



Beloved Peacekeepers,  
Season continues the interpersonal daily practice gaining insights on DIALOGUE.

**Today's Principle, Today's Practice - DIALOGUE**

Marianne Williamson describes a healthy society as one in which "those who disagree can do so with honor and respect for other people's opinions, and an appreciation for our shared humanity." In the *Desiderata* by Max Ehrmann, he says, "Speak your truth quietly and clearly and listen to others." Today, speak up but do not enter into the spirit of argument.

**Ask yourself:** What is dialogue as opposed to debate or argument? What does listening have to do with successful dialogue? What is the value in dialogue? How would you feel at the conclusion of a successful dialogue? Does dialogue insist on resolution or agreement? Do you find yourself avoiding conversation with certain people because they more often end in argument than in dialogue? What tools could assist? How can you take the "war" out of your words? What role does healthy dialogue play in non-violence and ultimately peace? What are we teaching our youth about dialogue?

**Activity** - Practice healthy dialogue with your family or friends - pick a controversial topic (US involvement in Iraq; Mayor Newsom allowing same sex marriage; tax reform.....religion, peace, non-violence) Take a position on the topic, and then in discussion, take the opposite position -- notice how you act, feel and re-act.

**Journal Activity:** Journal your thoughts....use pictures to express your thoughts!

**Consider this Quotes on Dialogue:**

Spread love everywhere you go:

In dialogue, individuals gain insights that simply could not be achieved individually. - Peter Senge, Author *Fifth Discipline*

We have to choose between dialogue and utter devastation - Aung San Suu Kyi, Burmese Political Activist; Nobel Peace Prize 1991

In human societies there will always be differences of views and interests. But the reality today is that we are all interdependent and have to coexist on this small planet. Therefore, the only sensible and intelligent way to resolving differences and clashes of interests, whether between individuals or nations, is through dialogue. The promotion of a culture of dialogue and nonviolence for the future of mankind is thus an important task of the international community. - HH Dalai Lama, Forum 200 Conference, Prague, Czech Republic September 4, 1997

There is something more important than information. Values are far more important, and it is by understanding common values that decisions are made. We come to understand values through dialogue. - Jack Blaney, President of Simon Fraser University

Dialogue should simply be a sound among other sounds, just something that comes out of the mouths of people whose eyes tell the story in visual terms - Alfred Hitchcock

Education is a kind of continuing dialogue, and a dialogue assumes, in the nature of the case, different points of view - Robert Hutchins, author 1899-1977

When we understand that man is the only animal who must create meaning, who must open a wedge into neutral nature, we already understand the essence of love.



## Day 39

Love is the problem of an animal who must find life, create a dialogue with nature in order to experience his own being. - Ernest Becker

"Generally speaking, the first nonviolent act is not fasting, but dialogue. The other side, the adversary, is recognized as a person, he is taken out of his anonymity and exists in his own right, for what he really is, a person. To engage someone in dialogue is to recognize him, have faith in him. At every step in the nonviolent struggle, at every level we try tirelessly to establish a dialogue, or reestablish it if it has broken down. When I say 'the other side,' that could be a group of persons or a government." - Hildegard Goos-Mayr

Only by directly confronting our deepest differences can we come to know one another fully. Despite risks, interreligious discussion needs at times to be interreligious debate. That is one way it shows its conviction that truth is ultimately one. - Eugene R. Borrowitz

Dialogue is a conversation on a common subject between two or more persons of differing views. The primary purpose of dialogue is for each person to learn from the other so that he or she can change and grow....Through this process, we come to a deeper understanding of the issues that both divide and unite us thereby paving the way for cooperation and collaboration - Leonard Swidler, adapted from *Dialogue Decalogue*

Today, enjoy a dialogue with a youth; an elder; someone you love....

Blessings,

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