

YOU ARE NOT TO BE THE CENTER OF YOUR ATTENTION....GOD IS.

YOUR PROBLEMS ARE NOT TO BE THE CENTER OF YOUR ATTENTION – TRUTH IS.

And when you take the first step of letting God be the center of your attention because you're leaning into the omnipresence of You instead of holding on to your dearly believed limits, you become conscious of the truth. That's the Gift. That's the step that the Father takes. You don't have to take the final step, the Father takes the final step..

The holy instant is a BIG Meaning.

As I said last time, it does represent and embody Easter for you. And I encourage you this week, when you feel discouraged, to press for the impossible. Remember, all of you is always present, all of you is always available and all of you is always functioning.

Now I want you to take a look at something perhaps a bit maudlin and unpleasant: When a loved one dies–passes on–it is a sad experience. And you may be very grateful to have pictures, audio recordings, maybe even some videos that this loved one is on that you can turn on and play and be reminded of that one's meaningfulness and have your sadness assuaged somewhat.

You know, quite some time ago in Europe, a woman, after her husband passed on, had him stuffed by a taxidermist and posed in a comfortable position on his favorite chair where he used to sit every night–every evening with her. And for her it was most meaningful because she didn't have to feel lost as much and she could sit there and talk with him as though he was hearing. And you can imagine that she might say, "Well, it's better than nothing."

When you go into the past, it means you're going into memory. When you're functioning out of memory, you're not present with the real thing.

What the Course is teaching, what I am alerting you all to, is the fact that you have available to you a means of Being that doesn't involve living in your memory every single day unconscious of Reality. And that you don't have to say, "Well, what I've got is better than nothing. Every day above

ground is better than being underground." I want you to grasp that such an attitude about your living is as sad as this woman's situation who had her husband stuffed and "enjoyed his presence" for the remainder of her days.

So, this should be encouraging. None of you can possibly end up being stuffed and put in a chair. Because all of you is always functioning including the dear man whose wife thought she had stuffed him and whom she now knows [chuckle] is not her belief because she had the experience of him once again.

Now, let this coming week be instants of your willingness to say "Yes" to God and to neglect to engage fear and doubt. And instead of engaging fear and doubt, let there be quietness in you with a desire for it to be filled with the truth. Press for it. Persist.

~excerpt from Gathering with Raj/JESUS 4/25/09  
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