

Pathwork on
Listening to our Higher Selves

This quote from Pathwork Lecture 11 *Self-Knowledge – the Great Plan – The Spirit World* speaks to listening to our Higher Selves or to our Spirit Guides, the difference and purpose for each channel to God

35	QUESTION: What is the relationship between the divine within and the master who comes to speak; for instance, you speaking through this medium, or the master who speaks to me? How is my own divine self or this medium's divine self related to such a master?
36	ANSWER: I will answer this question, first generally speaking, on what the difference is between the divine spark or the divine self, as you call it, or an entity of God's spirit world. For many people it is, indeed, not always clear what speaks to them: is it the subconscious, the superconscious, or the divine spark or higher self -- whatever name you care to give it -- or is it another entity? It is not very easy to answer that question, and it is even more difficult to determine the difference. I will put it as clearly as I can.
37	Let us begin with the subconscious first. The subconscious voice is very quick to answer and quite distinct and often loud. The only way for a person to determine whether it is the subconscious, or one of the other two alternatives, is to become still and do exactly what I have recommended in my answer to the question concerning contact with God's world. If all the conditions mentioned in my answer are fulfilled, God's truth and will can come through, and it does not matter whether it is through one's own divine self or through an entity belonging to God's world. For both abide by the spiritual laws and fulfill God's will. If the wish to fulfill God's will is more than merely wishful thinking or fear, then the answer will be given. Only the individual can determine whether the wish for truth is greater than any self-delusion, wishful thinking, or anxiety. This has to be done through objective self-analysis and self-testing. Vanity or the desire to impress other people may be in the way; this is the greatest stumbling block on the spiritual path.
38	If this test is passed and the resistance is overcome, the answer can be given from the self to the self -- or from the guardian spirit or what you call a "master." The answer will come with a very small soft voice that will not be pushing or pressing. It does not shout; it is a quiet, almost impersonal voice without any force behind it, contrary to what so often comes from the subconscious.
39	This question has to be settled first, for the voice of the subconscious is often mistaken for one of the two alternatives you have mentioned in your question.

40	<p>And now let us turn our attention to the part of your question about the difference between the higher self and a spirit creature of God. It actually does not make much difference whether a voice comes from one or the other. As I have said, both want the same thing. The point is interesting only in a technical sense. The higher self certainly manifests itself. But it cannot always come through clearly, for it is covered by many layers of imperfection, layers of dense matter, all the distortions that necessitate life on earth. If these layers were not present, life on earth would be superfluous. If the higher self could manifest itself as easily as all that, you would not have to live again and again; you would be advanced far enough not to have to go through further incarnations. Yet wherever there are faults and imperfections, the higher self is barred. And that is the reason God has sent His helpers, for they have the ability to work through your blocks where your own higher self cannot yet do so.</p>
41	<p>Furthermore, the voice of your own higher self is so far away and soft, sometimes so inaccessible, that it does not speak clearly to you in so many words, but acts simply by guiding you to heed what you call "conscience." Thus the higher self can influence you to fight your lower self. The higher self, when listened to, can make itself known in the course of life, through certain actions and reactions, but it cannot converse with you the way a spirit can.</p>
42	<p>For instance, in the case of a medium, the higher self cannot manifest itself to such an extent that it can lecture for an entire hour and answer questions. If this were possible, this medium would have reached such heights in development that future incarnations would be unnecessary. If this were accomplished by mere contact with the higher self, it would be just as easy to have the higher self always on the surface in all conditions of life. But it is easier to accomplish that the medium's own spirit body leave for a time and give room to another spirit. Even this is difficult enough if a spirit of God's world is to manifest itself. Enough blocks have to be cleared away for this one hour.</p>
43	<p>In other words, the higher self acts and guides to a certain extent, but it does not speak coherently. It inspires thought, but it does not speak the way I speak through this medium. Or it does not speak in a way capable of being heard. Is that clear?</p> <p>QUESTIONER: Yes.</p>