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IMPORTANT CHAPTERS COLLECTION

Love Thy Neighbor

PRACTICING THE PRESENCE
CHAPTER 5

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The excerpts on the following pages were generated in this way and have been prepared to assist you in your study of Joel Goldsmith's message. We hope that you will also find it helpful as a model for creating your own study guides and reading lists with the Electronic Search Tool.

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In Chapter 10 of *The Contemplative Life*, Joel recommended eight specific chapters in the writings that all serious students of the Infinite Way should study intently and know well. He says: "In order to build a consciousness of truth, all Infinite Way students should know the following passages as well as they know their own names." Later he said that these chapters are of paramount importance to the serious student because they contain the answers to almost every individual problem that can be brought to the student, including family relations, illness, and supply.

This guide features one of these eight important chapters. Please note: the key passages we have selected are simply cues to inspire your own study, which may take you deeper, and in new directions.

Joel's Eight Important Chapters

- *The Infinite Way*, Chapter 11 "The New Horizon"
- The Heart of Mysticism: Vol. V, Chapter 10 "Break the Fetters that Bind You"
- *The Heart of Mysticism: Vol. II*, Chapter 3 "Protection"
- *The Contemplative Life*, Chapter 8 "Contemplation Develops the Beholder"
- The Art of Spiritual Healing, Chapter 11 "The Relationship of Oneness"
- Practicing the Presence, Introduction
- Practicing the Presence, Chapter 5 "Love Thy Neighbor"
- Living the Infinite Way, Chapter 4 "God is One"

"LOVE THY NEIGHBOR"

PRACTICING THE PRESENCE CHAPTER FIVE

Chapter Highlights*

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like unto it,

Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

Matthew 22:37-39

Pp 59

...When we see God as the cause and our neighbor as that which is in and of God, then we are loving our neighbor, whether that neighbor appears as a friend, relative, enemy, animal, flower, or stone.

...Love is the law of God.

Pp 60

...God is my Selfhood and God is your Selfhood.

Pp 61

... Unless we do unto others as we would have others do unto us, we injure, not the others, but ourselves.

Pp 62

*This Selected Study Guide highlights selected passages from one of the eight important chapters followed by related excerpts from Joel's books and transcripts.

...The moment that we make ourselves avenues for the outflow of divine love, from that very moment, we begin serving each other, expressing love, devotion, and sharing, all in the name of the Father.

Pp 63

...As we forgive, divine love is flowing out from us. As we pray for our enemies, we are loving divinely.

Pp 64

...The law of God is the law of love, the law of loving our enemies—not fearing them, not hating them, but loving them.

Pp 65

...The Christ-mind has in it no criticism, no judgment, no condemnation, but beholds the Christ of God as the activity of individual being, as your Soul and mine.

...The usual interpretation of "judge not" is that we are not to judge evil of anyone. We must go much further than that; we dare not judge good of anyone either.

Pp 66

...Spiritual living comes only when we have risen above human good and human evil and realize: "There are not good human beings or bad human beings. Christ is the only identity." Then we look out on the world and see neither good men and women nor bad men and women, but recognize Christ alone as the reality of being.

Pp 67

...God does not punish us. We punish ourselves because if I say that you are poor, I virtually am saying that I am poor.

Pp 68

...When we say, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," we are not speaking of human love, affection, or friendliness; we are holding our neighbor in spiritual identity, and then we see the effect of this right identification in the human picture.

Pp 69

...When we realize that our life is unfolding from within our own being, we come to the realization that no one on earth has ever hurt us, and no one on earth has ever helped us.

...God is. God is a principle of love.

Pp 70

...We, as truth-seekers, belong to a very small minority of those who have received the impartation that the evil thoughts of men are not power; they have no control over us. Not all the evil or false thinking on earth has any power over you or over me when we understand that love is the only power.

Pp 71

...Once we catch the first perception of the truth that the I of me is the I of you, the Self of me is the Self of you, then we shall see why we have no interests apart from each other.

Pp 72

... I am you. My interest is your interest; your interest is mine, since the one life animates our being, the one Soul, the one Spirit of God. Anything we do for each other, we do because of the principle that binds us together.

... Everyone is here on earth but for one purpose, and that purpose is to show forth the glory of God, the divinity and

the fullness of God. In that realization, we shall be brought into contact only with those who are a blessing to us as we are a blessing to them.

Pp 73

...What is the principle? "Love thy neighbor as thyself."

... Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Matthew 25:34-40

Pp 74

Related passages for further study, compiled using The Electronic Search Tool.

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Search: "who is our neighbor"

From The 1953 Second Seattle Class

...The only way in which the activity of the Christ can reach human consciousness today is almost you might say as an underground work—as a secret work. As the light shines in the activity and experience of the individual, the individual who is our neighbor, who is a clerk with us, who is the store-keeper, the businessman/woman, politician. In proportion as we see that light are we enabled to accept that light for ourselves.

35AB 1953 Second Seattle Class "Fishers of Men"

Search: "our neighbor"

From Spiritual Power of Truth

...We only have one kind of love, and that is the love that knows no fear, no hate, no animosity—above all things, no fear! The love that has no fear! Why? Because all that exists in this world is of God! I know that some things and some persons appear different, but it cannot be. There can only be one God; there can only be one Creator. Therefore, in spite of appearances, I love you; and I say "love," meaning an absence of hate, of fear, of judgment, of criticism. It has nothing to do with human affection. Human affection is something different, on a different level but love is when we are able

to behold each other without judgment, without criticism, without fear. Then we love our neighbor our self.

Spiritual Power of Truth
Chapter 10 – "A Harmonious Universe"

From The Government of Eden

... Now we are fulfilling the greatest law of the Bible in what we are doing in this minute. We love our neighbor as ourselves. There is no other way to love your neighbor as yourself except to accept him into your family. Accept him into your heart. Accept him into your prayers. Think of the different relationship that exists on earth the moment you have united with your fellow men under the fatherhood of God. Try to vision this larger canvas of life so that you do not measure your spiritual life by what it is doing to you and yours and for you and yours alone. Rather, see how the measure of spiritual freedom that you are giving back to the world, hastening the day of freedom for all.

The Government of Eden Chapter 9 – "When We Personalize Good and Evil"

From The 1959 Hawaiian Village Open Class

...How could one sin against a neighbor one is loving? How could one sin against a God whom one is loving with all their heart, and soul, and mind?

258A 1959 Hawaiian Village Open Class "Prayer"

From A Message for the Ages

...Oftentimes anyone who was not of our own household was hated, criticized, and malpracticed. But we are living in an era now in which consciousness is already so imbued with love that we are willing to forgive and to love our neighbor,

whether our neighbor agrees or disagrees with us. Whether our neighbor is our friend or our enemy, we are willing to feed him, an evidence of the higher consciousness that has already come into being on earth. The second coming of Christ is here, and we are playing a part in Its unfoldment. One of the major ways in which we are doing this is by knowing that every truth realized in individual consciousness becomes a law.

A Message for the Ages Chapter 12 – "Christ-Consciousness as a Universal Experience"

Search: "love expressed"

From The 1951 Second Portland Series

...We have no individual capacity for love. Our capacity for love is God's capacity for love expressed in us or through us or as us, whichever term you like best. Watch this carefully, because on this hinges the fullness of the message.

606A 1951 Second Portland Series "Aloha and Love"

From Leave Your Nets

... "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?" In other words, then, by first looking away from men and women, and realizing that the only love that can come to you is the love of God, more than likely it will appear as, or through, men and women and children and the world at large: as animals, birds, and plants. It will come to you through God, as God's love expressed as some measure of form.

Leave Your Nets
Chapter 8 – "Living the Life of Grace"

Search: "love is the only"

From The 1952 Second Seattle Closed Class

...To you, I say: the power of evil, of all of the false thinking on earth, is no power over you or over me, in proportion as we understand this simple thing that was given today: Love is the only power.

617B 1952 Second Seattle Closed Class "Our Infinity Through God"

From Consciousness Unfolding

... In all cases of human relationships, love is the only relationship there is, because God is love. Did you ever stop to think that there would be no relationships at all between human beings, if there were not love to cement that relationship? Whether the relationship is between parent and child, or whether it is between human beings and birds, beasts, or plants makes no difference. Love is the basis of all relationships.

Consciousness Unfolding Chapter 3 – "God Revealing the Infinity of Being"

Search: "your enemy"

From The Heart of Mysticism, Volume IV

... Christhood is Christhood only in proportion as it recognizes Christhood as a universal state of being. When it sets itself up as Christhood to the exclusion of all others, it is not Christhood. Christhood is the recognition of God as the central theme of man's being. The very moment that you realize God to be the activity of every human being, every animal, vegetable, and mineral, you are showing forth Christhood, but in order to show It forth, it is necessary to recognize Its universality. Do you see what happens to your enemy in your recognition of the universality of Christhood? The enemy

disappears. Do you see what happens to the neighbor you love as yourself? Even that neighbor disappears. There are no longer friends, and there are no longer enemies. Friends and enemies merge into the one Self, and that Self is the God-Self appearing as infinite individuality—as an infinity of people and things.

The Heart of Mysticism, Volume IV Chapter 12 – "Tithing with Melchizedek"

From The Heart of Mysticism, Volume VI

... Our students around the globe are now proving that they can mitigate and even dissolve some evil conditions and bring harmony to light in their communities by the practice of meditation and through a conscious contact with God. Therefore, in every circumstance, bring the actual presence of God to the scene through meditation. By daily realization in meditation of God's grace here and now, be a light, not only to your family and fellow-students, but to your community—even to your enemy.

The Heart of Mysticism, Volume VI Chapter 1 – "Individual Responsibility"

From Consciousness Transformed

The consciousness of individual man is absolutely infinite, and individually you can sit down, enter your consciousness, and bring forth infinity. You can then look around you and see what you have not acquired, or what you did acquire and then lost, and laugh at it as if it were but a grain of dust in comparison to the infinity to which you have access. And, it is not necessary that you go anywhere, or meet miracle people, or have your fortunes told; all you need do is turn within.

... The whole secret of the spiritual life is to know that you have access to infinity through your own consciousness and then go within sufficiently often to let the flow appear, to "let

the imprisoned splendor escape"—and then be careful never to personalize it and think you have become good or that you have become spiritual. Remember you have become an instrument or a transparency for an infinite, universal grace. You choke it and shut it off immediately if you personalize it, but you can increase the flow by realizing it as an infinite grace flowing universally. Like the tree that is showing forth God's grace, this does not glorify us. It lets us stand still and show forth God's glory. Anything else is catering to the ego, and the ego must die as completely as the tree that cannot say "I" and thinks it is something of itself. And so it is that this reconciles us to God, and thereby fulfills us.

Consciousness Transformed
April 26, 1964, Between Two Worlds, Honolulu, Hawaii
"Access to Infinity"

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