

June 5, 2020 – Weekly Devotion
Love of Spirit Spiritualist Church, NSAC
The Bird and the Squirrel



This morning as we sat outside drinking our coffee, we found the calming breeze and the songs of the birds to be a welcome energy from the many weeks of tension and anxiety. I wondered if God had sent the calm of Nature to remind me no matter what is happening in this world, the presence of the Infinite Intelligence comes through life that doesn't know or care what the rest of the world is feeling. The warmth of the sun embraces all in its view with purity while the breezes wisp life sustaining air for all things living.

Our friendly squirrel stopped by to feast on the seed from the feeder that had fallen to the ground. Even though we were nearby, he would pick up the seeds and watch us, unafraid. Birds of various sizes and colors would land next to him and joined him for the plentiful feast of seeds. I couldn't help but think how they respected their boundaries while harmoniously communing together. It put all the world's troubles to rest as I enjoyed my flavorful cup of coffee.

Could the answers to life be answered by the birds and a squirrel? What was God trying to tell me? The world is filled with people of various sizes and colors and maybe God is simply saying there is a need to realize, we are one. Yes, we are all one with the Infinite, and yet I wonder, why can't everyone see the God within each other as the birds and squirrel?

Finding a Sanctuary

The young woman walks up a steep paved road on the outskirts of the city center. She feels the burn in her calf muscles as she marches higher and higher. The road is, at first, filled with quaint boutique shops and young couples and friends, but as it advances uphill, they give way to small cottage homes and kids playing with flashlights in the street. She keeps marching higher and higher until she reaches a clearing where there is a small public park.

In this park, a group of teenagers are huddled around two guitarists who are strumming and singing an acoustic melody. "Is it a popular song?" she thinks to herself. She isn't sure because she hasn't had time lately to listen to music. She wants to join the group. She wants to tell the guitarists that their music is incredible. But she hesitates. She just can't find the nerve to walk over to them.

Instead, she sits on a park bench a few hundred feet away. The bench overlooks the cityscape below. She stares off into the distance and up into the night sky for several minutes, thinking and breathing. And she begins to smile, because she can see the spiritual sanctuary. It's dark outside, but the sanctuary shines bright. She can see it clearly. She can feel its warmth surrounding her. And although she knows the sanctuary has existed for an eternity, her heart tells her something that stretches a smile across her cheeks: "This sanctuary is all yours tonight."

Moral: *Not in the sense that she owns it. Nor in the sense that it isn't also a sanctuary for millions of other people around the world. It has been given, exclusively tailored for every human being and our unique needs and beliefs. It's a quiet refuge that, when we choose to pay attention, exists all around us and within us. We can escape to it at any time. It's a place where we can dwell with spirit that love us unconditionally and guide us even when we feel lost and alone. Especially when we feel lost and alone.*

Now people are coming out of their homes. Some have seen this as a trying time while others have seen it as an opportunity. Way of life has been changed and it's forced many to evaluate what's important. For some it's been a time to recreate survival as businesses close and livelihoods are lost. For some, it's been a time of working harder than they've worked before, as others, a time of rest.

The sounds of nature speak in a language that can be understood by everyone, only if one listens. When the night falls and the stars shine, the silence of the night speaks to those who listen. What do the sounds of the night tell you? When you seek answers, how do the words of the Infinite inspire you? At the end of a day, and take time to rest, how will you be the best you can be in the coming day? Where will you be called to serve? When God's light shines around you, where will you find your joy? Trust that God will take care of you, it's faith. Rest well.

May God keep you safe and well,

Bonnie.

God of trust. As I embrace the end of the day, I'm reminded of a prayer I learned from my grandmother. Now I lay me down to sleep. I pray to God my soul to keep. I also pray in the quiet, I learn where I will be called. It's through the God within that I know we are one and for that I am grateful. 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.

- **Members: you should have received your membership letter.** We appreciate your membership in the past and thank you for your continued support.
- **Online services will continue** for the rest of the year. Given these times, the Board has decided to continue meeting through Zoom until we are sure everyone can gather safely.
- **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
- **For past devotions and copies of Sunday Sermons** go to <https://www.yourloveofspirit.com/Devotions>
- **Members:** Annual Meeting will be held July 19. Please bring your lawn chair as we will be voting for board seats that end this year.
- **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.