

Wednesday Night Study Series

Prayer of Surrender: Spirit of Truth, CARRY ME where you will; BRING TO ME what You will; TAKE FROM ME what You will; AWAKEN IN ME what You will. The Christ MAN is around me. The Christ MIND is in me. The Christ POWER flows through me. And, the Christ MYSTERY exists as me. I believe it. I perceive it. And, now I receive it! I am surrendered. Amen. And, so it is!

The Spiritual Journey

Human beings fear many things, ranging from loud noises to public speaking to feelings of failure to success to death. I don't know a single human being who has not experienced fear. However, I do know people who have not allowed fear to dominate their lives.

Wherever there is fear, there is also the possibility for courage. To be brave is not to be without fear, but to be able to act in spite of fear. In truth, the way beyond fear is through it, and on this journey, we discover something wonderful about ourselves. Unknowingly, fear is the first to call for the courageous spirit of God that is our true selves.

I have experienced fear in combat – not so much that I would die, but that I would be captured and tortured or that I would never see my family again. I have felt the fear that comes when a loved one is in danger and on the precipice of death. These circumstances came and went, and in the their going, I learned what it was to give attention to God in the midst of a difficulty.

However, now I am challenged by fears of a different nature. Perhaps they are fears that we share and which we can move beyond together. I wonder at times if I am doing by best. I question whether I am living the life that I am meant to live. Am I resisting the divine plan? Does my life make a difference? Am I living a life of purpose? Can you see the nature of my concern?

Perhaps these fears can be summed up with the question: Am I in some way saying “No” to God? This is my greatest fear.

Perhaps writing this is the beginning of my journey beyond and through the fear. It is good to get things out in the open. Dear friend, talk with someone about your concerns and what you fear. Also, know that you are a person of courage and valor. Every time you voice and face a fear, you may experience anxiety, but you are also one step closer to being free of the paralyzing effect of the fear.

When we willingly enter into our fears, they lose their power, and the power that God is rises up to say: “Fear not, I am with you. We have a work to do together.”

If we want to master life, we must also exercise our faith. We must say yes to our good by seeing it spiritually, holding it in mind, believing in it, and bringing it into manifestation. Faith allows us to become independent thinkers. When we keep our faith in God in us, our thinking will not be determined by limited paradigms but by the context of love, wholeness, and prosperity.

Human consciousness fears what it cannot control. Anything different from the norm is scary to the preservation of the alleged status quo. Fear then begins to dictate what we do. Therefore, we cannot allow the lower levels of human thinking, based on fear, uncertainty, and ignorance, to dictate our decisions. We must transcend the limited view of the human ego and connect with a higher level of awareness, seeing beyond the facts and limited perceptions to the goodness of God.

Charles Fillmore wrote that faith is, "The perceiving power of the mind linked with the power to shape substance." Faith is our ability to see the possibilities of life. Faith sees ideas where fear sees disbelief. Faith sees opportunities where fear sees obstacles. Faith sees potential where fear sees problems. Faith sees abundance where fear sees lack and limitation. Faith allows us to work with God's omnipresent substance (infinite possibility) and shape it into a manifestation of good we can understand and use in our lives.

Jesus taught that faith works with the spoken word. In the Gospel of Mark 11:22-24, Jesus teaches us how to utilize the power of faith. He taught us to speak the word of faith to the mountains in our lives. First, we must put our minds on the Spirit that transcends what appears to be by seeing God's goodness with our faith; then we must speak to our seeming problems and tell them to be dismissed into nothingness. Trust God and live in your power.