
A Message For The Ages

*Christ-consciousness As A Universal Experience
Going From Words And Thoughts To The Experience*

For years the Infinite Way has been stating in every book that the Infinite Way is not a teaching: it is an experience. Whatever teaching way is not a teaching: It is an experience.

God's grace brought us to this message that we might show forth the fruitage of Christ-consciousness and thereby be instruments for establishing It on earth.

Studying The Writings

No advanced student is going to succeed unless he keeps going back to the basic principles. It is my experience that occasionally I have to remind myself that I am not going to God to get a power. I have to remind myself once in a while that I am not seeking God to do anything to error. I do not know how anyone becomes so advanced that he can go beyond that.

The Pearl Of Spiritual Power

Because "ten" righteous men are admitting the Christ into human consciousness, eventually there will be no human consciousness left. As new generations are born, they will be born into a higher consciousness, which is now being established on earth. It will not be necessary for them to go through the experiences of their parents or to make the same mistakes.

Eventually we come to the greatest revelation, the very top revelation, that has been given to the world by the Infinite Way, and that is the nature of spiritual power. Spiritual power cannot be used by man; it cannot be influenced by man; it cannot be controlled by man; it cannot be made to do something by or for man, Spiritual power operates through the still, small voice to govern man.

The end of the search for God comes when a person discovers that God constitutes his consciousness and that God is not to be found in holy mountains or holy temples, in Jerusalem, Rome, or Boston [and] that the nature of that consciousness is omniscience, omnipotence, omnipresence. . . I do not have to pray to my consciousness in the sense of telling it anything, trying to influence it, or trying to buy its favors. I have to relax in it. To accept my consciousness as omniscience means that I must sit in the silence and let my consciousness speak to me through the still, small voice, or the thundering voice that makes the earth melt. . . Furthermore, the pearl that God is individual consciousness consists of the fact that God is omnipotence, and therefore I need no God-power. I am not seeking God, because there is nothing for God to overcome. . . [Omnipresence] merely has to be allowed an inlet and an outlet to this universe, and then the evils of this world are dissolved, because they do not exist as powers or realities. They exist only as mirage, illusion or illusory concepts produced by the belief in two powers.

The greatest problem that comes to me with patients and students is that they do not understand the 1959 work. Somehow the problem that is brought up is always a person, a condition, or a series of events, and very few seem able to grasp the fact that we are not dealing with persons, but dealing with appearances which we understand to be of the nature of illusion. . . It takes years and years before students and patients can realize that we are dealing not with persons or conditions but with universal beliefs.

Laws Of Matter Or Mind Do Not Operate In Spiritual Consciousness

The purpose of the Infinite Way is not to find a power whereby to control men, conditions, or effects, but to attain God-consciousness, and thereby discover that the so-called laws of both matter and mind are not laws. They are laws only on their own level, but they do not function when a person is living out from the realm of Spirit.

The whole of the spiritual path eventually comes down to the separation between material sense and spiritual consciousness, between thinking of the power of God as going to do something for human beings on earth, instead of rising to the spiritual kingdom and realizing that we have left the man of earth and are tabernacling with angels, children of God.

The Mystical Consciousness Of The Infinite Way

The most advanced step in the message of the Infinite Way is not to meet a problem on the level of the problem. Such a step can be imparted only by a person who has caught its significance. At that stage, the Infinite Way student is at the highest mystical point, having lost all interest in changing negative or bad humanhood into good humanhood. He is interested in one thing only: the reign of God on earth. That is all. He is concerned only with the realization that God's kingdom is "on earth, as it is in heaven." Heaven and earth are one; heaven, the invisible cause, and earth, the visible manifestation of heaven, but always one.

God Knows The Intents Of The Heart

It is true that a person can attain the realization of God as omnipresence by himself without any outside help from books or teachers, but he might have to take thirty-five or more years to accomplish it. From 1909 on I was searching inside myself, and twenty years later it happened. So if time is not an element, you can do it all by yourself. Remember, too, that although the kingdom of God is within you, you will find it only if your motive is pure.

Prayer As Communion

The whole truth of the Infinite Way is fulfillment: fulfilling ourselves with the truth of God, with the love of God, the life of God, the spirit of God, and then letting all the other things and conditions be added unto us.

A Parenthesis In Eternity

Attaining The Mystical Consciousness

The Secret Of The Word Made Flesh

As we come toward the latter part of the First Degree experience, we begin to perceive that we are living more by Grace than by effort, we are living more by a power that is doing things for us without our taking conscious thought, and sometimes doing them before we even know there is a need for them.

Attaining the spiritual life does not come quickly: it is a life of continuous dedication to that which is greater than we are.

During this second, third, or fourth year of very serious spiritual study, we can expect the worst of us to come to the surface, whether it is a physical worst, a mental worst, or even a moral worst. . . . If the temptations that come to us are not wisely handled, we can find ourselves. . . like Lot's wife looking back at the city, the state of consciousness, that she had left.

Each spiritual experience is like a plateau, and our progress on the Path like a series of plateaus. We reach a particular plateau, and then stand there, seemingly making no progress, and all we can do is wait.

Five to nine years to encompass Second Degree.

In the early stages it may be painful when the Spirit is breaking up the humanness in us. . . This very pain and these very disturbances indicate that undesirable traits, qualities, and conditions are no longer lying dormant within us. Now they are being roused up, rooted out, and if we are faithful will be purified.

In the early stages of the Second Degree. . . we mentally apply every statement of truth we know to the erroneous appearances that present themselves.

It is in this Second Degree that we decide whether we will serve God or mammon, and if we decide to serve God, we must determine how many hours a day we will serve Him.

It is not easy to be a seeker after God because in the end we have to drop all our cherished convictions and come to that new day when we make the great discovery that God is in the very midst of us.

Real spiritual teaching begins when the attitude of the student is: "I have no more questions. All I want now is answers, and I want those from God. I want them to come through inspiration either from my teacher or directly from the Spirit of God within me."

The day must come when the student realizes that all his questions, together with their answers, are absolutely worthless so far as his spiritual development is concerned. . . It is not a matter of knowing or not knowing the answers to questions posed by the human mind: it is a matter of attaining spiritual consciousness.

The greatest attainment [during the First Degree] of our unfoldment is the realization of God as One, not as a power over some other power, but as the only Power. . . [Then] we no longer fear external powers in any form, not even "the armies of the aliens."

The teaching that is imparted without words and without thoughts is the only absolute teaching there is.

The ultimate of the mystical experience is conscious union with God. It is a state of inner communion so intense and so lofty that the person disappears and exists then only as the infinite *I*, while at the same time maintaining his individuality as a person. There is no absorption into God at any time, even in the moment of conscious union.

To experience the ascension, we have to take all the footsteps that Jesus showed us including the temptations and the crucifixion.

We must surrender all desire to the *one* desire: to see God face to face, to know Him, and to let the will of God be made manifest in us. There must come the complete surrender of our personal selfhood, so that the Spirit of God can fulfill Itself in us in accordance with *Its* will, not with ours.

Whereas in the First Degree we concerned ourselves only with practicing the presence of God and with meditation, in the Second Degree we begin to apply every word of spiritual truth we can to our daily living, thereby Spiritualizing the mind until eventually our mind no longer reaches out for some kind of a weapon—whether mental, verbal, or physical—but automatically goes within for a word of truth.

The Mystical I

Even Jesus Christ was subject to temptations up to the last moment. Do not be ashamed of the temptations that assail you.

Eventually, every one of us will come to Paul's state of consciousness in the realization, "I live; yet not I, but Christ, the son of God, the very Spirit and presence of God, lives my life." Then, and only then, are we a state of humility that has in it not a single trace of virtue, but only the realization of the truth that we are nothing, that we can do nothing and be nothing of ourselves.

It takes many lifetimes of living and of spiritual unfoldment to prepare an individual for the final revelation of his true identity.

The goal of mysticism is the attainment of the realization of one's self as Self, so that life is a continuing experience of the Self, with a coming down to the personal sense of self only for the purpose of the immediate work to be done.

The third stage, that of conscious union with God, is the ultimate, and in this stage the personal or separate selfhood disappears. It is as if one were not aware of himself as a person, but as if only God Itself were there. It must have been in moments like this that the Master spoke from the standpoint of the word *I*: "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

The ultimate of the correct letter of truth is when we go beyond using a word like God to where we are left with nothing but *I*, or *I AM*. That is enough.

Awakening Mystical Consciousness

Flesh And Flesh

The Invisible World Becomes Tangible

In the early days of our work. . . we make the contact and then we seem to lose it for days at a time and find it again only with struggle and strife.

Spiritual discernment. . . requires a greater devotion than would be necessary in trying to learn a new language or to play a musical instrument.

The Listening Period In Treatment

Never be impatient with your progress or with anyone else's.

Beyond Words And Thoughts

God Revealing Himself As Christ On Earth

Sometimes, we cannot close our eyes to the troubles and problems of the world, and so, as we come under the hypnotism of world belief, we may encounter a serious problem at any stage of our spiritual experience.

The basic principle of The Infinite Way is the word *I*, The teaching, as set forth in the textbook, *The Infinite Way*, is that God appears as man—not God *and* man, not man going to God, but the revelation that God appears *as* man. Then all that God is, I am; all that the Father has is mine, and so the way to find God lies in going within to that *I* that I am. . . Now it is presumed that students are ready for the *realization* rather than merely the teaching of this principle. It is one thing to be taught or even to teach something: it is quite a different thing to *be* that, to attain the consciousness of that which has been taught.

The search for God never ends until we realize, “I and my Father are one,” “I am thou,” or “I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.” Whether it comes as a message, whether it is spoken in the ear, or whether it is just an inner experience, the moment that *I* voices Itself, we know that *I* is not man: that *I* is God. . . Now we rest, and life begins to be lived out from within the Self. Then it is that we are a benediction to all who come within range of our thought, not because we are walking around blessing anybody, but because as we look at the persons who cross our path, we are realizing that *I* at the center of their being. We cannot help it. There is a smile that comes to us when we stop to think, “Oh, you may not know it, but I know that the kingdom of God is within you.”

Do you realize that merely improving health or increasing the amount of supply is insignificant in comparison with the goal of finding the mystery of that Life that is behind the appearance, behind what you see, hear, taste, touch, and smell?

Until you arrive at that place in consciousness where you never are going to find truth through the mind, you have not even begun your spiritual journey. . . What lies behind this universe. . . is not to be known with the mind.

Only Spiritual Discernment Reveals The Essential Equality Of Man

When this spiritual faculty was awaked in me, a very unhappy period in my life began because I was really two person: the “old man” was not completely “dead” and the “new man” not fully in control, and so there was a warfare between the two. . . I ended up as broke as anyone has ever been, for the simple reason that I was trying to live in a corporeal sense of supply and at the same time demonstrate incorporeal supply, and it cannot be done. . . It was only when I had no corporeal supply that at last I could say, “Well, now I am all right. No I have nothing to come in conflict with.” Then the flow could begin the other way.

Progress Cannot Be Judged By Appearance

“Jesus went into the temple. . . and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers,” which spiritually a Christ would not have done. He called the scribes and Pharisees and the multitudes vipers, which spiritually is a form of malpractice. This is because in every person—even a mystic—there is always a trace of his human identity. It is for this reason that you never feel wholly worthy; you never feel that you are really successful or that you are quite making the grade.

The less you react with fear to the sins and the diseases of the world, the greater the degree of spiritual progress you have made and are making. . . In proportion as you understand that temporal power is not power in the presence of God, there will be less and less reaction to the pictures of disease or accident presented to you. . . If instead of reacting to these accounts [of lack of food and other necessities] with horror or with pity, you can realize that lack of any kind is a universal belief because supply is spiritual and, therefore omnipresent, you may help to lift those who are entertaining a material sense of supply out of such hypnotism.

You must not judge by the appearances of today, nor must you try to judge your progress, because no one on the spiritual path can ever evaluate his own progress. . . You go along, sometimes for years, feeling that you are making absolutely no progress, and then all of a sudden. . . it happens. . . The reason that you cannot feel any progress in yourself is that you cannot feel spiritual.

The Only Goal Must Be Attaining Christ-consciousness

How long does it take a student to attain spiritual consciousness? . . . [not] until his goal is no longer that of meeting his personal problems of health, supply, or happiness. He must no longer be preoccupied with personal gain. . . I am not saying that anyone should neglect human situations or obligations, but these should be secondary.

Surrender Your Mind To God

Those who have come to the point of unfoldment where they are reading this book know that I am revealing to them the fruitage of practically forty years of spiritual searching.

Toward The Experience

The Infinite Way came into being when I realized that there is no God in the human world. . . This was the original unfoldment that was given to me some time after 1909, and this is what started me on the search.

Crucifying Personal Sense

All our study, all our knowing of the truth, all our healing ministry must eventually lead to the period of Sabbath or Grace, which is the full and complete surrender of self, to the end that God may live on earth as He is living in heaven.

Always, since my first spiritual experience, living in two worlds has been difficult for me—living in that higher Consciousness and then coming down to earth, going back into that Consciousness and coming back down to earth—but never was it as difficult as in 1963. . . With each successive unfoldment, something was breaking through, leading to the teaching of going beyond words and thoughts, of going beyond the mind. . . beyond taking thought, beyond reasoning. This is the revelation of the nature of Sabbath and of Grace.

Ultimately that personal sense will have to be crucified, until in the end you can realize, “I do not have any truth; I do not know and truth; I do not have any skill: I do not have any talent: *I am the truth; I am the talent; I am the skill.*”

Conscious Union With God

*States And Stages Of Consciousness
Availability Of The Mind That Was In Christ Jesus*

[Joel feels conviction of some truths in letters only after two years.]

The Ancient Wisdom

1550 BC Abraham: One God/power; 200-800 AD Shankara: illusory nature of senses.

Living The Christian Life

We want to learn how to live the life that Jesus came to show us.

Consciousness In Transition

Making The Adjustment

You are infinite spiritual consciousness, infinite spiritual life itself, and, being infinite, all inclusive. Therefore, you must include within your own being every activity of being... In taking that approach, you see what we are doing in contradiction to most of the metaphysical movements. We are saying, practically, that we can't help you demonstrate anything. All we can do is ask you to come into the realization of the infinite nature of your own being and let all things be added unto you... ;" Therefore, you are committing a sin every time you allow your thought to go out into the realm of "I desire, I want, I fear."

This is a strange thing, too. You never have to go through the various stages of somebody else's development. You'll never have to be crucified. You'll never have to be persecuted. That all happened to Jesus and the martyrs and all those other people, but you don't have to go through that. You can start where they left off.

In the history of the world, only three men are known to have discovered the complete secret of life of their own accord. These men are Lao-Tzu of China, about 600 B.C.; Buddha of India, about 550 B.C.; and Jesus of Nazareth. Through Jesus, the full revelation came to the beloved disciple John on the Isle of Patmos.

If you are on this path, you are in the world but not of it. On this path it really doesn't make any difference to you who gets elected, or if no one gets elected. You, if you are depending on spiritual security, on spiritual consciousness, on the presence of God, will be safe no matter who is president or dictator; you will be safe whether there are atomic bombs or not. After all, you can't take the responsibility for the rest of the world. Even your own relatives, if they don't want to follow this path, must take the penalty of their own states of consciousness.

The chances are that [Joseph] liked Potiphar's wife and thought, "Well, what's the harm?" He had to go down into prison and there learn that the indulgence of any form of mortality has no place in a spiritual being's experience. So when he was in prison, all he had time for was to think, and that's when he finally came to the realization, "Well, if I'm spiritual, I guess I'd better act like it!" It does take the very depths, sometimes, of human experience to bring us to an awareness where we are willing to let the spiritual light gleam.

We can all develop [receptivity]. It is a matter of desire and of faithfulness to it. It is, though, a major work. We must devote our lives to it—give up everything of a distracting nature, everything of a material nature, everything of an interfering nature and put our whole life into this. This is not something that can be accomplished by the simple desire to do it... It means giving up loads of time and maybe money. It is really something that you put everything into if it be worth anything.

[The Infinite Way] has nothing to do with temporal improvement; it has to do with the mission of the Christ, which is to set you free spiritually. From what? From your belief in your bondage to person, place, thing, circumstance and condition.

This revelation of God-one presence and one power came to King Amenhotep IV of Egypt from India. He took from his people their many gods and replaced these with one. Eventually Amenhotep was deposed, the many gods restored, and Abraham, a close friend of the king, fled to Ur of the Chaldees. There, Abraham taught the one God and became father of the Hebrew people. Shankara of India again gives the teaching in its fullness and simplicity as the Advaita teaching of India. In it, Shankara reveals the nature of God as the "I" or "I Am," the oneness of God and man which he sums up as "I Am that." He also reveals the illusory nature of the sense world. Then comes Jesus of Nazareth with the sublime message and demonstration of oneness, of "I and the Father are one," that evil is not real.

One spiritual quotation, one spiritual thought, gives us more joy than the finest movie playing in town, Why? Because we are no longer in that world where that is the measure of our joy. We have left that world without having to die or become ridiculous, like stopping eating or giving up the wearing of clothes—nothing of an abnormal nature. Yet we left that world.

So we come to this point: What is the motive for our study? Because on that depends all of our future in this work. I do not mean that those of you who cannot grasp what I am saying may not go back to the mental again. If necessary, that is what you will have to do until you are able to come up out of it. But to those who have caught the glimpse of this, the whole of your future is caught the glimpse of this, the whole of your future is going to depend on whether or not you can determine to seek only the consciousness of the presence of God, and let the things be added. That is going to be the measure of your demonstration.

The real value of this teaching is to develop in you a state of spiritual receptivity, so that you can be as receptive to the Christ mind as I am.

Consciousness Is What I Am

Attaining A Measure Of Spiritual Consciousness

During our experience on earth, and that of every known mystic and religious founder, complete at-onement with the Source is rarely attained. So it may truthfully be said of all of us, students and teachers alike, that we are continually building spiritual consciousness.

Measure progress by the degree of realization that God in the midst of us is the only power and no effect is power.

The study of truth is the smallest part of our life's demonstration. Far too many students study too much. It takes a very small statement of truth to spark our consciousness into action, and then it is that action that brings about the development of our spiritual consciousness. It is not what we read that does it: it is what we *do* with what we read that does it.

We can measure our progress by the degree of our realization that God in the midst of us is the only power.

Spiritual Pioneers

God's grace does not bring anyone to a message of this nature for his good alone. God's grace does not work that way. God's grace brings us to a spiritual teaching that we may show forth the fruitage of Christ-consciousness and be instruments for establishing it on earth.

Why has not everyone who followed the metaphysical movements done outstanding healing and teaching work? The answer is that it is not possible except in proportion as a person attains that higher Consciousness. We must admit that a great many students of metaphysics have not even tried to attain It. As long as they could demonstrate good health, good supply, or good relationships, they were satisfied for the few to become practitioners or teachers.

The First Dawning Of Spiritual Light In Individual Consciousness

The first record of this Light, appearing as a person, is found in India, in the form of Krishna who is presumably the first man on earth to have broken through to the spiritual realm. Krishna was the divine Consciousness which broke through into the mind of man and then was personalized as if it were a man, but It was not a man. It was the light of spiritual Consciousness which permeated the mind of an individual and brought to light the first spiritual or fourth-dimensional awareness.

Consciousness Externalizes As Form

In spiritual work, I have never yet met a person who had the feeling that he was sacrificing anything. Rather does he have the feeling that he is being fulfilled, and the benefit to the world is incidental, for he is doing the work for the fulfillment of his own soul and inner life.

The higher form of demonstration is to forget the world and think only of attaining one's own highest consciousness. Then let follow what will.

The mind of itself cannot accept the principle of the one Self: it must be we who accept it and keep it in our mind. Every time somebody talks about an evil, dangerous, or insane selfhood, we come back with, "But there is only one Selfhood, and I am that Self." We hold to that truth against every appearance thrust upon us of a male or a female self, a poor or a rich self, a sick or a well self, and as we do, we "die" to the belief of many selves and are reborn into the consciousness of one Selfhood.

Through imbuing the mind with truth, we are remolding our state of consciousness, and one day we will not consciously have to hold to one Power because it will be so much a part of us that we will not even have to deny any other power.

The Practice Of Specific Principles Develops Consciousness

The object of Infinite Way work is to bring your consciousness to that place where you rise above merely a belief in God and come into the experience of communion with God. Then you no longer have any beliefs about God: you have the Experience.

There is no limit to our measure of realization except such limit as we place upon ourselves by inertia or by an unwillingness to dig in and work until we attain this consciousness.

You cannot come to the spiritual throne until you love God supremely, and you are loving God supremely only if you acknowledge God as the only Power.

Rising Above Human Consciousness

Every time we remind ourselves that we are not using God to do something to evil but rather that we are recognizing the nothingness of the appearance. . . every time we consciously impersonalize and realize that neither sin, disease, nor false appetite is part of our being but that it is merely a universal belief in two powers. . . every time we meditate, even if it is only a ten-second meditation, just enough time to create a vacuum and to listen, we are developing our consciousness to the fourth degree. An onion skin of mortality is dropping off, and we are that much closer to immortality. . . We become aware that we have a strength, a power, a dominion, and a joyousness that the world knows not of.

There comes a time when a transition is made from living a normal human life in which we make decisions and accept responsibilities to one in which we become aware that we are not alone, but that there is Something else. Whatever it may be or however the experience comes to us, we have a feeling that Somebody or Something is very close to us, governing our life.

Consciousness Expressing As Love

Behind the physical or visible world, God, infinite, divine Consciousness, is pushing Itself into expression as individual consciousness and bringing to light the love of God and the love of neighbor. . . When a person. . . is turned to the spiritual life or to a search for God, he is not the one seeking the Light: it is the Light seeking to break through to him. It is not really seeking to break through to him, for the Light is always there, always available, but in one way or another he has become prepared for the influx of that Light.

It is not our human efforts that bring us back to God. It is the face of God breaking through. I hope that none of us will ever think that we brought ourselves to a spiritual teaching or that we are responsible for remaining on the path or for any spiritual progress in our life. This would destroy all our chances for real progress.

We can determine the measure in which divine Consciousness is becoming our individual consciousness by the degree in which our interests are less personal and less involved primarily with our family or friends and begin to include the world.

Consciousness Transformed

An Idea Whose Time Has Come

We must reach the place where we can dedicate ourselves to something higher than our own interests. . . [and] dedicate some portion of our time to the cause of God's kingdom being established on earth—holding to the vision that has already entered human consciousness.

We must reach the point where we are Self-complete in God. . . where man is wholly dependent of God's grace. Only then has he attained freedom.

If you believe that there may be a long period ahead before you attain [the Kingdom], you will entirely miss the mark. As of this moment you have to realize: "There is sufficient spiritual manna in my consciousness to serve my every purpose today." . . Your greatest help lies in the recognition of the fact that there *is* daily manna, not ten years from now, but today. . . [Only] do not seek enough to make your whole life's demonstration at once.

The whole purpose of my individual ministry has been to reveal: “*I* am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly”—not Jesus has come, not Paul has come, not Joel has come, but *I* am come, the *I* in the midst of you is come.

For most people there is a long period of study of a message of this kind, then a long and arduous practice of these principles. Then all of a sudden “in a moment ye think not,” the light shines . In other words, “Whereas I was blind, now I see.” There is then a stilling of all of the mental senses, a rest, a “Peace unto our people.” You then look out and no longer see a world that needs to be healed, changed, or reformed. You now see God’s world breaking through the crust of humanhood.

There is a warfare going on within each of us, a warfare which took the place of wanting cultural or artistic or musical education. At another time it takes the form of wanting spiritual education. It is the same battle, the desire for light against the limiting sense of darkness, but the nature of consciousness is such that in the end it overcomes all obstacles.

First you must know you are the Soul, and then you must begin to explore, search, and seek until you find *Me*—until you find your *Self*—the real *you*.

From the message of every mystic it is very clear that the object of the spiritual path is that we may die to the human experience and be born of the spirit. . . The goal is releasing the Soul from the tomb of the human mind.

We speak of God as “God” and do not realize that God is the Soul of man. You can never find the kingdom of God until you have entered into the awareness of your own Soul.

Even while you are working out specific problems, reserve an area of your consciousness where you remember that the solving of problems is not really your purpose in spiritual study and meditation, but that the goal actually is fulfillment—to be filled full of God, to be filled full of the spirit—to have God realization.

You begin the search for God or truth, but always you are living between the two worlds, part of the time in the world of acknowledging the power of mind and matter, part of the time living in the world of accepting God as the greater power of the two. It is a volleying back and forth.

Infinite divine consciousness constitutes your being, and the life you are showing forth at this moment is the degree of the infinity which you are aware of at this moment. You may go still further to where you can say: “He that seeth me seeth him that sent me.” That would mean you have come into the realization of your divine Selfhood, your Christ-being in its totality.

There is a transcendental state of consciousness which is beyond the human, but which takes possession of you at a certain moment. Knowing the truth intellectually ceases at some particular moment, and the transcendental state of consciousness becomes the individual consciousness and its function is a continuous state of impartation. . . Transcendental consciousness. . . is your mind when it goes beyond itself, when something takes over.

God's consciousness cannot be antagonistic to itself in any form, but are you sufficiently aware of this truth? Certainly God constitutes your consciousness, but God also constitutes the consciousness of the enemy, the animal, the beast. There can only be one consciousness out of which the universe has evolved.

We postpone our own God experience. This is either because of ignorance or because we have been so conditioned that we cannot release God in the understanding that God is omniscience and knows all there is to be known, God is omnipotence and is not fighting with any other powers, and God is omnipresence, and therefore does not have to be sent for. To be able to believe this enables the seeker to come into an atmosphere of receptivity.

[1963] has been a difficult year for me in which I have been going through a period of inner initiation waiting for a message. During the last two to three weeks [of August] it all came to a head, and then it became clear that we are entering the consciousness that does not need words or thoughts. We can sit down to meditate and realize: "The kingdom of God is closer than breathing. I just have to tune in and listen. I need no words and I need no thoughts. I need only receptivity and, when the Word of God comes, the earth of error melts."

I can be patient with [students] until they have reached that place where self-preservation is no longer their first law and the first need. I know it takes patience on my part, and I always hope they will have the courage to persist.

Perhaps one in a hundred thousand is seeking purely the attaining of the mystical consciousness, but surely the rest of us are seeking release from some physical power that has gripped us, some material law that is influencing us, or some mental power that is holding us in bondage.

When spiritual light touches you, you will know it because of those who will be drawn to you for spiritual guidance, spiritual instruction, spiritual counseling, spiritual comforting, spiritual healing. Until this takes place it would be folly to do other than continue your daily studying, practicing, and meditating until the opening of consciousness takes place.

With some it takes ten or twenty, or even thirty years before their consciousness opens into spiritual blossoming. Your function is not to question how long it takes, but to continue if you have that much courage and if the degree of intensity is sufficient within you.

The secret is not in the books [of Christian Science, Unity, or The Infinite Way], the secret is within you and until you discover the secret within you, you cannot find it in any books.

The only reason there are not more mystics in the world. . . is because there are so few individuals who are going to God with a completely open consciousness.

The Infinite Way. . . is not so much a teaching as an experience. It is meant to bring the individual to an experience. . . that changes his life from the “man whose breath is in his nostrils to that man who has his being in Christ.” Whereas before you were trying to bring good into your experience, now you know ‘*It abides in you and you abide in it.*’

In the spiritual life you are never able to forget that you are not living your own life, and that you have no right whatsoever to consider what you would like to do, or when you would like to do it, or how. . . Always in the back of your mind is the reminder that it is God’s life that is being lived and it is just your privilege to be at that state of consciousness where you can watch God live your life without interposing a wish or a will or a desire of your own.

Only one thing should engage the attention of an Infinite Way student and that is the developing of his consciousness by any and every possible means, of raising the Christ above humanhood.

Until such time as the spirit itself says: “Leave all for me: or Leave your nets,” no student should ever forget his duty to his family, to his business, to his human interests. Rather he should make his study and his meditations the foundation for the more harmonious functioning of these facets of his life.

How long it takes to accept the fact that God is my being as well as your being, and that God is your friend’s being and your enemy’s being is the difficulty that constitutes part of the initiation. . . [and] until you can see that, because of the impersonal nature of God, omnipresence means fulfillment is here where I am, you cannot even enter in. In the same way, until you stop blaming someone or something and realize that what you are fighting is the arm of flesh or nothingness and that you never did have a chance for victory, you cannot enter in.

There will be no more “walking up and down the seashore inviting everyone to listen.” That day died with Christ Jesus. Whenever truth is unveiled, be assured it will be done without advertising or fanfare, and it will be given only to those who seek it.

A student wrote me that after studying for ten years, he had had the most wonderful revelation that there is no power in effect.

Since the goal is immortality and eternity and infinity, the real joy is in attaining. As long as we tabernacle on earth, there will be higher attainments ahead. There will always be a new horizon, a new step, and this is the joy of our life—always higher attainments.

As the student studies and practices truth, and he does so more or less with the human mind, it filters back through the mind into his consciousness and eventually he does not have to speak it or think it, he just has to *be* it.

You do not enter this spiritual life until you rise to that place where the conscious knowing of the truth has been subdued and you have actually attained the awareness. You are now not knowing the truth, you have become the truth and here is where in our work the active practice begins.

Some of us look on certain means of income as natural, and we have to lose that. Others look on health as natural, and we have to lose that. In other words, we are always losing our material sense of things and being reborn into the spiritual sense of things.

When you make the transition to the man who lives by “every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God,” you are then forming no judgments, but rather you are creating a vacuum within yourself resulting in an attitude of listening so that divine judgment may be rendered.

We call the nature of our work “the middle path” because we do not. . . pray to get rid of a material evil, and we do not pray to acquire a material good. We go straight down the middle path and our prayer is: “Reveal the spiritual kingdom.”

All cause is within your consciousness, and therefore, all effect comes forth from you. Be prepared for some failures. . . but it is better to fail through your own consciousness than depend on someone or something.

It would be an unusual occurrence for anyone to go out and look for a teaching that would benefit the world, because until consciousness has been spiritualized, our interests are concerned primarily with ourselves and our families.

Progress into the spiritual consciousness is a complete relaxing in God *is*. This consciousness is the God-presence and the God-power. The consciousness that does not fear external powers *is* the spiritual power.

The development of spiritual consciousness begins when we release all concepts of God in the recognition that the *I* that is seeking God is God. Then when we sit down in meditation, we take no thought for any condition of the world or any person of the world and become a state of receptivity as if to hear that still small voice. . . Watch that you do not have concepts of God, not even up there in your mind, because this is a projection of an image, which is idolatry. Become free of all concepts of God so you can truthfully say inwardly, “I do not have a God.”

Think a great deal on the term *spiritual power*, and try to get a clearer recognition of it. Remember that it is not a power over anything or anybody – it is not a power to be used. Spiritual power is a state of grace.

Those of us who still have problems might just as well realize that our consciousness is not yielding sufficiently. What good is it to try to change outer conditions? No, change consciousness first, and then the harmonious conditions will follow.

I will take you back to the day that started me on the spiritual path. It was a day of threatened war that brought to my thought, “Where is God? . . . where in this danger. . . is God?” This started a trend of thought that years later ended with the realization, revelation, perhaps, that there is no God in the world and there never has been—that God is only where God is realized, and nowhere else.

If we do attain enlightenment, we soon find that it was not given to us for ourselves but for some God purpose.

Perhaps four or five years after the beginning of my healing ministry, I learned that every metaphysical healing teaching in the world is based on a misconception, the misconception that the source of whatever evil is affecting you is within yourself and that you are responsible for the errors in your experience. . . One of the major secrets of healing work was given me then, and that was *impersonalization*. It was shown me how all error of any nature has its origin in the carnal mind or mortal mind.

When the Christ comes to your consciousness, it is going to send you out on a mission somewhere, not to rest at home in retired peace.

You can hasten the experience of God realization by increasing the number of your daily meditations, remembering that a minute or two or more is enough.

No Infinite Way student should enter the healing or teaching ministry until demonstration proves the rightness of it.

The Infinite Way never had any intention of being anything but a mystical message, a message revealing the possibility of attaining its goal of conscious union with God and the means of attaining it. The Infinite Way is not a system of attaining improved humanhood; it is the attaining of the Christhood.

Spiritual teachers know the degree of progress students are making [when]. . . the student speaks less and less and listens more and more in the within.

In the middle of the 19th century, some of the Oriental scriptures were translated into English. . . [and] took root in England, German, and later into French. In the United States this never took root, although it was given to the States by Ralph Waldo Emerson in his essays, all of which were translations of Oriental scripture.

The greater the degree of your spiritual freedom, the more widespread is the freedom that you give. . . you may go as high as Jesus, Moses, or Mrs. Eddy, and bring about a whole worldwide religion. Who knows? But if you do, please do not organize it.

The Infinite way is the first of the purely mystical teachings of modern days, and with it we see that it also is “enlightened consciousness appearing in human experience as the consciousness of those individuals ready for it.”

Consciousness Unfolding

Freedom In Christ

The Spiritual Plan

The purpose of this work is the revealing of God as our individual consciousness, so that we may fit ourselves into that ultimate plan and learn what our destiny is, even here on earth.

Achieve Spiritual Consciousness

When you begin to believe, really and truly believe, that God is the consciousness of you, that all issues come from the divine consciousness of you, and not from outside, not from effect, you will be on the first rung of the ladder of spiritual unfoldment.

Learn The Inner Meaning Of Words

The ultimate of our work is when God and the individual blend into *one* –when there is no longer the individual as man, but there is only God voicing Itself, declaring Itself, disclosing, unfolding, and revealing Itself unto this universe.

The Role Of Patience In Demonstration

I say to everyone who undertakes this work: Your consciousness must be renewed. You have been brought up in the belief that that which is out here in the world is reality, and now you are being told that your consciousness is reality.

You may have to stand fast in the face of the very opposite appearance. It may be in the face of a very, very persistent appearance. And so you will have to stand again and again and again and say, “I am being reborn of the Spirit. I am being renewed. I am no longer going to fear, hate, or love that which is outside of me. I am going to stand on the truth that knows that consciousness is the law unto that which is outside.” It takes patience.

Crucifixion

God, working in individual consciousness, leads a person, in the moment of his readiness, to the Christ—to the teacher or to the teaching which is for him.

[The Master] went through the period, first, of being a son of man, then, a Son of God, and finally he realized: “I am He, and besides Me there is no other.”

God Formed Us For His Glory

The Invisible Meat Unknown to the World

Sharing but Not Dependency

I am in this work, but I am not in this work for your sake. I am in this work because the grace of God pushed me into it to reveal God's grace and God's law on earth.

Humanhood Externalizes

Our greatest enemy is whatever enables us to sit back and rest as if now we are all right. We are never all right as long as an abundance of funds means supply. It is only when we have perceived the nature of that which produces health and supply that we can rest back because then we have achieved the ascension or a readiness for it.

God, The Substance Of All Form

Gaining The Consciousness Of Good

Gaining The Consciousness Of Good

The purpose of this work is not to add one iota to your intellectual knowledge of truth, but to quicken. . . the unfolding of divine Consciousness as your individual consciousness.

A New Bottle

We have to develop a whole. . . new state of consciousness, and we begin by giving up all material sense. . . This cannot be done in a moment: it is the work of a lifetime, because it involves a complete change of consciousness.

You must be willing to sit alone with yourself and ponder this idea of individual consciousness as the cause, law, and power of being.

You will find that three-fourths of all you read about truth is forgotten when once that sense of God as Omnipresence becomes apparent.

Nature Of Consciousness

When [carnal mind] is imbued with spiritual wisdom, when it begins to draw on infinity, [it] is no longer the human fleshly mind. It is still expressing as individual mind, but it is no longer a planning, plotting, reasoning, scheming, thinking mind. It is a state of receptivity, an instrument of divine Intelligence, always guided along the right way and in the right path.

Spiritual Vision

In the beginning of Jesus' ministry, he spoke only of the Father within and denied his humanhood. "I can of mine own self do nothing. . . My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me." . . . But how did he end his ministry? "Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father.

Leave Your Nets

Grace

Grace

When you turn to a spiritual unfoldment, you learn one thing: there is no way of getting anything from anyone; there is no way of getting anything out of anything; and there is no hope for those who expect to *get*. Life, spiritually understood, is not a getting process: it is a giving process. You will get out of life whatever you put into it, no more and no less. It may be a life of peace, but there will be no peace or prosperity for those who are expecting to get something. It may be a life of war and depression, but there will be no war or depression to the person who is putting into life his love, his forgiveness, and his dependence on Grace. To that person, none of these things will come nigh his dwelling place.

Knowing The Unknowable

That transitional experience will go on the ascension above all sense of this world. Then, there will be no more reincarnation because there will be no place into which to be reborn. The complete and perfect virginal, spiritual birth, or sense of being, will have been achieved. This is the "dying daily" and the rebirth that goes on continuously until the complete ascension.

Open Out A Way

At this point, you may think of yourself as a branch, but through meditation, study, and devotion, as you learn to leave your "nets," you come to the place where your relationship to the world is as a Vine, not as a branch. You will recognize yourself as rooted and grounded in the infinite Source of good, and therefore, willing and ready to let that good of God flow through you that those who turn to you may be fed and may, in their turn, be enabled to bring forth fruitage. Whatever of good comes into your experience is not for your good or mine: it is that the Father may be glorified through us.

The Call

The New Discipleship

In the realization of this Light within us, you can see how patient we can be with our faults, weaknesses, and shortcomings, letting this Light dissolve and remove them, and reveal more and more of Its glory. This may not always come rapidly, and that is good because if it does come quickly, we may be overcome by the feeling that it was our wisdom that did it, our understanding and our spirituality, and that would be more fatal than the delay of a year, or two, or three. It is better that this realization come gradually so as not to startle us into some great belief in our own integrity or our own spirituality.

Whatever it is that calls us out of the business world or out of the home into the spiritual ministry, that it is that accomplishes the work. By His name—by the nature of the Christ—are healings and harmonies achieved. That, however, involves giving up the use of the word "I," and the realization that the one *I* is He that calls us.

The New Name

You can continue your search for peace, and sometime or other you may stumble upon it or it may be brought to you. Or you can give up your search this very moment: you can give up your desire for good; you can give up all expectation of good this day; and you can rest back in your true name, in your divine sonship.

Living Between Two Worlds

Making The Transition From Personal Sense To Spiritual Being

Spiritual Being Forms No Judgments

When this transition in consciousness takes place and the personal "I" is absent, you can hear about germs, infection, and contagion, or you can hear about your enemies without reacting to them, because now there is no "I" entertaining a belief about them, a concept, or opinion.

The Divine Consciousness Reveals Itself As The Teacher In The Moment Of Readiness

When we in our hearts and souls desire to know God aright, to receive God's grace, to be freed of our sins, false appetites, hates, enmities, jealousies, and other human traits, when we are really ready to be made spiritually whole, the teacher will appear. It may be a teacher ten thousand miles away sitting in meditation who knows nothing about us personally. . . and yet we receive our grace and freedom. . . It is entirely an activity of God-consciousness.

Hypnotism In And Of Itself Is Not Power

Every one of us has a Something within him that enables him to rise above the limitations of his humanhood. It does take recognition of it. It takes stick-to-itiveness. And oftentimes after we have learned that It exists, we do not work hard enough to maintain It.

Bearing Witness To The Christ-identity

The major factor in leaving the two worlds for the one world is acknowledging the *I*. The *I* of me wants me to acknowledge my Christhood. It wants me to acknowledge my *I* within is God.

The Transition From This World To The Realm Of Soul Is A Slow And Gradual One

It is one thing for me to acknowledge that the Christ is incarnated in you and for you to acknowledge that the Christ is incarnated in me. It is quite another thing to reach the place of realizing that there is no "you" and there is no "me:" there is only Christhood.

Spiritual Discernment Reveals That Which Is

The ability to move from the world of material sense into the world of spiritual discernment is proportionate to our ability to close our eyes to the appearance and wait for that inner intuition, the voice of God, to reveal to us the truth of what we are beholding.

Living By Grace

Freedom In God

Spiritual Freedom

Those who receive spiritual illumination find that they no longer have problems of their own. First of all, illumination changes their desires and needs and simplifies them to the extent that they need so little of this world's good that never again do they have a problem of supply. What little they do require appears when necessary in miraculous ways. They have no economic problems for themselves or physical, mental, or moral problems. That one touch of illumination removes those persons from the world.

We Are Only Instruments

A new concept came. To all appearances, I did beautifully with it, and things seemed to be working out wonderfully well. Then one day came the realization, "I've made the same mistake again! What I thought was Truth is not." I went through that process several times. The latest one was terrible. It lasted three days, and I went through about as much hell as one man can take... The thought came, "Well, God, this is a failure. No doubt about that! But look what a grand and glorious failure! I have spent thirty years getting to this point of failure. I've really given my heart, my soul, my energy, every ounce of me to this failure!" A great sense of relief and peace came to me, and with that sense of peace came this message: *You were doomed to failure from the very beginning. The more you realize that, the closer you will come to Truth.* That was astonishing! Now it was evident that my failure was in believing that I had the power to succeed or fail, when all I could ever be was an instrument for the power of the Divine. God alone is the principle of life. The only success that can come in this world is God's success.

The Revelation

On the evening of Sunday September 1, [1963], a revelation poured through me for two consecutive hours. I was being led to the highest point of consciousness that the Infinite had revealed. Throughout all my talks since this unfoldment, what has broken through has led to the message of going beyond words and, thoughts—going beyond the mind.

Confidentiality of Teacher's Personal Message to an Individual Student

Do not believe for a moment that gaining this moment of illumination will free you *permanently* from your discords. First of all, the greatest temptations come after the illumination; and second, the penalty is much more severe when an offense is committed by someone who has received spiritual illumination, because much more is expected of those who have much. The smallest offense committed by those who have attained spiritual illumination can wreck their entire careers or destroy their health or minds.

Everyone who has been a spiritual teacher has found that there are students who in the end betrayed them, no matter how much was given to them. The Master had it happen to him, as did Peter and Paul. In our modern day, some of Mrs. Eddy's top students deserted her, as did Mrs. Fillmore's... It happens because, in some form or another, the world is too attractive to them. With some, it is glory; with others, it is money. Whatever its form, it is the world. No matter how close they get to the Throne, there will be some who in the end will desert you or in some way attempt to cheat you and defraud you. They only defraud themselves and throw themselves right out of the spiritual work!

You may believe that you have come [to a spiritual teaching] of your own free will and accord, but the fact is that the finger of God has touched you and it is God who has pushed you into a spiritual direction.

Your real temptation will come after the first illumination, although you may think such temptations are already behind you. There are many forms of temptation: the temptation to make miracles in order to get supply, the temptation to glorify your ego, the temptation to show forth how spiritually powerful you are, and so on. Until you are faced with it, you will never know what a great temptation it is to use some human means to overcome some lack you may experience. You know very well that if you do resort to human means, your hand will fall off, because relying on human means is a form of looking back, and you may turn into a pillar of salt!... So let us not succumb to human temptation. Whatever form of temptation comes to you, recognize it for what it is and it will pass by.

I have found that if I have students three to five years, even six years, and if I have them enough days a week and enough hours in the day, they finally develop spiritual vision. I have never yet succeeded with any student in less time than that. True, some students became practitioners in twenty-four hours, but that was not through me. It was through their own inner development. The minute they turned to God, their souls opened and they evolved and began healing at once.

God As Individual Being

Once you have been touched by the Spirit and are on this path, you can never again be thrilled by the profits of the pocketbook or the things of the flesh or by what you once thought were pleasures. Once a person is touched, these pleasures and profits can only be incidental. However, there is still the possibility of turning back and fearing the things that we have always feared.

Remember that we have left our nets in the degree that we have left our old mortality, in the degree that we have left the church of our fathers, in the degree that we have let friends and relatives drift out of our lives.

We can evaluate our spiritual progress by our reactions to what is presented to us in the pictures of the world. For example, the more we realize that temporal power is not power, the less we fear war or the threat of war. That is one sign of spiritual progress. Another is reacting with less horror or fear to the sins and diseases of the world. You also show your own spiritual progress as you realize that supply is spiritual and react with less horror or pity to the seeming lack of food and necessities in the impoverished countries of the world. You not only show your progress, you also help to remove lack and limitation.

Living By The Word

*Easter: An Experience Of Consciousness
Sowing To The Spirit Leads To Ascension*

Each one of us has his own Easter Day; each one of us has an actual moment of experience in which he is resurrected, in which the "old man" of us is dead, and there is a three-day period after which I raise up this temple again. And then there is the longer period of preparation for the final experience of ascension above mortality, ascension into Christhood, even while here on earth. it. . . True, for a long, long time, we are all going to say, "I do not claim to have fully attained, but I am going to repeat, day after day, that that attainment is my goal, and that I do know that I will attain it only by an activity of truth in my consciousness.

This I say to you most regretfully; this I say to you very sadly, after having witnessed for more than thirty years that it is so. Of our own accord, we cannot even determine to live consciously, we cannot determine to abide in the Word and let the Word abide in us. We cannot do this. It is only by the grace of God, it is only when we have been touched that something within us responds and we have been touched that something within us responds and we say, "I can begin," or, "I am going to begin," or, "This is my path."

Across The Desk

Our work is to meditate until we feel the flow, feel that light I within, and then release it into the world. This is our only reason for being here. This is fulfilling the divine plan.

Our First Consideration Is The Development Of Our Own Consciousness

Our only responsibility at this stage of our unfoldment is the development of our own spiritual consciousness. At first, it may seem a bit selfish to leave the rest of the world alone and concern ourselves only with that; but ultimately we will find that this particular form of selfishness is the height of unselfishness, because once we attain some measure of God-realization, I then the world will beat a pathway to our door and really be benefitted by the degree of consciousness that we have attained.

There never will come a time when we understand enough, and there never will come a time when we have spiritual power. All that we can do in our most advanced state is what we can do in our beginning state, and that is, let the light dispel the darkness. "Let there be light: and there was light"—let there be God, God functioning and His presence going before us.

The Promises Of Scripture Are Given To The Children Of God

The whole message of the Infinite Way is teaching us to make that contact with God. It is not trying to give us a new religion or present a new message from some human being about something. It is not trying to invent a new way of healing the sick and feeding the hungry. The whole import of the message of the Infinite Way is, through writings, lectures, classes, and recordings, to lift us to a state of spiritual apprehension, wherein and whereby we become the sons of God.

God Is Calling: do You Hear?

I wish you could see what my life is like. You would enjoy it. I sit way back inside myself looking out through my eyes. You would be surprised what I see out there in that detached sense, the funny things I see and the funny things I hear. Not knowing that I have a sense of humor, you do not know how often I chuckle inside. As I travel the world, sometimes I hear students say that they cannot afford this book or that book, this class or that class, or they cannot afford a tape recorder or a tape recording. They cannot afford this and they cannot afford that; they haven't time for this, and they haven't rime for that. I just sit back and laugh and laugh inside, and then I look around at all the beauty salons and the prices they charge and the time they consume.

Nobody can tell you whether it will take one week to receive the first intimation that something has happened [in meditation] or whether it might not be, like in my case, eight months, eight months of more than a dozen periods set aside every day for meditation. Still it took eight months before I had the first response. But then I had the second one a week later, and I had the third one probably two weeks later, and then a fourth one, one week later, and then gradually two in one week, and then eventually one every day.

To know the will of God and to hear the voice of God means above all things developing the practice of having many periods of solitude every day, going into the inner sanctuary.

Living Now

Beyond Words And Thoughts

Beyond Words And Thoughts

Several years to demonstrate a spiritual principle.

Across The Desk

Joel says Thunder of Silence a radical book,

When The Spirit Of The Lord Is Upon Us

Goal of Path is to come out from the law and have being in Christ

We cannot discern with the mind but only when ordained with spiritual consciousness.

Living The Infinite Way

God Is Omnipresent

We have been receiving this truth of our sonship, of the omnipresence of God and all good, and we are filled with it. Now the time has come when we must begin spending it, using it, and expressing it. As we go out into the world, we give up our selfhood as a branch, and we accept ourselves as the *vine*. We recognize everyone we meet as a branch, all members of one family, the household of God, all one in Christ Jesus. In that moment, we begin to let this truth which fills us flow out into expression.

Man Was Not Born To Cry

Awake

You are the Soul that lives. But first you must know the You that is that Soul, and then you must begin to explore, search, and seek until you find *Me*, until you find your Self, the real You.

Across The Desk

Human beings never become spiritual, so there is no such thing as making progress. The goal, if we can put it that way, is “dying daily.”

It is not possible for anyone to choose this life. We come to the spiritual life by an act of Grace.

It may take months, sometimes years, because there is a part of us that cannot quite accept the truth that God is our Self.

Taking The Journey Back To The Father's House

The human race became enslaved, engulfed by war, depressions, poverty, disease, and sin, all because of surrendering its dominion through ignorance of its true identity.

The Word That Is With Power

If you remember that the object of The Infinite Way is to overcome material sense and be lifted into spiritual consciousness, you will have very little difficulty in healing work.

To Every Man There Openeth A Way

Beginning two days after that first spiritual experience, people were drawn to me for help, and although they were healed. . . they did not know how to make it a continuing experience, and I could not teach them because I myself did not know.

For thirteen years before my first spiritual experience, I was seeking in ignorance, not knowing how to seek.

From the moment of that experience, I literally “died” to my entire human sense of life up to that time. Every bit of yesterday disappeared, and a whole new way of life opened up. . . Eventually, I was left alone in the world without any close relatives or friends, and without a dollar.

Our Spiritual Resources

Begin Prayer With The Word God

Practice Is Essential

Gradually as your consciousness is permeated with the Presence, your treatments take less and less time, until there are times when they do not take any time at all because the answer pops in as fast as the claims do.

It will be difficult at first to make your adjustment to the fact that you have to make your consciousness a fit dwelling place for the grace of God.

You have nothing else to do from now until eternity except to find this conscious union with God.

Attaining The Spiritual Kingdom

Whatever the nature of our particular problem may be, let us not try to hide it. Let us rather face it and realize that we are on this path for the purpose of realizing our way out of material sense into spiritual consciousness.

An Overturning Is Necessary To Awaken Man Our Of His Inertia

Nothing can happen to a person except what happens within his consciousness. Therefore, for the spiritual student, there must at all times be an activity of truth in consciousness. Remember that statement because it is important and vital to spiritual progress.

Be Willing To Receive God's Grace On God's Level

I suppose I could have had my spiritual illumination twelve years before I had it—but I was not ripe, and it took thirteen years of ripening before that first experience came, and many, many years more before later ripenings came.

It is a long road, a very gradual, uphill climb with some backslidings, and then starting all over again up that hill.

The Practicality Of Spiritual Living

The spiritual life is not such an austere one that it denies the living of a normal life to anyone.

Attain The Consciousness Of The Principle

A revelation was given to me late in 1929, but it was sixteen years after that before I began to teach, and those sixteen years were spent in proving in daily experience that these principles are true.

Let us rejoice, even though we are not able to walk on the water alone, that this great principle of nonpower has been given to us.

SEEK YE FIRST

The Inner Kingdom

Breaking The Attachment To The Outer World

As the months go by, a new experience comes into our lives. One day we will be conscious of the fact that we have received some kind of a message, an assurance, a direction, or a command from within. It may be startling at first; we may even wonder if it is really true and may even lose the benefit of it by not realizing the real nature of it. All of this makes no difference. We have before us an eternity, and as we continue this practice, it will happen again. We will have a direct awareness of some response from within, or something will happen to our outer life that we will recognize could not have happened unless there were an invisible transcendental Something bringing it about. . . Let us not think that now that this has happened it is going to be a completely permanent, continuing experience, because it is not. But the fruitage of the realized Presence will be apparent more and more frequently.

The essence of the spiritual life lies in the hearing of the still small voice: the ability to receive impartations from God, to be small voice: the ability to receive impartations from God, to be taught of God, to receive God's grace. Most of us have done the reverse of that by speaking to God, telling God, trying to influence God, whereas there is no God listening.

Our Motive Is The Ripener

If it is any consolation to those who may be discouraged with the apparent slowness of their progress, they should understand that it is very unusual to feel any progress until one second after awakening. We cannot feel it coming on; we cannot know even one minute before that we are on our way to spiritual awakening. As a matter of fact, we may continue in sickness or in sin even while we are making the most remarkable spiritual progress, ready for our illumination, and yet with no evidence of that readiness, wondering when the moment does come, "How could it happen? Five minutes ago I was in deep sin, and this minute I am an angel."

SHOWING FORTH THE PRESENCE OF GOD

*God's Blessing Is Not Dependent On Thought Or Thing
Finding Our Teacher And Teaching*

At the beginning of our spiritual search, we ourselves are in no position to know what is truth and all that must be known. Therefore, while all truth is demonstrable, in our beginning days we must have enough confidence in our teacher and in the particular teaching we follow to enable us to accept the truth uttered by the teacher.

Instruments For God's Expression

If we turn to teachers, teachings, or books, it is only that they may be the bridge that we walk over to return to the spirit of God that is within us. . . We honor and respect the teacher, the teaching, and the book, but we worship only the God that dwells within us, until eventually we come, as St. Paul did, to the great realization, "Why, this is not my life at all. I could have found God on the first day of my search, had somebody only told me that this is not my life at all, but that God is living my life." In that awareness we relax and let it happen. We relax and receive God's wisdom, God's grace, God's peace. We can never really have any peace, wisdom, or grace of our own, and so it is better to surrender in the first place than in the last.

Meditation Unlocks The Door Of Understanding

Reading and hearing alone may lead you to the awareness of God, but meditation will shorten the time by ninety percent. Meditation is one of the most powerful means ever discovered of attaining God-realization.

Bearing Witness To Divine Sonship In Daily Life

There is a point of transition where every person on the spiritual path passes from living his own life, making his own decisions, and being concerned with his own affairs to a place in consciousness where Something takes over.

We begin to see that what we have learned is not so much the truth of being as the basis for the *consciousness* of truth of being.

God, The Actor, The Be-er, The Doer

It is one thing to say of ourselves, "I am neither good nor evil. It is God that works in me. Whatever qualities I have are qualities of God." But how different and how difficult it is when we look out in the world and see some of the evil characters and some of the very good ones! We cannot help loving and admiring the good ones, and we cannot help condemning, criticizing, and judging the evil ones, or at least knowing how they could be better. A line must be drawn in our consciousness that enables us to stop judging the appearance, so that we can look through it and say, "I am not interested if the appearance at the moment is good or evil, whether the fever is up or down, or the pocketbook full or empty. I am looking through to the truth that God alone is. And because God alone is, all is well.

The Spiritual Perception Of A Principle Is Necessary

No one knows how close he is to co-spiritual realization because it is true of every one of us that we are humanly opaque even the very minute before spiritual illumination comes.

So on that Saturday, convinced within myself that I had made no progress and that I wasn't any further advanced in the spiritual awareness than I had been thirteen years before, on that day of all days enough light broke through so I could do healing work. and after thirteen years of study many human traits fell away from me in that one day. All that time, however. without my knowing it or being aware of it, onion skins had been falling away, but in that one day the realization came.

The moment that transitional experience takes place which reveals spiritual life. however. and you say. "Oh, that *I* is eternal. I am that *I*," you have joined the group of mystics. You have joined with Moses. with Jesus, and with all those who realize the true nature of that invisible Selfhood which does not glorify Itself in the outer realm but is glorified only by the effect of Itself.

Yes, there is that possibility, and you might as well be prepared for it and say, "I have to keep going on because where would I go if I stopped? I have nothing to go back to, so even if it does take thirty or forty years I might as well stay on the path until the light breaks through."

The Impermanence Of Human Good

One of the most difficult concepts for almost every student of the Infinite Way is to understand what is meant by beholding God. There are nature mystics in the world who believe that God is in nature, that God is manifested in the sun, moon, and stars, in the flowers and the plants, but the truth is that what we behold with the five physical senses is nothing more nor less than a creation of the universal human mind. It is in no way divine or spiritual: it is only our limited concept of the spiritual. If God were in a tree, a tree would not die; if God were in the ocean, there would not be a storm on it. How long ago was it known that God is not in the whirlwind, that God is not in the storm, that God is not in any phenomena of nature! These represent the creation of the Lord God or mind as set forth in the second chapter of Genesis. It is only when we see the sun, moon, stars, rivers, vegetables, and all nature as symbols, or as the human concept of the real, that we begin to perceive that behind this creation there is *My* kingdom, a temple not made with hands.

Ordination Demands Obedience To Inner Orders

Eventually the Spirit will take over and tell you how many hours a day you need of study or meditation. It will tell you whether to unite with others and share your life with them or to receive the light that they are shedding. Eventually, when your particular spiritual work is given to you to do, you will have no choice as to whether it interferes with your home life or your social life. At the moment of your ordination you will be under orders. You have no control over this any more than you have control over God. . . You have entered upon a way of life which is not your way of life, but God's way of life through you. . . Once the spirit of God has set you on a spiritual path, It will not let you turn back. . . You cannot look back to the city, to the consciousness you have outgrown, even when it was a pleasant one.

Spiritual Interpretation Of Scripture

Darkness To Light
(darkness To Light)

The journey is from sense to Soul.

Your purpose is to let that Light [that you are] shine.

Spiritual Power Of Truth

A Harmonious Universe

Do you see the further step that we must now take in our work, acknowledging *My* consciousness and putting capital M on *My* consciousness? Put a capital L on *My* Life. Put a capital S on *My* Spirit so that we can silently—never outwardly or openly—say, "*My* Spirit is upon you. " Put a capital M on *My* presence—"My presence is with you."—and be not thinking in terms of some two thousand years ago, but *My* presence: "*My* presence is with you and *My* presence is divine, because *My* presence is devoid of fear, devoid of two powers, devoid of self-interest." That is what makes it capital M—*My* spirit is upon you. Just be sure that in your Soul and in your Spirit there are not two powers, that you are not fearing any power, and that you are not holding any personal sense.

What is my goal? What is it I am trying to attain, or achieve? Then you come down to the actual experience of "not by might, nor by power": "I am really trying to come down to the realization of nonpower. I am really trying to achieve the realization that since there is no power in evil—since there is no power but the One—I am really not looking for any other power. I am not trying to attain or use another power, or bring another power to bear. I am living in the realization of One power. "

The answer to life is in coming back into the Garden of Eden, where there is neither health nor disease, where there is neither wealth nor poverty—where there is only a continuity of perfect joy and harmony, dependent on nothing. It is where there is just a state of IS, a state of Being, a state of God Being. We can return to the Garden Eden at any moment. It will take a year of practice, but we can attain It.

Every time we read a book or every time we hear a tape, there are more principles and we wonder if we are ever going to get to the end of it. As a matter of fact, it is not quite that way. There are not many principles revealed in the message of The Infinite Way. What seems to make it so involved is that each principle requires so many different ways of hearing and reading before we actually attain the consciousness of it.

So a student who has seriously studied these writings and tapes for five years should be at least at the beginning of that state of consciousness which has settled down into an inner peace. That's because they can see the Nature of God and they can instantly recognize the nature of error.

Nobody of his own accord seeks God. You can put that down as a rule with no exception. No human being has of himself ever sought God—never in the history of the world! God has to seek you before you can turn and believe that you are seeking God. All the time that you are believing that you are seeking God, do not fool yourself; you are not! It is God in you that is trying to push through and reveal Himself to you. When you know this, you can stop your search for God and sit down and listen more, and then God will break through.

If it so be the Spirit of God dwells in you, you are children of God. Therefore, in the consciousness of that Presence, constantly realized, you will find that a purification process goes on that dissolves the carnal mind with its belief in two powers, with its belief in two selves. Eventually, that mind that is in Christ Jesus is functioning as the greater part of your life, and the 10 to 20 percent remaining part of the carnal mind you can easily deal with as it tries to rear its head.

Over and over this has been made clear in this Message, and this is the most difficult part of the entire Infinite Way Message. Until you can overcome all the concepts of God you ever had and wash them right out of your mind—taking them up, one by one, whether they happen to be *Love* or *Life* or *Soul* or *Spirit*, until there is not a single word left that you can think of—you will not reach that place where you will experience God, because God is not a word; God is an experience. . . . once you have eliminated all that and have come to the realization that none of this is God, for only *I* in the midst of me is God, then you face probably the last hurdle: because the word *I* is no more God than the word God is. However, this is an easy hurdle to overcome, because *I* is my Self, and one thing you will agree with is that none of us know ourselves. Of that we can all be assured! . . . what makes us tick. . . why we are, what we are, or how we got this way. All that we know ourselves is that we are, that is all; but what made me this way, what made you that way, is unknown.

Resolve within yourself that if you are ever tempted to believe that God is responsible in any way for any discord, you will reject it. If you are ever tempted to believe that God has visited or is visiting upon you any form of punishment, any form of sin, any form of disease any form of discord, you will now absolve God from responsibility.

What separates the life of an individual living the human experience of both good and evil, sickness and health, abundance and lack, sin and purity, happiness and unhappiness, from the individual of spiritual attainment whose life is, on the whole, a continuity of harmony—is a matter of identification. But I hasten to add that regardless of how high you attain on the spiritual Path, it does not mean that you will be forever without some problem or another. Yet it is safe to say, from what we have seen, that most of your problems will be minor ones and easily resolved. However, occasionally there can be some very serious problems that come along even to the spiritual student, and that is because of universal world hypnotism.

Now then, probably in the beginning of your metaphysical days you made statements of this kind as metaphysical clichés you have learned, and you had learned to declare them on almost every occasion. Witness a couple of automobiles crack up on the road and then say, "There are no accidents in Divine Mind," as if making such a statement had any power. Were there the conviction of God as the only governing influence, no such statement could have been made. You would have looked right through the appearance with a smile, knowing the illusory nature of what was appearing.

This is what happens on the spiritual Path. Day by day we break some fetter of human experience and we drop some phase of humanness. We make that transition to where our prayer now is a benediction to the world, to where we are no longer praying that we receive anything but we are praying, "Father, forgive our enemies, they know not what they do. . . In other words, we have made an about-face and we are no longer sitting at the feet of the Master. We now *are* the Master, and we are healing the multitudes, freeing the multitudes, and feeding and forgiving the multitudes. We are now the Christ Consciousness, and we seek nothing for ourselves, because we know that "all that the Father hath is already mine." Now our whole life is pouring forth God's Grace to this world, but not in the form of throwing our pearls before swine to be trampled on. We do it silently and secretly. Our praying is done in secret!

You reach a place where you no longer think of praying for yourself or doing meditation or spiritual work for yourself. It just never enters your mind. Why? What is the difference between knowing the Truth about you and knowing the Truth about me? It is the same truth, and we are the same Being, the same Selfhood. Knowing the Truth is all that is necessary, regardless of whether you are knowing it about the human race or about even the animal world or the bird world or the fish world. . . In the end, I am the one who is really going to get the most benefit from it, because that knowing of the Truth is elevating me in consciousness above this picture.

As we become students of spiritual Truth, we must be perfectly content to remain students and not try to be practitioners and teachers until that experience actually takes place within our consciousness which results in our being set art.

No teacher can take a student into the Promised Land. Every student has to walk into that Kingdom through their own consciousness. The function of the teacher is merely to lead them to the entrance, and then they themselves have to take over and walk through.

Once you discover that you no longer have tendencies toward wrongdoing, you begin to realize the great mystery: now you no longer have a capacity to be good. You now recognize that the good flowing through you has nothing to do with you and that it is actually flowing *through* you. You haven't directed it, you haven't willed it. Automatically it is taking place *through* you before you ever had a chance to think about it. Then you will discover that in your daily meditations, in which you are acknowledging the presence of God within you, it is the selfhood of God in which you are relaxing in order to let God live your life. In the words of Paul, "I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth my life."

The most difficult situation [of the transition in consciousness] arises with yourself in the early months when you have to consciously resist the temptation to want something and desire something as if you were out there at the feet of the Master. You have to consciously remember that you gave up that seat to those who are not yet aware. Now your seat is on the platform. You are sitting up there, a co-worker with the Christ of God. Your function is no longer to receive but to bestow. Your function is not to get but to give. Your question that you must ask yourself every morning is, "What have I in the house?" Then throughout the day, as the opportunity comes to bestow the Bread of life, the Meat, the Wine, the Water, the Life, the Resurrection, remember that this is the Path you have embarked upon.

We can bring about a transition in consciousness if we will start a battle with ourselves. That battle will start the very moment that we realize that we have had the privilege taken away from us of going to God for something—or to man. We have had to sit still and say, "No. . . No more begging, no more pleading, no more looking out," now realizing, "Thank you, Father. All that God Is, I am. That which I am seeking, I Am. All that the Father hath Is mine. Here, where I am, Is holy ground, for here the Spirit of the Lord Is; and where the Spirit of the Lord Is, there Is liberty. . . I have received from the Master. From Truth I have received life eternal. I have received divine Grace. I have received the assurance of my Oneness with God. Now it is my turn to share, to bless, to pray."

Our work is to free ourselves from universal claims. I know that you do understand this, but I give it to you because you will have an occasion, every single day of your life, to remember what I am saying to you. The temptation, in our work, is to try to improve the human scene: We see a sick person and our first normal reaction is to want to see them well. We see an unemployed person and the very first thought is how we can bring about employment. We see a poor person and the first thing that comes to us is how to bring supply to them. We see an unhappy person and our first thought is how to bring happiness it. . . Never, unto the end of your days on earth, will you overcome the automatic, unconscious temptation, at least once in a while while giving treatment, to change the appearance into its opposite.

The mission of The Infinite Way is to develop us to the point of achievement of this inner, infinite, invisible consciousness which, in Our Writings, is called The Infinite Invisible, so that we may manifest here and now our inherent and natural being-Infinity, Omnipresence, Omnipotence.

Just as we have risen above discord, rise above harmony, rise to where there are no pairs of opposites, to where there is only infinite Divine Being. Rise to where there is only a desire for the realization and awareness of God's Presence, and find fulfillment in Him.

In the early stages of our spiritual development it is absolutely essential that we know the correct letter of Truth, and what it is in which we have placed our faith, and to know that when we are called upon we have the right answer. For a while, we may find it helpful to assure ourselves, "I shall fear no evil; for thou art with me." After we have gone through two or three experiences and have found that the Father is with us, and after understanding the full implications of that statement, there is no longer any need to beseech God or to ask God for anything. There is no need to make declarations or affirmations because whenever there is a temptation to fear, a smile will come to take the place of all those words.

The Art Of Meditation

Meditation: The Experience

The Beauty Of Holiness

Even a little understanding of God enables us to discern, in a measure, God's life, love, and joy embodied in man and the universe. In this understanding, our life and love expand and become more pure, joyous, and free, leading us into a higher dimension of life. We begin to live not so much in the world of effect as in the world of cause, discovering our good in the Cause of all that exists rather than in effect—in things, persons, or places. The more understanding we have of Cause, God, the greater is our enjoyment of all persons and things.

Meditation is not an end in itself. That which we are seeking is a conscious realization of the presence of God, but in the realization of that Presence, before the experience of the full and complete illumination, there may be two of us—God and me. We do not want God *and me*: we want God *alone*. That is the final step on the spiritual Path.

Never look upon the discords and inharmonies of your life as if they represented a lack of understanding or a lack of demonstration. Regard these unfortunate circumstances as opportunities which will be dissolved when they no longer serve their purpose as spurs to your spiritual unfoldment.

The Way

In spiritual wisdom there are no pairs of opposites. God is, and, therefore, there is no concern as to whether or not we can reach God, because there is nothing for which we need to reach God; the day is already beautiful; the fruit is already on the trees; the flowers are already blooming; the tides are flowing; the sun and the moon and the stars are in the heavens; harmony is.

Many times in meditation we attain a sense of peace of harmony—the realization of the presence of the Christ. These are inspiring experiences, but we must be willing to give up even that deep peace and rise to the next higher level of consciousness in which the attaining of that peace is of no significance or importance whatsoever. Having realized the everpresence of the Christ, is it necessary to have any kind of an emotional reaction?

Our object is to attain a measure of that mind that was in Christ Jesus, and then let It do with us what It will. It is to reach that consciousness in which Paul revealed, “I live yet not I, Christ liveth my life.”

The Fruits Of Spirit

Now the time has come when we should no longer depend upon talk or the illumination of some other person. We must have the experience, so that we can be in this world but not of it, walk up and down this world and yet not be a part of it, walk in and out of the discords and inharmonies, as well as the pleasures and harmonies of this world, and through it all maintain our spiritual integrity. We lose all sense of having to *do* something, or having to *know* something or having to *understand* something. . . Let us be beholders, watching God at work in His universe, recognizing a transcendental Being as It performs Its work through our consciousness.

There is always a Presence, the Infinite Invisible, which goes before us to make the crooked places straight, and to make every detail of our experience perfect. It is only when “I” do things, say things, and think things that the outcome may be wrong. Our entire experience of frustration comes from our reluctance to wait long enough for It to take over.

The Art Of Spiritual Healing

*Spiritual Healing: The Principles
One Power*

The development of this spiritual consciousness is my responsibility.

Practical Instructions To Workers

The entire world must be given up so that he can live and move and have his being. . . in the divine Consciousness.

Is

We can know how far we are from attaining spiritual consciousness by how much we live in the future.

The Contemplative Life

*Contemplation Develops The Beholder
The Contemplative Life Brings A Consciousness Of Life As Indestructible*

I has no sex. Once you become aware of the *I* that you are, you will find it completely independent of body and completely independent of sex, manifesting as either sex, even though it will still be *I*. That is because *I* is spiritual; *I* is one with God; *I* is of the nature of God. There, *I* is without finite form, yet *I* can manifest as, in, or through finite form. When you have realized that, the sting of death leaves you because you will know then that you are *I*, and *I* will always be your state of consciousness, except that you will progressively elevate until there is nothing finite left.

The discipline of the spiritual path consists of the ability to discipline one's self so as not to see a picture that has to be changed, altered, improved, or removed, and the vision to look out at the pictures this world presents with this conviction, "It is I; be not afraid," and then stand still and bear witness while God brings about the transformation of the visible scene.

The discipline on this path lies in rejecting every appearance, whether it is good or evil, in the realization that whatever it is that is of God is invisible to human senses,

Never Believe That You Know What To Pray For

As we go further into the mystical side of the message of The Infinite Way, we come into an ultimate awareness and the actual experience of our true identity, but this never, never eliminates the necessity for practicing these basic points.

The Infinite Way. . . is difficult for the beginner because there must be an understanding of the basic principles, and then there must be a practice of them until the student develops an actual consciousness which makes it possible to let go of any strenuous attempts to *make* these principles effective and demonstrable.

We are all students regardless of whether we are functioning as practitioners, teachers, or lecturers. . . and if we ever reach the place where we believe that we have advanced beyond the stage of students, we have advanced too far for our own good.

God's Omnipresence

The major point that everyone on the spiritual path must constantly remember is that he is not seeking a power—not even a God power—to do anything for him or for anyone else. It is not that he does not need God-power, because God-power is forever present; but no one can bring the power of God into his experience by praying for it, by asking for it, by sacrificing, by being good, or by observing rites, rituals, fast or feast days.

Put Up Thy Sword

At any moment that a problem of any nature begins to come to your attention, instantly remember that you are not to take up the sword—not the mental sword or the physical sword—but that you are to relax and resist not evil in the realization of Omnipotence. The next three or four days of your life may be very miserable because when you begin a work of this kind, it seems. . . that two or three devils manage to find you, and each of them has two or three temptations for you.

Spiritual attainment is never given to us for our own benefit. . . With every bit of spiritual life that you attain, be assured that you will be called upon to bear more and more witness to it; you will be called upon for more and more service to God. Never believe that the spiritual path leads to sitting in a cave somewhere, hiding away from the world; never believe that it leads to a life of indolence and ease.

Practice But Do Not Preach

The more we enter into the Spirit, the further removed we are from the world's modes and means of living. Blasphemy and vulgarities become more obnoxious to us than they were before, and we feel more discomfort over some trifling offense than some persons do over major offenses.

Give Up Fear And Faith And Attain Grace

Except to students who have studied for a long while, it is not possible to explain Grace, because Grace actually is the operation of a law that can function only in the consciousness of those who have put up the sword, and who have also laid aside their faith in man, in documents, in unions, or in unitedness. For some this is too difficult because they must know the how, the why, and the wherefore for everything, and it is hopeless to expect these persons to understand anything as intangible as Grace until they have come to a place of rising above that which can be explained through reason.

None of us has attained full and complete freedom for the simple reason that we cannot attain full and complete release from fear and faith. The reason is that neither this fear or this faith is personal. It is a universal miasma, a universal hypnotism, and as much as we might individually overcome it, there still will be enough of the universal operating so that, as I said before, even the most dedicated find that they are not one hundred percent free from the sins and diseases of the world, although many of them attain a measure of freedom.

The Final Step Must Be Taken Alone

The spiritual life is an individual life. There are ways of receiving help from a teacher and from one another, but the final battle and final victory are entirely individual matters, which must be fought out in the consciousness of each one of us. . . No one can take your temptation from you but you, and no one else can surmount the temptation.

The Rejection Of The Christ

Bit by bit we begin to learn something of what Jesus meant when he said that his followers must leave all for his sake. Unless we begin to give up faith and trust and hope in the outer world, unless we come to the place of renouncing what the Master called "this world," even a good "this world," we cannot enter the spiritual kingdom. "My kingdom is not of this world," and even if this world has become a healthy, wealthy, or peaceful one, there is yet another place for us. It is "My kingdom," and it is a world made up of entirely different standards from those of even the very best human standards.

The Early Years (32-46)

Problems

It is essential that you personally spend time on seeking a consciousness, or sense of peace, as well as reading and studying. If you will frequently retire to a corner, away from people, compose yourself, take your thought off human affairs, and seek a state of peace, a whole new life will open up to you. This is a gradual process, because human thought seeks to be active, to declare truths, to stop pain, to worry. And always it seeks to do these things through some form of mental activity! Cultivate moments of silence with a "peace, be still," or "be still, and know that I am God," or just "peace." The silence will result in a sense of calm and peace which will enable you to see the problem in its right light, and this consciousness will solve it for you.

It is more difficult to be silent than to declare truths, and for that reason more effort should be made to accomplish it. You may not at first see the good it has done for you, but you will bless the effort you have made to learn the joy and calm of "peace, be still." Jesus did not have to speak to the wind and waters; he merely sought the mental calm of his own thought and the waters reflected the calm of his consciousness.

When faced with any discordant or inharmonious condition, remember this simple law of life: harmony is—and refrain from any effort to change, heal, correct, improve or reform the erroneous appearance. Finally, let go of that "problem." Let life reveal itself to you in all its glory. Let the divine energies possess you. Do not live for yourself or your own good, but for those who have not yet learned their true identity. Let go of yourself and find your Self—infinite, eternal, harmonious.

The objectified universe is the effect of consciousness. Therefore, we cannot change or improve this universe in any way, but we can change our consciousness of the universe and then let this consciousness reveal the universe as it is. Our thought should not dwell on health or body or home, which to our imperfect sense may seem to need improving, but our thought should dwell on God, on the realization of the presence and power of a divine law operating in human consciousness to reveal the harmony of being. Our thought should dwell on the infinite nature of love, which cares for its creation through the laws of love and life. We should abide in the mind which expresses the eternal qualities of perfection. As our thought becomes imbued with this good, we, in turn, express this good in an improved form of body, of being, of health, of home.

The Foundation of Mysticism

Living The Healing Principles

Overcoming Mesmerism Sense

And then there is the final stage [of meditation]. After communion has become a part of your everyday living, it gradually deepens into the experience where there's no longer a communion because there's no longer two. I somehow disappear, you disappear, and there's nothing left but God. And for as long as you are in that conscious union there is no you, there is only God. When you come back to yourself, you realize that you've been away somewhere and that this other being is the only being that exists. That is the mystical experience. That is the complete marriage. That is what is described in the *Song of Solomon*. It is the complete mystical marriage where God the Father and God the Son become one, and there is no more Son, there is only God the Father.

Heaven help anyone who falls into the trap of believing they have gotten past the stage where it is necessary to pray without ceasing.

If the kingdom of God were that easily attained, if it could be reached by meditating for a year or ten, how many people would have it! But see how few have it. "The way is straight and narrow and few there be that enter." This is the most difficult life there is. It is far easier to accomplish anything in the human world than in the spiritual, because in the spiritual life we're called upon to die before we can gain what we're seeking. . . If that sounds too difficult, it's really better that you do not start.

If you combine meditation with consciously knowing the truth, you will definitely break through to the kingdom of God.

It makes no difference how small our demonstration is today. The tiniest demonstration is proof of the principle. From then on it is in the developing of Our consciousness, the increasing of the depth and scope of our realization, that we perform the greater works. Then some day, at the point of ascension, the greatest works unfold.

Now watch the transformation that takes place in your own experience, watch the limitations that are removed, the moment you realize there is nothing keeping you from being a transparency for the infinite nature of God: the infinite wisdom, the infinite life, the infinite truth, and infinite love of God. Nothing is operating but this universal belief-and it isn't a power.

The greatest freedom that comes to spiritual students is that they know they aren't going to go to hell, and they're the only ones who know it. The rest of the world is looking at that horrible experience with dread, but not the spiritual student. Spiritual students realize that the only hell they can ever know is the one they create, and they can just as well have it here as in the hereafter, and they can just as well get free of it here as in the hereafter. Our entire work is bringing freedom to those who come to a message like this.

The metaphysics of this message is what makes it possible to do the healing works. The mysticism of this message enables you to live in God, live in spiritual consciousness, live and move and have your being in the fourth dimension of life. Then your experiences in the outer plane become sort of a "suffer it to be so for now," and yet it's very enjoyable, especially when you meet people seriously trying to live a spiritual life.

The question that came to my mind early in the work was how do these teachings come through? How can they be brought through? How can they be taught? How can I convey this spiritual message, this guidance, this protection, this direction from within? The answer given to me was meditation. . . If the kingdom of God is to be contacted, it must be contacted within. It was for that reason I could stick with it night and day for eight months in the attempt to prove this was true. And I proved it. Then began instruction in meditation, which really came to fruition in the first San Francisco lecture. This was my first writing on the subject of meditation.

This is a mistake too many students make: stating these absolute truths as if they were already an accomplished fact. They aren't; they aren't. Why do you think Jesus said that he came to earth to heal the sick, open the eyes of the blind, open the ears of the deaf, forgive sinners? Did he at any time say, "Oh, you are already spiritual; you are already perfect?" Did he at any time say, "You don't need healing, you are already in the kingdom of God?" Oh, no, he didn't.

Today a letter came from Nigeria, from a minister with whom I've been working for over a year to bring him into spiritual light. He wrote, "I am so dissatisfied with my progress that I'm getting discouraged." And I must write back to him: "In just a year? There are another thousand million years ahead of us, and no one is ever going to accomplish the transition from 'man whose Christ' merely by studying or meditating for a year." Christ' merely by studying or meditating for a year."

We may as well acknowledge that we will have to reach spiritual levels through the mind, but not using the mind as mindpower, as you would if you were just going to heal mentally. Use the mind as an avenue of awareness through which you learn the letter of truth, and by learning and practicing the letter of truth you develop your soul powers, or spiritual powers, and ultimately get beyond the need for even the use of the mind in that direction. Do not ever think you want to get rid of the mind. That was one of the mistakes made by Christian Science, trying to nullify the mind and body. Let's not get rid of the mind or the body. Let's have both mind and body for their proper usage.

When that realization [of *I Am*] is attained, it gives you freedom. That's the only thing that does give you freedom, because in that *I Am-ness* there is no longer a desire for anything or anybody. There is no longer an ambition. There is no longer strife or struggle. There is a resting in that realization. Then through that realization everything necessary for our fulfillment, whether it's person, place, thing, circumstance, or condition, automatically flows into existence. I know you will more easily rise to the mystical experience after you have made a specific practice of impersonalizing and nothingizing.

Years ago it was revealed to me that it is nonsense to pray for anything at all, because it isn't possible to get anything through prayer. The principle behind that. is this: God is the substance of all form. Therefore, if you haven't God, you haven't the form; but if you have God, you have all the forms that God constitutes. Always remember, you must be consciously aware of God. You must have a conscious experience. It's an experience that has to take place consciously in your consciousness.

The Infinite Way Letters 1955

Essential Points In The Practice Of The Infinite Way
Essential Points

As you rise higher in spiritual Grace, more and more temptations will come to you, not less.

Spiritual Reliance

. . . journey shortened by every experience of failure [which leads to] the complete reliance on the Infinite Invisible.

Recommended in TIW Letters 1958 Chapter 2 Across the desk

Until one has divested of every material aid one cannot know the experience of complete reliance on the Infinite.

Excerpts From The Infinite Way

Why are we so slow in gaining our freedom from illness, discord, and other material conditions? It is entirely because of our inability to grasp the great revelation that there is no reality to error. . . there is no matter.

The Infinite Way Letters 1956

God Is The Soul Of Man
Spiritual Preparation

It is not a difficult matter—this spiritual realization which reveals harmony where discord has been in evidence—but it requires a consecration to the study and practice until consciousness of one power is attained.

Judge Not According To The Appearance, But Judge Righteous Judgment

One of the most difficult steps in overcoming the personal self is the conviction that we are entitled to retain our opinions and ideas [about good and evil].

Enlightened Prayer

Never will we attain the heights of spiritual wisdom until we come to that place where there is nothing to pray for.

The Demonstration Of God

The realization of the kingdom of God within you is the birth of the Christ in consciousness, and with this revelation the search for God has ended, for how can you possibly search for that which you are?

The Infinite Way Letters 1957

April: Resurrection

The Spiritual Path

The way is straight and narrow, but the way is not to disregard our duties or family responsibilities.

Your Names Are Writ In Heaven

It may take a year before one truth is thoroughly established in your consciousness, but you must persist in its practice until it becomes rooted and grounded in you as *realized truth*.

The Christ

Later, much later comes the crucifixion—the destruction of even the harmony and good of human experience.

Recognize The Christ In All Men

In this work there is a continual aloneness, [the aloneness of an individual's being one with God] but it is never lonesomeness.

Gratitude For Spiritual Teaching

If we so occupy ourselves with the things of the world as to make the things of the Spirit secondary, then sometimes it requires a sharp lesson before we are able to move from the human world into the spiritual.

Remember, the thief on the cross must have been making satisfactory spiritual progress even when he was crucified, because that same night he was admitted into paradise.

The Infinite Way Letters 1958

April: The Message Of Easter: I Have Overcome The World

Rising Above Both Discord And Harmony

It is only through the severest problems that the highest rising in Spirit takes place.

We enter a state of consciousness in which crucifixion and resurrection pass from thought, never again to be remembered. This new and higher consciousness. . . is a life by grace.

Travelogue

Whenever a closed class is held there are often many in the class so new to the work that it is not always possible to attain the same fruitage as when the message is presented to students who are well-grounded in The Infinite Way.

The Infinite Way

“Anything that exists in the realm of effect is not cause, is not creative, and has no power over us” - (*The Infinite Way*) That sentence alone would bear three year's earnest study.

Face Fear And Recognize Its Powerlessness

Fear is now being replaced with understanding, and it is then that grace takes over.

Only a few people turn to a spiritual teaching for the purpose of finding God, only a few.

The goal of our work is conscious union with God. . . the ability to live and move and have our being in God-consciousness.

The Object Of Our Search

As we open our consciousness to the activity of God, the sleeping Christ within is gradually awakened until there is a point of transition in which the Christ takes over completely.

It takes over. We do not have to think about making conscious contact with It. . . It maintains Itself as our consciousness. Everything we do is spontaneous because it is Its action expressed in and through us.

When desire for the objects of life is surrendered in the realization of God as fulfillment, we are very close to the goal.

Prayer Is Silent Receptivity

The improvement [from “listening”] may not be immediately noticeable, but as we look back a year or two later, we are struck by the changes, sometimes of a drastic nature, which have taken place in our experience.

The Infinite Way Letters 1959

April: Spiritual Power In Human Affairs

The One Essential Is Contact With God

It took me thirteen years to attain [contact with God] while I can often help students attain it in one year.

The Descent Of The Holy Spirit

When you make the transition from living through the mind to living through the Soul. . . then you are no longer a human being: You are the Christ of God.

Across The Desk

To what extent have our many healings inspired us with either a deep love of God or a craving to know God aright?

Spiritual Endowment Is A Prerequisite To World Service

The first rule of spiritual wisdom is to forget the world: forget about doing good in the world. . . Concern yourself, first of all, with establishing your own spiritual integrity and with realizing your own spiritual identity.

Across The Desk

Do not believe for a moment that you can avoid those first years of specific application of specific truths in treatment, for this is what develops consciousness.

No matter how high we may go, individually, we are only an infinitesimal part of a story with an unhappy ending, unless through our life others become illumined.

The object of your work is not the overcoming of a problem, but the attaining of God-consciousness.

To sit down, study, and meditate for several hours a day, and in the course of a day or evening give a dozen intelligent, complete treatments, covering many different situations of life, is not as easy program.

Whom Say Ye That I Am?

Eventually every seeker comes to that place in consciousness where he knows his true identity and where he begins to realize, "I am not in this body: This body is mine, and I was given dominion over it."

The Dissolution Of Material Sense Destroys Its Forms

Attaining a realization of God is the sole goal and the keynote of The Infinite Way.

Attaining Inner Stillness

Eventually, the awareness of the Spirit comes, growing in intensity until the day comes when it remains with you in a measure all the time. Regardless of what you may be doing in the outer world, there is always a little area of consciousness which is unmoved by the human scene.

When you come to that point where you consciously remind yourself in a thousand different ways that all that the Father is, is flowing into expression as your individual being, one day you arrive at the place where you really believe it and have the conviction of it.

The Journey Back To The Father's House

Attaining The Christ Mind

The Omnipresence Of All Good

Make the decision: Am I going to or do I want to continue to judge my life by what my heart, my pocketbook, or my birth date tells me? Do I want to judge by appearances or do I want the kingdom of God that is within me and live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God?

Spiritual living is to know the truth, "and the truth shall make you free." The responsibility is up to you, once the Father has awakened in you a desire for truth, a desire to know God. From then on it is you who must find your way back to God through study, meditation, and practice.

Living Out From Conscious Oneness

There comes a time in life when, regardless of what we learn, what we are reading or studying, we have to live our conviction; we have to live the life that is now unfolding to us. . . . When we begin to live what we have learned, that, of course, is the beginning of our real experience and the purpose of all the learning.

Our Good Flows From The Center Of Our Being

If we are to live in the mystical consciousness, we must abide in the realization that our expectancy is always and only from the spiritual source within us. We must abide in the truth that "I have meat to eat that ye know not of," and then be careful not to look to a person, a thing, an organization, or a relationship.

Spiritual Maturity

I was thrust into the healing ministry within two years after my first experience, but I was not given the teaching ministry for sixteen more years. It is very slow in developing, very slow maturing. The reason is found in the understanding of the word maturity. . . Maturity has to do only with the ability to think objectively, to see understandingly, to throw off the conditioning that has come about through birth, race, or education

It has always been believed that it would take a person anywhere from six to nine years to be able to grasp truth, even though when the truth was given to him it could be given to him in one sentence. . . Men have tried to give forth truth in a capsule or even in a book, but it is not possible. The mind of the natural man, the mind with which or into which he is born, cannot accept truth. Because of that, there must be a period between the time that a person's interest in truth is aroused and the time when his consciousness is prepared to accept it, that is, when he arrives at a point of spiritual discernment. Paul made this clear in his teachings when he spoke of the inability of "the natural man" to receive truth. Even though the ultimate statement of truth were given to us, it would be meaningless.

You may wonder why the consciousness of every student who went to these men was not opened. The answer lies in the word *dedication*. Many would like to have their consciousness opened; many would like to be spiritually illumined if only it could be done in their spare time and with spare change. If only

It Is Up To You

Feed this truth of the one Self into your mind morning, noon, and night, and see what happens to you in your relationship with other people and their relationship with you. Feed this into your mind. How did the Master say it? "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you," you will bear fruit richly. The responsibility is on your shoulders. Abide in the word or abide not in the word. It is up to you.

Many people turn to truth purely for the purpose of finding a way to overcome their human problems, and they measure their spiritual progress by how many problems they do not have. This is a false measuring rod. There undoubtedly comes a time when the complete absence of problems means spiritual demonstration. Jesus attained that *after* the crucifixion, after the resurrection; but I am afraid too many of us are trying to attain it before the crucifixion. . . and it isn't going to be done. Let it be clearly understood that we will have to make our demonstration over the beliefs of what we call the human mind, before we attain complete liberation.

The Master Speaks

Christ Consciousness

The Christ Unites Us

The Allness Of God

The Mystical I

An Act Of Commitment

The Acknowledgment Of The Christhood Of Our Fellow Man Must Be Expressed In Action

It is as impossible to hide [a student's] degree of spiritual unfoldment from the teacher as it would be to hide from God, because there is a sign, and that sign is an act of commitment.

Prayer Becomes An Inner Communion

Once the Spirit of God is upon you, you are called upon to fulfill God's mission for you, and that entails more work than you may have dreamed of. But now it no longer involves striving or struggling, and no longer is there a seeking for things. . . You no longer pray for happiness, for security, or for peace on earth. Your prayer is a continuous inner communion with that Spirit which you have acknowledged.

Until you can arrive at this recognition and conviction and until you come to an inner assurance that there is this He within you, this *I*, because of Whom you need not fear, you can go no further and your tomorrows will be no different from your yesterdays. Do not try to go beyond this revelation regardless of how many months or years it may take for you to reach the absolute conviction:

Where I am, God is. I need never fear, I need never be afraid. This Presence is with me This I is within me.

Our spiritual goal is not developing a self that has no problems, but "dying" to the self that has them or does not have them, and being reborn to our already perfected Self.

Sooner or later you must be willing to put off this "I" that is full of earthly errors, full of resentments, injustices, inequalities, and declare within yourself, "I am ready to assume my true identity. I am ready to awaken to the light of my own being. I am willing to accept the Master's statement that I am to call no man on earth my father, but acknowledge divine sonship for myself."

The Light Is Given To Be A Light

The further I go, the less use I have of all this good that has come to me because I am so busy with the work, and so I know that this has not been given to me to give me leisure – which has never come, but rather to make me a light that may illumine those still in darkness and those who are still seeking.

There is an "I" called Joel and there is an "I" called you. But neither you nor Joel has fully attained: Joel is likely to make mistakes; Joel might sometime or other get very angry; Joel at times enjoys a good meal. But this is not the *I* that is the spiritual teacher or revelator. This is the part of my selfhood which is still in personal sense, and it is the one of which Jesus spoke when he said, "I of mine own self do nothing."

The Thunder Of Silence

*From Darkness To Light
Beyond Power*

The goal is God-realization, and that not for any purpose.

I Say Unto You

At some period in our lives, we must all come to an actual demonstrable experience of that Presence which Jesus called the Father within. Not only must we individually experience this Presence, but we must contribute in every way possible to making it a part of world experience.

In the earliest stages of illumination, there is a sense of twoness. There is a John, Bill, or Mary who is aware of a Presence and a Power—Something overshadowing him, Something, helping, guiding, instructing, and governing him. It is within him and functions within and through him, but there is a higher state of consciousness, and that is when there is no person any more. There is just *I* voicing Itself. That is the Consciousness Itself, and It only comes in the very highest moments of our experience when the Presence is the only being that *I Am*.

It takes a person of the attained consciousness of a Jesus to be able to say, "I and my Father are one. . . Thou seest me, thou seest the Father that sent me." Others do not quite attain that height of realization where they always speak out from the *I*: *I am the way*; *I am the truth*; *I am the life*; *I am the resurrection*; *I am the bread*; *I am the wine*; *I am the water*. That is the transcendental state of consciousness which has gone beyond the human.

[Truth] cannot be demonstrated beyond [one's] ability to accept it and live up to it.

We become that one in proportion as we learn to be nothing, to be still, and to let that Light act in us.

We can know how close we are to *My kingdom* by observing to what degree we still react to good and evil. How joyously do we react to the good and how much are we disturbed by the bad? In what measure are we becoming indifferent to either the human good or the human evil? . . . Only at the beginning of our journey on the spiritual path do we think the ultimate goal is the improvement of our human experience. . . If we want merely to be humanly happy, healthy, and wealthy, we should remain nominal Christians, because trying to follow the teaching of Christ Jesus demands a tremendous price, a strict and a disciplined way of life.

When we are aware of the density of human selfhood, we know that we are moving a mountain of ignorance, and although a beginning is made with our first serious meditation, progress will not be too evident for a long, long time. Then all of a sudden it seems to burst upon like a flash of light.

When we cannot stop studying and meditating, then we are doing everything that can be done.

Resist Not

“And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.” MATTHEW 5:40. . . We have no way of knowing whether we might not benefit twice over by obeying that very command because most of us have not tried the resist-not-evil way of life; and moreover, until we have reached that state of consciousness, it would probably be very unwise for us to try it.

As soon as we become unattached, that is, as soon as we are detached from thought—from hate, fear, or love of objects or people so that they can float in front of our eyes with the utmost indifference to us—we are no longer in the realm of mind: We are then reaching, touching, or being touched by our own Soul, which is God, and we are in an atmosphere where, when God speaks, we can hear Him. When God utters His voice, the earth melts, and all problems dissolve.

If we attain the consciousness of God, we discover God appearing as flowers. . . clothing. . . perfect mind and bodies.

Nothing occupies time or space but our mental images, and the reason they do is because we accept a yesterday, a today, and a tomorrow. The minute we rise above the mental realm of life, we shall perceive that there is no such thing as time. . . There is no such thing as an awareness of either time or space in the consciousness of Omnipresence. We are in the mental state of consciousness when we are thinking and reasoning, or when we are beholding anything as person or thing. It is only in the spiritual realm that we transcend mind.

There is no higher goal attainable on earth than an inner communication with this Presence that never leaves us nor forsakes us. It does not send us food, clothing, or housing. It is food, clothing, and housing. It does not lead us to a fortress or a high tower; it literally is the fortress and high tower. There is no sending of anything; there is no giving of anything, except the giving of Itself.

There is no way for Grace to descend upon us if we are indulging the human way of life.

To live the spiritual life means to live above the human sense of life, to live without recourse to human modes and means, that is, to live by the Christ. It means never to return evil for evil, never to pray or hope or wish or desire that another suffer for his offense—even his offense to us—never to desire to recoup our losses, which is the human way of life and, under our laws, legal. But legal or not, this is not the way of the Christ. True, if someone defrauds us, it is considered legitimate, proper, and right to sue him, but such procedure is not spiritual.

when we no longer desire good any more than we desire evil.

When we relinquish the thoughts and things of this world and live in a continuous desire to know God aright, leaving other considerations aside, then when God is realized, God appears in our experience as a perfected life.

When you become convinced in your innermost heart that because God is infinite there are no pairs of opposites, you can say with the Master, "I have overcome the world." Then, you are back in the kingdom of heaven where nobody knows what health is because nobody knows what disease is; nobody knows what painlessness is because nobody knows what pain is; nobody knows what wealth is because nobody knows what poverty is; and if one does not know what health and wealth are, how can one know what their opposites are? There is nothing with which to make comparisons: There is just God, just spiritual Being, perfection.