

## Witnessing - Moving People with the Principle

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On Saturday I met a girl who's been searching for our movement ever since she found a copy of an old Divine Principle book in her new apartment a few months ago. The book was in the bottom of an old cardboard box with other bits and bobs. She contacted the previous tenants of her flat and offered to return this Divine Principle to them. They said not to bother, better to just chuck it.

However, Della couldn't do that as she was transfixed by the picture of Father on the cover page. She began searching for more information online and even asked around her friends and family if they knew of the mysterious man in her book. Many didn't know, some told her to stay away, but in the end her curiosity about our movement got the better of her and she wanted to find out about us for herself. She ended up contacting us and I arranged a meeting with her in Lancaster Gate last Saturday. We had a lovely day and I could explain all about our movement and what we do over tea and coffee. There were a few members in Lancaster Gate for

Rev. Dr. Levy Dougherty's talk and they embraced her warmly. I am sure she felt at home with us.

We had some free time that day, so after my brief introduction, I began to teach her the Principle. We got through chapter 1 and fearing this may be my only chance to really make an impact on her I decided to go straight onto chapter 2: 'The Human Fall'.

This has always been the chapter that most interested me as it makes me understand why the world I am living in is as it is. When I was teaching it this time I changed my style a tiny bit. I didn't use my slides as I normally do. Instead, I simply read the red and blue sections taking it in turns with Della, pausing whenever I needed to set the scene or explain something. I began to speak with a lot of passion about the identity of the snake and how the trees symbolised mature human beings. This point alone struck her and I felt she knew what was coming but one final connection needed to be made. Della then read aloud the line which reads "we can infer that the angel fell as a result of an illicit sexual relationship". She was pushed, hit with a tonne of bricks. It deeply struck her and I could see as I was explaining how society is today that it was making sense, that it made much more sense than the traditional understanding of the Genesis account. She then very intelligently understood that our blood to this very day is still contaminated with the dirt of this ancient act. She was speechless.

We called it a day. I silently packed up and I walked Della to the station. We said our farewells and I walked back to Lancaster Gate. It was a strange farewell very quiet, almost as if Della was still picking herself up after what we discussed, dazed by the strength of the words she read a few minutes earlier. Having said that, she loved her time with us and we said our goodbyes both with beaming smiles. She is reading the autobiography now and I hope we can meet again soon.

I rushed back to Lancaster Gate to hear the end of Rev. Dr. Levy's talk. I walked in to a room of members and guests all being blown away by his explanation of the Genesis account. He was saying the exact same things I had just been saying to Della moments earlier. He was talking about Adam and Eve and the sexual nature of the fall. It sent goosbumps down my spine thinking that the same truth was being taught moments apart in two different rooms of Lancaster Gate. Divine Principle was taught that day and it's as powerful as ever.

Michael Schroder, CARP Leader