

Goldsmith Global Online Tape Group – February 20 and 27, 2016
1953 First Portland Class, given by Joel S. Goldsmith
Tape 37, Side 1: “In God’s Presence Is Fullness of Life”
(This class was used in Chapters 2, 3, and 5 in Leave Your Nets.)

Summary

The subject of this class is self-completeness through God. This quotation from Robert Browning tells the story of the essence of this class:

*Truth is within ourselves ...
There is an inmost centre in us all,
Where the truth abides in fullness ... and to KNOW
Rather consists in opening out a way
Whence the imprisoned splendor may escape,
Than in effecting entry for a light
Supposed to be without.*

The truth you are seeking already abides within you. Nothing can be added to you from outside of your own being. The only truth of which you will become aware is the truth that is already within your own Being, but there are many ways of bringing that truth to conscious realization. You can retire to the mountains and meditate day and night, abide in quietness away from the world, and pray. Eventually, the truth within your own consciousness will begin to reveal itself. You can come to know all the truth that has ever been revealed since the dawn of civilization, because it is already within you. It cannot be added to you; it must flow forth from you.

Or, you can take advantage of the fact that one illumined consciousness can help to open another. In all ages, there has been a system of spiritual teaching in which teachers of some measure of spiritual consciousness open the consciousness of those who come to them, because “*I, if I be lifted up, can draw all men up to my level of consciousness.*” But the spiritual teacher can only be a teacher in proportion as he or she has received some measure of spiritual light, not because they have read so many books or they know so many statements of truth. A spiritual teacher does not impart truth at all. He or she merely opens your consciousness so that the Truth **already within you** can flow forth.

The only reason you are here is that something in this message found a response in you. No one benefits from this work except those who feel, “This is what I have always thought. I just couldn’t put it into words.” This message is not telling you something that I know or I have read. It is opening your consciousness so that **what you know** can come into tangible manifestation.

Truth is infinite, but truth is within you. How big are you? Infinite! You could not confine infinity in anything less than infinity. So start with this as your basis: The true nature of your being is infinity, and from the depths of your being, infinity must flow. This means that you can no longer seek for supply, health, home, or companionship, or do mental work for these. In fact, every desire – even every right desire – is an error that separates you from your good, because desire is for something that you believe you do not have. But if you are infinite, you must already have it. So when you pray, believe that you have already received. Never pray from a desire to get, achieve, or demonstrate. The only legitimate prayer for you after this class will be a “Thank you, Father,” and a sitting in the silence in communion with the gentle Presence already within your own being. It won’t be added to you. This great Light, Christ, is **already within you**, and It is the healer; the multiplier of loaves and fishes; that which supports, sustains, and maintains.

After tonight, you won't even be able to say, "I am seeking God," because you will know that the kingdom of God **is already within you**. How can you seek for what is "*closer than breathing, and nearer than hands and feet?*" How can you search for what is already within your own consciousness? Do you seek integrity, honesty, or loyalty? No. Why? These are already embodied within you, even if you are not fully expressing them. You can't get them from outside. So it is with Truth, God, supply, companionship, or home. You will never find them outside. They are already embodied within you. As you rest in communion with the Father, they will begin to flow forth from you. Then the light and truth of your Being becomes the light for those who do yet know that the kingdom of God is within them. They can find It **through** you, but not **from** you. The Truth you will impart is that the Truth is **already within them**.

You are not complete because of any virtue or effort of your own. Completeness is a state of the Godhead, so your completeness is the completeness of the Godhead made manifest, as Jesus taught: "*I can of my own self do nothing.*" "*The Father within me doeth the works.*" "*Why callest thou me good? There is but one good, the Father in heaven.*" "*If I speak of myself, I bear witness to a lie.*" In other words, the power of Jesus was really the power of Christ made evident through him, and "*Greater works shall ye do.*" So of yourself, you would be nothing, except that God is the reality of your Being. Christ is your true identity, and in Christ, you are fulfilled. To the extent that you realize this Truth, you can draw on your Christhood for anything.

Suppose we have but a few loaves and fishes and a multitude of people to feed. Out of our humanhood, we must starve, but out of our Christ-Being we can say, "The Father within me." We look up and realize that these are not a limited number of material loaves and fishes. This is God's supply, and it must be infinite. Then you supply the multitudes and have twelve baskets left over. Out of what? "*I, of myself can do nothing,*" but the Christhood of me is infinite, and out of It can flow millions of words or ideas of truth. Why not millions of dollars? The source and substance are the same. Everything came forth from Spirit, and so everything must be infinite, whether you call it "loaves and fishes" or "dollars" or "words of truth."

So we begin our work from the basis that the infinity of God is embodied within me. I am not seeking to impart truth to you, and you should not hope to receive it from me. I am realizing that whatever measure of Christ has touched my consciousness is touching your consciousness to open it to the truth of the infinite nature of your Being – your Self-completeness. Nothing can be added to you, and nothing can be taken from you, and the more you give, the more you will have left. Pour it out to the multitudes, and find yourself with twelve baskets left over. Just be sure that the multitudes are coming to you; that you are not trying to find somebody to force it on. If you do, you will find yourself depleted. Wait for the multitudes to come to you – even if the "multitudes" is only one person. Sit quietly with your finger on your lips. Then as somebody suspects the light that is in you and comes to you, accept them as the multitudes coming to you for bread and give it to them. Gently and gradually, give them what they are seeking in language they can understand. Give it with love, joy, and the power of authority, understanding that you are not giving anything; you are revealing that which is already within their own Being.

This is a revelation of your Self-completeness in God. You can go into the infinity of your Being, and anything will flow – words of truth, compassion, love, healing, dollar bills, food, water, protection, care, and companionship. These will flow forth from the depth of your own Being, and your prayer and treatment will never be a reaching out to gain more of something, or a seeking of any form of demonstration except the demonstration of God's presence. Desire is wrong because it is an acknowledgement of a lack. It is said that "desire is prayer," and that is true when the desire is for the realization of God. But any other desire is sin. God is Spirit, and we can ask only spiritual things of Spirit. Paul tells us that "*We don't know how to pray or what*

things to pray for. It is the Spirit that must make intercession for us." So when you pray, acknowledge that you don't know what to pray for. Pray only for spiritual illumination.

God is Omnipresence, the life and the fulfillment of all being, "*closer than breathing, nearer than hands and feet,*" and always available. If I have God, why do I have to ask for God **and** a house or for God **and** employment? It is enough to ask for God, for in the presence of God, there is nothing left to pray for. So we will no longer pray for any person, thing, or condition. Our prayer will be a continuous song of gratitude that God is Love; that God is here; and that God is now. God is the all-loving Father/Mother principle of our existence, the all-knowing Mind, so prayer becomes the recognition of God's presence, a communion with God, a resting back in God. That is prayer, and nothing else is. We profane prayer if we bring into it any desire or any concern, worry, or fear. How can we be established in God and still fear or doubt?

Do you see now why the need for frequent meditation? Do you see why we require stillness of thought instead of taking thought? Do you see why in meditation, we develop a listening attitude, a state of receptivity in which we do not think thoughts, but await thoughts from the depths of our own Being? You don't have to strain or make a mental effort. You merely have to let truth flow to you from within your own Being. In fact, all of your good is to flow out from you. None of it can come to you. This week I would like you to see yourself in such a light that if you went out in the morning without a dime, you could fulfill yourself with everything needed because it would not have to come **to** you, but flow out **from** you. Out of what? Out of the depth of the infinite nature of your own Christhood. We are Self-complete **as** the Christ of God.

Last week we used the illustration from the 15th Chapter of John: "*I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.*" We also used the illustration of a tree. As a branch, you are not dependent on any other branch because you are one with the trunk, which is the Christ of your Being. You are the visible branch, but you are at one with the invisible Christ of your Being. You can't see, hear, taste, touch, or smell it, but there is a vine to which you are attached. That vine is your Christhood, your spiritual Sonship, and it is the connecting link with the Father, the Husbandman. Jacob Boehm called God "the Ground." Maybe he meant that God is the infinite Universal in which our real Being is grounded and rooted. That Godhood, or "Ground," flows through the vine, the invisible Christhood of us, out into visible expression as the branch and the fruitage – everything needful in our experience.

The world can acknowledge that "*I am the branch*" because they can see themselves. But they cannot acknowledge the vine, because it is an invisible part of their Being. It is not physical, but is "*closer to you than breathing, nearer than hands and feet.*" It is the very Spirit and animating Principle of your Being. If you dissect a seed and try to find life in it, you never will find it. The life is not in the seed; the seed is embedded in Life. There is an invisible life called "nature" that acts upon the seed after it is planted, causing it to break open and take root.

Each of us has within our own being the Christ, or the vine, and that invisible vine in us is in turn rooted and grounded in God, the Infinite Universal. A branch cannot bring forth fruit if it is not connected to the trunk and then to the ground. It must be at one with its trunk and through the trunk, at one with the ground in order to bear fruit. So with us. We think of ourselves as that which is visible and forget that the greater part of us is invisible. The invisible Christ within our being is the connecting link with God, the Infinite Invisible.

If you could see yourself in that light, you would see that if you were alone in the desert, you would have no concern for your welfare. At this very moment, every one of us can drop all

concern for the rest of our lives and fulfill the greatest teaching the Master ever gave: *"Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, neither for the body what ye shall put on. ... And which of you by taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? ... Seek not what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink. Neither be of doubtful mind ... Your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. Seek ye the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added unto you."*

Imagine how we could fulfill that teaching if we could accept that the visible part of us is connected with an invisible link called the vine, or the Christ, and that the Christ is one with the Father, so that all that the Father hath is flowing through us, through our Christhood. How could we ever again take thought? Every anxious, doubtful, or fearful thought we ever had was based on the belief that what we see is all there is to our being. We have lived in a sense of separation from God. It is only in the absence of our conscious oneness with God that we could fear.

So it is foolish to tell people to give up fear. They can't, as long as they think of themselves as separate and apart from all other people and from God. I can only lose my fear, doubt, or worry as I realize that I am the branch, connected to the invisible vine, which is one with the Father, and all that the Father hath is flowing out to the branch through the vine. Then I can rest. Then the branch won't go out and try to get fruit. It will stand still and let the fruit appear from within itself by its contact with the vine and the Godhead. I used to think that I was an individual who had to attract something from the outside or pray to God to for it. Now I see that the fruit has to flow out from the depths of my own being and appear outwardly. It does not come to me; it is not demonstrated or accomplished by me. It flows out from me by the infinite nature of my Christhood; by my Self-completeness through God.

A tree is self-complete because of its contact with the universal Life. The root system draws in food from the earth. The tree has a distribution system that sends the food up through the trunk out to the branches. It has a catalytic agent that turns the sun, air, and water into an essence that appears outwardly as fruit. The tree is rooted in the ground and separate and apart from the ground, it would wither and die. You can see why we use the terms "within" and "withinness." The apples are not inside the tree. The essence and substance of the apples is flowing through the branches and becomes apples outwardly. Likewise, automobiles, dollar bills, houses, or companions are not stored up inside of you, but you have the essence, the substance, which appears outwardly as these things. One with your Father, you are infinitely complete, and you are Self-fulfilled through your conscious union with God.

This week we will at least gain the knowledge of the letter of this truth and some degree of its realization, so that it can continue to flow in greater measure. It may be months before the fruitage is visible externally. We have to eat and drink of this Truth, digest it, assimilate it, and make it a part of our very being. Then at some point, we begin to see the outpouring of it. You can tell whether this is happening by the degree of peace you experience, the degree of doubt that leaves you, and the amount of fear that drops away. If you ever assimilate that one statement – *"We do not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God"* – your whole demonstration is made for eternity. The *"Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God"* is our substance of life, our water, our wine, our bread, our meat, our protection. Instead of thinking in terms of outer supply, you will think in terms of your inner contact with the Spirit, and the Spirit within will pour out through you as fulfillment. That is the meaning of *"I have meat the world knows not of;" "Ask me for water and I can give you living water;" "I am the Bread of Life."* The outward, tangible, and visible is but the product of that which is invisible, so you will never judge your supply by how many apples or peaches or dollars you have, but by how much God contact you have. *"In Thy Presence is the fullness of life."* Go within and gain the awareness of that Presence, and the fullness will appear without.