

Soul Searching [November 29th, 2004]

You've touched on an issue that goes a lot deeper than just being able to accept things the way they are and to forgive. It is an issue that would need more time and clarity of thought than I can muster given this being a Monday morning (which started with a prayer meeting at 5am, doctors appt, site check at the school site, meetings, and is otherwise packed with "stuff"). So, my little brain, which wants to deal with this type of thing you bring up, which hides an important lesson that we need to master for when we "pass over", is stuck trying to figure out what to do. If I merely advise you to meditate it sounds so simple and contrite, but I do believe that you have the power to push through the veil and get the answer you need, which in a way you already know, but have not brought into your cerebrum.

In this Family Federation organization that I've been referring to their premise of human existence resides in the conviction of an original pair of ancestors, not unlike the evolution of species belief wherein there is a "breakaway parentage" that starts a new species line of animals. This is religious belief resembles what "socio-paleo-anthropologists" seem to now be referring to as "mitochondrial Adam and Eve". That is, our species originated from an original pair of people and from this one pair came the myriad of peoples and tongues and cultures that we have today. The "forensic anthropologists" are in pursuit of DNA trails to this original ancestry and are able to make pretty amazing deductions (I believe that I read where one man in a village in England was found to have DNA corresponding to bones found in close proximity to his area that were over 9,000 years old – pretty amazing to find "grandpa's remains").

In a somewhat similar fashion to Eastern Thought, even though everything is of God's creation or energy, there is the idea that evil exists. That is, something in human thinking that manifests in actions that are not consistent with the higher aspirations of "evolved spirits". Whether we become good or bad is not God's choosing as such, but nonetheless that great responsibility is given to us. We are empowered with the ability to make choices, and it is a wonderful but also terrible responsibility, something that Christians refer to as Free Will. Ideally everyone should choose to make the right decisions based on spontaneous right thinking that comes from being "connected to God in heart". But this is not the case, and at times there are patterns in human history wherein general forces of good and evil, normally in a state of constantly wrestling for the collective conscious of groupings of people by tribe, society, or nation, have either good or evil seemingly coming out on top.

In Eastern Thought, there are those who believe that when the forces of evil are predominant that God sends an avatar to correct the imbalance. Similarly, Jews, Christians, and Muslims believe in an avatar of sorts but refer to this role under another title, that of messiah (or for Christians they have the term "Christ" from the Greek influence). The faiths of Judaism, Christianity and Islam (and curiously a number of smaller, less known religions such as the Hopitu Indians) attribute Evil to a separation of God and Man, and that the separation has as its source, an event in the human record, as opposed to just evil being one attribute of God's creation, (i.e., that is, western religious

thought not embracing the notion that for good to exist there must be a corresponding amount of evil). So, the so-called “western religions” (they are all still eastern if you think about it, they just happened to migrate west over time) see evil as an element in the individual that is an anathema to God who is presumably all good and only good.

When many individuals share or promote values and standards of living that are contrary to the highest attributes that humankind is capable of, then these individuals are collectively an “evil generation” in which greed, brutality, irresponsible sex, etc., are manifest. The messiah, the western avatar, is necessary as the example of the human perfectly in union with God, to exemplify by word and deed how a “true man” is supposed to live. For Christians and other western religions, evil came into the world due to a “fall” of man from God’s grace, and the personal relationship of a bonded heart and mind were lost. Additionally, something called original sin became a part of humanity from the first “Adam and Eve” and this “spiritual disease” inhibits humankind from being able to easily reestablish the direct link to the Creator.

Please bear with me, I know this rambling must seem completely off the mark of “how you should respond to the students who have made it clear by their example that they don’t care as you do about the critical importance of the work and therefore cannot presume that they deserve any effort on your part since they have not held up ‘their end of the bargain’”. But I’m getting to this ... in a sort of round about way.

The members of the Family Federation believe without a doubt that Rev. Moon and his wife is/are the avatar (singular because either male or female would not represent the fullness of God’s character) of this age and also that he and his wife are unique even in an avatar role. This belief stems from the idea that the purpose of Adam and Eve was to become the “True Parents” of mankind by which they would have a “perfect family”. From this family would be children without “original sin” (again a sort of spiritual disease or disorder, for lack of a better description) who if raised in an “ideal environment” with a perfect “mommy and daddy” would be the precursor citizens of an ideal human society that would grow and expand indefinitely.

Curiously, the very ideals of “perfection” that can be realized by the greatest level of brahmacharya or God-consciousness, would come naturally and without effort to such children of this relationship, and hence, the world would be made up of “ideal citizens”. That is, there would be no “layered buildup” of past lives or sins from ancestors nor would there be a world of meaningless distractions or Godless, selfish temptations. Meditation might almost have “no place as a necessity” or meaning as it does now, since meditation would be the “normal state of mind” of every man, woman, and child in this Godly utopian view. It would not require rigorous exercises or discipline, the state of having the Godhead would “just be”. Awareness of God’s presence and the natural desire to think and to do everything out of spontaneous unselfish love means that no one would conceivably be able to do harm to others -- or even to the creation -- since all the cosmos would be perceived as a gift from God, a veritable extension of one’s self.

But alas, the world according to every major religion is not a place where the level of man's awareness is such. Rather, by Eastern Thought all human endeavor and life is a history of individual salvation in one interpretative sense. That is, the soul must evolve in life and over lifetimes if necessary to achieve "perfection" as oneness with the "allness" that is God.

Western thought is similar because human history can be viewed as a "providence of salvation", or in other words, a restoration of man to the original ideal that God sought in the proverbial Garden of Eden (which some religious scholars think may have been in Africa, Iraq, or even in your home country of India). So, the answer of how best to relate to or respond to the students, although perhaps simple, has to be put in the context of a potentially much larger picture. A context of "what does God want of me, i.e., what should I think or do?" given the possibility (or the fact) that we live in a providence of restoration, and that we too are not perfect people raised with the right instincts so as to spontaneously respond to any given situation in the way that God would wish of us. The fact that you are unsure as to how to respond is indicative of our "state of separation from God" since if we were in complete oneness not only would we know exactly how to respond, we would be able to do so without any form of hesitation or time for self-reflection. The "way" (if a providence is actually in play here) must be a way that would be of maximum benefit not just to those around us, in this case the students, but perhaps more importantly, for ourselves.

I could go on and on but if I do then by the time I get around to answering your question the students will have graduated and moved on so more blah-blah simply won't due for someone like you with such a tight schedule. So, what I will do is offer up some recent and interesting words from Rev. Moon that may not speak directly to the situation at hand, but which might offer some kernels of truth that will allow us to make our own suppositions of what the right course of action is in dealing with the "ungrateful delinquents" who expect you to spoon feed them caring info that they want ... and do so on their terms (i.e., without respect for the department or sincere caring for the patients). A quote follows from a very recent speech given by Rev. Moon to some high ranking dignitaries in Washington DC as part of a four city speaking tour (keep in mind he is 85 years old and he just doesn't slow down or stop). I think I had mentioned to you before of his topic concerning "three revolutions" and I elaborated a bit on "atonement" in another email. So, this quote is based on the two other "revolutions", those of conscience and heart, which are in addition to the "revolution of atonement" that I think I spoke on before. The quote is only just one part of his speech and is still a bit lengthy so please bear with me:

"What is the revolution of conscience? It is an internal revolution that we carry out by practicing absolute obedience to the voice of our conscience. I am sure you cannot deny that within you there is still the unending struggle between the commands of your conscience, which pursues what is good, and the inclinations of your physical mind, which follows the desires of your physical body. To bring this shameful internal conflict to an end, we must have a clear understanding of the function of the conscience. The conscience knows everything about you – your every move and your every thought. It

knows them before your teacher does. It knows them before your parents do. It knows them before God does. What happens when you go against the commands of your conscience? You will be attacked by pangs of conscience. Dust gathers, grime builds up and wounds appear on your soul. These wounds can never be erased. They are fearful baggage that you carry with you when you go to the spirit world. Therefore, you must work in a revolutionary way to suppress your physical mind and accept the guidance of your conscience. Then you will become a clear, unblemished and clean soul, ready for the day that you make your way forward into the presence of God. What is the revolution of heart? I have said that God created human beings as His children. What, then, is the connection that binds each of you to God? It is the love and heart between parent and child. If there is no communication of heart between parent and child, how can they maintain a relationship of love and respect? Yet human beings, having lived for thousands of years under the influence of the fallen realm, are still slaves in our hearts to false parents, false love, and false lineage. If we are to escape from this yoke, we must constantly live lives of true love, practicing forgiveness and always giving to others. Through this process, we are able to return to the realm of God's ownership based on heart. If your heartstrings are still tied to selfishness, have individualistic inclinations, or are in pursuit of the vainglory of the satanic world, you will end up on a path of hopelessness and grief. On the other hand, if you live for the sake of others, are always constructive, always seeking to be the first to yield and the first to give, your heart will be tied to the heart of God eternally."

Okay, that's a mouthful and parts of it beg for more clarification or elaboration which is not possible right now, so let's focus in on one part that I think is true and is likely of significance to your dilemma with the students. The phrase is "we must constantly live lives of true love, practicing forgiveness and always giving to others", and yes, it would seem to put the burden on us and let the ungrateful students off the hook. But in the actuality of life, this is not so. No one can defy heavenly laws, even through ignorance, and "get away with it". So, in this instance where I think that you are not easily in a position to give these "numbskull" students the spiritual education they need and deserve, I'm afraid that my advice is to go deep inside yourself, eject the part that feels self righteous and angry at their indifference, and look for the part of you that can forgive and keep giving without any conditions of any kind.

Another part of the quote above which I think is true and should be considered is "if you live for the sake of others, are always constructive, always seeking to be the first to yield and the first to give, your heart will be tied to the heart of God eternally". That pretty much sums it up and a "path forward" in the dilemma you are facing begins to surface. However, I realize that this may not be the answer you want to hear.

You can trust though that I can relate because I get like you with my own staff at the school. I want to yell at them for so many things I don't even know where to start. But they are not ready or able to receive what I have to say even if the words themselves contain truth. The problem in my communication with my staff is my unfortunate inability to love them unconditionally as a true parent would love a baby or toddler that

“makes a mistake”. My lack of patience with what I think should be obvious to others is a shortcoming that is my problem, not theirs.

I must be ever patient and merciful along the path, while ever looking for the opportunity to educate them spiritually (if I can) in ways – subtle or otherwise – that will be for the sake of their souls. The school and the children are the “mission” and their well being is paramount. This said, somehow the staff too are in a way “children of the school” and of the universe in general and if it so happens that I am spiritually more aware than they, then there is another mission for me besides the students, and that is the helping or raising up of my staff, even if I cannot share with them in words what I think, i.e., if I am relegated only to praying for them and doing my utmost to “teach by example”, not by strict words or “office discipline”. Additionally, if I can get through to them even on a subliminal level, perhaps they would be better in their roles as instructors and administrative staff in attending to the students’ needs.

If I were to attempt to speak the truth to my staff without the love of a true friend or parent, then almost certainly the message would be rejected. My staff is not so humble and saintly that I could count on them to do penance and go into deep self-reflection if I were to get angry and start scolding them for not fitting my “mental model” of what they should be like and how they should act. So, this is the reality of my situation and I must deal with it in a way that walks the fine line of running the school in a proper and businesslike fashion while I also attempt to impart values (in whatever loving way I can “always seeking to be the first to yield and the first to give”) that I think are useful for the school as well as for them as individuals and as professional educators.

Well, that’s it for this rambling letter. I hope that some of what I offer will be of use to you dear soul. I will pray that all goes well with you in dealing with the “kids” there, and in coping with any frustrations that might arise in the natural course of living with your parents.

Love always,

Kembo