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Master's Answers to the Questions

How can we distinguish the Spirit of God and spirits of our ancestors?

Any spirit, no matter how high he is, can bring the sensation of only one side, one direction. God brings to you the sensation or feeling of all four directions, like a perfect circle.

When an evil spirit comes, you feel animosity and displeasure immediately. When an evil spirit comes to you, you like him for a while, but gradually you don't like him.

With God you are always happy. If you experience deep love, you can distinguish between them.

The highest spiritual gift is intuition, not seeing visions or hearing voices. You feel these things intuitively.

When you lecture the Principle to others, some may feel gratitude and a sense of thrill much greater than the one who lectures. The Principle is not the word of man, but the Word of God. Therefore, the one who lectures may not feel each time this sensation of gratitude and excitement. Others who are hearing it for the first time may feel this. This proves that it is not the word of man.

When we are low in spirit how can we get out of it?

It is very important to record your first experiences when you contacted the Principles and were full of thrill. Then when you are in a low period, go back and read it. It will remind you, and bring you back. If you don't have such a record, recall this in your memory. The Bible says to remember your First Love. (Rev. 2:4-5) Go back to your first experience of gratitude and excitement. Then try not to go down from this level where you started.

As another method, you will see someone in your group who is still very vigorous and full of zeal, very active.

Follow him unconditionally. Be with him at least a week and recharge yourself.

But you often despise those people when you are at a low level. Don't despise them. Respect them and follow them and be with them. Help and serve them. Often those who have accepted are fresher and more vigorous. Never despise the new members. They might be in Abel's position.

Seven Steps To Personal Freedom
by Vance Packard

We, as individuals, can be free only as we are sufficiently independent, powerful and influential in our own right. This is also the path to individual satisfaction in life, for freedom with responsibility is the only sound basis for personal happiness.

What then can each of us do to strengthen personal happiness? Here are seven lines of action which you might consider:

1. Save Money.

Too many of us think of savings as security for old age. A more important function is to strengthen our independence right now.

The truth is that any family above the poverty line can build up its savings - independence - if it is frugal and relatively nonmaterialistic in what it considers to be the good life.

2. Build Your Education and Skills.

Personal freedom can be expanded by education and skills because they open up a wider range of professional opportunities. Knowledge is a tangible asset, quite often the most important tool in our work.

The more marketable knowledge you possess, the freer you are, for it can't be taken away from you - it's a tool you carry around in your head.

3. Keep Your Honor Clean.

To maintain freedom, we should reduce personal frailties, for these make us vulnerable. In today's world, our dubious or foolish acts of the past are more likely to haunt us than they would have in yesteryears.

4. Keep Your Private Life Private.

Privacy is at the heart of our concept of freedom. It is the first thing to disappear when freedom disappears. And privacy is in danger today.

The genuine individualist needs a private life as well as a public one - in order to be himself. Young people need privacy to dream and plan and to discover what they stand for.

5. Don't Give Your Life to One Organization - Unless It Can Be Given Wholeheartedly.

Today, most of us work within vast organizations that we do not personally control, and one of the sad spectacles of our time is the large number of people who feel that they have been swallowed up or "absorbed" by such organizations.

The many layers of authority surrounding them may leave them feeling insignificant.

Fortunately, many "organization men" are starting to show a new sense of freedom. It has become increasingly easy for a person of talent to change jobs: a host of "search" firms have sprung up that are glad to serve as intermediaries.

But the problem of the Big Organization is also a problem of individual planning and choice. Many people make no plans; they just drift, then make the best of whatever job they get. But life is a matter of choices, and freedom consists in making them for yourself. All of us should assess the potential for freedom in any important action. Ideally, we should only work for things we believe in.

6. Build Your Web of Influence.

The democratic process rests largely on millions of opinion leaders. Where webs of influence exist, no man is an isolated cipher. And those of us who, by keeping informed and making responsible decisions, become opinion leaders, develop freedom power therapy.

How can you build a web of influence? By reaching out and sharing your concerns with others. And by making certain that they are well-informed and well-balanced concerns! If you keep informed and cultivate a sense of good judgment, your views are bound to influence others. And others come to respect your views, you gather strength.

7. Develop a Passion for Personal Responsibility.

The sovereign way to personal freedom is to help determine the forces that determine you. Be active! Take on responsibility! This means not merely voting, but working for the things you believe in. If you do not, you are surrendering your fate to others who do act. What groups are you active in that help make ours a better land? Or are you leaving it to the government?

Individuals can work effectively through volunteer groups to correct conditions that offend them, but a strong-willed individual working alone can sometimes generate action.

The truth is that there is a great deal that most of us can individually do to increase our freedom. We can combat the forces that would make us tame. We can fortify ourselves with the qualities and conditions that promote individual freedom. In doing so, we will be helping to create a better environment of freedom for all.

(Source: April, 1966 Readers Digest)

BRIEF NEWS REELS:

Portland, Oregon

Esther Carroll is actively witnessing to several people. There is a possibility there will soon be a men's study group in Portland.

As in past years, Esther will spend her vacation visiting and witnessing in different areas. She will visit the San Francisco Bay area, following up on contacts she has previously made here. She may visit the Fresno and Los Angeles areas too. During the remaining days of her vacation, she will visit Seattle, Washington and possibly Vancouver, B.C. Canada.

Recently, Maxine Adamson visited Mr. and Mrs. Kim in Oakland, California. She and Vernon Pearson from Boise, Idaho drove together from Portland, Oregon. Her time with Mr. Kim's family was both enjoyable and a time of spiritual strengthening.

Seattle, Washington

Dianne Pitts is trying to rent Mrs. Chrystine Hilts' house in Seattle, Washington. Mrs. Hilts dedicated this house to this work while she was alive. Now Mr. Hilts plans to remarry and is going to rent or sell the house.

Though his son is active in this faith, his father will not allow him to use the house. He strongly opposes our work. But Dianne is trying to rent this historical place. Recent information has been received informing us that it will be a miracle if she can get this house for our work. We need your prayer support!

Boise, Idaho

Vernon Pearson recently visited Mr. Kim's family in California. His work schedule made it impossible for him to meet them in Portland, Oregon in July when they attended the training conference there.

Vernon had only three days off so he drove to Portland, Oregon where Maxine Adamson joined him for the trip to California. They drove in turn and arrived Saturday morning, August 6th.

Vernon had to be back to work in Boise, Idaho on Monday morning so he had to leave Oakland Sunday morning.

His trip was very physically tiring because of the many hours of driving, but he enjoyed the time spent with Mr. Kim's family and the wonderful Korean food. The trip was very encouraging and beneficial to him spiritually. It is very difficult being isolated from the Heavenly Family as he is in Idaho.

Berkeley, California

On August 4th, Mr. Kim gave a Korean dinner for Terre Hall's birthday. Several family members were there to celebrate her birthday. Mrs. Kim gave Terre a gift of a summer hat for her use in witnessing on the campus where she will set up a table near the campus south gate in the near future.

On August 9th, Terre Hall moved to Marie Laux's home, from Esther Sanematsu's house where she has been staying during a convalescence period. She is much better now and she is trying to be active witnessing again. She has been witnessing on the campus, visiting regularly the International House, the student union, the school of education and several other places where she can meet students. Mr. Kim has joined her ministry.

Terre opened a post office box on August 5th in Berkeley. The number is P.O. Box #9021, North Berkeley Station, Berkeley, California. This is in preparation for inquiries made through her new tracts. Several students have been reached by her recently.

During the second week of the month, members of the Japanese family together with Terre Hall and Mr. Kim

distributed tracts and witnessed on the campus. Thus the Berkeley campus has become a target of an active witnessing campaign. Please pray for the campus ministry by Terre Hall and other members of the family working on the campus.

San Francisco, California

The Japanese family is working hard and bearing fruit. We have received the good news that a peace movement organization from the east coast has been reached by the Japanese family. Seven key members are coming to Mr. Nishikawa's lectures and they have proposed to work together.

Oakland, California

Mr. Kim, as rehabilitation counselor intern, received an award from Goodwill Industries of America for his eight months outstanding service in that agency. Mr. Kim received this award on August 8, 1966. When this practical training in counseling is over, he will have a new assignment in the Job Corps Training Center in Utah, as a counselor. For three months he will engage in counseling for culturally deprived youths in the center. If the Immigration Office approves he will have full-time work for three months. He plans to leave before the end of August. During his few weeks vacation he will witness actively and also join Terre's work on the Berkeley campus. The Wednesday meeting will be continued even though Mr. Kim will be away. Terre Hall will take over the meeting.

Mr. Kim's wife and son are adjusting very well and they look very happy.