

Vol 3, Day 2: Contemplation as Opposed to Judgment

It seems somewhat ludicrous to have to build a case for contemplation. We are made in an image that is the very essence of love (the highest emotion). Everything we do in life is for the purpose of developing relationships. Yet, we live in such shallow ones that we are often horribly disappointed in others whose actions do not meet our expectations. Yet, our expectations are fundamentally unsound as they are based on incomplete information. This is largely true in that we come to conclusions about the trustworthiness of others based solely upon intellectual analysis or referrals of others.

Contemplation is a key element required in knowing the heart (motives) of others. And it is the motives of others that determine their trustworthiness. Contemplation by its definition and practice actually enables one to feel the heart and soul of another. Without this practice, we leave ourselves open to making decisions (choices) which are based on insufficient information. This leads to all sorts of undesirable or possibly even awful ends.

When we approach the moment (encounter) with a preconceived disposition of rejection, we limit the possibilities. However, discernment is essential and only attainable through contemplation with an open mind. When Jesus said in Matthew 7:1 "Do not judge." He was encouraging mutual acceptance as the leading strategy for relationship building and intimate knowledge of one another in order to determine the level of mutual trust which might be possible.

Just because you are right does not imply that the other person is wrong and vice versa. Leave room for other points of view while seeking a common motive of love and acceptance.

My Confirming Scripture: My Aligning Experiences: