

April 22, 2020 – Weekly Devotion

*Love of Spirit Spiritualist Church, NSAC*

Chasing Happiness



I've been reading about the temperament of people in various parts of our nation. Some are finding our current situation with thoughts of, "enough is enough" and wanting the orders that are deemed restrictive, to be lifted. The curious part of me wonders if some are discovering pieces about themselves, they don't like or it that they have lost control over this part of their lives. Maybe it's both.

This is a new age of finding happiness in areas that are least expected. I've seen for some; it's taking time to construct a work of art with puzzle pieces. For others, perfecting the art of a delicious meal. I've seen people dusting off their sewing machine sewing beautiful masks for people concerned about protecting themselves in public and the list goes on.

### Chasing Happiness

An old man lived in the village. The whole village was tired of him; he was always gloomy, he constantly complained and was always in a bad mood. The longer he lived, the viler he became and more poisonous were his words. People did their best to avoid him because his misfortune was contagious. He created the feeling of unhappiness in others.

But one day, when he turned eighty, an incredible thing happened. Instantly everyone started hearing the rumor: 'The old man is happy today, he doesn't complain about anything, smiles, and even his face is freshened up.'

The whole village gathered around the man and asked him, "What happened to you?"

The old man replied, "Nothing special. Eighty years I've been chasing happiness and it was useless. And then I decided to live without happiness and just enjoy life. That's why I'm happy now."

**Moral:** Happiness may be found in the last place you look. It's the day you find the happiness within.

Our 7th principle has affected more lives as our days go on; we affirm the moral responsibility of individuals, and that we make our own happiness or unhappiness as we obey or disobey Nature's physical and spiritual laws. The Laws may help us understand what happiness looks like in each of us. Most of us know how Law of Attraction, Law of Cause and Effect and the Law of Vibration works. Do we really understand the Law of Love?

Leo Tolstoy was quoted in saying, "The truth that for our life one law is valid — the Law of Love, which brings the highest happiness to every individual as well as to all mankind." This law isn't all about the love we have for others, it's about the love of self as well. In healing we talk about healing the healer. One is an effective healer when one first heals self. Same goes for the Law of Love. One is able to love others fully when one fully loves themselves.

Allow the God energy within to guide you to the beautiful soul others see within you. Not one of us can say we have never said or did anything that has emotionally, spiritually or physically harmed another. It's what we learn and do to spiritually grow that redeems the humanity within.

If you are feeling a lack of self-love, I challenge you to look at all the good you have done. Make a list. What makes you most proud of the things you have accomplished in your life? Take this coming week and intentionally think about the good your soul has done for other, and then list the good things you have done for yourself. What make you.... you? What can you do that others cannot do as well as you? It takes each of us, being good at something to create a bond even the biggest challenge cannot break. I thank God for you!

May God keep you safe and well,

Bonnie.

*God of happiness, I come to you in times of self-reflection. Sometimes I look in the mirror and I see someone I don't recognize. Help me get acquainted with that person and open my eyes that I may see the beauty that has been locked inside for so long. Thank you for being patient with the human in process. Amen*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We will be holding a church service on Zoom, Sunday church service time at 5pm.**

The invitation will be emailed to you on Saturday.

- **Thursday, April 23 at 8pm** central time, Darrin will provide a meditation online. If you are interested in joining Darrin, contact him through email: [darrinford@gmail.com](mailto:darrinford@gmail.com)
- **If you want to continue to support the church**, we have added a “DONATE” button on the first page of our website. <https://www.yourloveofspirit.com/>. Thank you in advance for your continued support and a special thanks to those who have contributed.
- **Do you have a story idea that would be suitable to use for the devotions?** To submit your authentic story to for our devotions, send to [revbonnie1216@aol.com](mailto:revbonnie1216@aol.com) and type **STORY** in the subject line.
- **NSAC Spotlight Magazine**, is a children's Spiritualist magazine. If you are interested in writing a short story for children reflecting the values of Spiritualism send an email to: [revbonnie1216@aol.com](mailto:revbonnie1216@aol.com) and type **SPOTLIGHT** in the subject line. Include your contact information in the content. Pastor Bonnie will send you instructions for the article.
- **We are still unsure when we will be able to meet in person again.** It looks as if the Campus Religious Center may extend the stay at home order. Currently, we are planning on May 3, depending upon the restrictions.
- **For updates** visit our website: <https://www.yourloveofspirit.com/> or Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/YourLoveOfSpirit/?ref=bookmarks>

## DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

1. We believe in Infinite Intelligence.
2. We believe that the phenomena of nature, both physical and spiritual, are the expression of Infinite Intelligence.
3. We affirm that a correct understanding of such expression and living in accordance therewith, constitute true religion.
4. We affirm that the existence and personal identity of the individual continue after the change called death.
5. We affirm that communication with the so-called dead is a fact, scientifically proven by the phenomena of Spiritualism.
6. We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."
7. We affirm the moral responsibility of individuals, and that we make our own happiness or unhappiness as we obey or disobey Nature's physical and spiritual laws.
8. We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any soul here or hereafter.
9. We affirm that the precepts of Prophecy and Healing are Divine attributes proven through Mediumship.

## PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL HEALING

I ask the great unseen healing force to remove all obstructions from my mind and body and to restore me to perfect health. I ask this in all sincerity and honesty, and I will do my part.

I ask this great unseen healing force to help both present and absent ones who are in need of help and to restore them to perfect health. I put my trust and love in the power of God.