WHAT IT'S GOING TO TAKE TO WAKE-UP .... DOING "THE TWO-STEP"

We're getting down to simplicity as we talked about last week-the simplicity of the two-step. In other words, when response is called for, when life unfolds and interaction i...s appropriate, instead of jumping to the conclusion that you know exactly how to respond with your experience with this individual, or your life experience, or your education, you know exactly what is called for.

The two-step is: The first step of the two-step, is to step back and ask God, "What's appropriate here, what is called for here? What is going to uncover the maximal good available from this situation, circumstance or dynamic?" And then listen before you respond.

Well, so much for all your education. So much for all of your study.

The two-step requires you to "wing-it." The two-step requires, life requires you to be willing to stand at the edge of the unknown without any assumptions that you know all that you need to know and an invitation in the form of inquiry to know more than you presently know.

Now, there was a point at which there were Ten Commandments that were given. Moses listened and heard and shared-he did the two-step. And he came back down off the mountain and everyone was off the beam. He had been gone for awhile and they had forgotten their purpose. And what happened? The situation called for something and this time he didn't do the two-step. He got angry. And he threw down the tablets and they broke. And the upshot of it was, that he had to say, "Okay God, I'm going to do the two-step again." And he went back up the mountain and listened.

Now, at that time what was needed was a shift of consciousness in which the Singularity of God-the Oneness of God needed to register in human awareness; in human consciousness. Because at that point, there were many gods. That's why the First Commandment is, "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me."1 Thou shalt not bow down to golden calves or whatever gods you might make up. There is one God. And the commandments that were given were rules for behavior for those who had forgotten how to love. For those who had forgotten that love was their function. For those who had forgotten that love for their neighbor was their function.

The Ten Commandments were not and are not sufficient to cause anyone to wake up. But they are sufficient to bring one into a degree of alignment in their consciousness where their attention isn't divided. It prepared everyone for My Presence in which I gave two commandments and these two commandments were another form of the two-step we've been talking about.

The First Commandment in so many words was, "Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and soul and mind." In other words, let this one God which you're no longer having difficulty approaching without the distraction of many other gods. In the present day, that's not a mindset that most anyone is having to deal with.

So, to love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and soul and mind-with your whole being, that's like doing the first step of the two-step: "Father, what do I need to know here? It's more important to me to take this opportunity to listen for the truth that will heal and transform and bless everyone in this moment, than it is to rely upon my expensive education and all of the hours of work I went to get excellent grades so that I might gain great respect in my field. It's more important to me to listen to You than it is to lean upon any of these other distractions. What do I need to know to bless my brother-to bless this situation and so on?"

The second commandment I gave you was to love your Brother as yourself. Why only two commandments? Because this is all it takes to wake up. This is all it takes to get back into your right Mind-to get back into the conscious experience of the Kingdom of Heaven that you're in the middle of but not recognizing because you're so much more enamored of who you think you are and the skills you think you have, and the reasoning capacity you've have honed and developed to a fine point so that you can be an effective presence in the world.

In other words, the Ten Commandments brought human awareness to

the point of acknowledging that there's only one God and that man must obey the laws of this one God.

The two commandments that I gave say this One God is All there Is. And there is no independent you to be obedient to God because you, in your right Mind, are the Movement of God expressing Himself. And the way for you to wake up into your conscious awareness of That-your conscious experience of It, which is the definition of Heaven-the meaning of Heaven, is to abandon the belief that you have, that you're an independent entity set into place by God but given total freedom to have your own will and function entirely independent of God and ultimately make your Dad proud of you by your independent accomplishments. That's the mindset that is being undone today.

Multiple gods is not the mindset being undone now but it was when Moses gave the Ten Commandments.

~excerpt from ACIM Study Group with Raj/Jesus conducted by The Northwest Foundation for A Course In Miracles