

Optional Study and Practice Suggestions for Chapter 11, “Self-Purification, the Way to the Mystical Consciousness,” in *I Stand on Holy Ground*

In this chapter and its source recordings, Joel addresses the important practices of impersonalization and nothingization. As we work with this chapter, we have an opportunity to look at our understanding of these practices and how well we are doing with practicing them. Impersonalization is one way to practice the principles of the nature of God and the nature of individual being. Nothingization is one way to practice the principle of the nature of error.

Impersonalization

As Joel points out, we are used to seeing each other as having a mix of good and bad, spiritual and material qualities. But this is NOT true of a person in his SPIRITUAL IDENTITY. For example, if we witness a man stealing a wallet, we recognize that a wrong is being committed, BUT we do not call that man a thief. Rather, we remember that one aspect of the nature of God is that *God is manifest as individual being*, and that the true nature of individual being is spiritual and divine. We recognize that anything a man has done wrong is due to his ignorance of the fact that he is being tempted by an IMPERSONAL source and acting out from that temptation. So we never condemn anyone for making a mistake, or for being ignorant of the truth that God constitutes individual being, and every discord springs from the carnal mind.

In other words, we establish within ourselves the truth of the individual's spiritual identity, and we SEPARATE the divine Self of his being from the erroneous action or condition. In doing this, we IMPERSONALIZE the error; we take it OUT OF THE PERSON.

Remember too, that any spiritual principle must be UNIVERSALLY true, with no exceptions. So if we accept the spiritual principle of the nature of individual being, we must accept it for EVERY individual, regardless of how steeped in error they may APPEAR to be.

Nothingization

After we impersonalize, or separate the error from the person, we turn to the principle of the nature of error and deal with the appearance, the carnal mind, by nothingizing it. Quickly we remember, “This is the CARNAL MIND in action.” We realize that God did not create the carnal mind, so it cannot be constituted of God-qualities. And since God did not create it, it can exist only as a state of illusion, a state of belief, or a state of hypnotism. The carnal mind has no law, no activity, and no cause. It has no avenue of expression, no person through whom to operate. When we have done this, we rest in the silence.

Impersonalization and Nothingization Are the Basis of Healing Work

Impersonalization and nothingization are the basis of healing work in The Infinite Way. We cannot bring about spiritual peace unless we can hold NO ONE in judgment, including political

and commercial leaders or self-seeking industrial tycoons who seem to be evil. They will exist in the human scene until WE can refrain from condemning them and turn to recognize that it is impossible for man, in his true spiritual identity, to be evil, selfish or unjust. All there is to man is God made manifest, because GOD CONSTITUTES INDIVIDUAL BEING.

So healing work has nothing to do with praying to God or trying to influence God. It has to do with knowing, practicing, and realizing SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES, namely, the nature of God, the nature of individual being, and the nature of error.

Practicing Impersonalization and Nothingization

The world sits in judgment, believing that there are good and evil persons, sinning men and women. The world does not know about impersonalization or the principles on which it is based, and therefore has no defense against the impositions of carnal mind in the forms of sin, disease, lack, or limitation.

But WE must have that mind that was in Christ Jesus, which does not judge, criticize, condemn, or accept two powers. Christ-consciousness is our consciousness when we acknowledge no evil to fight, and when we impersonalize and nothingize evil. Christ-consciousness is not going to come to us. It is already our present consciousness, so we do not have to seek or gain another consciousness. Rather, we must purify the consciousness that we have now. In its purified state, our consciousness IS the Christ consciousness, and we no longer personalize good or evil or give power to apparent evil. In other words, in proportion as we impersonalize and nothingize, the consciousness that we have now is the Christ consciousness. Only when we have learned to impersonalize and nothingize is our consciousness so clear and so transparent that the spiritual light of the Christ shines through.

To come to the Christ state of consciousness, we must:

- **Understand that God constitutes individual being** and has manifested Itself as individual being. This truth is universal and is true of EVERY individual.
- **Know that NO man is good, and NO man is evil.** All good manifested by man is God in expression. All evil is an appearance of carnal mind and the acceptance of two powers through ignorance of spiritual truth.
- **Separate evil from the individual, place it in the carnal mind, and then recognize its nature as nothingness.** This removes the burden and any guilt from the individual.

We cannot say that we accept these principles and then act in a way that contradicts them. If we do, we are double-minded, and when we are double-minded, we cannot be a transparency for the Christ. We will be transparencies in proportion to our ability to impersonalize all evil. World mesmerism is so strong that it will reach through into our consciousness unless we are alert and are able to impersonalize quickly and constantly.

So we must practice impersonalization and nothingization with EVERY discord involving a person, whether it is a form of disease, sin, false appetite, or troubled relationships. No matter what discord is presented to us, we see that it is NOT in or of the person, but that it is an activity

of the impersonal carnal mind, being accepted because of spiritual ignorance. Then we nothingize it and REST in the truth. This is how we handle ALL appearances of discord.

Self-Assessment

We suggest taking some time during your study of this chapter to assess how well you are practicing impersonalization and nothingization. Questions such as these can help.

- When I am confronted with any discord, either in my own life or in what I see in the world, is my FIRST response to impersonalize and nothingize?
 - If not, why not?
 - Is it because heretofore I have not been clear about these practices?
 - Is it because I harbor some exceptions to the spiritual principle of the nature of individual being and still believe that some people are just “evil people?”
 - Is it some other reason?
- Am I consistently acting as though I accept the universality of the nature of individual being?
 - When I read or see the national and world news, do I sometimes forget that I must recognize EVERY individual as being the Christ in their spiritual identity, and that I must not condemn them, regardless of how strongly I disagree with what they are doing? Do I remember to impersonalize? Do I remember to nothingize the errors of which I become aware?
 - Do I remember to see through the human and behold the Christ in every member of my family, in every neighbor and friend, in every professional colleague, in every merchant and service person I deal with? And again, do I remember to nothingize anything that appears to be evil?
 - Do I find myself slipping into judgment, criticism, or condemnation? If so, when is this likely to happen, and what are the triggers?

If you find that there is room for improvement in your practice of impersonalization and nothingization, what can you do to improve? What will you do?

The Second Source Recording for This Chapter

Chapter 11, “Self-Purification, the Way to the Mystical Consciousness,” has two source recordings: 267A and 267B. We heard 267A in our sessions. To hear 267B, [click/tap here](#). Both recordings are posted on the same web page.