

# Pathwork Lecture 250: Inner Awareness of Grace – Exposing the Deficit

1996 Edition, Original Given April 19, 1978

This Pathwork lecture is rendered in an **expanded poetic format**, what I call a **Devotional Version** of the lecture. In this sense it is **my interpretation** of the **intent** of the lecture. I may have interpreted portions differently from you, and when this is the case, I ask you to ponder the words for **your own interpretation**.

I did this Devotional Version so I can take the words into my heart, phrase by phrase, much as I would in reading poetry -- **devotionally**. *I invite you to slowly read and ponder this rendition of the text – with an open heart to experience the Pathwork Guide’s Presence, Wisdom and Love emerging from among the words. May the Pathwork Guide’s Wisdom come to live you.*

For clarity: The **original text** is in **bold, italicized, and mostly underlined**. [My interpretations and intended clarifications are in brackets, italicized, sometimes underlined, but never bolded.]

To learn more of my Devotional Version and to access the lectures I have rendered in this form, go to <http://www.garyvollbracht.com/quotes/pathwork-lectures-expanded-versions/>

*Blessings on your journey, Gary*

¶	Content
03	<p><b><u>Greetings</u></b>  <b><u>and blessings,</u></b>  <b><u>my very beloved friends.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>The joy</u></b>  <b><u>of seeing your community</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>develop and</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>expand</u></b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>is enormous.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>We praise the Lord</u></b>  <b><u>for this wonder</u></b>  <b><u>that springs</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>from</u></b>  <b><u>your personal growth,</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>from</u></b>  <b><u>your</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>commitment and</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>devotion</u></b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>to serve a cause</u></b>  <b><u>that goes far beyond</u></b>  <b><u>your earth selves.</u></b></p>

by Eva Broch Pierrakos

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04

*Now I wish to speak about  
the meaning of grace.*

*For many of you  
this [i.e., grace]  
is a difficult concept to comprehend.*

*In former times  
the concept of grace  
was much more acceptable,  
for it was understood  
as a special dispensation from God  
that was*

- given, or
- not given,

*for His own reasons.*

*The individual  
had little to do with it [i.e., had little to do with whether grace was given or not].*

*At a time when  
self-responsibility  
was [only a] little developed,  
grace*

- was interpreted in this manner [i.e., grace was seen as  
given or not given by God for His own reasons] and
- was therefore easier to accept.

05

*In the present general state of humanity,  
self-responsibility  
is much more developed.*

*You understand that  
you  
create*

- your reality and
- your experiences –
  - good or
  - bad.

*[So, if you are responsible for creating your reality,]  
How then does grace come in?*

Is it [i.e., With self-responsibility being further developed, is grace]  
totally eliminated  
from your vision of  
• life and  
• reality?

No, it is not.

Grace  
is as much a reality as  
• self-creation and  
• self-responsibility –  
and they [i.e., grace and self-responsibility]  
are by no means  
mutually exclusive.

I wish to give you some perspective on this subject,  
which will then open up  
another equally important topic,  
that of  
faith.

06

The grace of God  
is.

It [i.e., The grace of God]  
exists at all times,  
penetrating  
all that is.

It [i.e., The grace of God]  
exists  
in the very nature  
of ultimate reality,  
which is  
thoroughly benign [i.e., ultimate reality is thoroughly  
favorable and positively disposed].

Grace  
means  
that all must work out  
for the best,  
no matter

- how evil,
- how painful,
- how tragic

things  
may  
appear  
at the moment.

In the end,  
when people have

- lived through and
- fully assimilated

the negative experiences,  
they [i.e., the people]  
come around full circle  
to the light of

- love,
- truth,
- joy,
- peace,
- pleasure supreme,
- eternal life, and
- wellbeing in all respects.

This [i.e., the light of love, truth, joy, peace, pleasure supreme, and eternal life]  
must  
always  
be the ultimate reality  
and therein  
lies grace.

07

So, truly,  
you cannot help  
but live in  
the grace of God.

The very air you breathe  
is permeated with it [i.e., is permeated with the grace of God].

Every substance of life,  
on all levels –  
from the finest  
• vibrations and  
• radiations  
to the  
• crudest matter –

is permeated with it [i.e., is permeated with the grace of God].

- The very world you live in,
- the universe,
- all of creation,
- the way divine law is constructed,

all [of these]  
are an expression of  
  
divine grace.

You  
• live  
and  
• move  
and  
• have your being

in a universe  
that consists of  
such  
• tenderness,  
such  
• love  
such  
• personal care  
of the  
• living God,  
of the  
• eternal presence  
in all that is,  
  
that it simply  
defies description.

*You are surrounded*  
*by a universe*  
*in which*  
*there is simply*  

- *nothing*
- *ever*

*to fear –*  
*no matter*  
*what*  
*the momentary appearances*  
*may be.*

08

*The problem*  
*is not*  
*that you need to*  
*draw*  
*the grace of God*  
*to you.*

*For it [i.e., For the grace of God]*  
*is already there,*  
*filling*  
*every pore*  
*of your being.*

*The problem [rather]*  
*is*  
*your*  

- *lack of vision,*

*your*  

- *limited view,*

*your*  

- *distorted interpretations,*

*your*  

- *faulty outlook,*

*your*  

- *personal blocks.*

*These [i.e., your lack of vision, limited view, distorted interpretations,  
faulty outlook and personal blocks]*

*seem like*

*walls of iron,*

*which*

*• enclose you and*

*• prevent you*

*from*

*• perceiving and*

*• experiencing  
grace.*

*In reality*

*the walls*

*• are [not walls of iron, but rather are]*

*mist*

*and*

*• must immediately dissolve*

*once you*

*• rearrange*

*your field of vision*

*and thus*

*• begin to dissolve*

*your personality*

*• defects and*

*• blocks.*

*As always,*

*this process [of rearranging your field of vision and dissolving  
personality defects and blocks]*

*begins with*

*small everyday events.*

*As I so often said to you,*

*you can*

*easily tell*

*whether you are*

*• in truth*

*or*

*• not [in truth]*

*by the way you*

*feel.*

**This gauge** [*as to whether or not you are in truth by being aware of how you feel*]  
**is**  
**always**  
**right at your disposal.**

• **If** [*for example, in your feeling world*]  
**you are**

• **in harmony with life,**

• **if**

**you are**

• **joyous and**

• **hopeful,**

**you can be**

**certain**

• **that you partake of**  
**God's grace**

**that**

• **surrounds and**

• **permeates**

**you,**

• **that you are**

**in truth –**

**at least in the limited way of your**

**present state of consciousness –**

**regarding your**

**immediate**

• **experiences and**

• **reactions**

**to the world around you.**

09

**But**

- **when**
  - **the opposite occurs,**
- **when you are in a state of**
  - **disturbance,**
  - **fear and**
  - **disharmony**
    - within**
      - **yourself,**
    - with**
      - **others and**
      - **life in general,**

**you forget this key** [i.e., **you forget this key that says that when you are experiencing such negative feelings you must not be in truth**].

**I wish you would**  
**all**

**choose to**

**remember using it** [i.e., **remember to use this key of seeing that when you are in fear and disharmony, you are not in truth**].

**Impregnate yourself**

**with this truth** [i.e., **this truth that when you are in fear and disharmony, you are not in truth**  
**in your daily meditations.**

**When you are**

- **unhappy,**
- **fearful,**
- **discouraged,**
- **in darkness,**

**know at least**  
**that**

**you are**  
**not**

**in truth.**

**This [awareness that when negative feelings arise, then you are not in truth] will make a lot of difference.**

**Know that [when negative feelings arise]**

- **your blocks,**
- **your faulty vision,**  
**have separated you**  
**from**  
**the grace of God**  
**in which**  
**you swim,**  
**even now,**  
**although**  
**you do not know it.**

10

**Your habit of**  
**putting**  

- **effect**

**before**  

- **cause**

**creates**  
**gross**  

- **misconceptions and**
- **misinterpretations of life**

**that prevent you**  
**from**  
**experiencing**  
**grace.**

**The automatic habit of**  
**this reversed thinking [i.e., the reversed thinking of putting effect before cause]**  
**extends to**  
**many different**  

- **issues and**
- **aspects of reality.**

One example [of this habit of reversed thinking of putting effect before cause]  
is the assumption  
that the  
experience  
of God's grace  
is something  
to be given to you [from the outside].

Another assumption [from this habit of reversed thinking of putting  
effect before cause]

is that  
faith  
comes also  
from outside,  
as if  

- one day [in the future]  
something  
would be added on to you,
- while right now  
you lack it.

You lack  
neither  

- grace

nor  

- faith.

As everything else,  
they [i.e., grace and faith], too,  
already  
exist  
in you.

If only  
you could  
begin to  
think of yourself  
in these terms [i.e., in terms that already you have grace and faith  
though you block them both],  
all  
would fall into place.

You have  
a notion of  
the theory [i.e., the theory that you already have grace and faith],  
but  
in your habitual thinking  
you resist its [i.e., you resist this theory's] truth.

[Instead of thinking of and applying this truth that you already have within you  
grace and faith and all that is good in the universe]

You think of yourself as  
an empty vessel  
that needs to be filled [from the outside with grace and faith and  
all that is good in the universe].

11

Becoming  
implies  
acquiring something  
that you do not possess already.

But in reality  
you  
are  
already  
all  
that you could ever wish to be.

You  
already  
possess  
the states of consciousness  
you aim to attain.

It is simply that  
only  
a limited part  
of your total self  
functions  
on the level of reality  
into which  
you were born [i.e., only a limited part of your total self functions on the  
level of material reality into which you were born].

It is  
your task  
to  
gradually  
release  
those parts of you  
that  
fully exist  
• on another level of reality,  
but need to be  
brought into  
• the material level [of reality].

The  
lower self  
exists  
precisely because of  
the limitation  
with which you manifest [those parts of you that  
fully exist on another level of reality as the higher self]  
on this [material] level of reality [in which you now live].

- Expansion,
- growth,
- development –

all these terms  
mean only one thing:

to bring forth [on the material level of reality in which you  
are now incarnated]  
the perfection  
of what you already are  
in  
essence [on another level of reality].

	<p><u><i>If you could</i></u> <u><i>think of this process [of expansion, growth, and development]</i></u> <u><i>more as</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>releasing</i></u> <u><i>what is already there [i.e., already there in your essence</i></u> <u><i>on another level of reality],</i></u></li></ul> <p><u><i>rather than as</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>becoming something</i></u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>that</i></u> <u><i>you are not,</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>that is</i></u> <u><i>still foreign to you,</i></u></li></ul></li></ul> <p><u><i>you would aid your process [of expansion, growth and development]</i></u> <u><i>considerably.</i></u></p>
12	<p><u><i>So you can</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>release</i></u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>your</i></u> <u><i>intrinsic</i></u> <u><i>awareness of</i></u> <u><i>grace.</i></u></li></ul></li></ul> <p><u><i>You can</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>release</i></u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>the faith</i></u> <u><i>that is</i></u> <u><i>already in you,</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>the knowledge</i></u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>that you</i></u> <u><i>live in a</i></u> <u><i>tender universe,</i></u> <u><i>shaped out of</i></u> <u><i>personal</i></u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>love and</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>caring,</i></u></li></ul></li></ul></li><li>• <u><i>that there is</i></u> <u><i>nothing</i></u> <u><i>to fear.</i></u></li></ul></li></ul>

	<p><i><u>If you</u></i> <i><u>visualize in this way,</u></i></p> <p><i><u>you will</u></i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>release</u></i> <i><u>new</u></i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>awareness,</u></i> <i><u>new</u></i></li><li>• <i><u>knowledge,</u></i> <i><u>new</u></i></li><li>• <i><u>faith,</u></i> <i><u>new</u></i></li><li>• <i><u>ways of reacting</u></i> <i><u>that will</u></i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>surprise you and</u></i></li><li>• <i><u>fill you</u></i> <i><u>with</u></i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>wonder and</u></i></li><li>• <i><u>joy.</u></i></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>
13	<p><i><u>What are</u></i> <i><u>the obstacles</u></i> <i><u>to releasing</u></i> <i><u>the</u></i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>faith,</u></i></li></ul><i><u>the</u></i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>knowledge,</u></i></li></ul><i><u>the</u></i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>awareness</u></i> <i><u>already existing</u></i> <i><u>within you</u> [i.e., <u>already existing as your true essence on</u></i> <i><u>another level of reality</u>]?</i></li></ul></p> <p><i><u>The first obstacle</u></i> <i><u>is your</u></i> <i><u>not knowing</u></i> <i><u>that you</u> [i.e., <u>that you, on another level of reality, already</u>]</i> <i><u>possess</u></i> <i><u>the</u></i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>awareness,</u></i></li></ul><i><u>the</u></i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>faith.</u></i></li></ul></p>

**The knowledge [that you possess all the knowledge, awareness and faith you need]**

- **must be cultivated;**

**it [i.e., this knowledge that you possess all the awareness and faith you need]**

- **has to begin in your**  
**outer**
  - **brain and**
  - **thinking.**

**Just considering**  
**the possibility**

- **that there is**  
**nothing to fear,**
- **that you live in**  
**an utterly benign [i.e., utterly favorable, positively disposed]**  
**universe,**
- **that you are**  
**filled with the living God,**

**will make you**  
**automatically**  
**challenge**  
**your**

- **fears,**

**your**

- **doubts,**

**your**

- **distrust and**

**your**

- **negative beliefs.**

**This [i.e., act of considering that there is nothing to fear, that you live in an utterly favorable universe, and are filled with the living God, and then challenging your fears, doubts, and negative beliefs],**

**in turn,**  
**will make it much easier for you**  
**to sufficiently trust**

- **life and**
- **its laws**

**so that you will**  
**risk**  
**giving.**

*And this [risking giving of yourself]*  
*is indeed*  
*an important lever*  
*that touches*  
*an inexorable law of life.*

*For only*  
*as you give out*  
*of yourself,*  

- *from and*
- *with*

*your heart,*  
*can you*  
*truly*  
*receive.*

14

*You have heard*  
*the law of*  

- *giving*

*and*  

- *receiving*

*discussed many times.*

*It is such an*  
*important law*  
*that it is taught*  
*in all the religious scriptures*  
*that ever existed.*

*Yet it [i.e., Yet the law of giving and receiving]*  
*is usually*  

- *misunderstood,*

*or at least*  
*slightly but sufficiently*  

- *distorted,*

*so that*  
*you put it [i.e., you put the law of giving and receiving]*  
*aside.*

*You believe it* [i.e., *You believe the law of giving and receiving*]

*is*

*a sanctimonious edict* [i.e., *an edict for one to make a hypocritical show of religious piety to impress others and authority*],

*issued forth*

*by an arbitrary authority*

*that*

- *makes demands on you*

*and then possibly*

- *rewards you*

*with something in return* [i.e., *a reward given by the authority merely for obeying an arbitrary edict rather than coming as a natural consequence in accordance with a natural and spiritual law of the universe*].

*You see it* [i.e., *You see the law of giving and receiving*]

*as a form of*

*bargaining* [with an arbitrary authority].

*You resist*

*the concept* [of being rewarded for obeying an edict from an arbitrary authority]

*because it*

*offends human dignity.*

*You distrust*

*a universe*

*that*

- *is pedagogic* [i.e., *a universe that is constructed merely to teach lessons to its inhabitants*] *and*

- *treats the individual*

*as an*

*unruly child* –

*though it is surely*

*not*

*your*

- *true personality,*

*your*

- *real being,*

*who believes*

*this distortion* [concerning the law of giving and receiving].

15

What does  
the law of giving and receiving  
mean  
in reality [i.e., mean without these distortions and illusions]?

Every human being  
contains  
a built-in mechanism  
that makes  
receiving  
quite impossible  
  
when [at the same time]  
the soul  
withholds  
its  
innate  

- capacity and
- yearning  
to give.

Since  
in reality  

- giving

and  

- receiving

are  
one and the same  

- flow and
- movement,

one [here for example, say, receiving]

cannot exist

without the other [i.e., in this example, without giving].

Where

- distrustful,
- fearful  
holding back [of giving]

makes it impossible  
for the soul  
to enter into  
the flow of  
universal

- life and
- movement,

the total process of  
giving and receiving  
is stopped,

so that

the grace of God,  
with all its manifestations,  
cannot enter into  
the consciousness  
of the personality.

It [i.e., this situation where the process of giving and receiving is stopped]  
is as though

all the riches  
were

- there,
- ready to be
  - tasted and
  - experienced,

but

- the hand  
could not reach for them;

- the senses  
cannot perceive them;

- the brain  
cannot even observe their vivid reality.

***It [i.e., This situation where the process of giving and receiving is stopped]***  
***is as though***  
***the whole personality***  
***with all its perceptions***  
***were dulled,***  
***so that***  
***the total vision of life***  
***is distorted.***

***This [condition of having a distorted vision of life]***  
***strengthens***  
***the illusion***  
***that you live in a***  

- ***poor,***
- ***empty***

***universe.***

***It [i.e., This condition of having a distorted vision of life]***  
***increases the belief***

- ***that your***  
***inner universe***  
***is equally***
  - ***poor and***
  - ***empty,***
- ***that you have***
  - ***nothing to give***  
***from within*** *[since you believe the illusion that your*  
*inner universe is poor and empty]* ***and***
  - ***nothing to receive***  
***from without*** *[since you believe the illusion that the outer universe*  
*in which you live is poor and empty].*

16

As you know,

every

- attitude,

every

- mental and
  - emotional
- condition

creates

- chain reactions and

- circles –

either

- benign [i.e., favorable, positive, and constructive]

or

- vicious [i.e., unfavorable, negative, and destructive]
- ones,

according to the

- truth

or

- error

of your

- belief,
- attitude, and
- behavior pattern.

When you are

in the illusion that

both

- the outer

and

- the inner

universe

are

- empty and
- impoverished,

you

automatically

create

a vicious [i.e., unfavorable, negative and destructive]  
circle.

**This belief [of an empty and impoverished inner and outer universe]**

**must make you**

**hoard**

- **yourself,**
  
- **your innate**
  - **riches,**
  - **talents,**
  
- **everything you possess**
  - **spiritually or**
  - **materially.**

**You are**

- **holding in**
- rather than**
- **giving out.**

**Hence you**

- separate yourself**
- from the riches that**
  - **surround and**
  - **penetrate**
- you.**

**This inner mechanism [of holding in rather than giving out]**

- **makes your**
- receiving**
- impossible;**

**it [i.e., this inner mechanism of holding in rather than giving out]**

- **strengthens and**
- **finally seems to confirm**
- your vision**
- of poverty of**
  - **life and**
  - **self.**

17

*In contrast [to this vicious circle],*  
*the benign [i.e., favorable, positive, and constructive]*  
*circle*  
*can be established by*  
*risking*  
*giving out,*  
*in the*  
*conscious*  
*expectation*  
*that*  
*abundance*  
*will grow*  
*because*  
*the fear of*  

- *poverty and*
- *deprivation*

*may be*  
*illusory.*

*As you start*  
*giving to God*  

- *in trust and*
- *with love,*

- *you release*  
*the inner faith and*
- *you liberate*  
*your clouded vision.*

*You will*  
*not only*  

- *see the abundance*  
  - *surrounding you and*
  - *flowing through you,*

*but you will*  
*also*  

- *lift the lever*  
*that locked*  
*the [inner] mechanism [that wants to give].*

*[As you start giving to God in trust and with love]*

**You will [also]**

- **reach out into this rich world and**
- **allow it to bestow upon you all that it contains in overpowering abundance, given to you by the Creator with limitless love.**

**Words**

**can never describe this magnificence.**

**By risking**

**giving out**

- **you enter into a benign [i.e., favorable, positive, and constructive] circle;**
- **you can afford to release [even] more of your**
  - **inner and**
  - **outer****riches**

**because**

**you know**

**they [i.e., your inner and outer riches]**

**are**

  - **eternally and**
  - **inexorably****replaced**

**in a never-ending**

**stream.**

The more  
you receive  
the more  
you can give,  
and  
  
the more  
you give  
the more  
are you capable of receiving.

It is then that  
• giving  
and  
• receiving  
become one.

18

So the  
first step  
must be to  
risk  
giving out.

Consider  
that  
the fear  
that  
makes you  
• hold and  
• hoard  
is erroneous.

• Test once again  
a new ground rule of life [i.e., the rule that motivates you to freely give out]

and  
• begin  
gradually  
to discard  
the old one [i.e., discard your old ground rule of hoarding]  
that has proven detrimental  
because  
it has painted  
a false picture of life.

• False pictures  
are reinforced  
by belief,  
just as  
• true pictures  
are [reinforced by belief].

Only when they [i.e., only when false pictures and beliefs]  
are questioned

do they [i.e., do these false pictures and beliefs]  
lose their energy.

Challenging them [i.e., challenging false pictures and beliefs]  
is like

• pulling out  
poisonous weeds and  
• planting  
new beautiful seedlings.

When you  
give  
in

• faith,  
• love and  
• trust in God,  
even before  
you are convinced  
that your  
fear of giving out  
is unwarranted,

you have already  
begun to plant  
your

• new,  
• abundant,  
• rich,  
• beautiful  
spiritual garden.

When I say  
spiritual [here in speaking of your spiritual garden],

I do

not mean

something

- far away,
- vague and
- realizable

only

in the afterlife.

[Rather]

I mean

something tangible

that must

sooner or later

manifest in

your material life,

- here and now,
- with

• inner and

• outer

riches.

19

And now

I come to

yet another obstacle

to establishing

the benign [i.e., the favorable, positive, and constructive]

circle

in which you

- flow
- in harmony with creation and
- live
- in divine order and
- in divine grace.

This obstacle is

- very important,

yet

- seldom recognized  
for what it is.

*It [i.e., this further obstacle to establishing the benign, positive, and favorable circle] exists on all levels:*

*on the*

- *inner,*
- *emotional,*
- *psychological,*
- *spiritual and*
- *personal*  
*levels,*

*as well as*

*on the*

- *outer,*
- *general,*
- *universal, and*
- *collective*  
*levels.*

*This topic is chosen at this time*

*not only*

- *to help you*  
*personally*  
*on your*  
• *individual paths,*

*but also*

- *to help you establish*  
*the new model*  
*of world government*  
*within your*  
• *ever growing community.*

20

*This obstacle [to establishing the benign, positive, and favorable circle]*

*is*

*a tendency*  
*in human nature*  
*to build on*  
*deficit,*

*a tendency*  
*intrinsically connected with*  
*the belief*  
*in an*

- *empty,*
- *poor,*
- *ungiving*  
*universe.*

*Let me now be*  
*more explicit.*

*Take at first*  
*the*

- *personal,*
- *inner*  
*levels.*

*When you build*  
*positive*

- *beliefs and*
- *life patterns*  
*on top of*
  - *unconscious or*
  - *semi-conscious*  
*negative*  
*beliefs,*

*you build on*  
*deficit.*

When you  
secretly  
believe  
that  
you are a  
totally  

- unlovable and
- unacceptable  
human being,

you build on  
deficit.

When your  

- real and
- false  
guilts

prevent you  
from turning yourself  
fully  
over to God,  
you build on  
deficit.

When  
you  
assume the universe  
to be hostile to you and  
you  
protect yourself  
against this alleged hostility  
with destructive defenses –  

- that you may or may not  
be conscious of,
- that you may  
  - rationalize and
  - justify –

you build on  
deficit.

21

Building  
on deficit  
can  
appear  
to succeed  
for a while.

That [i.e., the fact that success can come initially while building on deficit]  
is the trouble.

What is  
false [i.e., building of deficit]  
• seems to work  
for a while and  
• becomes  
temporarily  
convincing.

He who  
builds a house  
on  
• unsafe,  
• sandy  
ground,  
may indeed  
erect  
a lovely-looking structure  
that holds up for a while.

When it begins  
to crumble,

the builder  
cannot see the connection [between the crumbling house and the  
sandy ground upon which he built the foundation],  
because  
he may have  
shut off  
his awareness  
of having chosen to build  
on such a weak foundation.

*The crumbling of the house*  
*may then*  
*be ascribed*  
*to different causes [rather than the real cause of having built on sand].*

*Such rationalizations only*

- *maintain*  
*the illusory picture of life and*
- *encourage*  
*the tendency of*  
*building on deficit.*

22

*The methods*  
*I have given you to work with*  
*on your path*  
*are meant to*  
*bring your deficits*  
*to the surface*  
*of your consciousness;*

*they [i.e., these pathwork methods]*  
*prevent you*  
*from ignoring*  
*the deficits.*

*This path [i.e., pathwork]*  
*is directly designed*  
*to create*  
*an inner order,*  
*painful as this may be at first,*

*so that*  
*you can*  
*begin to build on*  
*real assets*

*and never allow*  
*your*  
*"inner economics"*  
*to become*  

- *fraudulent and*
- *unsound.*

The temporary pain  
of exposing  
your  
• debts,  
your  
• deficits,  
comes from  
the wrong conclusion  
that by doing so [i.e., that by exposing your deficits and debts]  
you are doomed to accept  
the "reality"  
of poverty [in you and in the universe in which you live].

You cannot trust  
• that your  
unsound managing  
can be changed,  
  
• that you can indeed  
create  
real riches,  
based on  
a healthy policy.

You are  
constantly  
• running on  
deficit,  
  
• giving out  
in a distorted way  
that has nothing to do with  
genuine giving.

*This [giving out in a distorted way] is  
pretended giving,  
in more than one way.*

*For example, you  
either*

*[give out only in pretense, not in truth – that is, you]*

*project*

*your mask self*

*to the world,*

*while you*

*inwardly*

*despair about*

*who you believe*

*you*

*really*

*are,*

*or*

*you give out*

*in order to*

*accumulate*

*in a manipulating way*

*what you believe*

*you do not deserve [i.e., here manipulating to receive,*

*while believing you are undeserving to receive  
is building on deficit].*

*These [two] types of  
lower-self "giving"  
are manifestations of  
building on  
deficit.*

*False ways of giving [i.e., giving falsely from your mask self or giving to manipulate  
the other into giving you what you do not believe you deserve]*

*may temporarily*

*work on the surface,*

*but*

*inwardly*

*your deficits increase,*

*and the impoverishment thus created*

*is usually covered up [by] more [false giving]*

*in order to avoid*

*the necessary bankruptcy.*

	<p><u>You</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>grab</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>outer,</u></li><li>• <u>temporary,</u></li><li>• <u>unsound</u> <u>means</u> <u>to coast along on pretense and</u></li></ul></li><li>• <u>cherish</u> <u>the illusion</u> <u>that you can go on</u> <u>indefinitely</u> <u>in this way.</u></li></ul>
23	<p><u>Thus</u> <u>you build</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>a mask</u> <u>illusion</u></li></ul><u>on</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>a lower-self</u> <u>illusion.</u></li></ul><p><u>The mask illusion</u> <u>is that</u> <u>this way of operating</u> <u>can go on forever.</u></p><p><u>The lower-self illusion</u> <u>is that</u> <u>the world is</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>mean and</u></li><li>• <u>poor.</u></li></ul></p></p>

To put it differently,  
you believe  
only  
in the  
• illusory wealth  
acquired through  
• scheming,  
• pretense and  
• greed,

and [you do] not [believe]  
in the  
• real wealth  
of God's creation.

In practical terms  
this [condition]  
manifests  
in putting so much energy  
in your  
• mask and  
• lower self  
that you  
never dare  
expose  
• your deficits and  
• the inner bankruptcy  
that smolders underground.

When you  
work with your  
• helpers and  
• peers  
and bring  
• all your guilts,  
• all your lower-self machinations  
to the fore,  
you stand there  
poor.

You  
no longer  
cover up  
with a false veneer.

You no longer  
try to avoid  
the poverty  
you have  
unwittingly created  
• through  
false beliefs and  
• by  
destructive means  
that only  
increase  
the deficit.

Then the  
• fear and  
• resistance  
to declaring the bankruptcy  
that you had  
frantically covered up  
is finally  
overcome  
through your  
faith.

Then you can begin  
to create  
the sound  
new order  
of your  
inner wealth  
that has  
waited for this moment  
to  
• manifest and  
• enrich  
you.

24

All  
all  
are  
nothing but  
bankruptcy exposed.

- personal crises,
- breakdowns

Such crises can be  
deliberately  
induced  
under controlled circumstances  
when you work  
with your

- helpers or

in your

- group.

- You go through  
the shame of  
showing your deficits,

- you finally  
desist  
building on them, and

- you  
sail through the
  - fear and
  - painof believing  
that this [i.e., this set of deficits]  
is  
your final reality.

Soon you discover  
the real wealth  
behind  
the frantic efforts  
to hide  
the assumed –  
and hence  
self-created –  
poverty  
by [i.e., the frantic efforts you use to hide  
your assumed poverty by]  
pretending  
a false wealth,  
built on  
deficit.

25

Your  
• spiritual and  
• emotional  
"finances"  
often manifest  
on the material level  
as well.

Many people  
live above their means;

- they  
coast  
on debts;
- they  
cover one hole  
with another,  
newly created  
hole.

Although  
they live in a  
constant climate  
of anxiety,  
they refuse  
to create order,

because  
• they do not believe  
that  
• order  
and  
• abundance  
can exist for them, and  
• they are  
unwilling to give.

Perhaps  
they do not want to  
give  
by paying  
the necessary price,  
which may be  
giving their best  
to their work.

Thus,  
• they cannot  
make a decent livelihood;  
  
• they  
• depend on others and  
• accumulate debts.

However,

- the inner process  
of your pathwork  
in certain cases

finally reaches

- the outer levels  
of material manifestation.

You have even

created budget sessions  
for those who  
manifest their

- inner deficit  
on the  
• outer level.

In that way [i.e., through budget sessions]

- you create a  
• new,  
• sound  
order and

- you no longer  
have to run  
on deficit.

Budget sessions,

though they deal with the  
outer  
manifestation,

exactly replicate

the pathwork you do on the  
• inner,  
• psychological and  
• spiritual  
levels.

26

My beloved friends,  
it is extremely important  
for you to see that  
• finances,  
• economics,  
• collective governmental procedures,  
follow exactly  
the same patterns.

They [i.e., finances, economics, and collective governmental procedures]  
are sound  
when government  
is built

- on assets,  
not on
  - deficit;
  
- on reserves,  
not on
  - debts;
  
- on fullness,  
not on
  - emptiness.

For those of you  
who have some knowledge  
of the way  
governments –

- national and
- international –

are run,

it will be easy to see  
how the principle I speak about  
applies to the

- outer,
- collective  
levels,

as much as to the

- inner
- personal  
ones.

Whenever a country  
goes through  
severe crisis –

- riots,
- revolution,
- war,
- financial collapse –

it is a result of  
waiting too long  
to establish

- cleanliness,
- order,
- truth

voluntarily,  
through  
deliberate choices,  
by working things out  
in controlled circumstances.

It [i.e., A severe crisis – riots, revolution, war, or financial collapse]  
is the result of  
not wanting to expose  
the deficits,  
so that  
true abundance  
can follow.

Such governmental crisis  
can be likened to  
the breakdown of  
an individual  
who refuses  
to expose  
his or her  
inner

- poverty,
- pretense, and
- deficit.

27

- When governments
  - practice  
predominantly  
injustice,
  - live on
    - greed and
    - power drive,
- when they
  - scheme and
  - lie  
to deceive the people,

they always create

not only a

- spiritual deficit,

but inevitably also a

- material one.

The thus established  
imbalances  
can be covered up  
only for so long.

Eventually  
they [i.e., the areas of building on deficit]  
must  
all  
surface,

so that  
a new order  
can be established.

When countries  
go through  
such crises,

- changes  
are often brought about  
with the best intentions  
at first.
- New
  - laws and
  - modalities  
are created,
- new
  - collective measures and
  - forms of governments.

But when  
the  
inner  
meaning  
gets lost again,

the same deficit  
will arise  
through different means.

The forces of darkness  
can again

- distort the truth and
- tempt people  
away from  
the inner truth of God.

Again  
their [i.e., the people's]  
vision  
will be blurred,  
so that  
new deficits  
will accumulate.

Thus the solution  
never lies  
only  
in

- the form of government  
you adopt or
- the outer measures  
you institute,  
although admittedly  
some measures are better than others  
at different times.

28

If you take a

- very close and
- well-informed

look at  
various governments,

you will soon see

- where and
- how

their deficits  
are created.

Sometimes the

- direct,
- material

deficits  
are obvious  
in a particular country's  
economics.

It is clear  
that the government  
avoids temporary exposure  
by

- frantically pretending,
- coasting along,
- trying to cover one hole after another,
- never daring to trust that  
real wealth  
can be reestablished.

In such a situation  
it is  
too frightening  
to admit the

- imbalance and
- mismanagement.

When sufficient faith [*i.e., sufficient faith that real wealth can be reestablished once the deficit is honestly acknowledged, faced, and dealt with*]  
is lacking,

the false  
world picture of a

- poor,
- untrustworthy,
- empty  
universe

makes this step  
toward honesty  
impossible.

29

Taking this step [*toward honesty concerning accumulated deficits and bankruptcy*]  
is possible  
only

- through God,
- with total faith,
- by going  
to and  
with  
God.

Risking  
to have faith  
can create  
• faith  
and also  
• the experience  
that  
having faith  
is justified.

It is therefore  
foolish  
to assume that a  
• balanced,  
• harmonious,  
• abundant  
world order  
in which  
• justice and  
• peace  
exist

can be established  
without a  
direct communication  
with  
• the divine world and  
• the Christ  
• within and  
• around  
you.

If you  
ignore His existence,

you cannot  
• perceive His presence,

nor can you  
• hear His  
• guidance,  
• advice and  
• loving inspiration.

Thus [if you ignore Christ's existence]  
you cannot  
summon up  
the courage you need  
to go through  
the temporary exposure of  
• inner  
bankruptcy,  
  
which is often also  
• outer  
bankruptcy,  
  
both  
• in individuals and  
• in countries.

• The shambles  
can be  
collected and

• the structure  
rebuilt  
in a better way

only when  
all participants  
• are seriously  
filled with  
the purest of motives and

• directly ask  
God's eternal presence  
to  
• help and  
• inspire  
them.

This  
is the hope  
of the world  
in which you live.

Everything  
that is undertaken  
without God,  
no matter how  
• intelligent and  
• efficient  
it may seem at first,  
is bound to fail  
in the long run.

Only  
• through and  
• with  
God  
can you have the  
• courage and  
• honesty  
to trust  
total openness.

Rebuilding  
can then  
begin  
• in earnest and  
• in glory.

Only then  
will all governments  
run on assets.

Only then  
can they [i.e., can governments]  
function healthily  
with a constant balanced flow of  
• giving and  
• receiving,  
never  
exhausting the reserves  
because  
all  
is based on  
• truth,  
• justice, and  
• fairness.

30

No country  
will then  
deny the other  
its resources;

mutual  
• pressure and  
• power plays  
will not  
corrupt the world  
that was  
created by God  
so that  
all  
can partake of  
everything,  
no matter where it originates.

Why do you think  
God  
has distributed resources  
so that  
• some are in  
• certain parts of the world only, and  
• others [are] in  
• other parts?

The wisdom of the Creator  
disposes  
according to  
deepest  
• reasons and  
• meanings.

Never is  
anything  
just an accident.

The reason  
for the distribution  
of the world's resources  
is to help people  
• to share and  
• to consider all other people.

This will enable them also  
to freely receive  
• what they need and  
• what others have.

Right here you can see  
how a spiritual law works  
on the most practical levels.

• Giving  
and  
• receiving  
can exist  
when countries  
• share their resources,  
rather than [when countries are]  
• hoarding them and  
• using them to gain more  
• power and  
• riches,  
regardless of  
how many people  
will be deprived.

31

My beloved friends,  
these are the principles  
that you need to establish  
in your community.

In that way  
you will become  
a true model.

Let me now

- say a few words  
about this process and
- give you  
some guidelines.

The details

you need to  
work out yourselves.

You need to

make yourselves  
channels  
for God's will  
in every detail.

But some

outer guidelines  
are also necessary.

I was recently asked a question  
that deals with this topic.

You have become aware of  
a certain imbalance  
within your structure.

Balances

constantly change  
when

- one side
- outweighs
- the other.

	<p><i><u>In the development of</u></i> • <i><u>an individual,</u></i></p> <p><i><u>as well as that of</u></i> • <i><u>a collective organism,</u></i></p> <p><i><u>balances need to be</u></i> <i><u>constantly</u></i> • <i><u>reexamined and</u></i> • <i><u>adjusted</u></i> <i><u>in order to</u></i> <i><u>establish</u></i> • <i><u>inner and outer harmony,</u></i> • <i><u>health and</u></i> • <i><u>honestly acquired wealth –</u></i> <i><u>that is,</u></i> <i><u>divine abundance.</u></i></p>
32	<p><i><u>Here are some</u></i> <i><u>specific guidelines:</u></i></p>
33	<p><i><u>You need to examine</u></i> <i><u>when</u></i> • <i><u>the individual</u></i> <i><u>needs to</u></i> <i><u>give more</u></i> <i><u>to the collective entity, and</u></i></p> <p><i><u>when the process can be reversed and</u></i> • <i><u>the collective entity</u></i> <i><u>can give more</u></i> <i><u>to the individual.</u></i></p>

34

You must  
never  
live above your means.

Function  
out of fullness and  
do not  
run on deficit.

This should  
not be done  
in a spirit of

- anxiety and
- lack of trust.

It is possible  
to have faith  
and yet  
not use  
misapplied faith  
to justify  
the current tendency of your world  
to function on deficit.

At the same time  
you need to  
establish priorities  
in a deep way.

There may be  
temporary situations  
when  
a deficit  
on the material level  
may be unavoidable  
until  
a sound basis of

- fullness and
- functioning

on assets  
is established.

35

*If you keep this goal [i.e., the goal running on a sound basis of fullness  
and functioning on assets]*

*in mind  
you will attain it.*

*It may be necessary  
to keep your budget  
smaller than you may wish;*

*it may mean that  
you,  
as a community,  
may have to do  
temporarily  
without something  
you may like to think of  
as essential,  
until you can  
truly afford it.*

*You may have to*

- *reconsider*
  - *what is and*
  - *what is not  
essential and*
  
- *look at it*
  - *from the point of view  
of the work that is being done and*
  - *with a view  
of the task  
that is being fulfilled  
on a larger scale.*

36

Temporarily,  
more of you  
may have to pitch in  
with your giving,  
as some have done  
from the very beginning.

Without it [i.e., without this giving from the very beginning]  
you would not have  
this community  
as it exists today.

The law  
fulfilled itself clearly  
in that  
none  
have come to deprivation  
from their giving;

quite the contrary,  
more abundance  
has accrued for them.

When more of you  
adopt this spirit,  
more abundance  
will be created  

- for those who give and
- for the collective entity,

until the latter [i.e., until the collective entity]  
will be  
sufficiently healthy  
on all levels,  
including  
the material one,

so that it [i.e., so that the collective entity]  
can, in turn,  
give  
more and more  
to the individuals in question.

**But do not ever forget,**  
**even when**  
**• spiritual and**  
**• material**  
**• health and**  
**• abundance**  
**are firmly rooted,**  
**that each**  
**new**  
**person**  
**who desires to commit himself or herself**  
**to**  
**• stage four –**  
**or, in other terms,**  
**• the third level of development,**  
**that of nurturing others –**  
**needs to go through**  
**a period of**  
**giving**  
**without much recompense.**

**If this step [i.e., if this step of having a period of giving without much recompense]**  
**is skipped,**  
**the spiritual health**  
**of the community**  
**will suffer,**  
**and that [i.e., and suffering of the spiritual health of the community]**  
**will eventually affect**  
**its [i.e., the community's]**  
**material health.**

37

A lot  
will change  
with this new outlook.

You will lose  
that slight anxiety  
that keeps nagging you  
because  
you are still  
groping in the dark  
about how to establish  
an economy  
that functions  

- on assets

rather than  

- on deficit.

You must understand  
that this [i.e., that the community's process of groping for an economy that  
functions on assets rather than on deficit]  
duplicates exactly  
the  
inner  
process  
of the individual on the path.

However, if the  

- concept and
- vision

are lacking,  
the  
outer  
picture  
may not  

- immediately or
- speedily

manifest  
the  
inner  
order  
that already exists.

Often  
a problem needs to be tackled  
from both sides [i.e., from both the inside and outside].

[On the inside]  
You need to  
deepen your inner work  
on the

- spiritual and
- psychological

levels and  
purify  
what runs on  
deficit.

At the same time [on the outside]  
you need to also realize  
a similar process [of purifying what runs on deficit]  
in your  
personal financial affairs –  
budget sessions  
are an integral part  
of this aspect.

Last but not least,  
the same principles [that apply to each individual]  
need to be established [also]  
for the  
material affairs  
of  
the collective entity.

This then  
is true harmony.

Your  
entire path,  
in all its workings,  
will function

- smoothly and
- richly.

*You will have  
more abundance  
that is*  
• *well earned,*  
• *honestly deserved,*  
*and can thus be*  
• *guiltlessly enjoyed.*

*The abundance [you will have]*  
• *will*  
*benefit many*

*and, among other things,*  
• *will also*  
*make it possible*  
*for those*  
*who need to be*  
*materially sustained*  
*at the beginning,*  
*to have scholarships*  
*until*  
*they become*  
*self-sustaining.*

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*This lecture goes, of course,*  
*way beyond*  
*the factual advice*  
*at the end of it.*

*You need to*  
*deeply understand a*  
• *divine law and*  
• *principle.*

You need to recognize  
all  
obstructions  
that prevent you  
from  

- perceiving and
- partaking of

ever-present  
divine grace.

Then  
you can  
release  
the faith  
that is  

- within you,

that is  

- realistic

because  
it [i.e., because the faith that is within you]  
is an  

- experience of

what is,  
and [is] not  

- a belief in and
- a hope for

what  
might be  
illusory  
wishful thinking.

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My dearest ones,  
Christ's embrace  

- enfolds

all of you and  

- accompanies you

in all your  

- doings and

in all your  

- thinking.

  
You are blessed.

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