Three Couples Searching for Hope

On a cold winter morning, a married couple awoke early. They had yet another night of "tossing and turning". It was the weekend; their two children were staying with friends, and the couple was hoping to get some extra sleep after a busy week at work. They both tried to close their eyes and go back to sleep, but it was no use; neither of them could relax enough to do so, for there was simply too much going through their minds. The husband asked his wife if she would like to go for a walk in order to get some fresh air. She suggested that maybe a hike into the mountains would be even better, and he agreed.

They had their servants pack some water and food for the trip and get their winter boots, jackets, hats, and gloves from the closet. When they were ready, they got into the limousine and told the chauffeur to take them to a nearby mountain trail. Just the thought of getting out of town for a few hours was already making them feel better, as they knew that they just needed to think in peace without their concentration being interrupted by the incessant noise from the television or radio, listening to the idle chatter of others (usually about nothing important), having to answer phone calls, attending dull meetings, or having to deal with traffic jams and the congestion of people.

The couple was wealthy, for each had a very successful career and worked hard to climb the ranks to higher and higher positions. They had a mansion located on the outskirts of town, a luxurious apartment within the city, and a beach house on the coast. They owned expensive vehicles, earned enough money to purchase anything they desired, traveled to different countries whenever they wanted, and were regularly hosting or attending social gatherings with friends and business associates. They had what most people would consider a "great life". However, they both felt empty and were utterly depressed.

On the surface, their lives appeared to be an unbelievable dream that most others would envy. Yet, it was an illusion, and they knew it was nothing more than an example of "the grass being greener on the other side". Both of them were discontent with their marriage, with their careers, and with their lives in general. They knew that something was not right; they seemed to be drifting apart, and their marriage felt empty.

Their careers were fruitful but left them both with a bitter taste in their mouths. Their children were spoiled, selfish, and arrogant; they attended an elite private school and were being educated to follow in the footsteps of their parents. The couple seemingly had *everything*, but they could feel that they really had *nothing*. There was a void within their lives, and it was their feeling of unhappiness which caused their minds to desperately search for an answer of how to fill that void. They both felt that there must be *more* to life. How could they have everything that they wanted and still feel empty and depressed? What exactly is the *more* that they are searching for?

Now, in a middle class suburb nearby, there was another couple experiencing similar feelings and sleepless nights. On the surface, they were living what most people would consider a "good life". They worked hard at their jobs in order to make enough money so that they, and their children, would be able to live comfortably and have most of what they wanted. They had a rather big house, numerous vehicles, and many of the material possessions that were the fads and trends of the day. Other than work, they spent a great deal of time driving their children from one activity to the next in a sincere desire for their children to have better childhoods than they had. When there was time for something fun which was just for them, they enjoyed watching television in order to "escape" from their daily lives, eating at restaurants, shopping, socializing with friends, having a couple of drinks, and even "trying their luck" at the casinos.

However, the couple also felt a huge void in their lives. Something was not right; how could they have a good life and yet still feel so empty? Their marriage was okay, but they both knew that the passion had burned out a long time ago. They had three children who were "average" in

intelligence and behaved like most other children. They did what every other child their age was doing, and all of them attended a public school that was preparing the children to be "mediocre" like everyone else.

The couple also knew what everyone else looking from an outside perspective did not know; they were drowning in debt. They had maxed-out their credit cards, had a house they could not afford, and were working hard at jobs they did not really like in order to simply pay bills, climb out of debt, and continue with a materialistic lifestyle of purchasing all of the "hottest" products for their children that society was convincing people they could not live without. They were also empty, depressed, and feeling hopeless. They needed time to clear their minds, so they decided that it would be a good idea to go for a hike in the nearby mountains. They took the children to their grandparents, who were delighted to watch them, and then they left.

Around the same time, there was a third couple living in the slums. They had what most people would consider a "bad life"; they were poor and supported themselves by begging for money on the city streets and rummaging through garbage bins. Their parents and grandparents were also very poor, as living in poverty had seemingly become a "family tradition". They lived in a dirty, rat-infested, unsafe building which somehow escaped being demolished, even though it violated almost every Health and Safety Law written.

They did not own any vehicles, did not have jobs, and had very few material possessions. They were both uneducated and so were their five children, who spent their time running around the streets with their friends and getting into mischief. Some of their children's friends were also involved in gangs and would constantly tempt them into joining. The two oldest children had already been in trouble, as the police arrested them for burglary, illegal possession of guns, and selling drugs.

The couple was upset about giving their children such a terrible life. They also felt a huge void in their own lives; they were desperate to change their situation but felt so hopeless to do anything about it. How would they be able to overcome such difficult obstacles in order to create better lives for themselves and for their children? How would they overcome the powerful influence of generation after generation of their family members having no education, no jobs, no motivation, and no strategy of how to change their dreadful situation? They frequently sought to escape from their sad reality by drinking alcohol, for they just wanted to dull the pain that they were feeling inside.

The couple knew that they needed to change their lives, or they would die in the same conditions that they were currently living in...or worse. They also feared that their children would continue down the same path of deterioration and despair. The wife told her husband that they should leave the city for a few hours and go into the mountains in order to get away from all of the noise, vehicles, pollution, crowds, and their very depressing apartment building. The husband agreed that some fresh air and peace may help them to think more clearly. The wife's mother also lived with them, and she volunteered to watch the younger children for the couple so that they could leave the city. They had enough money for bus tickets and went on their way.

On that fateful day, three couples with three drastically different situations were all getting away from their suffocating, man-made environments and heading toward the majesty of the mountains. Each of their journeys was intended to find some sense of inner peace and, hopefully, to find some answers to the questions that they had about why they felt a void in their lives, why they were so depressed and unhappy, and what they could do to change things. At slightly different times, the couples had all made their way up to the top of the mountain where there was a well-known lookout spot with a panoramic view of the city and surrounding area. They each decided individually that they wanted a more private spot that was off the beaten path. As if guided by an unseen force, each couple chose a different way through the thick forest and yet all headed in the same direction. The route chosen by each couple serendipitously led them to the exact same location at the top of another, less familiar, peak.

Arriving at nearly the same time, the three couples were surprised to see each other. They all went in search of a more private location in order to think in peace; however, they were not annoyed

at seeing other people in that exact location. They could somehow feel that it was no mere coincidence that they were all there in the same place and at the same time. So, here stood three different class levels within society; yet, that did not matter, as they were all feeling similar things within themselves and had similar questions about their lives. They greeted each other as warmly as strangers usually do and as kindly as people can when they are overwhelmed with feelings of great sadness and hopelessness.

The couples were unsure of what to say to each other, and even the husbands and wives were not speaking to one another. It was pure and sacred silence...something which none of them had ever fully experienced in their entire lives. From chaos into order, gross into beauty, disharmony into harmony, and noise into peace...the three couples fell into a simultaneous solitude. They all sat down on a few trees that had fallen to the ground over the years, felt the cool breeze on their cheeks, enjoyed the refreshing fragrance of the tall pine trees surrounding them, and were captivated by the glimmer of sunlight reflecting from the pure white snow.

It was then, in the silence and the peace atop the snowy mountain peak, that a Brilliant Light appeared before the three couples. It was a "formless form" that radiated the most intense Energy of Love, Peace, and Comfort any of them had ever felt. They were speechless, motionless, and in awe of the amazing spectacle taking place before them. A gentle, and yet powerful, Voice spoke to them: "Do not be afraid, My Beloved Children."

The poor woman was the first one to speak and asked The Voice in the Light, "Who are You? Are You God?"

The Voice responded, "I AM."

The poor man followed his wife with a short question of his own and asked, "Why are You here, God?"

God replied, "I AM here, My Beloved Son, because you have all come looking for answers. In fact, it was I who guided the six of you here today. I know the pain and suffering in your lives, and I would like to offer some Words of Wisdom if you would allow Me to do so."

The wealthy woman spoke next and asked God, "If You wanted to help us, why did You wait until today?"

God lovingly responded, "My Beloved Daughter, I have been trying to help all of you throughout your lives. You could not *hear* Me, because you were surrounded by constant noise of idle chatter and destructive forms of music. You could not *see* Me, because you were entranced by the empty programs that you watch on television and the violent and degrading movies in theaters. You could not *feel* Me, because you were too busy seeking the comfortless pleasures of the world. You could not *taste* Me, because you are no longer eating and drinking the healthy food and water that I created for you. You could not *smell* Me, because buildings, streets, vehicles, and computers cannot radiate the wonderful fragrances that I created flowers and trees to bless you with each day. You could not *sense* Me within you, because there is no room in your Being when it is already full of greed, selfishness, lust, desire, fear, pride, doubt, anger, and envy. You could not *observe* Me working through Life itself, because you have lost touch with Mother Nature and have been trapped within the artificial and superficial world that Man has miscreated. I have been here all along, but you have not noticed Me."

The middle class man then asked, "God, all those things that You mentioned are a part of our lives today...and of most people's lives. Is that not what we are meant to be doing?"

God replied, "My Beloved Son, do you honestly believe that I created mankind so that people could all spend their lives pursuing the accumulation of money, material possessions, and trying to satisfy insatiable desires? None of those truly makes anyone happy; they never have...and never will. That is why I have brought the six of you here today, for you represent the wealthy, the middle class, and the poor. However, you are all unhappy, unfulfilled, discontent, depressed, and feeling empty. Material possessions can never fill the void that you all feel. I did not envision such sad lives for any of My Children around the world."

The wealthy man then asked, "God, what do You expect of us...to live like paupers? The poor couple sitting here now is already in poverty, and they are not happy either. So, what do You want from us? What is Your Vision for mankind?"

God responded, "My Beloved Son, you are right in that poverty is not My Will for mankind; however, the greed and selfishness of the wealthy is not either. One of My Beloved Sons, Gautama Buddha, taught mankind the Path of the Middle Way, but too many still fail to understand its importance. We still see the extremes of the poor and the rich throughout the world. Those who are considered the 'middle class' also do not understand, as most of them are working hard in order to live in comfort instead of poverty; yet, all of their money is being spent to purchase products and pay bills so that they can maintain a certain lifestyle. That is considered 'normal' today. However, that is slavery to comfort, to materialism, and to the endless pursuit of worldly pleasures. Can you imagine that I would ever Dream of such a nightmare existence for My Children to be obsessed with money, have no money at all, or to work hard in order to purchase meaningless products and to pay bills? The true Middle Way is to acquire what you need in order to provide the basic necessities for yourselves and for your families so that you can then spend the rest of your valuable time developing spiritually and becoming who I created you to BE. You were wisely instructed in the past to seek first My Kingdom and My Righteousness, and then everything would be added unto you. However, too many people have still continued to 'put the cart before the horse' and are seeking both financial and material comfortability before seeking Me; this is why their souls feel so depressed and empty. Seek Me first within you, and I promise that everything you would ever need will be given to you and so much more! If you put your trust in Me, I will always give you what you need...when you need it. I did not create people to feel like worthless sinners, to live in shackles of limitation and fear, to be controlled by others or by human institutions, to have the inalienable rights that I gave them at the moment of their conception be trampled on by governments, or for people to get lost in the unreality of the technocratic and materialistic world. I created mankind to BE 'gods' on Earth and Individualizations of Me!"

The middle class woman then asked, "But God, we have never heard such things before. We did not hear that from our parents; we did not learn that in school; we do not hear that in the media; and we do not even hear such things when we do go to church. Why did You not save us from our misery, God? The whole world is living in pain and ignorance, and yet it seems like You are not doing anything about it."

God replied, "My Beloved Daughter, I did not create the ignorance or the miseries of the world. It is the exact opposite of what I envisioned for Man. You must realize that I gave Man free will, and people must live with the consequences of their own actions. Only then will they learn to grow, develop self-mastery, and become more self-controlled. There can never be true freedom or lasting happiness without self-discipline and understanding. You will rarely hear that in today's world, but I speak the Truth. I will not save mankind, My Daughter, because I want everyone to harness the incredible power that is already within them in order to save themselves. What purpose would it serve if I rescued My Children from every unpleasant situation that they themselves created? They would never learn from their mistakes and rise higher. However, I do not leave My Children comfortless. Throughout mankind's history, I have always sent 'messengers' to bring valuable teachings that may help to wake people from their 'sleep'. I do also work through those who are more attuned to Me in order that they might perform various deeds that can help guide mankind out of the cave of ignorance and into the Light of Illumination."

The poor woman spoke again and asked, "God, how do we find happiness? Everyone on Earth wants it, and yet it seems that nobody can find it."

God said, "My Daughter, people cannot find happiness because they are looking in the wrong places. How can people ever expect to find true happiness within empty entertainment, meaningless sex, alcohol, drugs, wasting hard-earned money by gambling, purchasing material goods, surrounding themselves with inanimate objects, living in such unnatural and unhealthy conditions, and not knowing who they are or why they are here on Earth? Happiness can be found in only one place, My Dear, and that is within you! People's true happiness should never be dependent upon

any person, place, or situation in their lives. Such things are always changing; to base your happiness upon temporary and unstable conditions is doomed to fail, and it will leave you feeling depressed and empty. This does not mean that you do not love people, make the most of living where you are, or enjoy the situations that life brings to you. It means that you remain non-attached and try to love everyone unconditionally, but that you find true happiness within yourself where nothing and no one can cause you to lose it. That is the key to attaining every good thing that I envisioned for mankind...to look *inside* yourselves instead of *outside* yourselves."

The middle class man immediately asked, "God, how can we do that when we are surrounded by so much that causes us to look outside of ourselves? Especially here in the West...from the moment we are all born, our attention is constantly forced to focus on everything outside of ourselves. What do You want us to do? Should we just move to the East and meditate all day?"

God replied, "My Son, meditating is beneficial; however, you need to balance meditation with action. Nothing would get done if you just sat in meditation every day. It also does not benefit you, or your community, to leave in search of something better; people will simply bring with them the problems they already have. Changing the world means changing yourselves first. You all must learn to be at peace and find happiness right where you are now. That will positively influence your family, which will then positively influence your extended family and circle of friends. When that happens, you will then see that such positive change is not only inspiring but contagious; very soon, your entire community would also begin to change. That alone would be a major accomplishment, but it would not have to stop there. Communities could go on to influence districts; districts could influence states; states could influence an entire nation; and a nation could literally influence the rest of the world. But you see, My Mighty Son, it all begins with you. One person can indeed change the world, but it will not happen until that person works hard to improve himself or herself first."

The middle class woman then asked, "But God, who are we? I do not mean to offend those who are here today, but we are nothing...we are evolved apes and mere grains of sand on this Earth. Nobody cares what we do, and nobody is interested in anything that we have to say. I am one person; what can I possibly say or do that will mean anything in the grand scheme of making the world a better place...even if I simply work to become a better person, wife, and mother?"

Her husband then immediately spoke when she finished; he continued by saying, "And God, look around the world...it is crazy out there. I may be living my life in a way that should not be, but that is probably the least of concerns when looking at everything that is taking place throughout the world. There is so much Darkness and perversion in every aspect of society. You are right, Father, we (mankind) have become mere slaves to this crude system of society that we ourselves have either created or sustained. We can see that things which are unnatural are being accepted as 'natural'. That which is *unhealthy* is being accepted as 'healthy'. And that which is *abnormal* is being accepted as 'normal'. It seems that every area of society is collapsing under the weight of impurity and from the decay of morality. There is always fighting somewhere; governments are corrupt; education is dumbing-down our children; the big banks are controlling our money; 'healthcare' fails to make us healthy; we have very little good food or clean water anymore; and that is to name only a few of the disturbing things that are taking place. Some people see what is wrong and they are trying to make changes, but it is a Herculean Labor. Others simply do not see what is going on, and so they criticize the people who are trying to help. And still others, they do not want the changes to take place, because they are far too comfortable with their current lifestyles or they are profiting too much with more power, control, and wealth from Man's downward spiral of degeneration. How are we possibly going to change all of that? God, this is precisely why we need You to save us!"

God boldly responded, "My Beloved Son and Daughter, you both have just raised important concerns. Firstly, I must tell you that it is an insidious Untruth that you are evolved apes, and it is a sad belief to maintain that you are merely grains of sand. Most of you have forgotten that Man is My Greatest Creation! Everything in existence was made for Man, but too few in the world know this today. Even the Earth was made for Man...not Man being made for the Earth. Your

Destiny...your sacred role as Man...is to be a co-creator with Me. Was it not said in your scriptures that 'Ye are gods'? Were you all not told to 'take dominion'? Right from The Very Beginning, I gave every one of you the necessary power, wisdom, and love that you would need in order to maintain the Earthly Paradise that I created for you. I also gave you absolute free will to rise or fall based upon your own decisions to exercise how you each express energies through your thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds. However, do not despair, My Children. Even though that Paradise was lost by Man's own choices, you still have the power within yourselves right now to change your own lives and to then help change the entire planet. As I have said, you do not need Me to magically save you...for you have all of the power inside of you that is needed to save yourselves! What greater sense of joy could a Father have than watching His Own Children rise to a level of greatness never imagined before or witnessed throughout all of history...and for them to have accomplished it by themselves! Remember that even when there is a cloudy day, My Children, it is only a matter of time before the sunlight pierces through the darkness and shines upon this land. Never lose your hope. Light will prevail! It always does! Do not look to other people or the government to 'save you', and do not drown all your sorrows in alcohol, drugs, overeating, or other unhealthy vices. Instead, BE the fearless gods that I created you to BE and joyously labor to leave no stone unturned in order to transform this entire world. Remember to BE Victors...not Victims!"

The poor man then said, "God, I believe that I can ask this question on behalf of everyone here right now. How should we begin this Sacred Journey of improving ourselves and society?"

Without any hesitation, God suggested, "Firstly, as will be the case with everyone else on Earth, you must work to purify yourselves. How can you possibly make the world better when you have not labored to better yourselves first? You have heard the proverb that says, 'Physician, heal thyself'; well, you are all 'physicians'. You must heal yourselves before you can begin to heal others. Purify all your thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds. Then, you can go and tell others that all I have ever wanted was for them to BE who I created them to BE and not to accept the limitations and perversions of society, which program them to be so much less. Understand that I want you all to be so much more! Another of My Beloved Sons, Jesus the Christ, taught you to 'be perfect, as your Father in Heaven is perfect'. You are My Children; if you believe Me to be perfect and pure, then you should be as perfect and pure as I AM. Do not allow others to tell you differently; it is simply their justification for not taking responsibility of their own lives and not working hard to purify themselves. People need to figure out who they truly are...BE who they truly are...figure out what unique gift they each have hidden within their hearts...and to then let their Light shine by sharing that gift with the world. It is a 'secret' that never should have been, My Children. Why would I hide the Truth from you? My Message was, is, and always will be simple. Do not let the world that is full of fear, doubt, and analytical reasoning cause you to be influenced by the false belief that Knowing God and BEing what I have envisioned for you all to BE is something extremely complex...and, therefore, it cannot be understood at all by mankind or is only known to certain 'elite' individuals. It can, and should, be known by ALL...because you are ALL My Beloved Children!"

The wealthy man spoke up and asked, "Father, even when we do improve ourselves, people may not believe us when we share with them the incredible Teachings which You have given us today. How can we get others to believe us when we have no proof that You even exist?"

God replied, "My Son, I AM EVERYWHERE WITHIN MY CREATION! The people who doubt that there is a *Higher Power* acting in the Cosmos are simply 'asleep'. They cannot explain how such Order and Perfection can exist, but they still refuse to believe there is a *Higher Intelligence* behind it ALL. It does not offend Me; however, it hinders them from BEing who they could BE if they understood that there is a 'God' and that they are all Individualizations of that 'God'. You must speak to such individuals with sincere love in your hearts and express no criticism, condemnation, or judgment. Yet, you must tell them that they will not find Me in man-made buildings of wood and stone or in any of the material objects that they purchase in their misguided pursuit of happiness. They will find Me every single day in the Sun that gives great light and warmth, in the stars that twinkle in the night sky, in the flowers that radiate their beauty and

fragrances, in the trees that provide oxygen and shade, in the sweet songs of birds, in the snow-capped mountain ranges, in the big blue oceans, in the magnificent colors of the rainbow, and in the flowing streams. I AM the Creator...and I can always be found within My Creation! I AM the Cosmic Yang and Yin, Alpha and Omega, Father and Mother, Spirit and Matter. I AM the Creator of Everything, and I AM also the Energy that causes Mother Nature Herself to sustain this lovely planet so that Man may have a Sacred Place for His Soul's spiritual progress and wondrous acts of co-creation. I AM within Man; that is why I created you all in 'My Image and Likeness'...not as the mere human beings that you think you are but the Spirit within you that is your True Identity. You have no farther to go in looking for Me than to simply meditate within your own hearts or to take a pleasant walk through nature. Why would I hide from you, My Children? I AM where I have always been. Please, do not allow the distractions of the world or the sea of ignorance to prevent you from finding Me and to cause you to blindly accept Unreality...instead of awakening to Reality."

The wealthy woman then jumped up and exclaimed, "Oh, Dearest God, that all sounds wonderful! Thank You for opening my eyes and helping me to see...or rather to 'remember'...what my soul has been desiring to find out for so many years now. However, my God, what practical steps should we take in order to begin awakening all of Your Beloved Children...our blessed brothers and sisters? But please, speak simply so that I will be able to better understand Your Great Wisdom and effectively carry out my future work."

God lovingly responded, "Yes, My Beloved Daughter, I would be happy to share an idea with you, and I will make it as simple as possible to understand. You should all begin working hard to prepare for *The Reformation of Civilization Through a Revolution in Education*."

The middle class man joyously repeated, "A Revolution in Education! That is brilliant, God! That is so simple and yet so powerful! And, of course, You are speaking about the education of ALL people and not just children alone...although, they are the Future Leaders of Society, and they truly need an education that will naturally help them all to BE who they are, figure out what their unique gift is, and to let their Light shine by sharing that gift with others. There should be a whole new approach to educating Man that begins even before conception takes place and continues throughout the rest of His life!"

God replied, "My Son, ignorance is the core problem that has caused every other problem around the world. There are no exceptions. People need to be awakened from their sleep...they must be illumined with Truth and be given loving assistance to overcome whatever ignorance continues preventing them from BEing what I created all of them to BE. Please remember, My Son, that you cannot make them BE who they are. Everyone has free will, and it is up to each of you individually to work to BE what you feel within yourselves you can become. Control and tyranny of every kind has come to an end! A Great Era of Love, Illumination, and Freedom is now here, and Man will have the opportunity and the potential more than ever before to co-create a world that has never been seen before in history. It is not My Wish for Man to simply bring back the purity of what I created in The Beginning; although, that is a necessary 'first step'. My Truest Desire is for Man to BE the co-creator that I created Him to BE...and then use His power, wisdom, and love to make the world even more beautiful through His own efforts individually and 'as a whole'. This will come about through a Revolution in Education. However, you must also understand that along with this 'Revolution' is the vital need for everyone on the Earth to change the way that they raise their children. Proper Parenting is a major part of True Education, and it will alter this planet in ways that most people would not currently believe is possible!"

The poor woman then asked, "God, what do You mean by 'proper parenting'?"

God responded, "My Daughter, improper parenting is that which hinders the natural development of children to become what they are destined to BE, and proper parenting is that which supports the children in becoming what they are destined to BE. Nearly every aspect within your society is hindering that proper development in some way, and this is precisely why there are so many problems in the world. The two most important things for Man's development are *Proper Parenting* and *True Education*. Right now, very few children on Earth are receiving either of

them...let alone both. There is no manual for perfect parenting, as every child is unique and requires different things for natural development. However, there are indeed certain core principles that can be used by parents all over the world, which will build a solid foundation for their children. Parents will then need to adjust various activities based upon what each child needs for his or her individual growth. The *family* is the 'cornerstone' of society; if that is not comprised of solid principles that maintain loving marriages and help the children to become who they are meant to BE, then everything that is built on top will collapse. Above all things, parents must give their children unconditional love and remain ever vigilant to protect them from the continual onslaught of negative influences which could harm their pure souls and rob them of their innocence. Parents must create an environment of love, joy, peace, freedom, and illumination for their children to grow up in. There is no more important 'job' in all of society than parents properly raising their children. This is another reason why it is imperative that you work to improve yourselves; how could you possibly teach your children moral principles, if you have not worked to develop such things within yourselves first?"

God continued, "Do you have any other questions which you would like to ask, My Children?"

The wealthy man asked, "God, You have blessed us with such amazing ideas today that we have never thought of before. However, they are general concepts that can apply to everyone. What if I need Your Guidance later on for individual things that take place in my personal life? Even though You wanted us to take command of our own lives, I do not think that You would mind if we still ask for illumination and guidance if we need it. However, I cannot really imagine that You want me to climb this mountain so that You can appear every single time I have a problem to work through."

God responded, "My Dear Son, you are quite right. I AM always happy to offer you 'pearls' of illumination and to guide you in developing the necessary understanding to make wiser decisions in your lives. You are also correct in that what I have told you all today is applicable to everyone on Earth. As with parenting and education, there are always core principles that can apply to everyone regardless of gender, race, class, creed, or culture. The 'Beauty of Man' is that everyone is truly a unique individual. Even though certain important principles do apply to everyone, it also means that more specific things need to take place within people's lives which will be based upon their own individual, spiritual progress. Thus, specific assistance would be required, because the general Teachings would not provide the answers to people's individual questions. Please remember that I AM within you all. Do what you did today by going into the Silence of this mountain top. However, instead of coming to a mountain top, you should go into the silence of your heart. That is where you will find Me, and in that silence you will hear My Voice just like you did today. And the answers to all of your specific questions will be answered if you can shut out the noise and distractions of the world, purify yourselves, and listen for My Voice in the stillness of the heart. We are not separate like mankind has believed for so long...We are One!"

God continued by asking, "Are there any more questions, My Beloved Children?"

The wealthy woman replied, "I have one more, Father. I know how powerful images and symbols can be for mankind. I see them all over society, and I have used them myself for my job. Sometimes words are just not enough to get across a certain message, and so images can be very useful. When I do improve myself to the point of being ready to share some ideas with other people, they may feel that I am just preaching or lecturing them. I would like my actions to speak louder than my words, and I know that images can also speak louder than words. So, is there a symbol or image of some kind that You might suggest we use to represent this glorious mission that we are about to begin? Maybe we could use a specific image to symbolize the *Great Awakening of Man*, the overcoming of our ignorance, the transmutation of impurities through Divine Love, the process of people working to transcend themselves, and selfless souls who are dedicated to creating a *Revolution in Education* so that there will be the *Reformation of Civilization*?"

God joyously replied, "My Daughter, that is an excellent idea. Images are more powerful than most people on the Earth currently realize. However, I would like to let you come up with an

image for yourself. Think about what I have shared with you today and everything that you believe your mission to be. What image would catch *your* attention? What would set *your* heart on fire? What do you believe would wonderfully symbolize the process of 'awakening mankind'? Please feel free to discuss this with the others."

The three couples all huddled in a circle and shared ideas with one another, as they reflected upon the many concepts that were now racing through their minds. After a few minutes, they could not come up with anything that felt "just right". They sat down and continued to think; they needed a powerful image that would symbolize the exciting ideas that they were very eager to share with their brothers and sisters. More time went by, and yet nothing was coming to them.

They figured that they were just thinking too hard, and so they all decided to clear their minds, calm their emotions, and simply enjoy the peaceful bliss of quietude for a little while. All of a sudden, they were fully in the "here and now" as they had been when they first arrived and enjoyed the silence before God appeared and spoke with them. They were not thinking about all of their problems back home or how things were going to turn out; they were not living in the past or the future. Instead, they were simply BEing "in the moment" and experiencing what felt to them to be the first time they were fully *alive*.

While absorbing the sensations of the majesty of Mother Nature around them and going deeper and deeper into the peace of their own hearts, the wealthy woman sprang to her feet with childlike joy and proclaimed to the group, "I think that I have it! A golden spear with ruby flames that have a white fire core and smoke coming from the spearhead and rushing behind!"

Her husband excitedly asked his wife, "Honey, would you like to explain the symbolism of such an image to us?"

She ecstatically answered, "Yes! For so long now, people have demonstrated some of their inhumanity toward their fellow Man through war. The spear is one of the oldest images of war, violence, and death. However, this mission that we are about to begin will be working to create a world full of wisdom, love, purity, truth, peace, and freedom for ALL mankind! So, it might be powerful to take an image once thought of as a symbol for violence and use it instead to promote the opposite. This golden spear would be a *Spear of Illumination*...a *Spear of Truth*! The ruby flames on the spearhead would symbolize Divine Love, and the white fire core of those ruby flames would symbolize purity of motive. After the ignorance of the world is pierced by the spear, the smoke would represent all of the impurities that would be 'burned' by the ruby and white flames of love and purity. The action of the *Golden Spear of Illumination* would be the necessary *Thrust of Light* into the Darkness of this world so that there will be *The Reformation of Civilization Through a Revolution in Education*! It would be a very simple image, but it could be extremely powerful!"

The rest of the group all jumped to their feet and cheered! They loved the idea and congratulated her for having come up with it. They agreed that it could be a very powerful symbol.

God then spoke up and said, "Well done, My Daughter! Well done, indeed! I did not 'tell you' what specific symbol to use, because I wanted you to go within yourself and come up with one on your own. How wonderful is it to figure things out for yourself...to make your own decisions through free will...to feel illumined, inspired, and empowered to come up with such beautiful ideas...and to know that you have all of the necessary power within yourself to create any changes that you wish to make within yourself and upon the planet! Is that not infinitely better than imagining some 'Wrathful God' in the sky...an Old Man with white hair and a long beard who just sits on a cloud waiting to judge people for making silly 'human' mistakes? Is that not better than even imagining a 'God' that you only pray to when you want something or who supposedly tells you what to do through other people who claim to be mediators between Me and you? Is that not better than a 'God' always having to save you...as if you are some feeble, helpless, and worthless creature? You can BE the most powerful Beings in ALL of My Creation! I rejoice in your newly discovered confidence within yourself. To be confident and realize that Man has more power than most people currently understand, but to remain humble and always be willing to use your Light and Love for the greater good of humanity, that is when you will truly BE the 'god' that I created

you to BE. Forgive yourselves for all past mistakes; forgive others for their mistakes; and spend your time working to purify every aspect of your Beings so that you may then be better prepared to help people who need it. Your image of the *Flaming Golden Spear* is wonderful, My Daughter. It is simple and yet powerful. I have every confidence in all of you to fulfill your Sacred Mission of helping to awaken your blessed brothers and sisters around the world."

The poor man then spoke and said, "Thank You, God, for everything today. I believe that I also speak for the others right now when I say that I AM grateful for my life, my free will, and for You blessing me with the sacred opportunity to be alive at this time of 'Great Need' in order to play some small part in helping my brothers and sisters in the world. Firstly, I will work hard to find a way to immediately create a loving and healthy environment for my family to live more naturally and develop spiritually. Next, I will work hard to improve myself in every way possible so that I may become a better husband, father, son, and friend. Then, I will do whatever my heart directs me to do and speak whatever my heart tells me to speak when it comes to helping others. People who wish to hear...will hear my words; and people who do not wish to hear...will not. I will love them all unconditionally and yet remain non-attached to the fruits of my labor. I will also respect Your Light that flows within all of them, and I will seek only to help awaken them so that they are no longer 'slaves' to ignorance. I will not seek to 'save' any of them, but I will labor until my very last breath to help them to 'save themselves'! May You, God, simply grant us all patience and courage, and support us in BEing who we truly are so that we can spend the rest of our blessed lives in peace, happiness, and selfless service to others."

God replied, "My Beloved Son, I thank you very much for your heartfelt gratitude. Far too many among My Children are always complaining, because they are not happy with what they have...they simply want more...or they do not realize that they are the ones who are creating the misery in their own lives. Yet, most of what people want will never bring them happiness. If My Children spent their lives working to BE who they truly are instead of what society is programming them to become, and if they lived in sincere gratitude for everything that I have already blessed them with, that would open the floodgates to all of the blessings that I AM just waiting to shower upon them. How can I bless people with greater things, when they are not grateful for what they already have? How can I work miracles in their lives, when they are still too busy being entertained by the countless distractions within society and do not take the time to find Me within their own hearts so that I may help them to BE what I know they can become? Please remember, My Son, that I will be with all of you always and in everything that you do. I AM within your every heartbeat and every breath. As you all leave this sacred mountain top, I will give you the same blessing that I have continuously given to My Beloved Children. It was, is, and always will be the same message of Divine Love from My Heart to yours...from the Heart of a Father to All His Blessed Children. My Beloved Ones, it is time for you to GO and BE the glorious individuals that I destined for you to become in The Beginning. Through a selfless Labor of Love with your fellow Man, may you find incredible joy in co-creating a magnificent world for yourselves and your blessed brothers and sisters!"

The Great Voice stopped speaking, and the Light began to fade. The three couples stood there in wonderment and gratitude for the miraculous blessing they experienced on this day. They were now bonded in a way that made them inseparable and cut across any superficial boundaries and barriers. It was time for them to walk back down the mountain and begin the first day of the rest of their New Lives.

It was not going to be an easy journey, but they all knew that the mission was more than worth the effort to overcome any obstacles they would encounter on the way. They embraced one another in loving friendship, exchanged contact details so that they could stay in touch, and then left the sacred spot where they spoke with God. As they walked away, they were all filled with an incredible sense of love, inspiration, and hope that none of them had ever felt before.

The middle class woman began to quietly hum a tune. Her husband asked, "My Dear, what song are you humming; that is quite lovely?"

The others agreed and said that they liked it very much as well. The woman shyly replied, "Oh, that is a song by Edward Elgar. It is 'Nimrod' from *Enigma Variations*. I do not know why I am humming that particular song, but for some reason it just popped into my mind."

The poor woman responded, "I love it! Perhaps, that song is a gift from God to remind us of what happened today. We all came here feeling hopeless; we are now leaving this mountain filled with the greatest sense of hope to change our own lives and to also help others do the same. Could that song symbolize *hope*? Could it be used, like the Golden Spear, to symbolize our mission in bettering ourselves...the same mission that everyone else is going to have as well?"

Her husband responded, "Sweetheart, I really think that is a wonderful idea! The song can symbolize *love*, *inspiration*, and *hope*. It can be like the 'theme song' for the amazing transition that mankind is going to make from the people that we are right now...to the people that we all can one day become. It will be a *Song of Victory*!"

The others were in joyful agreement. So, the three couples continued to make their way down the mountain in peace and happiness while they listened to the middle class woman softly hum Elgar's beautiful song. Their lives were never going to be the same, and they were very grateful. Their hearts were now on fire to improve their own lives and to help others do the same. Their Paths were set, and there was no turning back...but that thought did not even cross their minds. They were now *Victors* and not *Victims*! It was a message that they were eager to share with their brothers and sisters in every nation around the world.