

Week 17

T-5.I Being Wholly Joyous

- Extension to others, in the form of both *healing* and *giving*
- **The healer's prayer:** *"Let me know this brother as I know myself."* (4:6) - We heal by knowing another as we know ourselves, causing both of us to recognize our oneness and become happy
- *"Joy calls forth an integrated willingness to share in it, and thus promotes the mind's natural impulse to respond as one. To heal, or to make joyous, is therefore the same as to integrate and make one."* (1:7, 3:1) - The Sonship benefits as one from the healing you give, and in the same way, you benefit from every beneficent thought of anyone anywhere.
- *"If you share an idea, you do not lessen it. All of it is still yours, although all of it has been given away. Further, if the person to whom you give it accepts it as his, he reinforces it in your mind, and thus increases it."* (7:3-6) - Giving leads to gain, not to loss
- *"If you can accept the concept that the world is one of ideas, the whole belief in the false association which the ego has made between giving and losing is gone."* (7:6) - Everything, even possessions, is an idea.

The light that belongs in you is merely the light of joy. Only God's Own holy children are worthy to be channels of His beautiful joy, because only they are beautiful enough to hold it by sharing it. (1:4, 4:3)

Week 17

T-5.II The Spirit of Joy

- The Holy Spirit: created by God as God's answer to the separation; "He is the Call to return" (10:2) through which God calls His separated Sons home to Him. *"The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of joy. He is the Call to return with which God blessed the minds of the separated Sons."* (10:1-2)
- *"The Holy Spirit was God's answer to the separation...When you made the ego, God placed in you the Call of joy. That is why you can choose to listen to two voices within you. One you made yourself...the other is given you by God. It is possible even in this world to hear only that Voice and no other. It takes effort and great willingness to learn."* (10:5, 11:2, 11:5-6, 12:1-2)
- Provides the bridge between ego perception and spirit's holy knowledge - the Holy Spirit offers us right-mindedness; raises our perception to true perception - inclusive, open, non-judgmental, loving - so that God Himself can flow across the gap and bring us home. *"He represents a state of mind that comes close enough to one-mindedness that transfer is at last possible."* (5:2)
- Returns us to knowledge: the heavenly condition of knowing reality through direct and total union with it without the mediation of physical senses or mental interpretation - the goal of the Course is readiness for knowledge, not knowledge itself. *"The Holy Spirit is the Christ Mind that is aware of the knowledge that lies beyond perception."* (4:1)
- *"The Holy Spirit promotes healing by looking beyond it, to what the children of God were before healing was needed and will be when they have been healed."* (8:2)

You are the Kingdom of Heaven, but you have let the belief in darkness enter your mind, and so you need a new light. The Holy Spirit is the radiance that you must allow to banish the idea of darkness. (13:1-2)

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T-5.III The Voice for God

- When we left God - direct communication with Him was broken - we made a voice contrary to Him, the voice of the ego
- However, He placed within our minds another Voice, the Holy Spirit, the Voice for God - through which communication could still take place
- The Holy Spirit is stronger than the voice of the ego, but speaks differently. It doesn't demand, command, seek control, or attack. *"It merely **reminds**. It is compelling because of what it reminds you **of**."* (4:5-6)
- We have to make a *decision* of which voice to listen to, which voice to follow.
- Jesus says:
 - *"My mind will always be like yours, because we were created as equals. It was only my **decision** that gave me all power in Heaven and earth. My only gift to you is to help you make the same decision for yourself."* (8:1-3)
 - *"I am your model for decision. By deciding for God, I showed you that this decision **can** be made, and that **you** can make it. I promised you that the Mind that made the decision for me is also in you, and that you can let It change you just as It changed me."* (9:2-4)

You are the light of the world with me. (10:1)

Week 17

T-5.IV Sharing the Holy Spirit

- We share the Holy Spirit with others by seeing His presence in them
 - This helps the other become aware of the Holy Spirit's presence within themselves
 - Because the Holy Spirit is an idea, seeing (or giving) Him to others strengthens our awareness of His presence in us (remember that ideas increase when you give them away)
 - Sharing the Holy Spirit with others in this way is the solution to feeling like you cannot hear the Holy Spirit in yourself
- The Holy Spirit is the bridge from the realm of learning and perception to the realm of knowledge, from the realm of ego to the realm of spirit
 - Holy Spirit works on the level of ego - *"His ability to deal with symbols enables Him to work against the ego's beliefs in its own language"* (9:2). Yet He does this from the viewpoint of seeing beyond symbols to the reality of God (9:3). *"He can thus perform the function of reinterpreting what the ego makes"* (9:4).
 - *"The ego made the world as it perceives it (as you now see it), but the Holy Spirit, the reinterpreter of what the ego made, sees it only as a teaching device for bringing you home."* (14:3)
- Four-fold conviction - seeing our brother accurately, with true perception. This is how we learn (in the world) to know (in spirit, true unity) our brother
 - I will not look at you through my ego
 - I will not perceive your ego in you
 - I will see you through the Holy Spirit in my mind
 - I will perceive the Holy Spirit in your mind

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T-5.V The Foundation for Real Sharing

- Three options for dealing with guilt
 - Neurotic guilt feelings: beating yourself up and hoping that makes up for what you did - inflicting enough emotional pain on yourself that you feel you've paid your debt
 - Healthy guilt feelings: using your guilt to motivate you not to repeat the error - to control your behavior and behave "better"
 - Jesus' option: we need to undo the error (*lack of love*) that underlies the behavior (*form*) - use our guilt as a sign that something needs to change on the inside (*content*). This is the foundation for real sharing. *"I have come to give you the foundation, so that your own thoughts can make you really free"* (7:1)
- *"Listening to one Voice means the will to share the Voice to hear It yourself."* (9:7) Need to be willing to share these ideas, teach them. Whether that's as a formal teacher and/or by demonstrating and being an example of them
- *"Everything you think that is not through the Holy Spirit is lacking."* (15:6)
- And yet Jesus assures us ...

I have saved all of your kindnesses and every loving thought you have had, and I assure you that you have had many. I have purified them of errors which hid their light, and have kept them for you in their own perfect radiance. They are beyond destruction and beyond guilt. (2:1-3)

How can you who are so holy suffer? All your past except its beauty is gone, and nothing is left but a blessing. You can indeed depart in peace, because I have loved you as I love myself. (16:1-3)