

Pathwork on
Forms of Communications from the Spirit World

This quote from Pathwork Lecture 54 *Questions and Answers*, describes various ways the Spirit World communicates with Humankind. The lecture states that the higher and deeper transmissions are subtler – and more useful for spiritual growth – than are the more dramatic phenomena such as speaking in tongues, materializations, and other outer “proofs” that come from lower spiritual sources that are closer to human levels of consciousness. An interesting way of looking at altered states of consciousness brought about in various ways.

37	<p>QUESTION: In one of the lectures you mentioned the picture language which is used in the Spirit World and you also mentioned that it is rather difficult to translate it into human language. I was wondering whether you can tell us more about this picture language so that we can understand it. I would also like to know whether you can understand every human language and express yourself through a medium in any language.</p>
38	<p>ANSWER: As far as the picture language of the Spirit World is concerned, I am afraid I cannot possibly convey it to you. If I could convey it, it would be so much easier for me to express myself and many a misinterpretation of my words would be avoided. So it is not possible that I give you an explanation of it. Human beings simply cannot grasp this much wider means of communication. Their own language is only a small part of the wider scope of picture language. It is as though you would try to explain human language to an animal.</p>
39	<p>As far as my -- or any spirit's -- knowledge of human language is concerned, I have this to say: I do not have to understand the particular human language. I see the forms of thought in picture language and try to express it in the respective human tongue through the medium utilizing her sense organs as well as her language. Through the medium's ears I hear while I manifest, and through her mouth and physical knowledge -- language, for instance -- I express myself.</p>
40	<p>Whether I could express myself in any language, regardless of whether or not the medium knows the language, depends on the type of mediumship. There are many types of trance mediumship, a fact that is for the most part ignored. A more direct and stronger kind of mediumship exists from the point of view of physical manifestation and phenomenology; it belongs more into the category of a psychic phenomenon. In this category belong materialization, transfiguration, direct voice, and aural transfiguration -- speaking in a language the medium ignores -- and a few other such phenomena. Aural transfiguration is referred to in the Bible as "speaking in tongues." Such phenomena take an infinitely greater strength on the part of the medium, as well as on the part of the spirits. It demands an entirely different kind of mediumship than ordinary trance mediumship. It is very difficult to explain all these manifold variations and possibilities to you. Perhaps on some future occasion I can give you a little more</p>

	information on this subject, but the time is not quite ripe for it as yet.
41	<p>With very few exceptions, higher developed spirits do not use the more direct and stronger type of mediumship, in the category of psychic phenomena wherein a much coarser force is used. This coarser force can be obtained more easily from spirits that are still closer to the earth sphere. Such manifestations also have their purpose and use, however. They serve to open the eyes of human beings to perceive that other worlds exist beyond their own. Through this realization, many may come to think a little differently about life. But once this different outlook is gained, it is more useful to be in contact with spirits on a higher plane who may not have the type of strength available that is necessary for striking "proofs," but who can give you different benefits of a higher and more subtle nature. Even as far as this "proof" is concerned, it is not so simple. It may open the door, but it can only be the beginning of gaining inner proof through inner enlightenment and certainty. Outer proof is never sufficient. Besides, you can only prove something to someone who is open and without prejudice. No matter what startling "proofs" may occur here or there, someone who does not want to see and change his outlook will never be convinced, no matter what. Because here we are dealing with an inner block and that is much more difficult to eliminate than any outer obstruction. Hence, we, in the world of God, are not interested in producing phenomena. We are interested in individual development, for this is the only key to everything. Therefore we choose the simplest possible way which is the least ostentatious as far as phenomena are concerned. So we usually abstain from all manifestations such as "direct voice," materialization, et cetera.</p>