

Pathwork on  
**Right Passive Acceptance of Effect, Right Active  
Correcting of Cause**

This quote from Pathwork Lecture 40 *More on Image Finding: A Summary* describes how we are not only to **accept the painful effects brought on by previous causes within us** but also **actively work to correct the causes within us to avoid future painful effects**. This is about **self-responsibility**.

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| 09 | Some people -- often those who are devoutly religious -- think that they must accept any difficulty as a sign of humility. This is true only to the extent that they have accepted the law that they violated. The willingness to accept a difficulty, recognizing one's own responsibility instead of vaguely blaming the "injustice of the law," constitutes true humility, my dear ones. True humility cannot be a completely passive state, which has just as little to do with humility as outright rebellion. True humility is passive only inasmuch as it accepts the temporary state of suffering, understanding that it is self-inflicted; but it is also completely active in the willingness to work, to overcome, to fight, and to recognize self-responsibility for all suffering in the most direct way possible. This is a good example of harmonious interplay between the active and the passive currents. |
| 10 | So you cannot sit with your hands in your lap, waiting for things to change, instead of changing yourself from the inside out. You have the power to change whatever mishap occurs in your life. You have the power to alter your life completely, but not if you merely change superficially, by trying to alter only your actions. You can change your life only if you search first for the inner causes, the wrong conclusions; in short, your images.  |
| 11 | Before you can change anything, you must understand what in you brings all the suffering. Only then will you gradually be able to reeducate your emotions, dissolve your images and create new, productive forms in your soul that correspond to divine law. But you must comprehend fully that this wonderful possibility cannot come to you cheaply. It is worth every effort, every conceivable sacrifice, for then you truly master yourself. If you are willing to do this, the help will be given to you. But do not expect that God will change your life for you. God has given you free will, and it is up to you to find out first what these wrong images are and then, with the methods, the help and the guidance I am giving you, it becomes possible to change them.   |
| 12 | During the search and the ensuing change, you need the right kind of humility to accept the unhappiness you have produced without getting angry at yourself for still being imperfect, and you need to vigorously and actively direct yourself into the channel of self-knowledge. You have to learn to accept on all levels of your emotions that you are imperfect at this moment.  |

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| 13 | <p>I have said this often, my friends, but I want to make it quite clear, that although you all know consciously that you are fallible, your emotions do not know it. In your emotions you want to be perfect, and when you discover an imperfection that seems new to you, everything in you revolts against the recognition. One of the many symptoms of this revolt is guilt. When you approach your own inner, hidden images -- the causes of your suffering, the causes of all the repetitive patterns running through your life -- you have to anticipate coming across inner misconceptions that will first give you an unpleasant sensation. To encounter them with a feeling of guilt will get you nowhere. Realize that guilt is really the rejection of the state in which you find yourself at this time, an unwillingness to accept yourself as you are.</p> |