

Comments on Relationships

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GOD: It would be more accurate in your own language to say that when relationships fail (change), most often they are entered into for reasons not wholly beneficial or conducive to their survival.

Most people enter into relationships with an eye toward what they can get out of them, rather than what they can put into them. The purpose of a relationship is to decide what part of yourself you would like to show up. Not what part of another you can capture and hold.

There can be only one purpose for relationships and for all of life: To be and decide who you really are.

It's very romantic to say that now your special other has entered your life, you feel complete. The purpose of a relationship is not to have another who might complete you, but to have another with whom you might share your completeness.

Here is the paradox of all human relationships. You have no need for a particular other in order for you to experience fully who you are. And yet, without an 'other', you are nothing. This is both the mystery and the wonder, the frustration and the joy of the human experience. It requires deep understanding and total willingness to live within this paradox, in a way that makes sense. I observe that very few people do.

Most of you enter into your relationship forming years, ripe with anticipation, full of sexual energy, a wide open heart and a joyful if eager Soul. Somewhere between 40 and 60, and for most it is sooner rather than later, you have given up on your grandest dream, set aside your highest hope, and settled for your lowest

expectation, or nothing at all. The problem is so basic, so simple and yet so tragically misunderstood. Your grandest dream, your highest idea, and your fondest hope has had to do with your beloved other, rather than your beloved self. The test of your relationships has to do with how well the other lived up to your ideas and how well you saw yourself living up to his or hers.

It's about the entire nature of God and God's relationship to man.

The question that comes up here is really about the matter of obligations in relationship - and in life itself. You can not believe in an obligationless relationship, because you can not accept who and what you are. You call a life of complete freedom, spiritual anarchy. I call it God's great promise. It is only within the context of this promise that God's great plan can be completed. You have no obligation in relationship. You have only opportunity. Opportunity, not obligation, is the cornerstone of religion, the basis for all spirituality. So long as you see it the other way around, you will have missed the point.

First make sure you get into a relationship for the right reasons. I'm using the word "right" here as a relative term. I mean "right" relative to the larger purpose you hold in your life.

As I have indicated here before, most people enter into a relationship for the "wrong" reasons: To end loneliness, fill a gap, bring themselves love or someone to love. And those are some of the better reasons. Others do so to salve their egos, end their depressions, improve their sex life, recover from a previous relationship, or (believe it or not) to relieve boredom. None of these reasons will work and unless something dramatically changes along the way, neither will the relationship.

NDW: I didn't enter into my relationships for any of those reasons.

GOD: I would challenge that. I don't think that you know why you entered your relationships. I don't think you thought about it in this way. I don't think that you entered your relationships purposefully. I think you entered your relationships because... you "fell in love".

NDW: That's exactly right.

GOD: And I don't think that you stopped to look at why you fell in love. What was it to which you were responding? What need or set of needs was being fulfilled? For most people, "love" is a response to need fulfillment. Everyone has needs. You need this, another needs that. You both see in each other a chance for need fulfillment. So you agree tacitly to a trade. "I'll trade you what I've got, if you give me what you've got." It's a transaction. But you don't tell the truth about it. You don't say, "I trade you very much." You say, "I love you very much." And then the disappointment begins.

NDW: You've made this point before.

GOD: Yes and you've done this thing before, not once but several times.

NDW: You take a lot of the romance out of it when I ask you about relationships. What's wrong with falling head over heels in love without having to think about it?

GOD: NOTHING ... Fall in love with as many people as you like that way. But if you are going to form a life long relationship with them, you may want to add a little thought. On the other hand if you enjoy going through relationships like water or worst yet, staying in one because you think you have to and then living a life of quiet desparation, if you enjoy repeating these patterns from your past, then keep right on doing what you've been doing.

NDW: Ok, ok. I get it! Boy, you're relentless aren't you!

GOD: That's the problem with truth. The truth is relentless. It won't leave you alone. It keeps creeping up on you from every side, showing you what's really so. That can be annoying.

NDW: Ok. So I want to find the tools for a long term relationship and you say entering....

GOD: Yes. Be sure you and your mate agree on purpose. If you both agree at a conscious level that the purpose of your relationship is to create an opportunity, not an obligation, an opportunity for growth and full self expression, for lifting your lives to their highest potential, for healing every false thought or small idea you ever had about you, and for ultimate reunion with God and the communion of your two Souls; if you take that vow, instead of the vows you've been taking, the relationship has begun on a very good note and it's a very good beginning.

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