



Spiritual Wisdom Journal

Quarterly Inspiration from ECKANKAR

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S P I R I T U A L S U R V I V A L I N A C H A N G I N G W O R L D

Focus: Spiritual Insights into Your Relationships

“A new face on an old truth: To listen is to love.”

—Sri Harold Klemp,¹ *How to Survive Spiritually in Our Times*, Mahanta Transcripts, Book 16

FEATURE ARTICLE



New Neighbors

By Sri Harold Klemp

An ECK² couple had moved into a neighborhood. And their neighbors were new to the neighborhood as well. So they got together to have a nice chat one evening.

As they were talking, it came out that both women had grown up in very poor families. The ECKist woman said that her mother had been widowed very early, with young children. But she did whatever she had to, took jobs here and there, and she made a very happy life for her family.

The other woman felt that her mother had neglected her. She had always held it against her mother. Now the mother had become aged. Although the daughter had a loving husband and two lovely children, she really wanted to make her mother feel all the frustration and anger she felt after having been neglected as a child.

The two couples had been trying to have a nice social evening when the second woman began to

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A SPIRITUAL STORY

Discovering Hidden Roadblocks to Relationships

By Debbie Johnson

There are times we have roadblocks that are invisible to us. Mine are often visible to everyone but me! Dreams can shine light on those shadowy specters in our lives.

Long ago I had a relationship with someone I trusted completely. Because of my youth and naiveté, I went along blithely until I began having dreams of his being a thief.

In one dream:

He was in an upstairs apartment, my apartment, tossing

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1. Sri Harold Klemp is the spiritual leader of Eckankar.

2. ECK (pronounced EHK) is the Life Force, the Holy Spirit, the Audible Life Current which sustains all life. Also, short for Eckankar.

The Secret of All Relationships



Everyone has some experience with love—even a child who has a pet kitten or a dog. Soul is trying to give back or respond to God's love that's coming through. In some way the child learns lessons about caring for the pet. If he neglects the pet and it runs away, the child learns one of the first hard lessons about love: If you love something, you have to nurture it.

That means, at least once during the day, give the object of your attention or the person of your heart your full love. Even if just for a little while, listen to what they are saying. During this time, you are putting the little self aside.

The little self comes forward to meet the problems of the day, but put it aside to take time to just listen, love someone, and put your full attention on them, face-to-face. It's directly looking at the person you love, even after you are married. This is when the nurturing occurs and when the relationship is strengthened.

—From *Spiritual Wisdom on Relationships*, by Harold Klemp

Free Book Offer* Click this box to get a free copy of *Spiritual Wisdom on Relationships*.

*For anyone not a member of Eckankar.

New Neighbors

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lose it. She got very emotional about her mother. Her husband was embarrassed, probably thinking to himself, *My wife is talking about all these past hardships in such an undignified way, things that took place years ago. What difference could it make today? She's spoiled the evening with our new neighbors. This is going to be some neighborhood for us!*

The ECKists just sat there. The wife quickly asked inwardly, "Wah Z,³ what do I do?" And just that quickly, the answer came back to her. "Listen. Just listen."

So very patiently and quietly, the ECKist and her husband listened to this woman as she began to speak about the anger that had been bottled up inside her for years. Her husband didn't even know that the anger was so deep and so violent. Such a deep angry force was inside his wife, and he had had no idea. The woman had been to doctors, trying to talk it out. But nothing had really done the trick.

When all this anger had boiled out, the woman finally got herself under control. And she

apologized. "Thank you for listening," she said. "This is the first time anyone has really ever listened to me."

She was thirty-eight years old. And this was the first time she felt that anyone had ever listened to her. It's sad that it took thirty-eight years. But on the other hand, it did happen. And it happened because there was an ECKist there, and the Inner Master⁴ had said to her, "Listen. Just listen."

So often, we would be better off as vehicles for God—serving life and creation—if we would listen more and give advice less.

The ECKist realized that the other couple was going to have to work through this with the wife's mother in their own way, at their own pace. Eventually it will work out in a way that is in harmony with them. The ECKist did what she could by just listening. But now it is up to the couple to address this problem themselves, in whatever way they can. They will find a way to work out their karma and come into some state of balance that they have not been in before.

—From *The Secret of Love*, Mahanta Transcripts, Book 14, by Harold Klemp

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3. Wah Z is the spiritual name of the Mahanta, the Living ECK Master, Sri Harold Klemp.

4. There are two parts of the Master: the Outer Master and the Inner Master, known as the Mahanta.

Ask a Modern Prophet about Relationships

How can people find out whether they love truly or not, and why are they hasty to get married? Why do I find myself in my family instead of another family, and what can a child do to keep from suffering so much when their parents divorce?

Love is blind and probably always will be. The only way to find out anything in life is to go ahead and get the experience. Nothing is ever lost. Each experience can teach us valuable lessons about ourselves, painful though they may be.

Impatience and blindness (a lack of experience in such matters) are the reason for hasty marriages. There's little that can be done about it.

Why are you in your family and not in another? It's for the simple reason that you and your family agreed to it before this lifetime ever began. Somehow, all of you saw a spiritual reason for being together. . . .

How to keep from suffering so much when parents divorce? Love the parent you're with, with all your heart. In other words, fill yourself with love for all who are with you now, this minute, this hour.

—From *Spiritual Wisdom on Relationships*,
by Harold Klemp

Can you help me with any advice on how to keep the love flowing in my marriage? It's been strained lately.

Communication is a difficult thing to keep open in any marriage. One useful technique when things get strained is for one person to interview the other for twenty minutes, with notes.

The interviewer is free to ask whatever he wants. The only limitation is no question can be phrased so that it can be answered with a simple yes or no. That doesn't open communication.

The interviewer is not able to defend himself against any accusations but must sit there and take it. Of course, the roles change in twenty minutes. The other spouse then becomes the interviewer of hopes and dashed dreams.

It is surprising what marriage partners learn about their companions that make them truly interesting people with goals too.

—From *Spiritual Wisdom on Relationships*,
by Harold Klemp

Are we supposed to love everybody?

The gifts of God come to us most often through other people. And the gift of love often comes through us to other people. If we let it; if we open our heart. And it must be with discrimination.

Love those who are close to you with your whole heart, but love those who are outside of your close circle with a detached love, with charity. In other words, you cannot love everyone with the same warmth. Loving means acting and showing your love. The human body can give only so much love and usually we reserve the warm love for those who are close to us. And they do the same for us, their loved one.

Love does everything for those it loves. In a relationship it isn't like the man gives 50 percent and the woman gives 50 percent. It doesn't work like that. You have to give 100 percent of yourself. And expect no praise or no reward for it.

So you just love. And why do you love? Because you love.

Back when I was in high school, some friends of mine used to sing this inane song. It went like this: "We're here because we're here because we're here because we're here." . . . It made perfect sense to me then because I didn't know why I was here. And they didn't know either.

So, it's that way with love too. We love because we love because we love because we love.

Because it's the nature of an open consciousness. To simply love and give of God's love to other people. But even more important is to receive it. To receive the blessings that are all around us.

—From *The Secret of Love*, Mahanta
Transcripts, Book 14, by Harold Klemp

Miracles in Your Life: To view a beautiful video presentation about HU, a majestic love song to God, go to www.MiraclesInYourLife.org.

You Are Invited to a Spiritual Event

Eckankar seminars are an opportunity to join with other spiritual seekers and students of Eckankar for one to three days of workshops; small group discussions; inspiring creative arts; programs for children, youth, and families; and outstanding speakers. Sri Harold Klemp is the featured speaker at the two major Eckankar seminars (spring and fall) each year.



Coming in October:

2012 ECK Worldwide Seminar
A Year of Consecration
October 19–21, 2012
Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA

For more information or to preregister for this seminar, go to www.ECKseminars.org.

To view a video, “The ECK Seminar Experience,”

go to www.ECKseminars.org.

ECKists of all ages share some of the benefits and international atmosphere of a major ECK seminar. Features a short talk excerpt by Sri Harold Klemp.

Discovering Roadblocks

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valuable equipment and furniture to a friend below who placed it on a truck to be sold later.

When I awoke from this dream, I knew something was wrong but didn't want to face it for fear of losing the love I had finally found, not knowing it was not love at all, but need. He would have preyed on that need by taking from me in ways I wouldn't have noticed. The very

tangible experience I got that validated the dream was he never paid back money he'd borrowed from me, even though we'd parted on friendly terms.

Thank goodness I listened to my dream and finally accepted the truth it was trying to convey to me. Had I listened more carefully to earlier messages from Divine Spirit, I would have been free of the situation sooner.

—From *Dreams: Your Window to Heaven*,
 by Debbie Johnson

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Video Clip on Relationships Go to www.Eckankar.org. Under “Video” on the right side of the screen, click on “Relationships.”

Are You at a Spiritual Crossroads?

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Click www.Eckankar.org;

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