

Your Hidden Talent

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“Your Hidden Talent”

You are apt to forget, when you see a person displaying great talent, that there was great effort given at some time to develop that talent, and through the law of cause and effect, it bore fruit. And so, do not think, as many people feel, that talents are derived from an external source. They are derived from right within yourselves; but you have to work for them.

Within us is the Presence of God. Within us is His Omniscience. And in that Omniscience is all Knowledge and Power. And so, if you can make contact with God, that's the point, if you can realize there's no separation between you and the Master of the Universe, if you can do that, and unite your will and your power, whatever it is, with His Power, and work according to His law, all things are possible, and “Your Hidden Talent” will be developed. That's the key to this subject: hidden, “Your Hidden Talent.”

But we must realize that as we are made in the Image of God; we are imbued with His Power and His Force; and perhaps, greater than all things, with His Love. That's the important thing to remember. Do not look to develop your talents from an outside source, but rather know that the Power of God is within you. And, if you can just make the contact with Him, feel your oneness with Him, remove the idea that you are separated from Him, then, then, His Power can flow through you. But above all, realize, realize, that God comes to the humble devotee. He does not come to those who have ego consciousness. He comes when there is humility in your heart, because He is still the Doer. He is still the One. “Thou shalt have no other gods beside me.” There is one God – God alone. All the saints say, God alone. The more realization they have, the more they cling to that one statement: God alone, God alone, God alone.

Now in the Autobiography [of a Yogi]² it says these wonderful words, which I'd like to read to you at this time, “The human mind is a spark of the almighty

¹ Exodus 20:2-3, “I am The Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.”

² By Paramhansa Yogananda, 1946

consciousness of God...³" and that means the human consciousness. We use mind in a carefree way; but when you say "mind," realize, it's your own consciousness. That's all you have. You have nothing else but your own consciousness, and that's a part of God's Consciousness. And so it says, "The human mind is a spark of the almighty consciousness of God. I could show you that whatever your powerful mind believes very intensely would instantly come to pass."⁴ So you see the key is there. These words are from Lahiri Mahasaya to Sri Yukteswarji. If we can make the contact with God, and really know it, then whatever is God's Will, will be done that way. Not what is our will; that's where the mistake is made.

Also, in the same Autobiography, Emerson said these wonderful words, "We lie open on one side, to the deeps of spiritual nature, to all the attributes of God (sic)."⁵ We're not just human beings, but we are Spiritual beings. And on one side of us, we're open to the Power and the Omniscience of God, if we can make the contact. Understand that. All the saints say the same thing. I was glad to read about Emerson saying that. We are open to God. The channel is there, we have to make the contact. Then our inner, or hidden talents, will surely be developed. We will not have to worry about them.

Now in the beginning, in reading the Bible reference, we spoke about how necessary faith was to uncovering "Your Hidden Talent." Faith is very important. Not belief, but faith; faith, which comes through the realization that there is no separation between you and your Father. There is no separation, and, therefore, His Power, His Knowledge, His Strength, His Great Love is with you. But that realization must come first. Then faith comes.

Belief has doubt in it. Belief is an experimental state of consciousness, so to speak; an experimental feeling about the truth of anything. When you say, "I believe that," isn't there doubt there? And so, it's an experimental feeling about the truth of anything. But faith is an absolute knowledge – a positive knowledge of the truth of anything. And so, when you say, "Father, Thou art with me," you don't say, "Father, I believe You are with me;" but you say, "Father, I know You are with me." Then through faith, through the realization, you have faith,

³ Ibid, Chapter 12

⁴ Ibid

⁵ "The Over-Soul," by Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1841, "...that is, as there is no screen or ceiling between our heads and the infinite heavens, so there is no bar or wall in the soul, where man, the effect, ceases, and God, the cause, begins. The walls are taken away. We lie open on one side to the deeps of spiritual nature, to all the attributes of God."

because you see, you either see the Light of His Presence, you hear the Cosmic Sound reverberating through you, or you feel His Great Love in you. Now that's the difference between belief and faith. And so, you can see, faith is very necessary to bring out from the depths of your Soul and being, those hidden talents, which you so desire to bring forth and live by. Understand that. Understand the difference between belief and faith. I'll explain it a little more in just a moment.

Belief, you see, there's a doubt there. It's an experimental state of consciousness. "I believe a thing." "I believe in God." Now, if you utilize your belief to change it into faith, that's fine. If you take your belief and work on it, and through meditation, and contact with God change it into faith, then you will know these things. Because "Faith," as it says in the scriptures, "is the evidence of things not seen (sic)."⁶ You cannot see God with these eyes. You cannot contact Him with these ears. You cannot feel Him with ordinary feeling. But when, through realization, you contact Him, and know Him through the Intuition of the Soul; then you can say, "I have faith." And you know no one can take it away from you. So realize the difference between belief and faith.

Faith is not just a strong belief, as many suppose. Faith is the Intuition of the Soul – the knowing power of the Soul. Belief depends on sensation; the testimony of the senses, which may be wrong. But faith, faith, depends upon the Intuition of the Soul, and is never wrong. When through faith you see the Spiritual Eye at this point [the point between the eyebrows in the forehead], and you see the Ring of Gold, and the dark center, and the little Star in the center of that; and, if, by the Grace of God, you can penetrate that, and see His Great Light all around; then you can say, "I have faith in God." You know God exists. There's no "just belief" thing. It is not just belief. It is real knowing and knowledge. So understand what faith is. Faith comes through realization.

In the scriptures we read, "Faith..." in Hebrews, the 11th Chapter, the 1st Verse, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for..." We all hope for God. When you know Him through realization, you have faith He is. You know He is. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." And so, realize, when you have faith, it is not belief; but you know. You know. And you know, because, through realization, you know you have contact with God. That's the important thing to bring out "Your Hidden Talent," is first to make the contact with God. Change your belief into faith. Realize that.

⁶ Hebrews 11:1, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

In passing, one thing comes to my mind. The Sanskrit word for “faith” means “without breath.” Isn’t that a strange thing? Faith means without breath. And in your meditation, when you contact the Presence of God within as the Holy Vibration, the Great Comforter – you see His Infinite Light, or your Soul is overwhelmed by the surge of His Love – you’re not breathing. There’s no breath then. You have faith at that time. There’s no doubt in your Soul that God is. And it’s most wonderful. The Sanskrit word for faith means without breath.

And in your meditations, you know that there’s a time comes when you’re very peaceful, there’s no breath bothering you, and you will know God – some aspect of Him, His Presence within you as the Sound, or the Light, or His Great Love – there’s no breath. Haven’t you faith then? That’s the difference between belief and faith. When you have faith, you can see the Spiritual Eye at the Christ Center; and greatest of all, you can feel God’s Love surging through you. Then you have something real. Don’t you think that’s the source of all talent? And “Your Hidden Talent” is to first make the contact with God. All things are possible with Him. And, if you join your will with His Will, all things are possible. That’s the answer to the subject this morning, “Your Hidden Talent,” is first, make the contact with God. Change your belief into faith and know. And when you know that you are one with God, all things are possible.

And so, God and His Power can be intuitive – not known through the senses, mind, and intellect – but through the Intuition of the Soul, as we read in the [[Bhagavad](#)] [Gita](#). Understand that. Realize that. And how is it done? Through the science of yoga. “Yoga” means union. Union with God, His Presence within you, the Great Word, the Holy Vibration, the Comforter of which Jesus spoke. Yoga is the science which gives you that Union with God. That’s why it’s good to practice yoga.

It’s good to practice, not just necessarily Hatha Yoga, or outward yoga, so to speak, but practice Raja Yoga. Self-Realization Fellowship teaches Raja Yoga, which takes the best of all yoga, and it is utilized, not just to develop your body, but to give you freedom of your Soul. That’s what you want. That’s what you must have. Yoga is all right to develop the body, but the end must not be that. The end must be Conscious Union with God; freedom in His Great Consciousness. Realize that.

And I have a reference from the [Autobiography](#) (AY) I’d like to read at this time. “The goal of yoga science is to calm the mind, that without distortion you may

hear the infallible council of the Inner Voice (sic).”⁷ Isn’t that God contact? Can you hear the infallible Voice of God without contact with Him? Can you hear my voice, if you’re out in the street somewhere? Well, you may hear it faintly, but I mean, unless you’re right here, or unless we’re in the Presence of God, we cannot expect Him to hear us. Therefore, in any walk of life, whether it’s developing “Your Hidden Talents,” or what it is – in any business dealing – the first and foremost thing, is to make contact with God’s Presence. Then, when you ask Him for something, then, when you want to develop “Your Hidden Talents,” you know He hears you. And, if you know He hears you, you know He will answer you; openly, according to His Will.

And so, yoga science is very important. And so, realize when God is known, also, His Power is known. That’s what, that’s what the Bible reference means about removing the mountain⁸. When you know God, then you know His Power, and you know that that mountain cannot be removed through belief. You can believe from now until doomsday, it won’t do a bit of good. But, if you make the contact with God, and, therefore, are one with His Power, He can move the mountain. He *will* move the mountain, if you have faith equal to a mustard seed⁹. Imagine it, what a thing faith is. Faith is actual contact with God. Having that contact, then you know.

Now, when you know, through realization, that this universe and all creation is made and sustained by the Divine Will of God, and then, when you know through realization that your will is one with God’s Will, then all things are possible. That’s the key to developing anything within you, “Your Hidden Talents,” of whatever nature they are. You first must realize through Realization that it is God, through Divine Will, which has created the universe upon universe, and has All-knowledge, and All-power. Then you’ll realize your oneness with His Will. Aren’t all things possible? That’s the main thing is through realization to understand these things. And when you do this, then you have faith. And as God has control of all the electrons and the vibrations of His

⁷ Autobiography of a Yogi, Revision 1951, Chapter 15, Page 100, “The goal of yoga science is to calm the mind, that without distortion it may hear the infallible counsel of the Inner Voice.”

Original 1946, “The goal of yoga science is to calm the mind that without distortion it may mirror the divine vision in the universe.”

⁸ Matthew 21:21, “Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.”

⁹ Matthew 17:20, “And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.”

Great Creation and you are one with Him, haven't you control of them, if it is His Will?

I remember in India, Master was called to go into a house – there was a person who was very sick there, near unto death. And the devotees were asking him to go, but he said, "No." They said, "If you do go, we know that that person will be saved." So, after a while, he went. And, by the Grace of God, the person was restored to health. So, I said to him, I said, "But, Sir, didn't you know before you went in there that it was God's Will?" He says, "Yes, or I never would have gone." Do you see the point? It is God is the Doer. And the greater the saint, the more they realize that. And they depend on God's Will, not on their own little will.

So, understand that, that Divine Will controls all electronic vibrations of the universe, and when you are one with it; then, if it's God's Will do it. Then there'll be no doubt in your mind, as there was no doubt in the Master's mind. Jesus said the same thing when he said, "I and my Father are one."¹⁰ His Will was one with Divine Will. That's why he healed the sick, and raised the dead, and did the miracles which he did, because, and was one with God's Will. And he says, what I do, I do not; it is the Father who doeth through me¹¹. "I and my Father are one." Why cannot we be that way? We can. Jesus said we could. We can, because we're made in the Image of God.

One little incident comes to my mind, a personal experience, which I hope you will pardon. But one time, back in Boston, a long time ago, one winter's night, I was going into a Self-Realization meeting, and I was hurrying. And it was slippery and icy on this particular bridge. And I came up over onto the bridge, and there was a car track, and just room enough for a car to go by. But there was some car that had got up there just before me, and it skidded, and it was right 'cross the path. Well, I thought for a minute – it wasn't my car, it 'twas my sister's car, and she was with me, Sister Yogmata was with me – and I was thinking, "What a shame. She lets me take her car. I'm hurrying to God's work, and look what I'm up against." I knew that I'd have to hit it – least, I felt that way. And then, as Master had taught me, and teaches all of us, when you're in trouble, always look at the Christ Center and God is there – the Light which you see is the Presence of God. So, I looked there.

¹⁰ St. John 10:30

¹¹ St. John 5:19, "Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do; for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise."

And it was just as if a big force just stood out in front of the car; and slowed it right down. And just close to the other car, it stopped. Now my sister was there, and I turned to her, I said, "Did you feel that?" She says, "Yes, I did." Sister Yogmata was there, she says, "I felt that, too." Now, that wasn't anything we did. That was God-control of the electronic vibrations of the universe, the pranic energy, which slowed down that material thing known as the automobile, and saved us from trouble.

So with God, all things are possible. But those who think they do it by praying to God, they do it *through* God; but they do not do it themselves. That was a great lesson, a lesson, to realize that with God, all things are possible. And He responds to the humble devotee. If the devotee really wants God in his heart; and feels the Great Love for God, He responds. Master used to say, "God's more human than you can imagine." And I found it that way. Your least little wish, if you're really humble, want, and love God, He will respond to it. He will bring it about.

And so, to bring forth "Your Hidden Talents," you must remember that all intuitional experience of all truth is within your Soul – right within yourselves. And, if you have perhaps, failed in the position you find yourself in life; your work is not satisfactory to you; or your social position is not right; or perhaps, you want to develop some hidden talent; realize, realize, this one thing. And this I know; that, if you will make the contact with God, and realize that there's no separation between you and God – there's no separation between you – I know that your whole life will be changed. I know that.

You'll find, as Master told me when I met him, after a little while, he says, "Your life is finished." Well, I didn't know what he meant. But now I know; and I knew shortly after that. He meant that old life, where we depended on outward things, and physical things to help us along; that went. But the new life came; that life in which I felt oneness with the Father. And so, understand that if you have that realization, if you can remove the idea that you're separated from God, how can you help but change? Your life will be changed, and you will find your environment will be changed.

Many people come to me and they say, "Oh, I can't meditate...I don't like the place I live in...the kids are hollering...there's a noise all around." I said, "Meditate. Meditate and love God. He'll change the environment, and the kids will be taken away." And that's what happened. These are facts. But we try to

do it ourselves, and we don't give God a chance. Many will testify to that. Everything is changed, for the better.

Master said that. Sri Yukteswarji says that in the AY. The moment you turn toward God, and to become spiritual, all things change for you. What's the use of it? What's the use of following God unless it's gonna change; and for the better? Of course, there's a little rough middle ground, and makes you think it's a long time in changing. But, if you keep at it, it will change; and you will find your whole life is changed; your environment is changed, even. These are facts. Ask anybody who meditates. Don't ask those who don't meditate; it never changes for them. But those who meditate, really, they will say, "Yes, things have changed."

So, let us understand, if we are to bring out those hidden talents, we must do away with restlessness and superficial living. Understand those two things. Restlessness and superficial living keep us from God contact. While meditation and a sincere desire to know God will change and bring back our lost perspective with the Master of the Universe. These are important things: restlessness and superficial living. You know what I mean. While on the other hand, meditation and a deep desire in your heart just to know God, and above all love God, these are the things that change your perspective of life. The whole world seems different, when you just do those things, rather than to follow these outward ways of living. Change; change to meditation, and a deep desire to know God.

Now, finally, developing "Your Hidden Talents" will, without doubt, enrich your life. It will change others. But the greatest talent that you can develop – and this is very important – is the talent of loving God.

Many people say to me, "How can I love God more?" That's right. If you can develop within yourselves the talent of loving God, that's the greatest thing you can do. Nothing else matters, if you can do that. If He responds to His humble devotee, you have everything; you have everything. That one thing is the important thing on developing "Your Hidden Talent," is to develop that one talent – the ability to love God. Doesn't the Bible say that? "Love God with all your heart, strength, and mind; this is the first commandment (sic).¹²" And the second, "Love" thine "thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments

¹² Mark 12:30, "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment."

hangs all the law and the prophets (sic).¹³” Don’t you think the greatest talent you can develop, that I can develop, is to love God? Loving God, if He responds to you, you have everything. Nothing else matters; nothing else matters.

In Master’s little book, The Master Said, one student asked him, or told him, "My desire for God is very intense." The Master replied, "This is the greatest blessing, to feel His pull at your heart." That is, to have that ability to love God, and feel Him respond to you. "It is His way of saying ‘Too long you have played with the toys of My creation, now I want you with Me. Come home’." The most beautiful words! So, never mind about the other talents. Develop that one talent first, by making contact with God – the ability to love God. These are the first commandments, the greatest commandments; thou shalt love God.

And, finally, if you are the greatest artist, the greatest statesman, the greatest benefactor, and have not God, what have you? You haven’t anything. But realize these things. I’ve talked to; perhaps, you have talked to, some of the greatest artists. I’ve talked to them. One, especially, I’m thinking of. And this particular one says, "Oh, what is all that. Nothing! God alone is." She had the greatest career, perhaps the greatest artist in her line. But that’s what she says, "That’s nothing. Aw, that’s nothing; just part of the play. But feeling the Presence of God is the real thing." Now that’s from one of the greatest artists. So understand that. You may have all those things. If you do not have God, you have nothing. Understand that.

And secondly, be humble with God. God does not respond to help you develop "Your Hidden Talents" unless you are humble. He does not come to the egotistical consciousness or the devotee with the egotistical consciousness. He does not come. He comes whom, to whom? The pure in heart¹⁴; the humble shall see God. Understand that. Be humble with God. Make the contact, and then be humble with Him. Say, "Father, here I am, your child, take care of me." He will take care of you. He will develop every talent that you need. But you must make the contact. Making the contact you must then be very humble. And remember Jesus’ words. What were they? Seek first God. Seek first the Lord. "Seek first the kingdom of heaven, and all other things shall be added unto you (sic).¹⁵” Yes, all talent.

¹³ Matthew 22:39-40, "And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

¹⁴ Matthew 5:8, "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."

¹⁵ Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

And at this time, it is Mother's Day, as you know. Master has said that the Divine Mother instinct is the greatest, or aspect, rather, of God is the greatest ever; the Divine Mother aspect. God responds to love. And, if you consider Him as the Divine Mother aspect, He will respond as Divine Mother's Love faster than any other way. And so, every woman should be an example of Divine Mother's Love.

And you can, because you have that gift. Men do not have that gift. Men have more, as you know, reason and will. But the mother has more of God's Great Love developed in her feeling. Master told me once. He said, "Let your life be an example," a Spiritual example, "for others to follow to our one abode of Light, where all will meet who live and do right."

And realize that you, as a mother, or a woman, have that Mother's Love within you. And, if you live it, and be the great Spiritual example which you can be, you, too, will help others to return home to that One Great Cosmic Home of Light, where, as Master says, "all will meet who live and do right."