

October 20, 1991

- *The presence of guides during prayer*
- *Suicide's effect on the soul*

God is with each of you and is united with you in spirit and light through God's warmth, compassion, and concern. It is always meaningful to us, beyond your imagination, when you gather together, for we ourselves are strengthened through the union of us guides. We are aware of one another at all times as we are aware of all guides at all times. We communicate with one another through a kind of prayer, but we are especially close when you are gathered as a group, and this closeness occurs only at such times.

When you pray on behalf of another, the guide of the other joins your guide. So when you as a group offer your prayers for others, those guides join our assemblage, and the light and strength which emerge are that much more enhanced. The guides who join us include those of souls who have crossed over to our side as well as those who still remain in human form. But the one difference is that when you pray for the soul of another who has joined us, not only is the guide of that soul present, but the soul for whom you pray also joins this collection. So you see, we are a full group as you meet.

The souls for whom you pray each are warmed and comforted by your prayers. They do indeed make a difference. Your prayers give strength to your souls, but also to all of us. We are indeed a strong union, you and we together.

The occurrence of suicide in no way separates those souls from God. When individuals take their own lives, those souls requires special care from us. The turmoil of earthly existence remains for a brief period after joining us.

Indeed, many souls who make the transition through natural processes find it difficult to believe that they are now part of a new life, for they see their friends, their family—they see life as they knew it. Their awareness of their new life can be gradual. Much depends upon the development of the soul.

When someone takes his or her own life, there is much surrounding the soul which needs to be gently peeled away, as it were, for the soul to recognize the brilliance of its new surroundings. But this can in no way be interpreted as ceasing to exist or ceasing to move forward. It is merely a process which has taken place in which all souls to one degree or another participate. For souls who have a greater understanding of the nature of their spiritual lives, the transition may be smoother, more easily made, but all souls ultimately move forward toward God. There is no soul which belonged to any human life which is eternally lost. You must have faith in this. It is easy for us to understand this, for we see it constantly.

For some guides, helping their souls (their charges one may say) may be a difficult experience, one requiring much effort and patience, the outpouring of love and

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comfort. We are empowered to help other guides as they nurture souls that recently joined us, for it is our wish that the transition of all souls be smooth and surrounded by great light. The souls of perpetrators of significant crimes also have a place with God. Their transition may be slower and more gradual, but it is always accomplished. Some souls are sufficiently connected to their earthly life that they find it difficult to move forward and may choose again to experience human life until they are more prepared for the ultimate transition toward God. All souls are different. There is no predetermined expectation that all must choose to follow God immediately after joining our side of life. For some, the decision is delayed; for others, it is relatively easy.

One of our objectives in being your guides is in helping you to prepare for that point in your lives when you do join us. If the transition is slow, we have not failed, and if the transition is easy, we have not won, for there is no contest here. It is a process of nurturing, of supporting, of strengthening, of illuminating. That is what we your guides work at, and that we do in a spirit of love.

Love does not feel hurried and impatient. Love is. It is a condition of being. It is not a promise of something to be held out in the future as a reward. Your lives for us are essential to our own development just as our lives are essential for yours. We want you to rely upon us more than you do.

Each of you has the power to receive the response to that for which you pray. You are not alone. You are always with your guide, as you are always with God. The response which you receive is not specifically your guide's response. It is God's response, given through your guide in a manner that you can understand, for God does not have secrets for each of you. God is not some mysterious force which humans cannot understand. All have the power to comprehend that part of God's presence which has meaning and relevance to the individual.

When one takes away one's own human life, such action has not been dictated by God or directed by a guide. It is a human response. It is a response of the physical side of human existence and has no bearing on the ultimate growth of the spiritual side of life. You make decisions, you do things for rational, for irrational reasons, your bodies suffer physical ailments, emotional ailments. That is a part of the human life form, and all that happens to the body is merely a physical manifestation of aspects of human life.

Listen to us when we say that your lives are eternal. That is God's truth, and there is nothing which will divert that truth from being fulfilled in all of its glory. We love you as fellow souls, as equal parts of the body of God. You are each unique, and each equally vital to the presence of God throughout the world and as part of the universe. None of you are more important than another. None of you are more important than a blade of grass, or a piece of stone, another animal, a molecule. All have been created by God as being equal. You are a part of all that exists. Rejoice in your participation in God's glorious creation!

And now we bless you in God's peace and light and love.

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Amen.