

May 30, 1979

- *Spiritual approaches to truth*

God blesses all of you in this joint undertaking. Being together and exploring your feelings and desires to come closer to God, you have become aware of a kinship or a sharing of light between you. This relationship is found throughout the world in greater numbers than you can possibly imagine. This unity is evidenced in ways which are not always visible to you but are observed by us most clearly. This bond or light which is given out is much like magnetic forces which can radiate far beyond their sources. This radiation is invisible but is in no way diminished in its reality. The effects of these forces attract others in ways which you frequently describe as coincidence or luck, but in reality, these influences are responded to as a result of souls in earthly bodies communicating with one another.

It is not by accident or chance coincidence that you are together—nor is it preordained. What has occurred is a kind of communication between each of your souls. What is different from that experienced by others is that when such communication takes place, there is a willful decision not to take the next step. Each of you has experienced friendships where you have wanted to reach out in a manner more profound than a merely social one. Humans are creatures of choice, and each of you has made choices not to search for a more profound relationship with others for many reasons. It is not to say that this is bad or improper but merely that it is human. We who exist in spiritual form are no longer bound by such human reluctance but rather respond immediately to other souls on a spiritual level.

You question the application of missionary zeal in your world. Those missionaries who make the greatest contributions to the development of a spiritual awareness in their area of activity have made the commitment to respond willingly to that part of their soul's existence which reaches out to another. There are of course many who reach out for purposes of personal aggrandizement. These attempts are not met with fundamental success.

In addition to the impulse of a soul to reach out to another, the soul, or spiritual drive, is demonstrating a faith as expressed through a feeling of confidence at not being rejected and criticized. It is the natural desire of all souls whether freed from earthly life or not, to reach outward. Therefore, let your mind shed its defensive feelings and allow each of you, at whatever level you may be, to communicate on a spiritual level with those toward whom you are strongly drawn.

Your time together and the exercise of spiritual awareness emit a strong light, and you will find other souls drawn to its brilliance in the future. By this we mean to imply that there will be others who will wish to share this blessing of communion. In your worship you occasionally make mention of the direction, "Let your light so shine among men." There is more reality to this benediction than figurative speech, for your

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faith gives out a spiritual light which is always visible to us. You have read that occasionally your light shines more brightly at certain times than at others. You can always be aware of the intensity of that light through your own sense of spiritual strength and serenity. The light that shines for you grows stronger daily. You are indeed blessed by God through your growing awareness of their spiritual beginnings. We see this growth continuing and strengthening, and you can be assured that your concerns in this area are being directed toward God.

There have been many who have written on the subject of spiritual life and the application of spiritual truths. Writers must approach the subject from their own unique positions. The peak of a mountain is altered in its appearance when viewed from various positions in the valley. Some views are greatly hindered by the foreground. Other views appear relatively clear. Two climbers looking at the summit from opposing sides on a clear day with an unobstructed view will describe the characteristics of their view from different perspectives. Though they both appear to be different from one another, they describe the same reality.

As you search for truth, be aware of whether the vision is clear or distorted, and be open to an understanding attitude toward their different perspectives. It is with God's infinite blessings that God permits us to serve as God's agents. It is a difficult task but it can be lightened considerably if each of you in your own way opens yourself to God's guidance.

Meditation, when preceded by prayer, is the word of God speaking to your soul. It is important for all of you to know that each has the capacity to be guided spiritually. It takes an open mind and a prayer for God's grace. For some it may come as words; for others, it may come as a sense of confidence, well-being, or inner peace. But when you pray for God's guidance and open yourselves to receive it, while blotting out your personal frustrations or anxieties, we can reach you all.

God continues to bless you and surrounds you and those for whom you pray with loving care.

Amen.