he is devoted. It is only my devotion that entitles me to yours."

(T-1.II.3)

The Course here isn't talking about the showy ritualistic devotion of the Pharisee but the loving fidelity that quietly follows its magnetic north. Henry David Thoreau wrote that faith is earned by faithfulness. And nothing summons our own faith like the example of a faithful brother. Mrs. McDonnell's simple presence was a reminder. She was a symbol of salvation. She stood for the Alternative in my young mind. And she still does.

Recently, I was with a group of Course students debating the meaning of "self-esteem" and how it might differ from "self-worth." It seems to me that "worth" is a state of value, while "esteem" is a recognition and response to that state. We only truly esteem what we also value. In fact, esteem is effortless and spontaneous once value is perceived. Esteem takes care of itself once worth is recognized. But we don't popularly regard the problem of self-esteem in this light, do we? It is treated as a matter of choice and technique, even the product of self-talk. Can I arrive at self-esteem merely by repeating a hundred

times, “I am lovable and capable.” if I don’t really believe it?

The fruit of practicing *A Course in Miracles* is a deep conviction of your inherent worth. You are worthy because of your identity as the Son of God. This is your original and unchanging identity and, therefore, your original and unchanging worth. The Course is not trying to talk you



“Mrs. McDonnell’s simple presence was a reminder. She was a symbol of salvation. She stood for the Alternative in my young mind.”

into this. It is not a pep talk aimed to induce a pleasant fantasy. In fact, the Course is rather down on fantasy. The mind that wakes to the wholly satisfying nature of reality has no use for fantasy.

(T-1.VII.3:11 paraphrased) Awakening to your identity is the only permanent basis for lasting self-esteem.

Any attempt to earn your worth in the eyes of the world will not give you peace. At best, you enjoy a temporary euphoria. But where are you once the space capsule splashes down? Dragging yourself back to the launch pad again. These ups and downs are an addiction. Worse, they reinforce the false notion that the outer identity, personal image, and current tally of Facebook “Likes” is the road to self-esteem.

“Again,—nothing you do or think or wish or make is necessary to establish your worth. This point is not debatable except in delusions. Your ego is never at stake because God did not create it. Your spirit is never at stake because He did. Any confusion on this point is delusional, and no form of devotion is

possible as long as this delusion lasts.”
(T-4.I.7)

That same Text section also states, “Your worth is not established by teaching or learning.” True, it is not so established but *expressed* by teaching and learning. Our teaching and learning bear testimony to the light that we are. Effort produces evidence, and demonstration brings conviction. The simplest, most straight-forward definition of a miracle is a “reminder.” We are miracle workers as we remind others of their inherent, unfallen, inexhaustible nature. It is the maximal service we can

perform for another. But this is only possible through the living grace of the Christ within. As we willingly accept our role as vehicles of the Atonement, we cease to obsess about tallying or comparing our worth. We gain confidence as miracle workers who are called to the noblest vocation on earth — the salvation of the human mind.

*“Christmas is holy only if you come
In silence to the manger, to behold
Your holiness made visible to you.”*
(Helen Schucman The Holiness of Christmas)



God Is My Brand

Continued from page 9

away” from us.

So when I felt that my Guidance from Spirit was to move back to Santa Barbara, it was the perfect timing because MY WAY had been failing so spectacularly in terms of thinking I knew HOW to arrange my life in a way that would be most pleasing that I was now READY to SURRENDER to not knowing what anything means or even what or where my “best interests” were.

Now, as this year is winding down, I’ve been living very happily in Santa Barbara since March 1, 2023. I teach once a month at the Unity Church here, but other than that, everything I do regarding my work is online so that I can live anywhere. For some years now, I’ve made attempts to fill the empty spaces left by the loss of so many people and situations, which resulted in one failure after another after another. But, once I SURRENDERED to move to a place that I thought had nothing at all to fill that emptiness, it filled it with the Grace of God, that is our natural state.

I “called off the search” and settled into devoting myself mainly to “practicing the Presence,” as some Mystics have called it. I’ve crucified my ambition and abandoned all goals but the Peace of God. In hindsight, I see that I was always trying to find the right “place” to live where all the things I like to “do” or see or experience would be easily accessible. But I see so clearly now that Grace is the only environment I ever need to be concerned about. It is our

natural state and the only one that really satisfies or in which we can thrive and function well.

Practicing the Presence of God is simply the reminder that “God is in everything I see because God is in my mind.” It’s sensing the Presence that is “closer than breathing, nearer than hands and feet.” I have breakfast, lunch, and dinner with the Presence of God. I shop with the Presence of God. I nap with the Presence. I watch TV, teach, write, go to the gym, drive, and converse all day with the Presence. I am “God-intoxicated,” as they say.

Consequently, the life I was once seeking is now coming to me instead — without my effort or struggle. And yet, I have no attachment to any of it. I know that what comes eventually goes. What appears will one day disappear. I’m cool with that now.

I’ve started to use the word “soul” these days. I’m far less concerned with what is going on with my body and thoughts and more interested in what feeds my soul. For some time, I tried to use words other than “God” in my teaching because so many people have been wounded by others using that word. I was tiptoeing around God and Jesus and the Holy Spirit and soul and all those words that were used in the Catholic Church I was raised up in. Now, I am all-in on all the words, saying, “God is my brand. Jesus is my logo. Grace is my Home.” I am practicing the Presence of God with wild abandon, and I think the big secret I’ve been letting out lately is that GOD IS THE MOST FUN THERE IS!



Holy Encounter Retreat

A Recap of MDC's 2023 Retreat

These powerful encounters allow attendees to deeply soak in the words, inspiration, and practical application of *A Course in Miracles* within an atmosphere of love, support, and beauty. We hope you enjoy this recap from those who attended and that you will plan to join us for next year's Retreat on **September 27-29, 2024**.

We've Got the Power!

by Karen Scopetski

It was amazing to go to the **Holy Encounter Retreat** in Lucerne Valley, California, this past August. I was able to spend valuable time with other *A Course in Miracles* students, many of whom listen weekly to the Livestream study meetings offered by Miracle Distribution Center (MDC). I had the chance to meet in-person friends I had met on the MDC Listener Board

(a forum for online conversation with others who subscribe to the weekly meetings). I flew in from the East Coast, and my friend Deb, traveling from Portland, Oregon, picked me up, and we went together to the Royal Way Spiritual Center. Traveling with Deb was special

because we met for the first time in person after talking with each other for over 15 years on the listener board! This was Deb's 5th retreat, and she was excited for me to experience it for the first time.

Arriving on Friday, everywhere you looked, there were beautiful meditative sites with gardens, streams, ponds, and fruit trees, a true sanctuary. The dinner that night was delicious, and it was great to meet everyone. Beverly Hutchinson McNeff was dynamic for the opening session that continued until 10:00 p.m. She declared right up front that "We've got the Power" to choose love over fear, spirit over ego. As many of you know, Beverly is the founder of MDC, publisher, and writer of **THE HOLY ENCOUNTER**. She is best known for her role as the facilitator of MDC's weekly Course meeting, which is currently live-streamed to 137 countries. Bev had us all laughing and at ease as we began our time together. Our first group activity was to introduce ourselves. I shared how I got involved with the Course in 1994 and about being a regular subscriber to the weekly meeting since 2008.

It was so interesting to hear from every participant. Before bed, my friend Deb led me to the Tai Chi field for star gazing. It was spectacular!

Early the next morning, I hiked to Healing Hill, a beautiful spot to watch the sunrise. There are no words to describe the serenity that I felt. Beverly led another lively session on Saturday with videos, music, dancing, and storytelling. As she does in the weekly meetings, Beverly incorporated current topics and used creative ways to teach Course principles. We even got to see a clip from an old *Star Trek* television episode to demonstrate the absurdity of the ego and the way back to peace.

During the day, small group discussions took place outdoors, covering topics such as how judgments and grievances hide the light of the world (W-69). We also talked about the power and practicality of forgiveness as a way to lift the veil of the ego so that we may understand one another. Saturday was a great day with everyone. We all wished that we could have stayed through Sunday as originally planned. However, Hurricane Hilary was rolling in (it had been nearly 100 years since So Cal experienced a hurricane). The impending hurricane forced us to evacuate, as many of our main roads were being closed out of precaution. After an early dinner, Beverly offered us her wise perspective, and then we said our goodbyes, knowing that God goes with us wherever we go.

As the rain pelted the window of my hotel on Sunday,

I made a mental list of what I was grateful for. I was able to let go of the disappointment of not having the full retreat experience. I realized that the hurricane (downgraded to a tropical storm) and the need to evacuate was only part of the world, nothing more than that. Then I thought of something Beverly said during the retreat: "Think of the Course as a verb." We've got the Power!



The Next
**Holy Encounter
 Retreat**
**September 27-29th
 2024**

Read more at
miraclecenter.org



This retreat was short and sweet, but it delivered the miracle that I was looking for. My brother and I were never estranged, but we were just friends. He is 10 years younger than me, and I often looked down on him. We took totally different paths and did not share much in common. The quote on my name tag was: "Let yourself be healed that you may be forgiving, offering salvation to your brother and yourself." This hit the nail on the head. We shared a room, and we talked about our paths. I realized that he had many gifts and accomplishments that I had not known about or appreciated before. One of the best parts of the retreat was that many participants came up to me and shared that this was one area they would like to have healed with family members, relatives, and friends. This inspired them to work on it, too. Miracles do happen

at the **Holy Encounter Retreat** thanks to Beverly, the staff, and the love and support that is available there in abundance. Thanks for the miracle!

Bob in California

P.S. The grounds there are healing, and that helps, too!

I am already looking forward to next year's retreat. I won't miss it!



First, a Big THANK YOU to MDC for all your hard work coordinating everything. Thank you, Beverly, for your brilliance in presenting ACIM for all of us yet again. You are simply the best. Thank you, Paul, for your music and humor. Thank you, Darin, for all your technical expertise. Thank you, Tess, for your amazing "calm" and coordination amid the personality storms and the literal storm! Thank you, Bill, for all the laughter. Thank you ALL for being you and for your loving presence in our lives and the world! You all handled the emergency situation and having to end the retreat Saturday evening so



beautifully. Absolutely wonderful examples of ACIM in action. *God is the strength in which we trust; keep calm and receive miracles!* Even though our time together was shortened, it was truly wonderful to be with all of you again. You light up our lives and our world!

Sandy B in Washington



**Go online and
 reserve your
 space today!**

The HOLY ENCOUNTER

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2023

In This Issue...

- The Holiest of All the Spots on Earth
- Let's Keep it Going!
- Fear Not!
- How to Identify and Listen to the Holy Spirit
- The life of Miracle Distribution Center
- God Is My Brand
- Worth

...And So Much More!



**Miracle
Distribution Center**

1440 S. State College Blvd., Suite 4K
Anaheim, CA 92806

e-Mail a Miracle with MDC's FREE e-Cards

Create and send an
e-card to a friend or
family member.



THANKSGIVING



CHRISTMAS

NEW YEARS

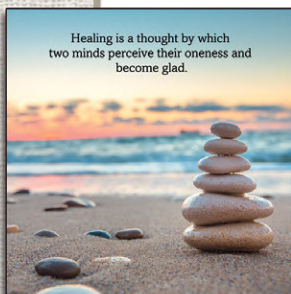


A Course in Miracles

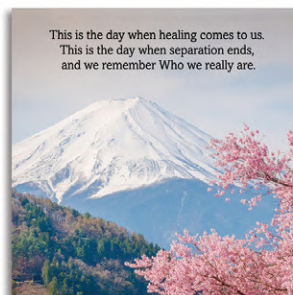
miraclecenter.org Go to "Services", "ACIM e-Cards"

NonProfit
Org.
US Postage
PAID
Santa Ana CA
Permit No 949

A Course in Miracles 2024 Wall Calendar

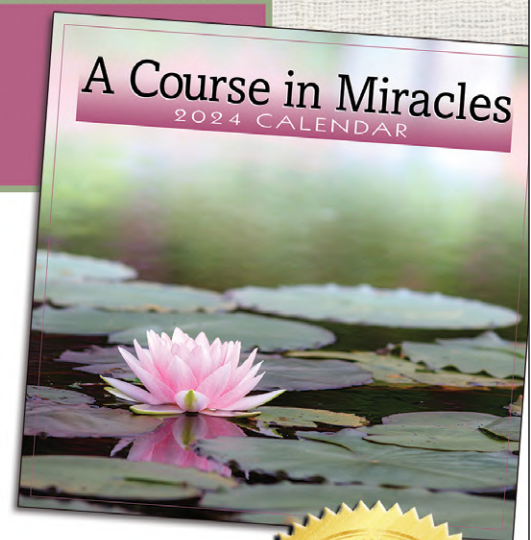


Inspirational quotes
from the renowned
spiritual teaching
A Course in Miracles
unite with the beauty of
nature to create a year
of peace and healing.



January

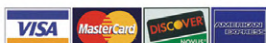
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	FEBRUARY 1 FEBRUARY 2 FEBRUARY 3 FEBRUARY 4 FEBRUARY 5 FEBRUARY 6 FEBRUARY 7 FEBRUARY 8 FEBRUARY 9 FEBRUARY 10 FEBRUARY 11 FEBRUARY 12 FEBRUARY 13 FEBRUARY 14 FEBRUARY 15 FEBRUARY 16 FEBRUARY 17 FEBRUARY 18 FEBRUARY 19 FEBRUARY 20 FEBRUARY 21 FEBRUARY 22 FEBRUARY 23 FEBRUARY 24 FEBRUARY 25 FEBRUARY 26 FEBRUARY 27 FEBRUARY 28 FEBRUARY 29		



Large 12"x12"
format, printed
on high
quality, heavy
gloss paper.



Call: **800-359-ACIM(2246)** or **miraclecenter.org**



GO TO "STORE" THEN "CALENDARS"
ALL PRICES ARE PLUS S&H AND CA SALES TAX

VOLUME PRICING			
1-2	\$16.95 ^{ea}	6-9	\$14.95 ^{ea}
3-5	\$15.95 ^{ea}	10+	\$13.95 ^{ea}