

A Devotional Format of the Pathwork Lectures

by Gary Vollbracht –

In 2012 I completed my six-year project of making audio readings of the 258 Pathwork Lectures. Then in 2013 I noticed that my relationship with the Guide began to change. What I discovered is that I was no longer reading or listening to the lectures for “educational content” or in order to “teach Pathwork concepts to students” or to “have my homework done for an upcoming Pathwork workshop.” It was no longer important how many paragraphs, pages, or lectures I read in a day or week. Rather I came to realize that what connected me at a heart-level to the teachings and to the Guide was regular, simple *presence to the material – a daily devotional practice based upon the Pathwork Lectures.*

I realize that the Guide encouraged me in this devotional approach to the lectures. The introduction in a few of the lectures includes the blessing, “*Blessed is this hour.*” I found that my version of this Guide blessing became, “*Blessed is this time we (i.e., the Pathwork Guide and I) now spend together in this lecture.*” Most recently I was spending time with Lecture 88 *Religion: True and False* and smiled in agreement with the sentences near the end: “*May these words raise echoes in your emotions. As you let this lecture affect you, it will stir up so much! This is Good.*” So yes, it seems that the Pathwork Guide encourages us to slow down and savor the Pathwork Lectures in a devotional practice.

This all helped me understand why a few years ago I found I was formatting the lectures in a way that enriched and facilitated my slower savoring presence to the Guide. Hence, ***the Devotional Format of the lectures was born.*** Nothing I have done has so energized me and nourished my development in recent years as the time I now spend creating the Devotional Format of the Pathwork Lectures.

The Pathwork Foundation and I now have a suitable contract in place whereby I can make these Devotionally Formatted lectures available to anyone who finds them helpful. There are about 80 lectures in this Devotional Format available thus far.

If you want to give this format a try, here is a link to ***Pathwork Lecture 204 – What Is the Path.*** <http://www.garyvollbracht.com/wp-content/uploads/L204GaryDevotional.pdf>

If you would like to try some of the others, they are available at:
<http://www.garyvollbracht.com/quotes/pathwork-lectures-expanded-versions/>

As a practical matter, these lectures, thus expanded, are 50-80 pages long, making printing them out problematic for some. I find that many who use them do so via their iPad, tablet or computer, and this approach seems to work. Perhaps it is a way to ***keep the Lectures living by leveraging these new media.***

In closing, I am delighted that the Foundation has enthusiastically embraced this project. I hope those who find this helpful can now use the Devotional Format of the Pathwork Lectures to nourish and deepen their soul's journey on this spiritual path called Pathwork.

Shared in Love,
Gary Vollbracht
"The Happy Monk"

Some Responses to the Devotional Format...

Since I began this project of creating the Devotional Format of the Pathwork Lectures in 2013, I have been sharing what I have been doing with a number of Pathwork helpers, teachers, leaders, and students. They have enthusiastically encouraged me in my "effortless efforts" to create the lectures in this format. I share below some of their comments to encourage you to try and play with the Devotional Format and see if it "works" for deepening your own relationship with the Guide's teachings...

Sage Walker, a Pathwork Helper in Toronto, shared the Devotional Format with her students who found that this format also deepened their relationship with the Guide. Here are Sage's comments, ***"When I first read Gary's devotional version of the lectures, I felt like a very happy monk on this Path had stepped forward. Plume in hand, dipped in sacred ink, reverently tracing the Guide's words on holy parchment. I felt soothed as the ancient bell of this Soul Work tolled. That one that called me so long ago. And I too, was happy."***

Marjorie Bair, Sebastopol, CA (former helper in the N.Y. Region) comments, ***"I am deeply moved by the extent and depth of what you've created. This simple but inspired format truly illuminates the very familiar material for me. You're doing an amazing service to all, past, present and future, who are drawn to these beautiful teachings. My personal appreciation for your devotion, dedication and great skill."***

Bert Shaw, Long-time Pathworker and husband of Moira Shaw, Editor of the Unedited version of Pathwork Lectures, responded, ***"Gary's lyrical version of the Guide Lectures invites us to enthusiastically celebrate anew our state-of-the art gift."***

Alan Saly, a longtime Pathworker, Member of the Board of Directors of the New York Region Pathwork, and the son of John and Judith Saly, who edited the Lectures under the guidance and authorization of Eva Pierrakos (resulting in the 1996 Edited version of the Lectures), shared, ***"Gary, you have done a beautiful and brilliant thing. Truly a breakthrough! I am going to use your formatted lectures in our presentations here in NYC."***

Catherine Karas, Chair of the Board of the International Pathwork Foundation, shared, ***“your Devotional form of the lectures really speaks to me....so much easier for me to read and absorb. I thank you for that! And again: I just read the Devotional Version of lecture 204. All I can say is that your inspiration to create this form of the lectures is truly BRILLIANT - e.g. for me, the new form shines LIGHT on the lectures. I am so happy you are so generous in sharing your interpretation of the lectures so FREELY with everyone.”***

Alison Greene Barton, Long-time Pathworker Helper and Teacher, shared, ***“I love what you are doing with the lectures. It really takes them to another level.”***

Zim Putney, a Mid Atlantic Helper and leader shared, ***“Gary has shown me his new Devotional Version and I believe that he has made a remarkable contribution to the clarity of the lectures. Somehow they seem to flow much more easily and are much simpler to follow. It’s quite amazing that this can be done by reformatting the same content!”***

Finally, one reader graciously shared the following with me, and I pass it on because I think *the specifics of his experience spell out what I feel are the main features of this format: “Just discovered your site, and read your version of #204. It is wonderful. I have long thought this is exactly what the lectures need. And you have just the right insight and understanding to liberate the Guide’s thoughts from Eva’s imperfect English and make them so very accessible. I also love your methodology of phrasing, emphasizing and repeating (since the mind is sometimes anxious to muddle and change the subject). This helps me stay on course without it seeming at all contrived. Bravo Gary! Let me know if I can be of help to you in any way.”*