

Excerpt from Chapter 5, “Living the Mystical Life” in *Living by Grace*¹

This excerpt from the book Living by Grace is a wonderful complement to Recording 516B from the 1963 Kailua Private Class and Chapter 2 in Beyond Words and Thoughts. In this excerpt, Joel makes some important points about developing the consciousness of Grace through working with the principles.

The year of 1963 was another period of initiation for me. I had no knowledge of the intensity of the initiation or its length or the nature of the message that would be revealed. Living in two worlds—living in that higher consciousness and then coming back down to earth—has been difficult for me ever since my first spiritual experience. But it was never before as difficult as during that year. Therefore, it is not surprising that 1963 should reveal a higher unfoldment, a higher consciousness.

The high point of this initiation period was the revelation of “the nature of life as it is lived when we get beyond the mind and thoughts”—beyond taking thought, beyond reasoning. In this final step I experienced a revelation of the nature of Sabbath and of Grace. On the evening of Sunday September 1, a revelation poured through me for two consecutive hours. I was being led to the highest point of consciousness that the Infinite had revealed.

Throughout all my talks since this unfoldment, what has broken through has led to the message of going beyond words and thoughts—going beyond the mind. ...

In our teaching, we are feeding to the students all of these Words of God that have been revealed to us so that they can take them into their minds and bury them deep in their consciousness until they too rise above the level of the mind to where they can live without taking thought and be receptive to the still, small Voice. Never believe that The Infinite Way is teaching you to mentalize! Mentalizing is necessary only when you are learning Truth, when you are feeding your consciousness with the letter of Truth. We want no student to live by affirmations or denials, because that is not living by the Grace of God.

The Infinite Way message has been leading you to the stage where you live without words or thoughts. Keep working hard and long with the principles of The Infinite Way until the principles are embodied in you and your soul begins to feed you with the hidden manna. **But do not make an eight-hour day of it. Take time out to work in your garden or read a good book or even read a good novel. You must learn to stop, sometimes for a day or two, and say, “Let me not trust my mind, let me relax in God.” Invite the Soul! Relax in the Soul, without words or thoughts. God is not in the whirlwind. God is not in your problems. God is not in your thinking. God is not in your books. God is in the still, small Voice. In order to hear that Voice and receive Its impartations and Its Grace, we must live quietly and peacefully in the within.**

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There must come a rest from the activity of the mind, from taking thought for our lives, from fearing for our lives, from constantly knowing the Truth in order to avoid some experience. There must come a rest—the Sabbath. In this Sabbath we live by Grace, because now we do not merely know the Truth, we are Truth, and Truth reveals Itself to us. It is not an activity of our minds, it is the Soul revealing Itself. This period of rest is the fruitage of abiding in these principles. It is the true meaning of the Sabbath that Moses gave to the Hebrews. It was a period of rest forever.

Yes, labor for six days to know these principles until you come to the place where you realize, "I is God, and the Word that It imparts to me is the bread, the meat, the wine, and the water." Then you have entered the Sabbath, and for the rest of your days you live by the Grace of God, by my Spirit. When you reach that stage, you can relax and rest in the Truth instead of feverishly searching for and reading and studying Truth. You become a state of awareness without taking thought and without speaking or thinking and discover the meaning of "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Every word, every feeling, every emotion, every thought that comes to you from the deep withinness of you is what you now live by. It guides, It directs, It sustains, It protects. It goes before you to make the crooked places straight. Our ultimate goal must be to live in God, through God, and as God. Otherwise, how could the Master have revealed, "Take no thought for your life"? It is to be lived by every Word of God that we receive in our consciousness. There is always a sufficiency of God's Grace present for this moment. Therefore, we only have to be still in this moment to receive a sufficiency of Grace for this moment. ...

[The Infinite Way] is not so much a teaching as it is an experience. It is intended to take you through the "five days" of labor: of thinking, of knowing the Truth, of searching for Truth, of pondering Truth, of meditating on Truth. Then it is intended to take you beyond words, thoughts, and activity of the mind or intellect so that you can rest in quietness and in confidence, knowing that you are no longer living your own life.