



SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2024

Forgiving Others Their Debts Begins with Paying Our Own

First Key Lesson: Forgiveness is not the blind acceptance of what is dark, sinful, or just plain evil; real (forgiveness) begins with seeing the need to transcend our own negative reaction to whatever we summarily find as wanting in someone else. After all, whose limitation is it when the best we know how to do (with those who have hurt us) is to hate - or otherwise resent them...and go on blaming them for the pain they've revealed still lives in us?

Second Key Lesson: Compassion is the flower; forgiveness is its fruit, and Love the Vine.

Key Question: Whose limitation is our instant resistance to those who trigger it, that not only blames others for the bitterness of that ensuring suffering, but also makes it nearly impossible to forgive others for it?

Talk Takeaways

- Life never stops setting the stage for your development.
- There is a certain blindness we have that keeps us separated from seeing the effect that we have on other people, otherwise we would approach that person or condition completely differently.

- There cannot be resistance to any given moment without a judge that has come into that moment with us.
- Love transforms negative reactions into rescuing realizations.
- Whoever judges others digs a pit for themselves.
- When you blame another, in that moment your attention has been placed on the image and the identification with it that has created that reaction.
- We have an infinite capacity for perfect similarity with that which we are about to judge. In this way, an unconscious nature awakens to conscience and compassion.
- All moral bankruptcy comes out of an individual failing to enhance, let alone realize, their relationship with what is good and true and light.
- To “miss the mark” is to miss the moment in which you are given the ability to rise above what you came into that moment being and living from. Judgment and identification are the only sins because they cause you to miss what the moment has brought to you.
- We want to be understood, but we have no tolerance for understanding those that seem to go against what we understand is good and true.
- You will know real forgiveness has been awakened in you when the inescapable reaction you have to another is replaced by an understanding that something can go before you not to judge but to release.
- Real seeing is a form of listening.
- Exercise: Catch yourself picking up the stone. When you want to punish another for how you feel, see that the more you clench the stone, the more pain you feel; the more pain you feel, the more you want to blame the other, and the further away you are from awakening the compassion that would allow you to see similarity between you. Once you begin to see the similarity, you'll understand compassion and the forgiveness that is built into it, which is divine in origin.

- Part of your spiritual awakening and commensurate development is that you begin to look at life through eyes that don't just see everything as right or wrong.
- You don't know why people are the way they are, and you won't until you know how *you* are. Instead of throwing the stone, see the nature that wants to throw the stone.
- The only way the suffering ends in the world is when you bring an end to the unconscious suffering in you by no longer resisting it.
- Evil judges evil; hatred judges hatred; fear judges fear; impatience judges impatience. "Birds fly. Fish swim. Men pray." Each to its own nature. Don't try to make the birds swim or the fish fly. Don't try to make human beings into the nature you imagine they should be. Instead use the similarity you have with their nature to awaken compassion within you.
- Real impressions belong to another order of consciousness.