

Pathwork on  
**Working Together As a Pathwork Leadership Team**

This quote from Pathwork Lecture 37 *Acceptance, Right and Wrong Way – Dignity in Humility* is a request for patiently working through interpersonal problems that are inevitable in Pathwork groups and Pathwork leadership teams of any appreciable size. Reconciling or not reconciling will have a corresponding impact on the Universe, for better or for worse. But, the lecture says, we must stay honest to our feelings so that the reconciliation is authentic – fake or pseudo reconciliation from the intellect alone in the end deepens separation among parties. No, reconciliation must come, rather, from the **positive intention of the heart, from love.**

22	<p>Tonight I also want to ask a favor of some of you. <b>This group is blessed, and blessed is <u>every single person</u> who is part of it.</b></p> <p>It would be a great joy for the world of God if <b>all the very human animosities and misunderstandings</b>, unavoidable in a group of this size, were <b>straightened out and treated with a spiritual attitude.</b></p> <p>Of course you have your free will and can say no, but if you are willing, <b>go to the person whom you do not like.</b> Think carefully <b>why</b> you do not like that particular person. Try hard to be objective and you will surely find out that <b>somehow your view is subjective</b>; perhaps your vanity was hurt, or you have unwittingly hurt the vanity of the other person, and emotional reactions followed. One can then always rationalize one's dislike.</p> <p>If there was <b>no particular incident</b>, just <b>try to find the good in the other</b> and quietly look for the <u>objective</u> reason for your reaction. <b>Just a little goodwill can often establish a bond of love between two people at odds.</b></p> <p>Try to find the <b>common denominator.</b> For there is a common denominator in all of you. <b>Build on it</b> and not on your thoughts and feelings that have probably been influenced by hurt pride. <b>Show your own good sides</b> in sincerity; <b>show the generosity in your heart</b> that sometimes seems to be hidden.</p>
23	<p>In cases <b>where there have been actual incidents</b>, consider the details with discretion and tact. <b>When the incident should be discussed</b>, or whether it should be discussed at all, <b>depends on how free you are of resentment and of blindness.</b></p> <p>In some cases it would be beneficial if such incidents were <b>brought to the inner circle.</b></p> <p>The time will come when <b>you will be able to talk freely to your "adversary," explaining calmly what you feel has been a misunderstanding, the ways that you both were hurt, and why there is a dislike.</b></p>

	<p><b>Always both parties are hurting.</b> If you can be honest and detached from yourself at the same time, <b>listen quietly</b> and <b>try to understand the other person's point of view</b> without letting your so-called dignity stand in your way. You will see there is no cause for disharmony.</p>
24	<p><b>All misunderstandings</b> and all hurts are <b>merely imaginary</b>, my friends. They are the <b>byproduct of this earth sphere</b> in which you live, partly at least, in darkness.</p> <p>You think so many times you have reason to be hurt, but it is not true! Take your courage into your two hands and <b>make that first step toward the very person you may misunderstand. You will purify all the better.</b></p> <p>You may <b>see</b> strongly only <b>what you do not like</b> or what you feel is <b>directed against you</b> in some way, and therefore <b>you cannot see clearly.</b></p> <p><b>Intellectually</b> you may acknowledge that the <b>other person has wonderful qualities</b>, but <b>emotionally</b> you do <b>not really think so</b>, or at least you <b>do not want to find out.</b></p>
25	<p>By practicing what I suggest here, <b>you will do good for yourselves and also for any other person involved.</b></p> <p>The reason I request it, however, is that <b>the <u>energy of reconciliation</u> is important for the group as a whole.</b></p> <p>It is so beneficial, my friends, to <b>give your heart to the person who you think has hurt you.</b></p>
26	<p><b>Bad feelings and bad thoughts add to the destructive forces in the universe.</b> If you could even dimly realize how each of these feelings and emotions <b>drain into a big ugly pool</b> and finally are <b>responsible for all the hurts of this world, for crime and injustice and the wickedness of wars!</b></p> <p>Such awareness should <b>not force you to deceive yourself into having thoughts that are not true.</b> Distortion is never the right way.</p> <p>The way must always be, first, to have the courage to say: "These are my feelings; I know they might be wrong, but they are that way." If you can <b>observe the feelings with detachment and acknowledge them</b>, then you have made the <b>first step</b> toward your own <b>proper purification</b>; the <b>wrong thoughts and feelings</b> that you cannot avoid having at present will be <b>much less forceful</b>, capable of doing less harm <b>both to you and to the universe.</b></p> <p>The fact is that <b>your courageous recognition</b> and your <b>goodwill</b> changes and <b>lessens their impact.</b> Their <b>impact is strongest</b> when you are <b>unaware</b> of their <b>existence</b>, or when you <b>try to justify them.</b></p>