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Editorial

Are we all right, Jack?

We should not think that to love those nearest and dearest to us is enough. We are all God's children – all members of the great human family – and our love should be extended to all, regardless of creed, colour or race. And the birds and the beasts should be included.

Let us not be so absorbed in our families and our immediate social circles that we have no time to give to others. Our interests should be wider than that. Our prayers should include all men, not just the few, and this means all nations.

If we are so constituted that we can serve our country and help the cause of justice, so much the better. However, not all of us are gifted in this way so we should do what we can where we happen to be, and amongst those with whom we come into contact.

The main thing is to love greatly. We cannot love all in the same degree, but we can be kind to all, and that is what God expects of us.

Grateful thanks from Knysna

We reside in Knysna and as with large parts of the country, we are suffering from a drought. We eagerly looked forward to the promised deluge of rain from the monster cold front approaching the Cape on 7th June 2017. Little did we know that we should have braced for an inferno. We saw the smoke from the fires approaching during the entire day.

Later in the afternoon, a friend from a neighboring estate phoned and said that we should rather evacuate since her husband had taken a vantage point and saw the ominous fire approaching our area – Welbedacht.

With this advice, we quickly packed some items of clothing as well as our more important documents and left our house. At this point I phoned the School of Truth asking for prayers for our safety and wellbeing. Of course we did not want our house to burn down. We did not have a fixed idea of where to go but headed for the waterfront where we assumed we would be safe, to take stock of our situation and discuss our options. Having been assured by Jackie at the School that all things are certain with God, we were strangely at ease and calm since we were possibly facing the most devastating of outcomes.

Unexpectedly my wife's phone rang and another friend of ours enquired after our wellbeing since they knew we stayed in the Welbedacht area and had heard that it had

been evacuated. She insisted that we came to them for the night. We were thankful to her for this invitation and spent a very calm evening with them, where we felt very safe. As the evening progressed we saw the fire encroaching on the Knysna Heights suburb and saw the fire jumping hundreds of metres at a time and heard the sound of gas cylinders exploding. Yet all the time we had calmness and sense that all would be well regardless of whether our house burnt down or not. Not fatalistic, but a truly serene feeling.

We returned to our house the following morning and saw that apart from the house being saved, not a petal or a leaf in the garden was lost. Some plastic covers over chairs stacked outside had small holes burnt in them. The fire had burned around our little estate in an odd horseshoe shape. A house, some 30 metres behind ours, suffered major fire damage while another, 50 metres in front of ours burned down in totality. Behind us another lodge burnt down totally while the Knysna Hollow resort over the road burned to the ground. In truth a ring of fire burned all around our estate leaving three of the five houses unscathed.


I am so thankful to the School for their prayers for us. In the face of total calamity, we were given a deep sense of peace and wellbeing. A friend gave us a safe place to stay away from the devastating blaze and our house was spared from the conflagration. There can be no doubt that our Heavenly Father placed His hands about us that night and cared for us

according to His promise that He would never leave us nor forsake us. We thank God for His magnificent blessing to us and also the School for their prayers for us, bolstering our limited faith.

We give thanks to those, who upon receiving the “Path of Truth”, contribute to this work that we do for God and our fellowmen, which enables us to continue printing and distributing the magazine.


Within these pages are to be found spiritual enlightenment, health, happiness and peace.

Please note that cheques made out to “The Path of Truth” cannot be processed, and have been returned. Cheques should be made out to the “School of Truth”.



Affirm often,

God be in my mind and in my thinking. God be in my heart and in my feeling. God be in my mouth and in my speaking.



Lecture delivered in Johannesburg by NC Campbell

Faith with Works



At times, when we are confronted with problems that our lying intellect tells us we are incapable of solving, the realisation of our at-one-ment with God becomes a little difficult. Doubts and fears arise which prevent our finding the consciousness of the indwelling Presence. We have been taught that according to our faith it is done unto us, and as we look around we find people falling by the wayside, emotionally frustrated, mentally confused, physically out of tune with health, separated in awareness from God's abundance, and all of them expressing very little faith indeed.

Because we think we are intelligent, we quite rightly assess things in accordance with the reports we receive from our senses. We cannot behave like sheep or children led by teachers, ministers or mystics, we must understand what we are doing, and to that end we reason with God.

We at the School of Truth teach one fundamental thing. It is for you to listen to what we say, to use your mind, to analyse it, and then admitting that you cannot help yourself, to take the only way open to you which is that of *trying* the course we prescribe. Realising that you have everything to gain and nothing to lose, you should practice it spiritually, mentally, emotionally, physically and materially; and if you have tested it to the utmost and found that it does not work, you should discard it.

There are tens of thousands who as a last resort have come to God through the School of Truth and these are the people who have spread the teaching throughout the world, not by talking, but by their example.

What you need in this study is, first, a willingness to accept the principle, and then the courage steadfastly to work with it.

In my life I have discovered three things: (a) that if I am early, God is early also, (b) if I am always on time, so is He, and (c) if I am late, He is late as well. When I tell people this they raise their eyebrows asking me what God can possibly have to do with *my timing*, to which I reply, "Everything! What you see before you, and I see before me, are the living temples of God who is aware of all our needs, conscious of our difficulties and struggles, and desires with an infinite love to release Himself through us because we are His creations in which He wishes to see SELF-SUFFICIENCY. He does not want us to be parasites, but *individuals*."

Let me illustrate. You and I expect God to do things for us. I know that He can work for me only through me so I sit down waiting for Him to act. I, mark you, am contributing nothing, so how do you think He will react? He sits down with me and nothing happens. Then it strikes me that I am not a passenger, but the director of the Spiritual Presence within me; so even though I feel a trifle bewildered, I take a faltering step forward, proceeding a little anxiously in the direction of my desired good, after which I discover that *God has started to walk with me*. My mind begins to clear, all the problems that seemed so insurmountable fall into the right perspective,

my anxiety dies down, I see that there can be no hindrances when God, as an individuality, is looking through my eyes, giving with my hands, walking on my feet.

You and I have both built up an image of weakness and failure in our awareness; we are trying in vain to do things on our own, instead of with God who works through us. You may tell me that you cannot feel Him, but you can. All day long you behold His hand functioning in terms of beauty, health, happiness, prosperity and abundance, and if you do not envy those who have these things, at least you murmur, "If only *I* could have that and that, but it is not for me." As you thus admit that you have not the understanding or ability to produce these amenities, they do not enter your experience. I, in contrast, say to my Creator, "If I am Your image and likeness, irrespective of how I *feel*, as long as I take the practical steps, that will be all You require of me. If I put my trust in You, you will, despite my omissions and commissions, bring to pass for me. You do not say that you will 'think matters over', You say, 'God forward' and in my ignorance, relying entirely upon Your Understanding – with which I identify myself – I do precisely that." I do not ask, Why does my good not come to me? Why is it being withheld? Why do people interpose between me and my success or prosperity?" I look *inside*, into my own mind and heart because experience has taught me that my vision is there, not elsewhere. If the notion arises that someone or other is obstructing my good I ask myself whether I am trusting in God or humanity, and since I *know* how I should think and feel, the answer is not difficult to come by.

At one time I used to blame others for my troubles, not realising that these were experiences (not personalities) that were being presented to me to expand my consciousness and develop my understanding. Now I ask, "How much are you giving to yourself? How much is this or that one withholding from you?" It is, of course, a matter of *my own giving*. If my hands are only slightly open, that will be the measure of my bestowing and releasing; if they are wide open that will prove my complete confidence in my Divine Supply which I shall never need to check, and must never doubt. I must, and do, put God first in my life, then my fellows, and lastly myself, and according to the teachings of Truth (which I have proven) "the last shall be first." As long as I followed this rule I found that I was establishing the consciousness of God's Kingdom within me, and becoming a steward of His unlimited Bounty of joy, happiness, prosperity and success, which when I released It, with no tags attached, came back to me multiplied a thousand fold.

I am dealing with my Creator who gives me my life, my love, my health, my body, the ability to think, feel, speak and act, for all of which I am truly grateful. Since He has invested me with these qualities, if I am His temple, I must dispense them, for you and I are the only channels He has through which to release His good that indwells us. The average person looks at himself and thinks, "How can I, this miserable individual, be health, love, success, prosperity and happiness?" But what he is seeing is only the personality. If he would turn his gaze inward and perceive there the image and

likeness of God he would discover that he was inseparable from the Universal Presence and that once he really knew this, the Divine Substance would flow into him and fill him full with the good that is God. In all sincerity I can tell you that when you cease to look outside yourself, every day will be for you one of happy surprises.

For many years I have been working along these lines and every single day I still wonder at the unseen Presence, at the way in which It anticipates our needs and provides for them. You never get used to the feeling that Something, somewhere, knows of your needs and will not supply them in any limited way but with abundance to share and to spare. This you will experience only if you put God first, then humanity and lastly yourself. Over the years I have learned to build my security on insecurity, upon the UNSEEN. Everyone's daily prayer should be, "To me this day my daily bread" – that is, "*You* be today the supply of my every need."

As a result of trusting to His Providing all these years, never wondering if or how He will work, I have developed a sense which glorifies and completely relies on His Omnipotence. If I did not know the Law which rules that none can receive what he has not earned, I should say that I did not deserve what I have received, but to me God IS, therefore *I am – His Being fulfilled* – and if I am *that* then the Presence which constitutes me can never diminish but only increase. I marvel that some of those whom I have been teaching for over 30 years still cannot see that. They continue to run from person to person, place to place, always hoping to find an easy way out

of their troubles, but there is no such; we all have to deserve our good by *earning it*, and to this end we distribute it fearlessly, without questioning or any idea of withholding.

Does this seem difficult to you? I told you the story of the 65-year-old taxi driver who used to pick me up at 7 a.m. on my return from Bloemfontein and Kimberley and drive me to the garage in which my car was awaiting me. One morning he asked me what I did and I said that I tried to teach people how to have faith, to which he replied, “You know, mister, the open hand can never be empty.” I had been practicing that for nearly forty years but it had never struck me just like that. I had thought that my hand was the Hand of God and that it was for me, fearlessly, to release His love, faith, substance (my heart and hands) to others, and to keep on praying for them, not for myself. But suddenly it came to me that *if I closed my hand it could not be filled*. After years of following this course it was a taxi-man who gave me the answer to what all that time I had been practicing.

When, consciously or subconsciously, you discover the Nature of God, fearfulness is replaced by fearlessness, and your hands are always open since it is only fear that closes them. When you are joyous and happy, free from tension, nothing can destroy you.

How much courage do you possess? You may think that what you want is health, happiness, a house, car, clothes, money, a trip, but what you really crave is the knowledge that **GOD IS WITHIN YOU** or is the Presence working through you in whatever form you may be in need of. I was fortunately

in discovering this nearly thirty years ago, when Substance started pouring into my life in a heaped-up, running-over measure to share and to spare. But it was hard work. It meant my thinking all day long in terms of health, happiness and prosperity, with no let up at all so that I had no leisure for inner peace or contentment until I discovered that it was GOD, not things, that I had to seek. I used to pray, "Please, God, give me mental security, emotional balance, let me feel Your Presence, let me know that it is only You I need, that all the other things will come when I am certain of Your Indwelling."

Finally I stopped my daily working for manifestations, *I let go*, and lovingly, happily, put the whole responsibility upon Him. Only then did I begin to live and to have everything. I no longer concerned myself with the future or with any of my affairs; *they* were God's business which is what the Christ had in mind when He said, "seek ye first the Kingdom of God and all these things shall be added unto you."

This realisation (which none can purchase) is worth more than any man can pay: it is INNER SECURITY. Once he has it he can say, "The Lord is my Shepherd, I cannot – not I shall not – want. He is my emotional peace, my mental stability, my bodily health, the prosperity in my affairs." All this is today Reality for me and I would pass it on to all who need it. One does not force it upon those who are not ready for it. It is the Pearl of Great Price, the peace that passeth understanding which comes after much struggling and must be fervently sought before it is achieved.

The problems that present themselves to us are not sent by God; *we* attract them so that by the exercise of our spiritual faculties we may overcome them. It is a confusing, frightening pursuance in the beginning, but once we have gained the mastery over it, what dividends it pays! Then we can ask anything “in My Name,” in the awareness of the UNITY of all being with God, and it shall be given unto us. Is not this what you need?

Look at humanity, battling and fighting to make a living, depending upon employers, when *God*, their creator, is the only one they have to serve. He is *my* employer and will pay me what I am worth, not in terms of hard work, but of love. He does not say, “According to your labour” but according to your faith it shall be done unto you. Love is the fulfillment of the Law; It attunes you to your Maker, then your faith – understanding – sets you free. I could not live as some – not by any means the poor or middle class, but the wealthiest of the wealthy – do, a prey to fear and anxiety, as unsure as if they had nothing. What does it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul, that is if he has no emotional contact with his Creator? His life will be empty and unfulfilled. We are all told by our teachers that if we seek God first, work with Him, we can have whatsoever we desire, but very few understand this. I speak to people every day of my life, some of whom have been members of the School of Truth for thirty years and they still do not realise that they live, move and exist in the Spiritual presence which is the thinking Intelligence, the emotional feeling in their hearts, the life that courses through

their bloodstreams and abides in every cell of their bodies. It is THEMSELVES, not anything else. As the Master put it, “I in Thee and Thou in Me that we may be one in consciousness.”

Our bodies are His storehouse, His powerhouse, His love, health, substance, prosperity, and our visible hands are what will release this good. Please think about this when you walk along, though falteringly, anxiously, yet WALK. Begin to do, to *act*, to BE. Let there be a little less praying and a little more doing. This is what God wants. Millions pray using the “vain repetitions” deplored by the Master. They give lip-service as they petition anxiously and fearfully with the result that nothing happens, because this is not how the Lord works. It is all according to our love, our consciousness of the outside manifestation we expect that it is done unto us. It is idle to blame God, or people, if things do not go right with you. Look into you own mind, heart and hands and note what you are giving. Remember when you are early, God has already anticipated your need, when you are on time He also is up to the minute, and when you are late He too is late. It is all very simple and straightforward so make it part of your daily awareness that your body is the temple of God, of His Mind, Soul and Spirit so that you can never, at any time, be separated from Him for this day, in this moment of fleeting time, He is fulfilled in you, through you and AS you.



Be of good cheer



How often in the Bible we are told to be cheerful! The Master said: “If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in His love. These things have I spoken unto you that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.” Obviously, His wish for His people was that they should be happy.

Actually to be cheerful is a duty, yet there are so many grumblers in the world. Think of the women who alienate their husbands and make their children miserable through constant nagging. Think of the number of men who have alienated their wives and families by their constant complaints and dissatisfaction with their lot. There are people who keep their charm for the stranger within their gates. Home to them is not a place for courtesy and consideration, but for bad temper and bad manners.

So many come to the School in search of happiness who have lost it through the obstacles encountered through marriage. Wives are dissatisfied with their husbands, and husbands with their wives. Usually they ask for prayers in order that this or that may be brought about, or that this or that one shall be changed. It seldom occurs to them that any change in themselves is desirable! They cannot regard themselves objectively enough to know that often they themselves need

to alter their ways. It is a case of the mote and the beam. A nagging wife and a grumbling husband are failures in their most important roles in life. Is it surprising that so many homes are broken up? Is it strange that children leave the parental nest as soon as possible if there is no happiness to be found in it? Someone may say: "That's all very well, but you'd find it hard to be cheerful in my place." That may be so, but what is gained by being miserable? It does not help anything or anyone – indeed it makes everything infinitely worse.

We all know the person who looks on the gloomy side of life, and would avoid him if we could. The influence of people such as this is depressing. The popular ones are the optimists who "face the sunshine, that the shadows may fall behind."

The man who believes in Truth, and in God's unfailing love, knows that all things work together for ultimate good, and so he is cheerful. He realises that anything that is wrong in his life is not a punishment from God, but the result of his own wrong thoughts and actions which have not, in some way, conformed to the law of Love.

It would be good for each one of us to pause sometimes, and consider our attitude towards life, and things, and people. Are we grateful for what we have, or are we dissatisfied because others have more than we? Are we good-humoured, adding our quota to the joy of life, and lightening the burdens for those about us, or are we bad-tempered and morose?

Those who make others unhappy deliberately, will have to suffer the consequences, for what we give we receive. They are not living according to the law of love, and some time and in some way they will have to pay for their wrong-doing. The laws of God are inflexible, and we disobey them at our cost.

Shall we not make up our minds that however ill-humoured we may have been in the past, from this time onwards we will be cheerful? We cannot have it both ways – we cannot call ourselves followers of Christ and spread misery about us. If we are true Christians we must do our best to lift up those who are in despair; inspire the hopeless; and shed happiness wherever we go.

Charles Kingsley wrote: “The men whom I have seen succeed best in life have always been cheerful and hopeful men, who went about their business with a smile on their faces, and took the changes and chances of this mortal life like men, facing rough and smooth alike as it came.” And Carlyle said: “Give us the man who sings at his work! Be his occupation what it may, he is equal to any of those who follow the same pursuit in silent sullenness. He will do more in the same time – he will do it better – he will persevere longer.”



Thoughts in a country garden



A couple of mornings ago, thinking of life in general and of my own life in particular, a certain sense of discouragement set in. Press and radio news was disconcerting, in the extreme, and I had quite a few urgent problems of my own. On impulse I took a heavy, well-worn volume from one of the bookshelves, opened it at random, and one short, simple sentence caught my eye: “Everything necessary to my complete fulfillment is mine now.” I read it over, two or three times. It was strangely satisfying, carrying as it did its own conviction which, however, I dismissed hastily because it seemed so groundless and irrational, and having a lot of things to see to I closed the book and started on my routine chores.

Ever this brief sentence recurred to me and I found myself unconsciously repeating it aloud. It came so “trippingly on the tongue” with no strain, no mental or emotional gymnastics, and without my giving it any specific thought.

Later on, in the afternoon, when I was sitting quietly in my favourite armchair, this affirmation again cropped up and I began to consider it. Why, I asked myself, should complete fulfillment be mine at a time when there were many things I wanted and definitely seemed to lack, and when my affairs in general needed quite a bit of straightening out?

I knew enough of Truth to realise that only in God could all my needs be met, all my desires fulfilled, but what was He going to do about it? What was there in Him that could bring my All-good to pass? What sort of God was He, what was His Nature? Vaguely disturbed and restless, I let my mind wander idly and, unbidden, my thoughts turned in retrospect to the spacious, beautiful garden in which I grew up, and this is what I saw.

From the terrace I looked down onto one of the large emerald green lawns, and because it struck me how grass so continuously, irrespective of the rough treatment it suffers, renews itself, this spoke to me of livingness, vigour and vitality; the gorgeous flowering trees and shrubs, of endless variety, flowed with colour and spilled their fragrant perfume into the surround air. A chestnut with its tall, pure white candles was a thing of beauty, rich and rare; near to it stood the lilacs all aglitter with captured drops of recent rain, and because these shone and sparkled like cut diamonds they suggested wealth and prosperity to me. The syringe, bowed down with bridal blossoms, I just had to associate with love and happiness, as I did with joy and gladness the fluffy little buttons on the nearby double cherry that dangled on their slender stalks and swayed in the breeze. The majestic roses – red, yellow, white and orange – boldly displayed their brilliant hues and gaudy opulence, while the modest, gentle little primroses lifted their innocent faces to the glossy laurels, chroniclers of triumph and glory that gave them shelter from the sun. And further on

the gigantic elms, with sturdy trunks and spreading branches, were the very essentials of strength and stability.

There was, of course, much more: orchards smothered in blossom or teeming with rosy fruit according to the season; vast vegetable beds laid out in rows, and as my eyes roved from one miracle of nature to another I recognised in each and every one the Omnipresence of God.

All the vibrant livingness was showing forth His Divine Qualities, and was telling me that, because I was one with Him, these attributes of youthfulness, beauty, health, vigour, vitality, joy, happiness, prosperity, gentleness, modesty, strength, stability, fruitfulness and order – and lots more – were mine. And remembering that “fulfillment was mine NOW.” I accepted the Kingdom gladly, exultantly, and very humbly, for was I not just a small part of the mighty Whole that was not too vast, not too occupied with His far-flung universe to care for me?

The cosmos of which you are an integral, indispensable part is so constituted that it can refuse you nothing. Its business is to *give*, not to withhold; yours is to have the steadfast faith which takes and then shares in everlasting gratitude to the Giver who is Changeless LOVE and the FULFILMENT of His entire creation.

Rejoice and be exceedingly glad AND BLESS HIS HOLY NAME.

Tolerance



To me, the Master's message, "Judge not, that ye be not judged," urges tolerance. I sometimes wonder how many students of Truth have ever seriously considered the great importance of this quality of tolerance; and I wonder how many – like myself – have gone their daily round with self-satisfied air, inwardly congratulating themselves on their elevated places on the Path of Attainment, when they were neglecting this most important of the Master's teachings. I have done it so I may reasonably presume that others have, for we all function in very much the same way. Tolerance is so very uncommon that it might be well to reverse the subject for a few lines, which brings us to a study of intolerance. Examples of this will probably be much more easily recognised.

Intolerance has an ugly habit of introducing itself into all kinds of situations in a very subtle manner indeed. It takes a great variety of forms and a still greater effort to eliminate them.

How often have you noticed how apt human beings are to criticise one another, and another's actions, opinions and manners?

Again there is the example of the biased person who will, not on provocation, but at every opportunity he can lay hands on, "call his brother a fool." Mr. Willie Tibbs has bought a

new car. His “friend,” Mr. Jimmy Bates, who probably knows nothing at all about the matter, disagrees with the make of that car. Thence the expression: “You’re a fool to buy such-and-such a make.” Now it should be fairly obvious that to think a person is a fool, let alone to go to the trouble of calling him one, is a sheer waste of valuable time. In the first place it is not polite; and in the second it is an expression of negativeness. You will easily appreciate that my thinking a man a fool is not going to make him one and that he is not going to agree with me in the least.

An earnest Truth student, reading this, should realise that one of his first duties is to mind his own business. “What is that to thee? Follow thou Me.” Then should come the realisation that nobody has a right to express an opinion on another’s actions unless expressly invited to do so. Sweep your own doorstep before you go about cleaning up your neighbour’s back yard.

Anger is another emotion that is allied to fault-finding, and the pointed message to be found in Matthew 5:22, is, I think, that we should take as our first commandment the injunction to live in peace with all men and under no circumstances to regard anger as justifiable and never to look upon any human being as worthless or a fool. For, remember, we are all parts of the One Life.

To my mind, scandal and gossip are two other gross examples of intolerance. We all know the temptation to join

in when we hear two people discussing a third unkindly. It is never done spitefully, oh dear, no; it's just digging out a few flaws in his character which we, with great discernment, have observed. I wonder who appointed us as judges? Conscience, which is a higher voice, seems to tell us that we are not doing the honourable thing and it is a voice that should be listened to more. A golden rule to cure this habit is: if you can't say anything good about a person, don't say anything at all.

There is another instance of intolerance that I have noticed hundreds of times in business. I have heard juniors cursed – literally cursed – at for making some trifling mistake. I do not think any man is justified in shouting and swearing at another, even if he makes an enormous error. Nobody makes mistakes on purpose, and if it is done in carelessness he should be gently encouraged to be more careful. The cause should be investigated tolerantly, not the effect stormed at blindly. To yell and scream at him will only be responded to by resentment. The error might have been made in ignorance, for it is clear that a person working a year cannot have the same discretionary ability as one working twenty. There is no person with any claims to intelligence who expects children in grade seven to pass a matriculation paper. And so it is with Life.

We are all at school – God's School; some are in the lower forms and some are in the higher. Our duty is to exercise tolerance towards our brothers and sisters in the lower classes

and to learn from those higher than ourselves. We should feel within ourselves an element of true humility and know that our opinions are by no means as important to others as they are to us. Every man is to himself the very centre of the universe, and nothing that we can do, shout at him as we will, is going to change him in five minutes.

A harassed business man who shouts at his juniors and hurl papers around to show his importance may read this and scoff at it as the **wanderings** of a theoretical visionary. He may say, "That's all very well, but I've got to see that this job is done and done quickly." My friend, reflect a little. It may be an important job, but in the final issue much does not depend upon it. Remember, the world has gone on for millions of years and is very likely to go on for a few more. Don't be in too much of a hurry. You've got eternity to do it in.

An attitude of tolerance is achieved by some in small matters who fail rather badly in large. It is of no use being tolerant with your children and friends alone, you have to be tolerant with the people and opinions you don't like into the bargain. There are thousands of good people on this fair earth of ours who will look very tolerantly on the opinions of those in their own circle, religion, creed or politics, but become screeching furies when confronted with those of others equally entitled to a hearing. This reminds me of a parallel I read of some time ago of the armies of old (and today, too, for that matter) that used to pray to God for success

in a campaign to overcome His enemies, forgetting that their opponents were doing exactly the same thing to a God who loved them both. Were they not both parts of God?

And so we come to the larger issues of tolerance and intolerance, and when we can find the Christ-like attitude in these, the little disagreements of families and our immediate environment will fade into nothingness. We must realise that all human actions take their origin from one incentive – the Quest for Happiness, in which man has been joined with man, without regard to caste, color, or creed since the dawn of his evolution. We must sweep aside all prejudice. God made His sun to shine on both the just and the unjust. The bad and the good are fundamentally united in a brotherhood and are looking for the same thing though in different ways. And it is only through taking wrong ways as means of expression that the transgressor will find the right one – the Truth.

When we can conceive and hold fast to this conception of tolerance error will no longer seem bad. We will know that the perfect man stands, eternally strong, behind the appearance of error, and that the so-called transgressor is not really such but is merely undergoing an experience that will bring him nearer to the Truth and God's Divine purpose. This realisation will, by a natural association, bring ourselves in equal degree nearer to God in consciousness.

Thus it is easy to see that thoughts of anger, criticism, resentment and fault-finding will never cure a fault. In fact,

love is the only force that can cure anything. If we send out negative thoughts to another we will be responded to by negative thoughts and they will harm us more than the person they go to. It requires only a very elementary knowledge of Truth to know that negative thinking will never change anybody for the Good. Whereas if we send constructive thoughts, we may rest assured **that straight** and as unerring as the flight of an arrow, the message is registered on the consciousness of the recipient and he is helped. Now, perhaps, we can see that to indulge in negative thoughts of intolerance is the very opposite of serving God – we are hindering the process of evolution and willfully abusing that wonderful gift – creative thought. So the words of the Master ring through the centuries: “He that is without error, let him cast the first stone!”



Our neighbour

What is meant by our neighbour we cannot doubt; it is everyone with whom we are brought into contact. First of all, he is literally our neighbour who is next to us in our own family and household; husband to wife, wife to husband, parent to child, brother to sister. Then it is he who is close to us in our own neighbourhood, in our own town, in our own parish, in our own street. With these all true charity begins. To love and be kind to these is the very beginning of all true religion. But, besides these, as our Lord teaches, it is everyone who is thrown across our path by the changes and chances of life; he or she, whosoever it be, whom we have any means of helping – the unfortunate stranger whom we may meet in travelling, the deserted friend whom no one else care to look after.

– A.P. Stanley.



Failure is, in a sense, the highway to success, inasmuch as every discovery of what is false leads us to seek earnestly after what is true, and every fresh experience points out some form of error which we shall afterward carefully avoid.

– Keats.



There is only one real failure in life that is possible, and that is not to be true to the best one knows.

– Farrar.

**The School of Truth has prayers at
9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.**

Students are encouraged to join us in prayer at those times.
Prayers are indeed very powerful.

A suggested prayer may be:

***The Light of God surrounds me
The Power of God protects me
The Peace of God is over me
Wherever I am, God is.***

This prayer may be used at any time.



Meeting: November – December 2017

Johannesburg

Theosophical Society

Corner Lothbury & Streatley Avenue, Auckland Park

First and third Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m.

Sunday 05 November, Jimmy Wilson

Sunday 19 November, John Paulson

Sunday 03 December, Jaqui Hauser

Sunday 17 December, Edwin Wood

Durban

Theosophical Society Lodge

306 Avondale Road, Berea

Second Sunday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

Sundays 12 November and 10 December, Diane Evelyn

Pretoria

Theosophical Society Lodge

Via D.T.I. Building, entrance Meintjies St. Sunnyside

Second Sunday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

Sundays 12 November and 10 December, Edwin Wood

Hoedspruit

Venue: Drakensig Sports Centre, Conference room

Last Sunday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

Sundays 26 November and 31 December

Contact: Mark Tomlinson

Home: 0015 793 0100. Cell: 079 369 4604

Cape Town**Erin Hall**

Erin Hall, 8 Erin Road, Rondebosch

First Sunday of every month at 10:00 a.m.

Sundays 5 November and 3 December

Lecturers – David Grant, Nicky Swartz and Penny Grottlieb
(alternating)

School of Truth Zimbabwe

Harare (0263) 488-5186: Mary Jan Williams

Bulawayo (00263) 288-679: Geoff & Gwen Calvert

To confirm date and times of meetings, contact your
representative or Johannesburg Centre:

Telephones: +27 11 482 5622/5856 Fax: +27 11 482 4857

Members' Guide

We believe that students of Truth should make their daily life reflect their beliefs and Faith. One way of doing this is to choose an idea or affirmation that can be thought of during the waking hours, perhaps the affirmation offered in the daily thoughts.

“THE PATH” provides a number of guidelines, some of which may help one to focus in a spare moment of time:

17. When we fall short in our understanding of Truth and make mistakes, we do not waste time in self-condemnation and worry, but accept the experience as indicating an opportunity for greater growth.
18. We make it a habit to speak words of cheer and silently pray for a friend or loved one who is facing a serious problem. We do not sympathise **NEGATIVELY**.

November 1**Wednesday****December**

◆ *Seek and you will find.* – Luke 11:9.

I TRY ALWAYS TO SEE THE CHRIST IN MY FELLOWMEN

As students of Truth we seek to find the Christ in ourselves AND in our neighbour also. No one can uncover the Christ in another until he has discovered Him in himself because what he knows not of, he cannot experience.

The story is told of a farmer's small child who had a bottle full of greyish-white stones with which she was playing when a diamond prospector came along who offered her a handful of bright, multicoloured beads for them. She was only too delighted to make the exchange, thus losing a fortune because of her ignorance.

If you are ignorant of the Christ consciousness indwelling, you will not be able to find Him in your brother but when you do know that because God alone is, you too must be God-in-manifestation and live up to that awareness, you will be able to call Him forth from the most unlikely of His temples.

November 2**Thursday**

◆ *“I meditate and search my spirit. – Ps. 77:6.*

BECAUSE GOD ALONE RULES MY LIFE I HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR

When sickness invades our bodies, unhappiness moves into our hearts, or disrupts our affairs, don't we mentally go over conditions and circumstances in an attempt to discover the cause of these ills, and usually we can pinpoint it, to our own satisfaction?

We trace our feverish cold to a draught, our depression to a quarrel forced upon us by a friend, our business losses to the sharp practice of a competitor, and are no nearer to a solution of our problems than we were when we started to investigate them. For all cause is an inner factor. It is ever as a man thinketh in his heart that it is done unto him. No one can rejoice in his God-endowed health and develop a cold; it takes two to make a quarrel, and as long as we fulfil the Law, so expressing LOVE, no dissension can arise, and if we know that God is our Supply no one can rob us of one atom of His Abundance.

November 3**Friday****December 1**

◆ *But seek ye first His Kingdom, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. – Matt. 6:33.*

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN ME, I WILL SEEK IT

As with so many of the Biblical promises, today's text shows us that we have our part to play in order that the promise shall be fulfilled. We must seek first the Kingdom.

This Kingdom is a state of consciousness, not some far-off place beyond the skies. And to seek it we must become conscious of our unity with God – Love. We should spend time alone with Him in meditation, trying to become aware of His Presence. If we do not seek, how can we expect to find?

If we put God and His righteousness before all else, then our material needs will be supplied. Have we not been told not to be anxious for the morrow? Yet so many people fear a problematical future poverty, that they hoard what they have instead of making use of it, or giving it away to those in need.

Faith is what we need. Faith in God as the Universal Supply.

November 4**Saturday****December 2**

◆ *Cast thy burden upon Jehovah, and He will sustain thee. – Ps. 55:22.*

GOD FULFILS MY EVERY NEED FOR MY TRUST IS IN HIM

Do you know the consolation of being able to take your troubles to God and let Him carry them for you? Or are you one of the many who, having put themselves and their affairs into His care, continue to worry about them? Worry shows lack of faith, and according to our faith it is done unto us, so once having handed things over to Him we should be able to go in peace.

If someone came and offered to relieve you of all your burdens would you not hand them over gratefully? The Christ said: “Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” But how many of us take Him at His word? Because we cannot find a solution to our problems we think that there is none, forgetting, or not believing, that to Him all things are possible.

Once we have handed a matter over, we should try to forget about it.

November 5**Sunday****December 3****MEDITATION****HARMONY**

My Father,

I accept Your Harmony as the only true reality. I see nothing but order and progress around me. I realise that I am one with Divine Harmony and Order according to my thoughts and convictions. Peace and calmness now pervade my whole being as I listen to the Divine music within.

Clearly I realise that all progress towards Truth in spite of inharmonious conditions, and the illusion is corrected the moment my concept is corrected. Thus, I deny any power that inharmonious conditions seem to hold for me and realise that the conditions which seemed to overshadow my life have no power but the power I have given them in consciousness.

The harmony established within my consciousness now manifests in my outer world. I give thanks for Your Harmony NOW established within me.

November 6**Monday****December 4**

◆ *And my God shall supply every need of yours according to His riches. – Phil. 4:19.*

IN FAITH AND GRATITUDE I CLAIM MY SHARE IN THE RICHES OF MY FATHER'S KINGDOM

God is the Source of all Supply, and if we have faith in Him and as such deserve to share in His Abundance, He supplies all our needs.

To deserve His Bounty, we must obey His Laws. We must, above all else, live according to the Law of Love since, if we do so, we shall automatically obey all the other Laws.

We must also do our share towards acquiring the riches of the Kingdom. We must think in terms of prosperity, and not of lack. As we think, so we are, and if we constantly think in terms of poverty it is likely that we shall remain poor. We should realise that all we need has already been prepared for us in the realm of Spirit, and OUR FAITH will bring it into manifestation.

Think of yourself as having all the things necessary to your well-being, for God wants you to have them.

November 7**Tuesday****December 5**

◆ *He saith in his heart, I shall not be moved.* – Ps. 10:6.

I REMAIN POISED AND UNMOVED BY PETTINESS OR HURT

No one can hurt or irritate us unless we give him the power to do so. Who can insult us, for instance, if we refuse to be insulted? If others hurt our feelings, or anger us, the fault is ours. We should have learnt to rise above such things.

Admittedly this is not easy, especially when someone we love says or does something to upset us. Yet we should be able to control our emotions. When we think of what the Master suffered from His enemies without feeling any rancour towards them, surely we should be able to endure the little stings of our everyday lives.

Build an invisible wall about yourself which is impenetrable. Be as an impregnable citadel. If you do this you will save yourself much heartbreak. Whenever you feel that you are in danger of becoming upset, look to Christ within you for help and regain your poise.

November 8**Wednesday****December 6**

◆ *Jehovah thy God, He it is that doth go with thee. – Deut. 31:6.*

INEXPRESSIBLE IS THE UNION OF MAN AND GOD IN EVERY ACT OF THE SOUL

Are you faced with some difficult task? Remember today's text and turn your thoughts to the Presence within you. Are you to interview someone today and are you feeling nervous about the outcome? God goes before you to prepare your way and remains with you all the time.

Perhaps there is some problem bothering you. You may have done your utmost to solve it, without success. Hand it over to God and let Him deal with it. To Him there is no problem at all for He already is the solution. Know that though you are weak He is strong and rest in His strength.

You are never alone. Within you is the God of Love, Power and Understanding Who is always ready to help you over the difficult places, and lead you beside the still waters. Even though you walk through the valley of the shadow of death, you need fear no evil for He is with you.

November 9**Thursday****December 7**

◆ *Love your neighbor as yourself.* – Lev. 19:18.

ONLY AS I EXPRESS LOVE CAN LOVE RETURN TO ME

As we go about our daily duties, few of us keep in the forefront of our minds the spiritual fact that Love is in all things, through all things, permeating them from the centre to the circumference. If we did, where should we place hostility – envy, hatred and malice – anything whatever of a negative nature that we associate with humanity?

We all **experienced** these pricks now and then and we all resent them, some of us even going so far as to “pay back in the same coin”, minted by ourselves. Nothing could be more foolish or more detrimental to us personally because Love is the fulfillment of the Law, of that Law which governs the whole of life, being, body and affairs. If we, not the one who has wronged us, break It, it will be we who suffer from It, therefore it is for us always to repay in the golden coin of Love as we overcome evil with Good.

November 10**Friday****December 8**

◆ *For God will bring every work into judgment.* – Ecc. 12:14.

I DO MY WORK WITH JOY AND THANKFULNESS

NEVER think that your work, if it is a necessary task, is unimportant, however humble it may seem to be. It is YOUR work – for the moment at any rate – which YOU have to do, so do it as well as you can.

No matter in what position we happen to find ourselves we can work for God if we will. ALL work is His work, so let us not look on anything as too trivial to put our best into it. If we prove ourselves worthy in the lesser things we can expect to move on to something greater.

Do your work with love in your heart and a desire to serve God. Whether you are a big executive; a housewife peeling potatoes; a shop assistant behind a counter; or a follower of one of the arts, do your work with a will. Be grateful to God that you have it to do even though it may not be the kind of work you really like. If this is so, change your ideas and learn to like it, at the same time making up your mind that there is something more congenial in store for you.

November 11**Saturday****December 9**

◆ *Thy youth is renewed like the eagle.* – Ps. 103:5.

**THE SPIRIT OF GOD WITHIN ME IS AGELESS. I
LIVE IN THIS AWARENESS**

We are as young or as old as we feel. And this is a good thing to remember when others – particularly the younger generation – would thrust old age upon us, which is something many of them try to do.

Our bodies grow old but that is no reason why we should not remain young in heart and spirit. Oliver Wendell Holmes says that to be seventy years young is something far more cheerful and hopeful than to be forty years old.

Spirit is ageless, so in our true being we cannot grow old. Then let us not have morbid thoughts of the later years. Let us make up our minds that we will not become ‘back numbers’, but will move with the times, opening all our channels of awareness to the inflow of new ideas and examining them to see whether they are acceptable to us or not.

November 12**Sunday****December 10****MEDITATION****LOVE BE MY GUIDE**

My Father,
Deep in the meditations of my heart,
Is the desire
To Live as You would have me live,
To speak as You would have me speak,
To act as You would have me act...
Show me the way that You would have me go
So that I may remove all obstructions
That appear to keep Your Good from manifesting in me...
Open my eyes that I may see the
True beauty of all things.
Open my ears that I may hear Your Divine Harmony
Above the discord of human endeavour,
Teach me to speak words of praise and encouragement to all,
And overlook my failures
So that they become stepping stones to success...
Let my meditation be acceptable to You
And Love be my guide.

November 13**Monday****December 11**

◆ *Stir up the gift of God which is in thee.* – 2 Tim. 1:6.

**I MAKE GOOD USE OF WHATEVER GIFTS I HAVE
THAT I MAY SERVE**

Has God bestowed on you some particular gift? And if so, have you developed it or are you in process of developing it? God does not give us some particular talent for us to allow it to lie dormant. He intends us to cultivate it as a means of self-expression and also in order that we may share it with others and give them pleasure.

Most of us can do certain things better than others, and these are the things we should concentrate on; for, as Emerson says, the talent is the call. Of man, the essayist tells us that there is one direction in which all space is open to him. He has faculties silently inviting him thither to endless exertion... When he is true and faithful, his ambition is exactly proportioned to his powers.

If your talent is lying hidden, bring it out and use it. That is what God wishes you to do.

November 14**Tuesday****December 12**

◆ *Love your enemies... that ye may be sons of your Father.* – Matt. 5:44, 45.

I FORGIVE AS I HOPE TO BE FORGIVEN

All people are God's children irrespective of race, colour or creed. He is One with them and they are one with Him. If, therefore, we regard anyone as an enemy we are regarding Him as an enemy.

Know that God makes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sendeth rain on the just and the unjust. He treats all men alike. If we make enemies of our brothers, we are setting up a barrier not only between them and ourselves but between God and ourselves; for how can His Love flow to us when we block up the channel?

Some people are too sensitive. They sometimes imagine insults where none were intended. They are constantly quarrelling with others. What they should do is learn to say: "None of these things move me." We are going to waste precious time and thought and become emotionally upset if we make enemies.

November 15**Wednesday****December 13**

◆ *Beloved, now are we children of God, and it is not yet made manifest what we shall be. – 1 John 3:2.*

**LET YOUR SPIRIT GUIDE ME IN ALL MY
UNDERTAKINGS, FATHER**

We should always remember that we are God's children, made in His image and likeness; and this should enable us to square our shoulders, lift up our heads, and face life with determination and courage. We should try to see ourselves as God sees us – as His perfect expressions.

Whenever you are inclined to lack self-confidence realise that you are heirs to all that God has and is. But no one can GIVE you that realisation – you must acquire it yourself. Know that you are not only human and vulnerable, but also divine and master of your fate, since you have been given dominion over all things.

In our true being we are Spirit, and Spirit is perfect; but unfortunately we sometimes allow our lower nature to take charge of our lives, and when we do this we are liable to bring disaster on ourselves. We must try always to live up to our high calling as children of God.

November 16**Thursday****December 14**

◆ *It is the Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom.* – Luke 12:32.

MY CONSTANT QUEST IS FOR THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF GOD

Since God's work is done I think each one of us can declare, "It is my Father's good pleasure to *have given* me the Kingdom," and so whenever lack asserts itself we can refute it roundly with the retort, "I have already been blessed with your opposite Good." Can you be sick if, from your beginning, God invested you with Health; poverty stricken if His Abundance is even now part and parcel of you; forlorn if His Life sustains and maintains you? You *cannot*, but you must know this and mentally and emotionally insist upon it whenever error presents you with one of its challenges.

If continuously we were conscious of the spiritual fact that the Kingdom of Heavens fills the earth we should not discuss anything that could not be included therein, because two things cannot occupy the same space at the same time, so let us all henceforth recognise that our lives are full of the Good that is God.

November 17**Friday****December 15**

◆ *Nevertheless not as I will, but as Thou wilt.* – Matt. 26:39.

**MY WILL AND DESIRE ARE THAT GOD MAY
BLESS ALL MY FELLOW-BEINGS**

We are so liable to ask God to do this or that, or to give us that or this, instead of asking for the spiritual equivalent of what we desire. What we should do is to pray that His will of all good shall operate in and through us. What more could we wish?

God does not want us to be poor, unhappy or unhealthy. He always wants the best for His beloved children as any earthly father worthy of the name would do. Why then, do we not pray confidently that His will should be done?

Thoughts are prayers and our highest desires are prayers. Let us see to it that our thoughts are pure and lovely, then, that they may be acceptable to God. Let us be sure that they are positive and constructive. And let us retain only those aspirations which will contribute to the greatest good of the greatest number.

November 18**Saturday****December 16**

◆ *Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.* – Matt. 6:19, 20.

LET ME VALUE MOST THE THINGS WHICH ARE MOST VALUABLE, FATHER

The things we should treasure most are not material but the things of the Spirit, which cannot be bought or sold. Love, truth, goodness, beauty, justice, and wisdom are beyond price. These are the things of lasting value which we can take with us when we pass on. Earthly treasures we must leave behind.

George Horace Lorimer says: “It’s good to have money and the things that money can buy, but it’s good, too, to check up once in a while and make sure you haven’t lost the things that money can’t buy.” Earthly possessions can possess us if we are not careful, and that is not good.

It is more important to love much and aspire greatly than to accumulate great wealth – more important to BE than to HAVE. Then let us learn to treasure the spiritual riches of the Kingdom of Heaven before all worldly wealth.

November 19**Sunday****December 17****MEDITATION****ACCEPTANCE**

My Father,

As I come into Your Presence – thinking as I should not think – of all the things I lack and of others I desire, something reminds me that You have given all Your children dominion over their personal lives.

Because You are our All-sufficiency in all things, each one of us has within himself a vast storehouse of everything – already finished and done – that he can possibly need, but most of us fail to accept this Good. Some perhaps because they cannot see it with their physical eyes, others because they feel that since they have not earned It, It cannot be for them, and still others because they will not put forth the effort of holding out their hands to receive of Your “good pleasure.” These are all negative attitudes that we have to learn to put aside.

Today, therefore, I discard my doubts, fears, hesitations and timidities as with joy and gratitude I accept the Kingdom which at my beginnings Your infinite LOVE bestowed upon me.

November 20**Monday****December 18**

◆ *Wealth and riches are in his house.* – Ps. 112:3.

GOD’S BOUNTY IS MINE, AND I CLAIM IT WITH A THANKFUL HEART

Are you suffering from lack of any kind? First of all you must learn to think in terms of plenty. You must never accept poverty as your birthright. It is not God’s will that you should be in want. Constantly be giving thanks, therefore, that He is the Source of your abundance even though that abundance is not yet manifesting for you. If it is, give thanks also every day.

When you look around and see worthy people lacking the necessities of life, do not blame God. It has nothing to do with Him. Such people have not learnt to think in terms of fulfillment. Perhaps they imagine that God is punishing them for some fault, but that is not so. They need to look to Him and realise that there is no poverty in His Kingdom, and that the Kingdom is within them – in their own minds.

No matter what the appearances may be, know that God has already supplied all your needs and that YOUR FAITH will bring them into manifestation.

November 21**Tuesday****December 19**

◆ *A glad heart maketh a cheerful countenance.* – Pro. 15:13.

**IN THE SHADOW OF THE WINGS, FATHER,
WILL I REJOICE**

Charles Kingsley said: “The men whom I have seen succeed best in life have always been cheerful and hopeful men, who went about their business with a smile on their faces, and took the changes and chances of this mortal life like men, facing rough and smooth alike as it came.”

There are people whom it does us good to meet because they cheer us up; and there are others who have the reverse effect. The good Truth student should always be a cheerful person because he believes in God, and realises that His Love is within and around him, and because He is omnipresent. He has faith because he believes in the ultimate good of the experiences which come to him.

We cannot be good followers of Truth and also be pessimists. The Bible tells us to be of good cheer, and even though we may not be feeling particularly cheerful we should assume an attitude of cheerfulness which will help us to be what we are pretending to be.

November 22**Wednesday****December 20**

◆ *Abide in Me, and let My Words abide in you.* – John 15:7.

**ALERTNESS SHALL BE MY WATCHWORD AS
I MAINTAIN THE OMNIPRESENCE OF THAT
WHICH IS GOOD**

If you were asked to “take charge”, perhaps only for a morning, of a neighbour’s child, you would know that you had to protect it, prevent its running into mischief, probably feed it, and arouse and sustain its interest. You would be so busy that you would have no time to devote to anything else.

Your own consciousness is always with you and is of paramount importance to you, yet most people fail to pay much attention to it, and certainly do not seek to control it. They allow all sorts of negative notions – doubts and fears – to slip into it instead of feeding it only with right ideas. What we think that we are; what we entertain, either of good or bad in our awareness, alone can happen to us, so it is of this awareness that we must “take charge” and in the knowledge that God is All-in-all, accept for it only the Omnipresence of All-good.

November 23**Thursday****December 21**

♦ *For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.* – Matt. 11:30.

GOD WORKS THROUGH ME AS I WORK WITH HIM

Maybe you have turned yourself and your affairs over to God because you feel at the end of your tether, unable any further to cope with your manifold difficulties. But can you be quite sure that He has taken them and is actually expressing Himself and His All-good through them?

When the sun shines upon a garden its light and warmth fall upon all the plants and flowers therein, and in no circumstances can it decide to withhold these from even the scrubbiest weed growing in a corner by itself. Similarly God cannot withhold His expressing (though you can withhold your accepting) for He is always vitally concerned with you, His vehicle, just as the owner of any instrument is concerned with its upkeep and condition. If you yield everything to Him you can be certain that He will take full control bringing all your concerns into harmonious functioning.

November 24**Friday****December 22**

◆ *Wherefore do you spend...your labour for that which satisfieth not? – Isa. 55:2.*

I SEEK ALWAYS TO DEVELOP A RIGHT SENSE OF VALUES

Probably most of us waste some time and labour on trivialities. Is it for instance, really necessary that a woman should wear herself out trying to keep her house scrupulously tidy and perfectly clean? Tidiness and cleanliness are necessary to our wellbeing, but we need not make an idol of either. A home is a place to be lived in, not a show place.

We should try to gain a right sense of proportion and give our highest endeavours to the most important things. However busy we may be during the day we should find time to lift up our hearts to God and give thanks to Him, if nothing else. It is so important to keep in contact with Him.

Let us not be numbered amongst those who give undue consideration to the things which are of small concern. If we give as much attention to things spiritual as to things material how we should progress!

November 25**Saturday****December 23**

◆ *Forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, I press on.* – Phil. 3:13, 14.

I LOOK FORWARD WITH TRUST, NOT BACKWARD WITH VAIN REGRETTING

Never look over your shoulder. Past things are past – let them go, and this applies to past glories as well as past mistakes. If you have held some high position from which you have had to retire, don't be filled with self-pity. Thank God for what you have had and look around you to see how you can make yourself useful in the present.

The same applies to past mistakes. Forget them except for the lessons they have taught you and press forward. Determine that with the help of God you will attain your goal and work steadily and enthusiastically towards that end. Make up your mind that you can and will succeed, and you will be well on the way towards achievement.

We are so inclined to say: "If only I had done this or that", forgetting that we learn through experience. So let us not regret our fate, even though we may have made a wrong decision.

November 26**Sunday****December 24**

MEDITATION
RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT



My Father,

I come into Your Presence today to “choose” whom I will serve, because I know of the many influences with which I come hourly into contact, that turn my wayward thoughts to negative appearances and so hinder me from judging “righteous judgment.”

As, deliberately, I become still, shutting out of my awareness the many stresses and strains that life on earth imposes upon all of us, in order to commune with You, it is born in upon me that, at my beginnings, I was invested with dominion and that, *if I so elect*, I can spend my time in close companionship with You.

The spirit, my Father, is willing, but the flesh is weak, so my prayer is that You flood my mind and heart with Your Grace that I may walk The Path of Truth hand in hand with You, *thinking Your thoughts after You*.

November 27**Monday****December 25**

◆ *Be strong, and let your heart take courage.* – Ps. 31:24.

I CULTIVATE THE WILL TO ACHIEVE THROUGH THE STRENGTH OF GOD WITHIN ME

How do you regard yourself, as ‘strong in the Lord’ or as an inefficient creature, doomed to failure? Have you a sense of inferiority which hampers you in attaining your goal?

As long as you think along these lines you are liable to fail in your undertakings. Tell yourself that you CAN achieve your aims, and that with the help of God you will. Instead of saying: “I can’t”, say: “I will”, or give thanks that God’s Power is your power when you claim it in love, faith, gratitude and humility.

We are sons and daughters of the Most High God, so surely we should not regard ourselves as creatures of little account in the world? If we do, we shall accomplish little. And if others appear to think of us in that way let us not allow ourselves to be upset or impressed by them. People can influence us only to the extent that we permit them to do so.

November 28**Tuesday****December 26**

◆ *The Spirit Himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are children of God.* – Rom. 8:16.

MY MIND AND HEART ARE STAYED ON GOD

The above text continues: “And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ.” But how many of us really feel this?

We are one with God and with all that He is and has – what He is we, potentially, are. It is essential to our wellbeing and to our progress that we realise this. We are human, certainly, but we are also divine, and we should cultivate our divine attributes.

Mary Baker Eddy said: “Keep your minds so filled with Truth and Love that disease can not enter them. It is plain that nothing can be added to the mind already full. There is no door through which error can enter, and no space for evil to fill in a mind filled with goodness. Good thoughts are an armour; clad therewith you are completely shielded from attacks of error of every sort.”

November 29**Wednesday****December 27**

◆ *God saw what He had made and behold! It was very good.* – Gen. 1:31.

**I KEEP MY EYES SINGLE TO THE GOOD AND IT
FILLS MY LIFE WITH BLESSING**

The only negation in the world is that which is in the heart of the one experiencing it, and while he is thus experiencing it, he cannot pass it on to another unless that other also accepts it, making it a part of his mental and emotional awareness.

If we think about it, whence can error have come? “In the beginning GOD,” who knew of Perfection and All-good, could create only after that fashion, but during the ages man has conjured up all manner of imperfection, yet that does not make of it a Reality. Omnipresence alone ever was and still is. For centuries people thought that the earth was flat without in any way affecting its contours, and no human idea of lack can change by one atom God’s Abundance, Health and Joy, all of which continuously flourish in the places those ills seem to occupy. We, remembering that all that God “saw” was very good, must look at our lives through His Eyes, for then only will all be well with us and them.

November 30**Thursday****December 28**

◆ *Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down. – Ps. 37:24.*

I CONTINUE TO CLIMB, HOWEVER MANY TIMES I MAY FALL

We all stray from the path of grace sometimes because not one of us is perfect. If we were we should not be on this plane of consciousness. We are here to learn all we can and never forget that we learn by our mistakes.

Perhaps when we first started to put Truth teachings into practice we had some marvelous manifestations of the way they worked. And then, possibly things did not go so well. We may have fallen back into the old habit of negative thinking and we were disappointed.

Do not be depressed because you do not always live up to your own philosophy – we all fall sometimes, but the great thing is not to stay down. We should pick ourselves up as quickly as we can and go onward and upward once more. God's hand is always held out to help us if we will but grasp it.

Little of value is achieved without constant effort so let us not be weary in well-doing.

November**Friday****29 December**

◆ *What is that to thee? follow thou me.* – John 21:22.

LET ME EVER BE MINDFUL OF THE CHRIST'S WORDS

Many marriages that go on the rocks would continue on an even keel if one of the partners realised that he or she could not change the other. And why should either try when it was probably the difference between them that, in the first place, formed the main attraction?

Individuals can only change themselves and this they are usually very unwilling to do, so if we would “get on” with all and sundry it remains but for us to meet them on their own ground. If we are acquainted with Truth we can do this and still retain our integrity, for while we may not wholly approve of all they are and do, we shall be able to bring understanding and consequently tolerance to bear, so avoiding conflict and establishing the harmonious relationship which exists when all things work together for the common good.

November**Saturday****December 30**

◆ *To this end have I been born... that I should bear witness unto the truth.* – John 18:37.

I WILL TRY TO BE A GOOD AMBASSADOR OF THE TRUTH

It would be a good thing if each night before we went to sleep we would review our actions of the day and ask ourselves whether we have consistently borne witness to the philosophy that is ours. Have we, for example, kept silent when we should have spoken; or said things that would have been better left unsaid?

We bear witness to the truth by our way of life. Our actions speak louder than our words, and it is by our deeds that we shall be known. Our very lives can be a song of praise to God if we choose to make them so. This does not mean that we must be continually talking of religion; but we can, by our cheerfulness, good humour, and kindness attract others to our way of life. When they see what our philosophy has done for us they may want to know what it is. **And** once we know that they are interested, we can talk about it.

November**Sunday****December 31**

MEDITATION
ANSWERED PRAYER



My Father,

... Thank You for answered prayer...

In this understanding I place before You the petitions of my heart knowing that before I call You have heard and Your Divine Will is done in, through and for me in working with Your Law of Love.

Thus, turning to You in love and trust, a sense of joy fills me and I am aware of complete releasement from strain and ignorance when all negative thoughts give way to confident expectancy as shadows disappear before the light.

A sense of peace pervades my being and I am aware of Your Presence of Love desiring to express as my good fulfilled.

I accept Your loving guidance and co-operation as I place all those in need under Your care.

I thank You, Father, for the healing power of Your Love; I thank You for answered prayers.

Evening Prayer

*Thank You, Father, for this day,
For health which gave me strength to play.*

*For quite enough to eat and drink,
For work which gave me need to think.*

*May my thoughts be kind and true,
Good Thoughts, acceptable to You.*

*May each task I do each day,
Be done in just Your perfect way.*

*May I spread Your love about,
To all I meet indoors and out.*

*Thank You, Father, for Your care,
Which followed me both here and there.*

*Thank You for this lovely day,
Now bless my sleep, dear Lord, I pray.*

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