

Pathwork on  
**Flexible Truth – Self Responsibility – Security**

This quote from Pathwork Lecture 72 *The Fear of Loving* speaks to the inherent flexibility of Truth – Truth, like the Cosmos, is alive and hence changing all the time. The lecture reminds us that leaning on rigid rules or static dogma makes the rules or dogma responsible for our lives and our security. This was appropriate and necessary for us as children. Mature self-responsibility in us as adults, however, gives us a felt sense of security in the dynamic and flexible world that is the Truth of our reality.

51	<p>... Truth is flexible; by its very nature it cannot be fixed. Nothing that is true can be rigid, static, or fixed. It is always flexible. This very flexibility appears as a threat to people. They want the fixed pseudo-safety of a stone wall on which they can lean. It was this tendency which caused religion to be distorted into dogma.</p>
52	<p>Rigidity satisfies the very irrational, unfounded fear in the human soul. Humans think that what is fixed is safe, and what is flexible is unsafe. Since truth is alive like anything else that is alive, it must be flexible. So people fear truth and light and life. The belief that flexibility is unsafe is one of the great abysses of illusion.</p>
53	<p>As you proceed in this work, you will find first that this particular fear also exists in you and that you, too, cling to the supposed safety of the fixed rule. You seem to feel as though you could lean against a wall. It seems like a strong support while, as you will perceive a little later, it is not. Therein lies the confusion about self-responsibility. When leaning on the fixed rule, you shift the responsibility to the rule. When you realize that there is no such thing as a fixed rule, you are frightened, because you have to determine each time anew what your conduct and your attitude are going to be. With flexible truth, the responsibility is automatically shifted onto yourself.</p>
54	<p>When you no longer fear self-responsibility, because you have lost your self-contempt and mistrust in yourself, you will no longer fear the flexible universe. You will not need to cling to a rigid law. You will see the flexible law working, and it will not be a danger to you. The inflexible or fixed rule or law is for the child who cannot or dare not assume self-responsibility.</p>
55	<p>The fear of the unknown really comes from insecurity: "Will I be able to cope? Will my judgment be adequate? Will my reactions be right? Will I make a mistake? Dare I make a mistake?" In other words the deepest fear of the unknown is not knowing yourself. As you lose this fear, you will not fear self-responsibility and you will not fear the truth of the flexible laws of the universe. Nor will you fear life, which is flexible all the time. By its very nature flexibility, in the final analysis, is unchangeable, yet never static.</p>