

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS AND
SUPPLEMENTAL READING
THE ELECTRONIC SEARCH TOOL

FOR
Practicing the Presence
CHAPTER 1
“Spiritual Consciousness”

FEBRUARY, 2024

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CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS AND
SUPPLEMENTAL READING

FOR

Practicing the Presence

CHAPTER 1

“Spiritual Consciousness”

Chapter Highlights

...The secret of harmonious living is the development of spiritual consciousness. In that consciousness, fear and anxiety disappear, and life becomes meaningful with fulfillment as its keynote.

...To every such insistent demand, let our answer be: “No, no. This is not what I need or want. Thy grace is my sufficiency, nothing else—not money, not marbles, only *Thy* grace.” Let us learn to hold to that resolutely.

Pp 1

...All of a sudden, we are given the necessary ability, which we discover is not our ability at all; it is His ability being expressed through us.

Pp 2

...Gradually, as over and over again the temptation comes to say, “I need; I want; I haven’t enough; I am insufficient”; we remember that our sufficiency is in the Infinite Invisible.

Pp 3

...As consciousness becomes more spiritual, confidence in the Infinite Invisible increases, and our love, hate, or fear of the external diminishes.

...Every issue of life is determined, not by external conditions and things, but by our consciousness.

Pp 4

...The whole secret lies in the word “consciousness.”

... God is; there is a God—never doubt that.

Pp 5

...Spiritual consciousness is attained through the activity of truth in consciousness. Dwelling on scriptural quotations or statements of truth helps to spiritualize thought. The more truth that we read and hear, the more active is truth in our consciousness. Thus we learn to abide in the Word. This is the first step on the Way.

...The second, and more important step, is to be able to receive truth from within, to be receptive and responsive to the truth that wells up within us.

Pp 6

...God’s presence fills all space; the Spirit of God dwells in us. But how many people have felt that Presence? It is talked about, prayed about, theorized about, and sermonized about; but It is not experienced. It is the conscious awareness, the actual feeling or realization of the Presence which is necessary.

Pp 8

...There must be a conscious activity of truth going on all the time.

Pp 9

...As we go forward in our quest or search, we can measure our progress in this way: We see the horizon before us and we have the feeling, “Oh, I have just a short distance to go.” Sometimes, it takes only a few weeks or months to reach that

horizon, and the whole world of Spirit is spread out before us. Then we believe we really have entered the kingdom of heaven, and we have—for a few days. Suddenly, we become accustomed to this light and we are aware of another horizon that urges us forward, another advance that must be traveled step by step, and again, we press forward.

Pp 9-10

...The further we go in this work, the more necessary it is that we know every one of these principles. They are the foundation of our understanding and they must become so much a part of us that when we are faced with a problem, we do not have to think consciously of any of them.

Pp 10

...Take scriptural passages which embody spiritual principles and live with them. Hold them up as a banner in the presence of any and every form of discord, until such time as these principles become automatic. This is dwelling in the secret place of the most High, living, moving, and having our being continuously in the consciousness of God, not just for a few minutes while reading a book or listening to a lecture. Despite the demands which are made upon us by the world, we must pause at frequent intervals during the day and during the night for the practice of the Presence.

Pp 12

...Take certain of these specific principles which you will find stated in this book and live by them. Take them one by one. Carry one of them with you day in and day out for a week or a month. Then take another and live with it, using it as a yardstick with which to measure every experience. ... Then we shall be abiding in the Word and shall bear fruit richly.

Pp 13

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Search: “to harmonious”

From The 1955 Kailua Study Group

... “Where the Spirit of the Lord is,” where the consciousness of the presence of God is, there is liberty. Now, if we can demonstrate that one truth, we will have demonstrated all there is to harmonious existence.

121B 1955 Kailua Study Group
“Where the Spirit of the Lord Is, there is Liberty”

Search: “the secret of:

From God Formed Us For His Glory

... Before ever time began, God fulfilled Himself as the Son. God the Father and God the Son are one. God the Father fulfilled Himself as God the Son, and you and I are that Son. We are now fulfilled in our Christhood. How do we demonstrate that in our humanhood? First of all, by knowing this truth, by recognizing it, by acting on it, by never again looking outside ourselves for any form of demonstration, by trusting the within to appear in the without. The secret of all being lies in the recognition of our true identity.

God Formed Us For His Glory
Chapter 6 – “Spiritual Fulfillment Through Consciousness”

From The Contemplative Life

... There is only one Power, and the secret of harmonious living is the acknowledgment and recognition of one Power.

The Contemplative Life
Chapter 5 – “Steps on the Path of Illumination”

Search: “specific practice”

From The 1955 Chicago Private Class

... And the question was this: How is it possible to develop that spiritual consciousness, or that reliance on the Invisible, rather than on the visible? Well of course, the mere fact of reading this type of literature will do that gradually. Meditation will do it gradually, but there is a specific practice that will help. Inasmuch as the human thought is continuously being reminded of something in the external that it needs, or requires, or desires, there must be the specific answer, “No. No, it isn’t that that I need or want. Thy grace is my sufficiency. Nothing else; not money or marbles. Thy grace is my sufficiency,” and learn resolutely to stick to that.

109B 1955 Chicago Private Class
“Practicing the Principles of The Infinite Way” cont.

From *I Stand on Holy Ground*

... It is easier to rise to the mystical experience after we have made a specific practice of impersonalizing and nothingizing because when we are not fighting powers apart from God, we are resting in *I Am-ness*.

I Stand on Holy Ground
Chapter 11 – “Self-Purification,
the Way to the Mystical Consciousness”

Search: “gradually we”

From *The Art of Meditation*

... Gradually we go deeper and deeper until we find ourselves centered in God. We are not thinking any more: thoughts are being thought for us, ideas are being crystallized through us, impartations of the Soul become apparent to our awareness. Then we find God revealing Itself, uttering the Word,

which is quick and sharp and more powerful than a two-edged sword: that word of God which separates the Red Sea when necessary, which produces the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night—the miracles in our experience—this meditation is a revelation of the Infinite Invisible declaring Itself within our own being.

The Art of Meditation
Chapter 15 – “The Beauty of Holiness”

From The 1961 Mission Inn Closed Class

... We shall know the truth that there is a He; ye shall know the truth that there is a presence and a power. At first it is as if we were just cold, hard, human beings declaring something gentle, sweet, something not at all in tune with our own nature; but as we continue to abide in this—*When He giveth quietness, who then can make trouble? What presence is there? What power external to us can make trouble?*—gradually we ourselves soften, become gentle; we ourselves become spiritual; we ourselves not only have faith—it is much more than having faith. We have the actual experience of the Father within us or of that indwelling Christ.

402B 1961 Mission Inn Closed Class
“The Second Degree” cont.

Search: “the second step”

From *Man Was Not Born to Cry*

... The real beginning is made when we can accept the revelation that the kingdom of God is within us...

...When this truth has been realized in some measure, we take the second step which is one of sharing. We no longer look for companionship, but rather give companionship; we no longer seek supply, but share supply; we no longer seek

to gain, but seek only to be that instrument through which God's grace flows to this world. Ultimately, we come to the experience described by Paul: "I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." It is then that the student touches one of the very high rungs of the ladder of the spiritual life.

Man Was Not Born to Cry
Chapter 9 – "Spiritual Dominion"

From *The Mystical I*

... In your experience you will be dealing with persons of different states of consciousness, of varying degrees of good and of evil, and even if they do not touch you personally, you will be cognizant of evil in persons active in national or international affairs. It is not enough, I can assure you, to bear witness to the fact that the Christ is in them. You must take the second step as well and recognize that the carnal mind is not power. Only this completes your prayer or your meditation.

The Mystical I
Chapter 7 – "Impersonalizing Error"

Search: "we make the transition"

From *The Foundation of Mysticism*

... Here is a note I made many months ago, but it certainly fits in right here: "In the Infinite Way we make the transition from the man of earth, acted upon by forces, powers, and influences beyond ourselves, to the man whose being is in Christ, where the Infinite Invisible within, without, and all around us is the only power, the only influence, the only force demonstrating as our experience. This transition must be consciously made by declaring, then realizing, that we are no longer under the law but live by grace; that we no longer love, hate, or fear the visible universe, but yield ourselves to the

influence of the Infinite Invisible which formed us and gives us dominion through grace. As humans we are under the law: legal laws, economic laws, health laws, food laws, climate laws. Bit by bit, demonstration by demonstration, principle by principle, realization by realization, we ultimately rise to come out from under the law into living by grace, which Paul described as: ‘I live, yet not I; Christ liveth my life.’”

The Foundation of Mysticism

Chapter 17 – “Spiritual Supply and Healing –
Awakening to the Mystical Experience of Oneness”

Search: “receptive and”

From The Thunder of Silence

... When we achieve complete quietness and peace, the mind is no longer functioning, and we have transcended mind and risen into the atmosphere of Spirit, in which we are receptive and responsive to whatever God imparts. As soon as we become unattached, that is, as soon as we are detached from thought—from hate, fear, or love of objects or people so that they can float in front of our eyes with the utmost indifference to us—we are no longer in the realm of mind: We are then reaching, touching, or being touched by our own Soul, which is God, and we are in an atmosphere where, when God speaks, we can hear Him.

The Thunder of Silence

Chapter 9 – “This is a Spiritual Universe”

Search: “we go forward”

From The World is New

... As we learn to live in that consciousness and to judge only from a spiritual standpoint, then gradually we develop and express that spiritual insight which becomes the light of the

world. Then as we go forward in and as that light, everyone within range of our being and within range of our experience feels some degree of attraction toward us, but the attraction is not toward us at all: It is towards the Light which we have become through this great spiritual revelation.

The World is New
Chapter 15 – “Immanuel”

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