## September 21, 1980

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God surrounds you and penetrates each of your beings with light and love.

The receiving of these communions is not unique. It may be viewed as a miracle for it cannot be explained by logic, but it is natural and each of you is given an opportunity to respond to your own guides. We who speak to you as a group speak through James' guide, but each of us serves as a collector of God's light focusing its brilliance and sharing in its transmission.

Those who are learning to commune with us may have doubts about the validity of their message. It is sometimes difficult to remove one's conscience and conscious thought from the process of receiving God's light through messages. It takes practice, it takes effort, and at times you may feel that what you receive is not clear. It is natural then for an individual to try and support thought, supplement the word, or in some way strengthen the powers of receiving. For real clarity in receiving messages, all who take part in such a blessing must actively work to eliminate self.

Each of you has concerns, concerns about family and others who are loved, concerns over matters of the body and the spirit. We have tried to explain in some manner the importance of relating faith to the condition of the body. This relationship is a strong one and needs to be understood more fully. Some functions of the body are conscious ones, but others are more subtle.

When you were last together, you briefly exchanged experiences of moods or thoughts from sources in your past of which you were unaware. It is frequently thought by many that such thoughts or flashbacks may be from previous experiences of the soul. For some that is true, but it is not so for all. It is not necessary or important, nor is it helpful in the present development of your souls to know the past history of earthly life experienced by the soul. It is a matter of curiosity. It is a matter of interest but has no bearing on your present efforts to work for the development of your soul. It is important to look ahead, to realize the impact that your soul has on your present life and on the ultimate progression of the spirit toward becoming one with God.

We say your soul has a strong influence on the body, but likewise each of you in a conscious sense has a strong influence on your soul's development. Growth is shared. It is not done separately. Your soul governs your body; your body aids your soul. It may seem difficult to find the connection between the body and its influence on your spiritual development. That connection is freedom of choice. You choose to follow your interior voice or to disregard it. That interior voice is always present. When you ignore that voice, your guide, you hinder spiritual development. Your soul stands still.

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When you follow that voice, you aid your soul's progress. You are stronger. You feel more sure. You radiate that light of strength, of sureness.

The choice is yours and you shall always be presented with it. There is no growth by accident. Growth comes only through choice. Think back on challenges which each of you has faced, and reflect on the urge to act in one way. Recall the feeling of responding as you were urged to do and compare that with an incident in which you did not respond according to that voice. You will then know what it was to experience strength and sureness.

The voice of guidance, God's voice, directed through your guide, is always present. It is the radio beam which is always around you. It is your choice to open yourselves to receive that impulse, and it is your choice whether to remain with that voice or to change and seek another voice. Yes, there are other voices. There are other spirits seeking to reach you, but if you will listen you will detect God's voice from the others. It may be in approaching a major decision. It may be in the interaction with another on a more casual basis. The impulse is always there. Seek an openness and pray for an ability to focus on God's voice and the ability to reject false impulses.

We feel helpless at times as we watch you receiving communications from souls who are lost or tied to their earth life. We do not see these souls but we sense their power. Until you search for God, we are powerless to step in. We guide you and protect you only through God's name. You may cry out to God, or another may pray on your behalf, but with no reference to God, we cannot act, and so we watch and wait, ever ready to serve when God is sought.

You are certainly aware of impulses from souls who are not responding to a call to God. The emotions you feel when you listen to those spirits are selfishness, greed, anxiety, impatience—all responses centering on you. You may identify God's messengers as the impulse is directed either to another or to God. This is what is behind the commandments to love another and to love God. You are not experiencing your life because it is good for your physical self. In a sense, you are living to serve others, and in so doing, to serve God. It is only then that your soul develops.

There is much more to be said on this subject, and there will be many more opportunities, but the principles, the lessons that God is providing you are essential, are immediately usable, are readily understandable. They form the basis for a life devoted as God intends, namely the development of your soul. As your soul develops, your bodies will become stronger. We mean by that your minds will be clearer, your sense of purpose more defined, and your relationships with others filled with harmony.

God hears each of your prayers and they have been answered. God surrounds all for whom your prayers go out with care, light, and love. And God surrounds each of you with an increased sense of direction and peace. God's blessings are with you always. Rejoice in God's love!