

How to Work Creatively

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Our subject this morning, "How to Work Creatively."

As Mr. Cook was reading the story about the hornet's nest in the religious organization of which Master was speaking, that, of course, sometimes is true. But, if you are going to work creatively, that's one thing you have to do is to be able to rise above criticism. As the Master once said, he says, "If you walk in the middle of the street, everybody throws apples, and tomatoes, and everything at you. But, if you keep in out of sight, then you go along peacefully." But, if you have received something, especially from Self-realization, isn't it rather selfish to keep it to yourselves?

And so, in my own case, as the Master has been so good to me, and that's the only thing he asked me to do - he said, "If you enjoy Self-realization, and it helps you, will you help others to get it?" I said, "Yes." And from now I can say, in spite of criticism, that will not hurt us. If you want to work creatively, never mind the criticism. All you've got to worry about is, is God pleased with you. And, if you have that, nothing else matters. Mark that right down. We're here for what purpose? We're here to go back to God. That's all. That's the main purpose, plus we have to do a task here. No matter what it is. So, if you want to work creatively, get out of the rut, and work for God alone. And, if people talk about you, let them talk. If God is pleased, nothing else matters. And that's what I have found out. If God is with me, nothing else matters.

And that applies to every one of His children, because we're here to go back home to Him. To return home to God. And He has sent the channel of Self-realization, to us particularly, through the channel of our Master, who sacrificed his life for so many. Isn't it the least we can do? In spite of all adverse criticism or anything, is to do, and work for God that others may be helped as we have been helped. That's working creatively. That's working, not in a rut, but from the inner viewpoint of the soul. The inner inspiration of the soul.

And what is the soul? A ray of God within each, and every one of us. So let us not forget that. Let's not be little automatons, afraid to do this, afraid to do that.

Let us say, "God, is this what you want me to do?" He says, "Yes. Do it." If he's pleased, nothing else matters. And so, that little story reminded me of what the Master said, "if you walk in the middle of the road," yes, you'll get the tomatoes, but you'll get the grace of God. And that's the greatest thing.

And so, no matter what your work in the world is, no matter where your karma has brought you. No matter what it is. Work creatively. Work creatively. Start right there. Don't think, "Well, when I get out of this job I'm in now, then I'll start working creatively." Start right there. Start right there to do something that will help you to help your own self, and then also help others. Let us start to right now, wherever you are, not wait till conditions are better. Then you won't get started. Start right where you are to get out of the rut. To get out of the rut of being an automaton governed by the environment, habit, and latent impulses.

Get out of that. Break that by getting the inspiration of your soul, then you will not work from karmic impulses. Karmic impulses are those things which make us automatons. We get up in the morning, and we start out, and we do this, we do that. Why? Because we're following karmic impulses. But, if you challenge yourself, introspect yourself, and then start to work creatively, you will not be governed by these karmic impulses, but you will lay up a new set of impulses. Creative impulses, which come from the inspiration of your own soul.

That's what we must do, if we are to get out of this rut. This rut of custom, and convention. And you check yourself, and see how much you do independently every day. Master used to say, "Breakfast, lunch, and dinner; go to work; go back; go to bed; get up; do the same thing over again." That's being an automaton. We do not want that.

And so, these newly awakened creative impulses come, realize, by following the inspiration of your soul, or independent action. You see, automatic action doesn't give you progress. You're an automaton. But when you deliberately look within, and contact the presence of God, and then act creatively, then that's independent action. Then you will progress. Otherwise you will not.

And most people, as you know, are afraid to try anything new. They like to stay in the rut because it's easier. But those who have the spirit of pioneering, they have that consciousness, which stimulates them to do something different, and to be progressive, and to be creative. And that inspiration, as I have said, comes from no other place than the presence of God within. And, isn't it better to do what He wants us to do? And all the saints tell us the same thing. Our Master

told us the same thing. That we are here for one purpose - to return to God in a conscious way, and to perform our task in which we find ourselves. Is that very difficult? No. But, we're a little bit lazy. We're automatic in our action, and, therefore, we do not work as creatively as we could.

Now, it is this inspiration of your soul. The inspiration of God within you that will get you out of the rut. These ruts are very deep of convention, and custom, of which I have spoken. They are very deep, and they're slippery. You've had your automobile stuck in a rut. It's hard to get out, isn't it? But, the inspiration of the presence of God within you, from your own soul, will get you out of it. Nothing else will, but that will. Let us realize that.

And so, to work creatively requires, first of all will. Will. You can say, "Oh, I can't meditate. I just can't meditate." Why? Because the will is not strong. Will is the first thing. Will is the power. The power of volition is the motivating power that gets you out of the rut into creative activity. Will power is very essential to understand. In the few minutes I have, I'll just say a word or two about will power. There are several kinds of will power.

First is ordinary will power, or mechanical will. That's what we use in everyday action. As we get up in the morning, and start out, we have to use our will. Otherwise we don't start out. You just sit down to a nice big meal - it's wonderful - but you've got to eat it! Hadn't you? You have to use your will in everything you do. But that's mechanical will. And mechanical will is used mostly in everyday action. It's a mechanical process.

Now that mechanical will becomes conscious will. When, when you inject determination, and effort into it. You see? Mechanical will, you do it. But when you inject determination, and effort into it, then it becomes a conscious will, and what you do, you do in a conscious way, there's more power to the conscious will than there is the mechanical will, because you have injected the effort into it, and the determination to do something. But, the point is, we must realize we must do something creative. Not put somebody down in the mud. You can do that with conscious will, but you want to do something creative for God. You see the point? Conscious will is stronger than mechanical will.

Now, when you inject into conscious will - what? Initiative, then that conscious will becomes - what? Dynamic will. You see the difference? All the saints have dynamic will. You, a true devotee of God, can have dynamic will, if you will. What have you got to do? You've got to inject initiative into it. Where does the

initiative come from? You all know. From the presence of God within. And, if you have that dynamic will operating from the presence of God's great Light within you, there's nothing you can't do. You can do your daily tasks, and the main task of this life, to return home to God. But, it takes dynamic will to do it, and that means that into your conscious will you inject the initiative. The initiative, which is God's creative power within you. That's why the saints, and the martyrs, could do these things, and the great men, even of business, and so forth. Because they have made their conscious will dynamic, by the presence of God being injected into it. That's initiative. Otherwise, we just lay around, go along as an automaton, in the rut of everyday living. So just those words about will. Just a few words so that you will understand.

Now, what is initiative? Initiative, as I have said, is the creative faculty within us. The spark of the Infinite. Will you remember that? The spark of God is in each and every one of us. And, if you'll feel that, it gives you the initiative. People say, "Well, I've got initiative." But why not feel God first? Then the initiative will come. Then you can do something. And this initiative enables us to do something which somebody else won't do. All the saints are that way. Initiative will enable you to walk in the middle of the street. It will enable you to get the brickbats, and so forth. But, it will also give you the presence of God. Because initiative changes your conscious will - to what? Dynamic will. The presence of God.

And so, initiative also enables us to stand on our own feet. And initiative is the main point in success. Ask any businessman. If they do not have that initiative, they will not succeed. Ask any saint - religious man. Unless he has that initiative to do his meditations, to do his duty, to do his devotions in a deeper, and a more dynamic way, he will not succeed. So, let's realize these important points in thinking creatively, and acting creatively, is to have that initiative. And that comes from the inspiration of the soul, or the presence of God within you.

And so, as we use our dynamic will, or the creative power of God within us, we have God right within us. As we use that, let us realize to use it creatively. In other words, the two purposes of life. First, foremost, is to return to God - not to make money, not to build a big city, not to lead an army - but to return home to God. We understand that? And I always remind myself. Don't you forget it either. That's the first duty, is to go back home to God. The Master says, we don't belong in this world here. I mean truly. We belong to God. And the second point is, we have a task to do. I have a task to do. You have a task to do.

Do that. But do the other first. Get the contact with God. I'll come to that in just a moment.

And so, creative ability would never allow us to just get by, or do things in a passive way. This is a very important point. Some people, in no matter what walk of life you find them, they're just getting by. "If I can just get by, just get by, everything's fine." I remember in college when we took the examinations, we had certain numbers, and then they put the numbers up on the board, and your mark, see. And I came by, and this one particular fellow, he had a number - I remember the number was 636 - and he had wonderful marks. And the other fellows were looking, ya know, "Oh, who's that fellow? Boy! If I can just get by. That's all I want. Just get that 70 passing. That's all I care about. But that fellow, he must be a whiz." But they just wanted to get by.

Now, creative ability does not allow that state of consciousness. And it's the same way in business, or a profession. I found that many of the doctors would just say, well as long as it stays in until the patient gets out, it's alright. But that isn't the way God wants us to do.

Now, we can apply that to meditation. You sit in meditation, ya know, "Well, I'll give an hour." But where is my mind? All over the place. But, if I use creative ability, and hook my consciousness up to the presence of God, so to speak. Unite my consciousness with His great Light, and His Love. Then what happens? Then you meditate creatively. You'll get there, of course, by the law of. . . what do they call it. . . evolution. Who wants to wait for that a million years to get back, to get out of this ego consciousness? We want to get out now. So let us realize these things.

So understand, creative ability will not allow you just to get by, so to speak. Or, as I have put down, just acting passively well. "If I could just get by." I used to hear them, "Oh, if I could just get by." Well, that's why they just got by. But if they'd had that other feeling, that "Well, I want to do something just to please God. If He wants to give me good marks, that's fine." But "just to get by" . . . they just get by, and they'll just get by in meditation, if they have that attitude. Master used to call those the "indifferent yogis." They just sit there, and they are indifferent. They're yogis alright, because they're making the effort, but the "dynamic yogi" is he who works creatively, and meditates in a creative way.

And so, finally, realize that God is the power behind our life. Realize that. That's what we do not realize. The ego says, "Well, now you can do this, or you

can do that. You've got so much power." But we don't realize the ego is the false thing. Ego is your soul attached to this limited vehicle, the pseudo-self. But the real power within us is the presence of God, and we must realize that. Man can create anything, if he unites his creative ability, or rather unites his consciousness, with the presence of God. That's the main thing. It is God who has created universe upon universe. Everything we see has come from His creative ability, and we are made in His image. That's where our power lies.

So what's the last, and important thing? If you want to act creatively in any line of endeavor, especially in a spiritual line, is what? Meditate regularly. Meditate regularly. Have regular devotion until you attain God contact. That's the important thing. If you feel the presence of God within, you have this initiative of which I have spoken, and you are joined to the greatest creative force of all things, which is God Himself.

And so, let us understand that. That, we must create the cause of creative action by uniting with the presence of God within. That's the motivating power. That's the final thing to remember, is to make the contact with God by regular and deep meditation, and dependence on Him, faith on Him, faith in Him. Full dependence on God. Because He is our very existence. Our consciousness. Our thoughts. Our emotions. Everything is because He is in us. We must know Him. We must make the contact with God. Then, then we can work creatively, and amount to something in the world.

Then the next point is this. That is, I have said, make the contact with God. One point I do not want to forget is this. When you pray, pray only in His presence. When you want to work creatively, you know that you can work creatively, if you have contact with God. Then why not when you pray to be able to work creatively in any line, business, or anything? Why not make the contact with God first? Why not establish the cause of right creative ability by contacting God first?

Now how are ya gonna do it? Very easy. When you pray, pray only after you get contact with Him. Not, "Lord let me have this deal go through, and everything." Make the contact with God. How? Hear the Cosmic Sound. Hear the Cosmic Sound. See the Cosmic Light at this point [Doctor points to the forehead at the point between the eyebrows], if you can. But anyway you can feel in your heart, God, "I am your child." Make the contact with God. Then you know what? You know He hears you. You understand? You pray to God, He's some vague thing off in the distance. But when you establish contact God, and

then pray to Him, you know He hears you. And, if I know God hears me, what do I care? I know He hears. That's all that amounts. Then you can act creatively without any obstructions, because you're not doubting. That's the next point.

When you make the contact with God, and you know He hears you, do not doubt then, and He will never let you down. These are the Master's words, "Do not doubt after you make the contact with God, and you pray to Him in His Consciousness." That is as the barrier has been removed, you hear the Cosmic Sound, the Om Vibration. That's the presence of God. "In the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God, the Word was God." Now when you make that contact, you know He hears you. If you see the Light at this point [between the eyebrows], God is Light. Light has created all things. His Omniscience is in that Light, just as it is in the Cosmic Sound of Om, or Amen. And when you feel in your heart the Bliss of His presence, when you know He is watching over you, His Consciousness is there, you've made the contact. Pray then, and you will act creatively. This is very important to realize that.

And so, the second thing, as I have said: don't doubt. Don't doubt. It's the doubt that spoils the whole business. Do not doubt. Have faith in God, even though it kills you to do it. Do it. And then act from this elevated state of consciousness, and you cannot help but work creatively, because you have joined your will with God's Will. You've joined your soul's inspiration with the great Inspiration of the Master of the universe. How can you fail to act creatively? Make the contact with God, and, if He is pleased, if all of the rest of the world are displeased, and you haven't a place to lay your head, or a friend left in the world, but you know God is pleased with you, you're working creatively, and nobody can disturb you. Realize that.

And I'll close just with a few words from Master's writings, from his little book, Law of Success, or we might say the law of working, acting, creatively. "When God is working within you, you cannot fail." Understand that. People will try everything else, but that. People need, in general, right now, one thing. And what is it? God. The alcoholic needs one thing: God. The discouraged person needs one thing: God. The yogi, the devotee, needs one thing, and one thing only. And that is God. And so the Master goes on. "Every faculty you possess will increase in power." Every faculty you possess will increase in power when you hook up, so to speak, join with the presence of God within. "When you do your work with the thought of serving God, you receive His blessing." And so, if you make the contact with God, and then act from that elevated state of

consciousness, you cannot fail. You will surely work creatively. For God is with you.