



July 24, 2020 – Weekly Devotion
Love of Spirit Spiritualist Church, NSAC
The Villager and the Happy Man



The news seems to not have a shortage of people who display anger and animosity. Many of our nation's cities feeling the tension of these energies due to the onset of change. It's not just our cities, it's happening on a more local, personal level. Now more than any other time, some people have experienced loss of control, letting unhappiness fill their hearts. It happens in congregations as churches have been hesitant to open their doors. This is a challenging time for socialization.

It seems there are so many people who are unhappy. I talk to people who are angry and quite frankly, unforgiving as they insist their way is the only way. Compromise seems to be a lost word. It is vital for balance that we remember and live our 7th principle: 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. We are Spiritualists. We have the power by our principles to be the example.

The Villager and the Happy Man By Remez Sasson

In a small village in the valley, lived a man who was always happy, kind, and well-disposed to everyone he met. This man always smiled, and had kind and encouraging words to say, whenever it was necessary. Everyone who met him, left feeling better, happier, and elated. People knew they could count on him and regarded him as a great friend. One of the village dwellers was curious to know what his secret was, and how he could always be so kind and helpful. He wondered, how is it that he held no grudge toward anyone, and always was happy.

Once, upon meeting him in the street he asked him: "Most people are selfish and unsatisfied. They do not smile as often as you do; neither are they as helpful or kind as you are. How do you explain it?"

The man smiled at him and replied, "When you make peace with yourself, you can be in peace with the rest of the world. If you can recognize the spirit in yourself, you can recognize the spirit in everyone, and then you will find it natural to be kind and well-disposed to all. If your thoughts are under your control, you become strong and firm. The mind is like a robot programmed to do certain tasks. Habits and thoughts are the tools and programs that control the mind. You need to free yourself from this programming. Then, the inner good and the happiness that reside within you will be revealed."

"But a lot of work is necessary. Good habits must be developed. The ability to focus and to control the thoughts must be strengthened. The work is difficult and endless. There are many walls that need to be climbed. It is not an easy task." Lamented the villager. Do not think about the difficulties, otherwise, this is what you will see and experience. Just make your feelings and thoughts quiet and try to stay in this peace. Just try to be calm, and do not let yourself be carried away by your thoughts."

"Is that all?" Asked the villager.

"Try to watch your thoughts and see how they come and go and stay in the quietness that arises. The moments of peace will be brief at first, but in time, they will get longer. This peace is also strength, power, kindness, and love. In time, you will realize that you are one with the Universal Power, and this will lead you to act from a different dimension, different point of view and different consciousness, not from the selfish, small, limited ego."

"I will try to remember your words," said the villager, and continued, "there is another thing that I am curious about. You do not seem to be influenced by the environment. You always seem to be happy. You always have a kind word for everyone, and you are helpful. People treat you well, and never exploit your goodness."

"Some people think that being good and being kind means weakness. The truth is that they mean inner strength, and do not point to weakness. When you are kind and considerate, you can also be strong. People sense your inner strength, and therefore, do not impose on you. When you are strong and calm inside, you help people, because you can, and you want to. You act from strength, not from weakness. Goodness is not a sign of weakness. A good character can manifest together with power and strength. When you are calm inside, you are also happy. When your mind is quiet, there is no anger, no resentment, and no negative thoughts. This leads to happiness and to a feeling of content and joy."

"Thank you very much for your advice and explanations", said the villager, and went away happy and satisfied.

Moral: You create your reality.

I think the story says it all. May you find peace, love and joy which will light the souls of those who don't know what you know through Spiritualism.

May God keep you safe and well,
Bonnie

God of love. Let me be the light that shows others what living in peace and joy mean. Continue to teach me that I have the power to create my reality. Thank you for our pioneers in Spiritualism that they took the time to create principles that help me find my way. It's with gratitude that I have been given Natural Laws which are the laws of God. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

- ☀ **Tuesday, July 28, Love of Spirit will host Observed Facts, Spiritualist Philosophy through Zoom.** A link will be sent to you in a separate email closer to the group time. You are invited to join us for discussion
- ☀ **Intuitive Development Class is back – now on Zoom!** Details are located on our website: <https://www.yourloveofspirit.com/Events-Workshops.php>. Registration will end July 27.
- ☀ **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 “**GIVING**” page of our website. <https://www.yourloveofspirit.com/Donations.php>. 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>
- ☀ **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.