

May 22, 2020 – Weekly Devotion

*Love of Spirit Spiritualist Church, NSAC*

The Old Hound



As our society finds what is comfortable in personal living, I notice judgmental comments from some who may not be in the same emotional, physical and/or spiritual place. The empathic concern for one another in some cases has turned to judgement and blame. The compassion for understanding another's path leaves room for spiritual and emotional growth. Our news seems source instigates accusatory remarks especially fueled by the need to be right. Until each of us has walked in another's shoes, there is no place for judgement. If anyone has gone through similar instances, it opens the door for loving acts of kindness, empathy and compassion. Our eight principle states: We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any soul here or hereafter.

Some people have come to me in where they expressed a variety of feelings which has raised the questions, "Do you have urges of hurting yourself?" and the tough question, "Have you thoughts of suicide?" I have had various people calling the past couple of weeks ranging from those feeling the effects of isolation to healthcare workers. Even though the situation is different on the surface, the fact remains, the stress and anxiety of another new day brings feelings of insecurities and vulnerability. Feeling if they are "good enough" has been a dreadful weight. As some of those we hold most dear silently struggle, they are conflicted with feelings that they don't want to worry others or be some sort of a burden. As we talk, together we work on ways that fulfills the soul while attempting to satisfy the emotions. It's ok to reach out to others to share thoughts and emotions.

Each of us has contributed to the wellbeing of so many who have traveled our path along side. How many times has your life been shaped and touched with the simplest gesture, the smallest word, a kind smile...and the list goes on. None of us never really know how we have made a positive impact for another. The monumental gift which received no praise is the highest vibrational random act of kindness one can do for another. Simply being the person who will listen to another can be the kindest gift any one can provide.

#### **Aesop's Fable: "The Old Hound Fable"**

A hound, who in the days of his youth and strength had never yielded to any beast of the forest, encountered in his old age a boar in the chase. He seized him boldly by the ear but could not retain his hold because of the decay of his teeth, so that the boar escaped. The hound's master, quickly coming up, was very much disappointed, and punished the dog.

The Hound looked up and said: *"It was not my fault, master; my spirit was as good as ever, but I could not help my downfalls. I rather deserve to be praised for what I have been, than to be blamed for what I am."*

**Moral:** No one should be blamed for their debilities.

Yet, each day comes and goes with the possibilities of something great opening doors for opportunities which were never imagined. Another opportunity to provide a listening ear, a kind smile; is one aspects of God's command to love one another. The seasons of our lives brings a vulnerable feeling of the unknown. Could this be the Infinite Intelligence providing doors yet to open? Taking one step in front of the other changes what was and moves us to what can be. Even in the best of times, our lives progressed forward with its joys and challenges.

Yes, we are always in a phase of transition. Because of this human experience, nothing stays the same. It's how we accept the challenge which creates the outcome. (Cause and effect.) It's more than personal challenges. I see various companies and organizations rethinking how they have done business in the past. Employers are rethinking job opportunities which bring them closer to developing creative ways of employment opportunities. Employees are empowered to prove they can still be productive without micromanagement. Management is learning to trust productive employees. I see this time as examining boundaries and celebrating independence. It's also a time to reflect and celebrate our spirit which is still good as ever.

May God keep you safe and well,

Bonnie.

*God of empathy. Open my eyes that I may identify the struggles in others that I may give empathy. I accept the challenge to truly be a servant in the present of the Infinite energy. Thank you for your continued patience. Amen*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The invitation has been included in the body of this email.

- **This Sunday we welcome the Reverend Elaine Hager from Florida.** Join us for this special Memorial Day service as we honor those who unselfishly gave the ultimate sacrifice. It's quite possible we will have guest mediums join us as well!
- **We are looking for song ideas!** If you have a song that you would like to be considered for our songbook, send them to [info@yourloveofspirit.com](mailto:info@yourloveofspirit.com) We are updating the song book while we have this time off.
- **Anyone interested in taking classes for certification for** Commissioned Healer, Certified Medium, Ordained Minister and National Spiritualist Teacher, contact Pastor Bonnie at [info@yourloveofspirit.com](mailto:info@yourloveofspirit.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. If you don't feel comfortable with PayPal and still want to help your church, contact the church through [info@yourloveofspirit.com](mailto:info@yourloveofspirit.com)
- **For past devotions and copies of Sunday Sermons** go to <https://www.yourloveofspirit.com/Devotions>
- **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.
- **We are still unsure when we will be able to meet in person again.** Soon we should have information to pass along to you.
- **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.