

Pathwork on
Disharmonies As Answer to Prayer

This quote from the introductory paragraphs of Pathwork Lecture #43 *Three Basic Personality Types: Reason, Will, Emotion*, notes that we may miss answers to prayer because we think problems should be relieved, not heightened, when our prayers are answered.

05	Many of my friends have prayed for help and strength on this path, but most of you do not recognize when your prayer is answered. The prayer is often answered in a form that seems unpleasant to you -- a conflict, or a friction, or something that induces you to feel unjustly treated. You do not realize that the very event that causes you temporary pain is an answer to your own prayer -- the prayer in which you ask for help to recognize yourself and your conflicts so that you can purify yourself.
06	How can you recognize your inner conflict unless it manifests outwardly? Only then can you become aware of the hidden part in you that deviates from divine law. Because the deviation is negative, it must materialize as something you feel in a disharmonious way. You often overlook this simple logic, and persistently take the frictions in your life as though they had nothing to do with you. So I beg of you, my dear friends, consider the outer conflicts that come to you as answers to your prayer. Turn in the other direction. Instead of becoming defiant and hurt, turn inside, turn around, no matter how wrong you think others may be. Ask yourself, ask God: "Isn't there some grain of truth somewhere in this painful conflict? By recognizing it I will continue to learn and develop." A wealth of further recognition must come to you that will cancel out all the disharmony, all the feeling of injustice or sadness, defiance or misery. Just turn your attention to your own inner reactions, my friends, when you feel unjustly treated or hurt, and you will see that your very own prayer was answered. When you see your inner error, all the friction between you and your brothers and sisters will disappear like snow in the sun. You will be able to unite with understanding and love.
07	We in the spirit world pray for this understanding and love to be given to you, our brothers and sisters in the body, who are courageous enough to do the one thing that matters: turning inside to recognize and purify yourselves. There is no other reason for life on earth than to follow the road you have chosen. The more wholeheartedly you go about it, the more sincerely you prove your goodwill, the more you will realize that you have not lived your life in vain. It is never too late to begin.
08	Many of you are filled with the sincere desire to unite with God, but before you can do so, you must find the many little opportunities to unite with your fellow human beings, to practice humility and love leaving out your pride and ego and proving that what you mean is serious. For only here and now, right where you stand, can you find God.