

**Optional Study and Practice Suggestions for Chapter 10,
“The New Dispensation,” in *I Stand on Holy Ground***

The essence of what Joel teaches in this chapter and in the class that we heard is simple. Joel is telling those who are teaching, or who will teach, the message of The Infinite Way to remember that the goal of the Infinite Way is to bring the students to the attainment of Christ-consciousness or to that “mind. . . which was also in Christ Jesus.” In other words, to help them be reborn into their original pure state of Christ consciousness. Then, those who attain become the light to others who come within range of their consciousness.

Joel tells the teachers how to bring students to that Christ-consciousness. You will recognize this sweet refrain, because it is exactly how Joel teaches us.

- 1. Teach the principles of The Infinite Way message**, the “letter of truth,” or what Joel calls the “metaphysics” of the message.

He stresses that study and practice of the “metaphysics” will lead the student to the mysticism of the message.

- 2. Emphasize the importance of practicing the principles** to develop spiritual consciousness.

Joel underscores that through practice, students come to realize that there is only ONE power. They see that thought, the mind, karmic law, germs, accidents, and people have NO power, and that there is no power in anything but God. Joel reminds the teachers that unless we continue to practice, we cannot demonstrate the non-power of seeming powers.

When students develop spiritual consciousness, they do not judge, criticize or condemn. They do not fight evil. They recognize the spiritual identity of so-called enemies. They realize that there is only one Selfhood, and that what they do to another, they do to themselves. They live in the now, knowing that there is a sufficiency of Grace to bring them the measure of growth they can receive at the moment, and they share what is given to them. Each day, they live up to as much as they can understand, and each day they die to some measure of human belief.

- 3. Emphasize the importance of meditation.**

God is infinite consciousness, and that consciousness is the consciousness of individual man. So the only place man has to go for anything is to the consciousness of his own being. Joel makes clear that the purpose of meditation is to go within to open out a way for Infinity to flow forth from within, and that we will only know harmony and freedom by drawing it forth from within our own consciousness.

Joel points out that we must have at least a dozen or more periods of from thirty seconds to ten or fifteen minutes in which we open our consciousness to the omnipresence of divine grace. We need not wait for our periods of meditation to give us

messages, but we should continue to meditate, regardless of whether we get any messages.

We should meditate without a desire, a wish, a hope, or a need, ignoring human appearances and seeking only an inner communion with the Spirit. Meditation enables us to transcend human wisdom, because if we open a pathway to the Infinite Invisible, we will receive a knowledge and a wisdom far greater than can be found in books.

Opportunity for Self-Assessment

Joel's instruction to teachers in this class gives us the opportunity to do a self-assessment.

- How well are we doing with studying and learning the principles?
- Are we really practicing the principles?
- Are we meditating, especially the dozen or more short periods that Joel recommends?

It is important to remind ourselves that any time we do a self-assessment like this, we should NEVER do it with self-criticism or self-condemnation, but simply with the intent to recognize and acknowledge where we are, and if necessary and possible, make adjustments.

The Principles

Joel teaches four major principles in the message of The Infinite Way: the nature of God, the nature of individual being, the nature of error, and the nature of prayer. If you do not feel clear about any of these principles, or if you just want a refresher, there are several offerings that can be helpful.

1. On this website, we have a selection of short excerpts from Joel's classes. Four of these address the four major principles. To listen to these excerpts, [click/tap here](#).
2. If you subscribe to the [Joel Goldsmith Streaming Service](#), you can select "By Topic" under the "Listen" menu. There you will find selections of recordings that address the nature of God, the nature of individual being, the nature of error, and the nature of prayer. If you want a refresher on practice, you will find helpful recordings under the topic "Practicing the Principles."
3. The new book [An Introduction to The Infinite Way Message of Joel S. Goldsmith](#) provides a clear explanation of each of the four principles, using quotations from Joel's books and recordings. The book also provides substantial information about practice.