

Third Week

First Day

Trust Completely

Your hopes for men should be great and dynamic, not little wishy-washy, insipid half-glimmers of optimism. Your love for men should be outgoing tidal waves that are clean and pure, and not little personal attachments, from which you withdraw when they take a false step. And your faith in your Heavenly Father must be so complete that it *will* move mountains.

Look upward toward God as One whose Love is as infinite as the sky is infinite and whose Power compels all, even to the farthest ends of the universe. Now pray to Him, and –like a parachutist—jump off, right where you are now, into the surrounding atmosphere. Trust that the parachute is going to open, and that you are already safe. Now if air can support a parachute, how much more sufficient is the Love of God to support your prayer!

The most difficult law to obey in the kindergarten of prayer is this law of trusting relinquishment. To give a desire, or a dream, or your loved one, or yourself **WHOLLY** into God's care means not only that you trust God, but that you trust His Power. Then, letting God use time in His way, and every avenue and agency which He chooses, you wait calmly while he brings down answers to your prayers into the realm of tangible realities.

O Father, our hearts are Thine; all that we have is Thine. Take us, lead us, use us wherever Thou wilt. We have no fear, for we know Thy universe is filled with beauty, joy and love because it is Thine. Father, Thou hast given us our hopes and dreams. We trust Thee to unfold them in time to save us from despair. Indeed we have no disappointment even now, for we are falling into the arms of a perfect, Loving Master. Amen.

For he shall give his angels charge over thee...They shall bear thee up in their hands. (Psalm 91:11-12)

Third Week

Second Day

Power in Love and Joy

The inevitable result of every loving action is Joy.
The inevitable result of every joyous action is Power;
The inevitable result of every powerful action is Glory.

For man rejoices in beholding the glory of God's perfect expression.
For man knows there is no material action, that all action is spiritual.
And the expression or objectification of this spiritual activity gives man infinite joy and infinite happiness.

For man is the true perception of the true activity which is Love,
And he rejoices in the beauty of God's perfect spiritual activity.

Man does not have concern for himself, for Love is the only Motive Power.
And Love circulates all of God's ideas in perfect combinations, in perfect regularity and
in perfect sequence.

All are one in the body of Christ Jesus;
Every member in particular is God's, and performs in His image and likeness.
Now, this moment, man reflects every capacity of God in all its power and all its glory, in
all its wholeness and all its perfection.

Man does not express himself, but rejoices in witnessing the joyous expression of God
through him, and through others.
He realizes the infinite unity of the body of Christ,
For he is the unresisting witness of God's imperishable glory.

Nothing can prevent man from expressing the power and glory of God.
Nothing can prevent man from rejoicing at the power and glory of God as expressed in
others;
Nothing can prevent man from seeing all God's perfect and joyous ideas mingling in
beautiful and harmonious combinations.

For Love is the power that circulates all God's ideas,
And Love is omnipotent, for Love is God.

For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things
present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us
from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38, 39)

Third Week

Third Day

My Peace I Give Unto You

Quietness and stillness always come *first* in everything that has permanence to it. Jesus' thirty "silent years" came before his three years of active ministry. In the Shepherd Psalm "He maketh me to *lie down* in green pastures" comes before "He *leadeth me* beside the still waters." In the phrase "In quietness and confidence shall be my strength," it is noteworthy that *quietness* goes before *confidence*.

Not only does quietness come first in time, but it comes first in degree, in value, "Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things. But one thing is needful; and Mary hath chosen the better part, which shall not be taken away from her."

Not only is quietness and silence first in time and in value, it actually surrounds, covers, fills, all the rest. Quietness, if properly done, is **ALL**. A seed if it lets itself fall into the ground and is properly still does not have to do anything else...all is done. A setting hen, if properly quiet, needs do nothing else. The same with us. If we are properly still, God does all the rest.

When you feel anxiety fading like a summer cloud, you may know that your prayer is being answered. When you pray with a group, and experience a deep peace in their presence, that is God's assurance that your prayer is to be answered. If peace becomes a sense of joy or ecstasy, a miracle is taking place at that moment in the mind and body of the one for whom you pray. This is the peace that passes understanding.

For God is our Father; to accept any other idea of God will defeat any prayer before it is uttered. He is Love and therefore we may come to Him with perfect trust like good children. Oh, that the globe were encircled completely with loving groups of praying persons, who invite the presence of God through Christ every day of every week in the Year!

If a man love me, he will keep my words: And my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, And we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. (John 14:23)

Third Week

Fourth Day

Valleys of the Kingdom

You and I must be valleys—like the lovely valleys we are passing through now. There they lie at the foot of the giant mountains. Valleys are not curious, are not puffed up, are not climbing constantly to peep over to see how things are turning out in the great beyond. They do not stand apart, as mountains, in lonely glory. Valleys attend to their own humble business of carrying God's living waters down to the lowlands. They do not concern themselves with results. They know their only importance is in their willingness to be channels.

We want to be channels—deep and unobstructed—through which God's torrential Love may flow.

Father, we would bring healing to the souls of men. And through their souls, to the bodies and minds of men. And through the souls and minds and bodies to the governments of men. Heal the nations, O Lord! May our soul's sincere desires for the saving of Thy world be the very heart-beats of Almighty Love.

Thou art the Valley and the Mountain, the Water and the Cloud! Thou art Majestic and Eternal—the Beginning and the End. Thou art one God.

He sendeth forth springs into the valleys:
They run among the mountains;
They give drink to every beast of the field;
The wild animals quench their thirst.
By them the birds of the heavens have their habitation;
They sing among the branches.
He watereth the mountains from his chambers:
The earth is filled with the fruit of thy works.
He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle,
And herb for the service of man;
That he may bring forth food out of the earth,
And wine that maketh glad the heart of man,
And oil to make his face to shine,
And bread that strengtheneth man's heart.

Psalm 104:10-15, A.S.V.

Third Week

Fifth Day

How to Become an Irresistible Person

Since God has arranged all things in this universe, and has appointed the time for the rising and the setting of the sun, and for the ebb and flow of the tides, He has also appointed the time that you should be in this world. He has selected the parents and duties that shall be yours. Whatever your present capacities or present opportunities for service, God's Plan for you is far more important than you now realize. His Plan for your life is to be a healthy, happy expression for the good of all. And so any work in which you have a natural sense of harmony with others, and which gives you joy, is yours to do now.

The essential purpose of life is to keep in touch with the Father and allow the Divinity that is in you to manifest. When a man or woman is attuned to God's will he is irresistible, no matter what duties he performs. Never did the world so need men and women with this cosmic sense of destiny. Never did God so need irresistible persons!

Since God has appointed the time for your influence to be spent here, let it be a time and an influence that builds for the Kingdom!

Our Father, we do not pray for easy lives; we pray to be stronger men. We do not pray for tasks equal to our powers; we pray for powers equal to our tasks. Turn our disappointments into Thy appointments.

My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments; for length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: Bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. (Proverbs 3:1-6)

Third Week

Sixth Day

Opening the Door to God

Prayer is not a striving and a seeking, so much as it is a trustful opening of the doors of our spirits to let God enter, as the heart of a flower receives the sunlight when the petals unfold from the bud. Prayer is a listening, and a deepening of the consciousness that God is present when we call. Nay, "before we call Him He will answer."

It is helpful to begin the listening period with concentration on a simple promise of scripture. This is like taking a lantern and holding it in front of us to light our way. Sometimes God comes to us as inner vision on the canvas of the imagination, and we see realities beyond sensory perception. Sometimes He comes as a Voice speaking to the heart, or just as music upon the soul. The shepherds, watching their flocks by night, did

not see the star; they heard the angel choirs. The wise men did not hear the music; they saw the star.

And so we do not strain to move from thought to thought in verbal prayer, but quietly and confidently we dwell upon some sentence from the Bible or other inspirational reading which helps us to realize anew the Loving-kindness of God, His all-pervading power, His willingness to impart peace and joy to the soul.

When others need our prayers we simply wait until the lamp we hold has driven back the shadows of our doubt and fear, and we see no evil. Then, recognizing the need of the sufferer, with perfect faith in God's power to transform pain into release and joy, we let Him do His perfect work.

When we remain in the awareness of the Presence of God we need not strive for any results whatever. For we know that He has a perfect plan, and that in His time and way our prayers will be answered. We do not make vain efforts, we do not suffer in our concern, when we rely on the strength of Christ and not upon our own. Then when God directs us to take action or give guidance, it will be a natural and pleasurable expression, growing out of sincere Love.

Be still, and know that I am God. (Psalm 46:10)

Third Week

Seventh Day

Sacred Secrets

When we try to tell our friends in what we think is plain, simple language that a very beautiful and helpful spiritual experience has come to us, we are probably trying to explain something which they have no precedent for understanding. Each time we tell our secret to another person we drain off some of its power. Friends and enemies alike may think we are "showing off"—indeed sometimes we are!

One of the hardest of crosses to bear, when dealing with sacred matters, is the simple admonition to "keep our mouths shut." When one has such an experience it is an adventure in a new land, involving the use of a new language if we are to go very far. The words we use to explain it may be the same words we used before, but now they take on an entirely new meaning for us.

Jesus told us to erase our Selves so completely out of the picture, through secrecy and anonymity, that our right hand will not see what the left hand is doing. If, in longing to share our great blessing, we desire to bring a blessing of renewed faith to another, there is one way only to achieve this. Let the still small voice of God speak within our hearts the words of guidance which will give us the authority to tell whatever will be most helpful. Resting in this inner stillness, in the center of His power, we discover all truths drawn into perfectly adjusted and harmonious relationships. Divested of Self, we become like conches, which echo the music of the ocean's flow and tell secrets of Love to the listening ear.

Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee. (Matthew 6:2)

