

MEDITATIONS FROM OCTOBER 2016 SUNDAY BULLETINS

OUR INHERITANCE

Rev. Janet Friedline

October 2, 2016

We spend a great deal of time deciding what belongs to us. We reason that things come to us by way of an inheritance. We understand that certain possessions belong to our biological family, and the expectation is that, in due time, we will become heir to what belongs to the family. It is our birthright to do so, and we intend to claim what is ours. We also claim the traits and characteristics associated with the family, finding identity and distinction.

We are so concerned about our material birthright, and yet seemingly unaware of our spiritual heritage. We are told that we are children of God, one with the family of spiritual identity. We are heir to what belongs to that family. The spiritual inheritance is the fruit of the spirit. It is ours, it belongs to us. But just like the material legacy, we must claim it. The marvelous thing is that we may claim it now - while yet in the flesh. It is our birthright to do so.

PRAYER

Rev. Donna Gatewood

October 9, 2016

When we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread" we are showing that we are depending on God one day at a time. Didn't Jesus urge us not to worry about what we will eat, drink or what we would wear? Within our request is the faith and the knowledge that God will provide.

The first half of the Lord's Prayer is directed to God—to His paternity, His person, His program and His purpose. The second half of the prayer addresses our needs for provision, pardon, protection and preservation. The order in which the prayer is given is intentional.

We are to honor and praise God before voicing our personal needs. We begin our prayers praising God knowing that He knows our needs before we ask and that it is His good pleasure to fulfill them.

Didn't Jesus tell us, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you?"

"But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet and when thou has shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." Matthew 6:6

THE WAY OF UNFOLDMENT

Rev. Janet Friedline

October 16, 2016

There are many traits and characteristics assigned to the human being. One of them is curiosity. We are very curious people. We want to know the origin of things. We want to know how they work, and discover their purpose and function. We consider science and technology, taking into

account how it is that they come to their conclusions. And we notice an interesting aspect of learning. There seems to be a process that allows for revelation that leads to understanding.

As we study and reflect, we discover the nature of our object of contemplation. Attention, given to any subject, allows it to reveal itself. This way of learning is the natural process of unfoldment. We grow into wider knowledge and expanded awareness. And so it is with spiritual revelation. We grow in understanding of us, unfolding to a higher consciousness of life, one that reveals the truth of being. This process cannot be omitted, nor can it be rushed. Be still and listen is the way of unfoldment.

DISGUISES

Rev. Donna Gatewood

October 23, 2016

We are taught to look behind the appearances to see the Truth. We are to look beyond the appearances of the human form to see that which is true and real. We are to see health and wholeness where there appears to be illness and infirmity. We are taught to see prosperity and abundance where there appears to be lack; and we are taught to look beyond the chaos and noise to see order and peace. We look beyond what our eyes behold to see with the single eye the Christ within.

Human form wears many disguises. But what about life's other disguises? It is said that "Problems are only solutions in disguise." Why, you may ask yourself, disguise a solution? Why disguise the answer? Because human nature is what it is, disguises intrigue us but answers, even though we are surrounded by them, seldom get the attention that disguises do.

Ask yourself how much God, as the answer to all the needs in your life, gets your attention when there is nothing else to be solved. Instead of looking at a problem, or disguised solution, as a negative, it would be good to see it as an opportunity to use and prove the Truth we know.

Are you willing to consider that a problem, a solution in disguise, comes forth only to gain our attention so that we can become aware of another way God works for our ultimate good to confirm that behind every mask of appearance, even seeming tragedy, is God's perfect answer waiting to be recognized.

"And call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me." Psalm 52:25

WE BUILD CONSCIOUSNESS

October 30, 2016

from October 1999 Newsletter

Dr. Al G. Salazar, Minister Emeritus

Many individuals put up with human discomfort simply because they do not know how to get rid of it.

There are those who believe that God is responsible for their present circumstances or the circumstances of others and pray that God get rid of them. Not really convinced that he can. So they continue with the same old aches and pains because as of yet they are not aware of the power of consciousness.

Consciousness is the instrument through which the invisible is made visible. And we build consciousness through every thought we dwell on. Therefore, some people are building a consciousness of poverty by dwelling on the very thing they no longer want. And all the while it has nothing to do with God but with their habitual pattern of thought.

There is no disease in God and there is no lack in God because God is too pure to behold iniquity. God has no knowledge of the human condition. Only of His Creation, and His Creation is Pure, Perfect and Complete.

Paraphrasing the teachings of Jesus: “Seek first a consciousness of God and all things shall be added unto you.”