

DECODING AND LIVING ACIM - WEEK THREE WEEK # 3 HANDOUT # 4
LESSON SUMMARY #53 FOR LESSONS #11-15

W-53.1. (11) My meaningless thoughts are showing me a meaningless world.

2 Since the thoughts of which I am aware do not mean anything, the world that pictures them can have no meaning. 3 What is producing this world is insane, and so is what it produces. 4 Reality is not insane, and I have real thoughts as well as insane ones. 5 I can therefore see a real world, if I look to my real thoughts as my guide for seeing.

W-53.2. (12) I am upset because I see a meaningless world.

2 Insane thoughts are upsetting. 3 They produce a world in which there is no order anywhere. 4 Only chaos rules a world that represents chaotic thinking, and chaos has no laws. 5 I cannot live in peace in such a world. 6 I am grateful that this world is not real, and that I need not see it at all unless I choose to value it. 7 And I do not choose to value what is totally insane and has no meaning.

W-53.3. (13) A meaningless world engenders fear.

2 The totally insane engenders fear because it is completely undependable, and offers no grounds for trust. 3 Nothing in madness is dependable. 4 It holds out no safety and no hope. 5 But such a world is not real. 6 I have given it the illusion of reality, and have suffered from my belief in it. 7 Now I choose to withdraw this belief, and place my trust in reality. 8 In choosing this, I will escape all the effects of the world of fear, because I am acknowledging that it does not exist.

W-53.4. (14) God did not create a meaningless world.

2 How can a meaningless world exist if God did not create it? 3 He is the Source of all meaning, and everything that is real is in His Mind. 4 It is in my mind too, because He created it with me. 5 Why should I continue to suffer from the effects of my own insane thoughts, when the perfection of creation is my home? 6 Let me remember the power of my decision, and recognize where I really abide.

W-53.5. (15) My thoughts are images that I have made.

2 Whatever I see reflects my thoughts. 3 It is my thoughts that tell me where I am and what I am. 4 The fact that I see a world in which there is suffering and loss and death shows me that I am seeing only the representation of my insane thoughts, and am not allowing my real thoughts to cast their beneficent light on what I see. 5 Yet God's way is sure. 6 The images I have made cannot prevail against Him because it is not my will that they do so. 7 My will is His, and I will place no other gods before Him.

NOTES ON LESSON SUMMARY # 53 - REVIEW OF LESSON # 11 TO # 15

1) Our provisional reality is based on our own private perceptions. This private world, which is based on our individual viewpoint or perception, is not shared with others and more importantly; it is not shared with the Mind of God. Because perception is based on individuality and separateness, it cannot be shared. The Mind of God is a Oneness and is therefore shared by all that God created, because the Kingdom is all of reality (Level 1). Creation is sharing or an extension of what its creator truly is. The only “real” thoughts that a Son of God can have are those thoughts shared with His Father. These thoughts are based on the Son knowing the oneness of what he truly is. Thoughts, which come from the erroneous belief of separation, come from limitation, which is not how God created His Son. These private thoughts of the split mind, which is under the guidance of the ego, have no basis in reality since they are not part of the Mind of God. Provisional reality appears to be real only in the mind of the perceiver. Change your perception and you change your provisional reality. You are asked by the Holy Spirit to choose again. Forgiveness is the means for us to choose again.

2) The world we “see,” provisional reality, is really a thought projection. Our thoughts come first. Thoughts, which are based on our individual beliefs, are the cause and what we “see” is their effect. What we claim to “see” is really thought images that we project into our dream world of provisional reality. Our senses are utilized as verifying devices

for our projected thoughts. Our projected thoughts are reflected back to us when they find something that fits the predetermined goal. Because of our ability to make a physical world based on our view of separation and limitation, our senses will always discover a false witness to confirm our projected thought. We create our perceived world of provisional reality. Thoughts are things and the thought, which is always first, is the cause of what we perceive, which is the effect. Under the ego's thought system, we falsely are led to believe that what is outside came first and is the cause for our thoughts. This helps the ego insure that we will believe that we are powerless victims of our own make believe dream world of provisional reality.

3) Our world of provisional reality is a neutral learning device. It is neither good nor bad until we choose to judge. Our judgmental thoughts give what we perceive its characteristically good or bad nature. Whether we perceive something as good or bad, it serves to confirm the ego's goal of "proving that we are separate. Any perception implies that we are not a Oneness. False perception belongs to the thought system of the ego. Since we have forgotten our divine birthright, we are incapable of judging what we perceive correctly. Correct perception is only recovered when we choose to follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit. The thought system of the Holy Spirit has the ability to reinterpret our perceived reality by utilizing the neutral learning device as a tool that will correct our wrong perception. Forgiveness is the correcting device used by the Holy Spirit to return us to right-mindedness again.

4) The ego wants us to place meaning, either good or bad, on our meaningless dream world. This placing of meaning on the dream by the dreamer gives the imaged thought the appearance of being real. If we buy into the belief that our dream is real, it becomes so in our mind's imagination. It becomes our world of provisional reality. This world seems real to the dreamer but remains unknown in the Mind of God, because God does not create dreams.

5) If I am upset, it is because I have forgotten what I really am. I am a Child of God. I am caught up in my dream world of provisional reality and mistook the dream for reality and truth. I have forgotten that my current lifetime is part of my learning experience that is designed to help reawaken my mind to its ability to choose again. I can choose to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. I am upset because I believe that the movie that I made up is real. I have forgotten my purpose, which is to remember what I truly am. I have forgotten that this dream of mine can be utilized by the Holy Spirit to help me remember what I am if I ask for His guidance.

6) As long as I am upset, I give credence to the ego's belief that I am a separate limited ego-body. This upset helps keep me trapped in my imagined provisional reality and away from my ability to reclaim my right to side with the truth. When I am upset, I have accepted the role of victim. Victims claim to be powerless to change their circumstances. This forgetting of my ability to choose again is exactly what my ego wants me to believe.

7) Projection is image making. First we have a "private" thought. This thought is judged. We then send out or project that prejudged thought into the "outside world" as an image. This image then "finds" or "makes" the outside image that conforms to the projected image. This is then reflected back to the senses that "confirm" the preconceived image as real and being outside the perceiver. Thus, the ego "confirms" the belief in the separation through the use of false witnesses.