

Previous week's Lesson #11-15 to be discussed in week #4 Handout #2

Personal Believability Scale – #1 to #10 with ten being absolutely true & one being absolutely false.

Statements are for people to place their own rating of believability on each statement.

LESSON 11. My meaningless thoughts are showing me a meaningless world.

W-11.1. This is the first idea we have had that is related to a major phase of the correction process; the reversal of the thinking of the world. 2 It seems as if the world determines what you perceive. 3 Today's idea introduces the concept that your thoughts determine the world you see. 4 Be glad indeed to practice the idea in its initial form, for in this idea is your release made sure. 5 The key to forgiveness lies in it.

Statement: Thoughts are always the cause and “things” are their effect or result.

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Question: How would your world change if you knew your thoughts caused whatever you “see”?

Discussion: Do thoughts create “things” or do “things” create thought?

LESSON 12. I am upset because I see a meaningless world.

W-12.1. The importance of this idea lies in the fact that it contains a correction for a major perceptual distortion. 2 You think that what upsets you is a frightening world, or a sad world, or a violent world, or an insane world. 3 All these attributes are given it by you. 4 The world is meaningless in itself.

Statement: I am 100% responsible for my world.

Statement: I am a victim. I can do nothing to change my world.

Question: How would your world change if you knew you were 100% responsible for your world?

Discussion: If your viewpoint determines the world you see, who is the “source “ of your world?

Remember the example of the old, decrepit hand vs. the useful hand.

LESSON 13. A meaningless world engenders fear.

W-13.1. Today's idea is really another form of the preceding one, except that it is more specific as to the emotion aroused. 2 Actually, a meaningless world is impossible. 3 Nothing without meaning exists. 4 However, it does not follow that you will not think you perceive something that has no meaning. 5 On the contrary, you will be particularly likely to think you do perceive it.

W-13.2. Recognition of meaninglessness arouses intense anxiety in all the separated ones. 2 It represents a situation in which God and the ego "challenge" each other as to whose meaning is to be written in the empty space that meaninglessness provides. 3 The ego rushes in frantically to establish its own ideas there, fearful that the void may otherwise be used to demonstrate its own impotence and unreality. 4 And on this alone it is correct.

W-13.3. It is essential, therefore, that you learn to recognize the meaningless, and accept it without fear. 2 If you are fearful, it is certain that you will endow the world with attributes that it does not possess, and crowd it with images that do not exist. 3 To the ego illusions are safety devices, as they must also be to you who equate yourself with the ego.

Statement: All things that I see are neutral. I label them with good and bad characteristics.

Statement: Everything has an inherently good or bad nature. My viewpoint has nothing to do with how I perceive them.

Question: How would your world change if you regarded everything as a neutral learning device provided for you so that you could learn and grow?

Discussion: If changing your viewpoint changes your perception of your world, does that mean that your world is basically neutral?

Is your predetermined viewpoint coloring or “making” the “events” of your life either good or bad?

LESSON 14. God did not create a meaningless world.

W-14.1. The idea for today is, of course, the reason why a meaningless world is impossible. 2 What God did not create does not exist. 3 And everything that does exist exists as He created it. 4 The world you see has nothing to do with reality. 5 It is of your own making, and it does not exist.

W-14.3. The idea for today is another step in learning to let go the thoughts that you have written on the world, and see the Word of God in their place. 2 The early steps in this exchange, which can truly be called salvation, can be quite difficult and even quite painful. 3 Some of them will lead you directly into fear. 4 You will not be left there. 5 You will go far beyond it. 6 Our direction is toward perfect safety and perfect peace.

Statement: God created my world. I can do nothing to change it.

Statement: I created my world. I have the ability to change it.

Question: How would your world change if you knew statement # 2 were true?

Discussion: God’s creations are real and changeless. Our dream world of provisional reality, although appearing real to the dreamer, are unreal since they are not part of the Mind of God.

If I dreamed that I killed someone, when I awoke, would I have to do “time” for the imagined crime?

LESSON 15. My thoughts are images that I have made.

W-15.1. It is because the thoughts you think you think appear as images that you do not recognize them as nothing. 2 You think you think them, and so you think you see them. 3 This is how your "seeing" was made. 4 This is the function you have given your body's eyes. 5 It is not seeing. 6 It is image making. 7 It takes the place of seeing, replacing vision with illusions.

W-15.2. This introductory idea to the process of image making that you call seeing will not have much meaning for you. 2 You will begin to understand it when you have seen little edges of light around the same familiar objects which you see now. 3 That is

the beginning of real vision. 4 You can be certain that real vision will come quickly when this has occurred.

W-15.3. As we go along, you may have many "light episodes." 2 They may take many different forms, some of them quite unexpected. 3 Do not be afraid of them. 4 They are signs that you are opening your eyes at last. 5 They will not persist, because they merely symbolize true perception, and they are not related to knowledge. 6 These exercises will not reveal knowledge to you. 7 But they will prepare the way to it.

**Discussion: When you go to "the Movies", do you stay for the credits?
How important is it to know who worked on the film?**

**Movies are like our dream world of provisional reality. Since the film is all about you, isn't it important to know who worked on the film in which you are staring?
What is the difference between a regular theater, an IMAX, or a 360-degree theater?**

**Question: What is an aura? Have you seen auras before?
Have you seen a total eclipse of the sun? How does it work?**

What if an aura was not an energy field surrounding an object, but rather an object that was blocking your view of something that was behind it. Would you want the veil removed?

This would make the object a mask or veil preventing you from "seeing" what was behind the mask, rather than a "force" coming from the mask. Does this make a difference? What is the "source" of the light?

Group Mediation: Oneness and "remote" observing of bodies.