

**“Dream lofty dreams, and as you dream so shall you become.
Your vision is the promise of what you shall one day be.”
(from “As You Dream---“ by G. Phillip Brown)**

SPIRIT in ACTION

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We Welcome You!

“AS YOU DREAM---”

G. Phillip Brown

Just as the oak sleeps in the acorn, and the bird waits in the egg, so man’s future depends upon his present thoughts. Man’s mind is like a garden and the thoughts he thinks are seeds which he plants knowingly or unknowingly. The law of life works in a pattern of cause and effect; the law of expression sees to it that *like produces like*. Good thoughts bring forth good effects in our garden-mind; bad seed thoughts bring forth weeds and tares.

It is never too late to rid our garden of the effects of wrong thinking. We need only to guard our thoughts and weed out diligently any that might sprout into ugliness. If we learn to dwell upon good thoughts they will grow and flourish in abundance, and, as came to pass in the parable of the wheat and the tares, those things, which are unlike God, shall wither and die.

As within, so without. When we get our thoughts in order, we shall find that our outer affairs and circumstances have already taken on a new harmony. However, just as with a garden we must keep a careful watch so that the weeds do not get a start, so in our mental garden we must constantly watch the nature of our thoughts.

We cannot keep thoughts from coming our way, but we can refuse to dwell upon those, which are unworthy of our attention. We need not accept them and take them as seed for future fruit. “Where your attention is, there you are,” said some wise person. It is up to us whether we choose to live in heaven or hell. “Whatsoever things are lovely, think on these things.” Opportunity knocks each moment at the door of your thoughts; at any moment you may begin to cultivate the beauties of your mental garden.

“They do me wrong who say I come no more when once I knock and fail to find you in;
Each morn I stand again beside your door to bid you wake and rise, and fight, and win.

Weep not for precious chances passed away; wail not for golden ages on the wane.
Each night I burn the records of that day; at sunrise every soul is born again.”

THE DYNAMIC ACTION OF PRAYER

Hazel Deane---1944

(Author of the biography of Nona L. Brooks---
Powerful is the Light)

“There is a time for prayer and a time for action,”
someone has said.

It seems that every way we look in this summer of 1944
we find indication that this is a time for action.
Yet of what should that action consist?
There is so much to be done,
and because of the numbers of men and women
engaged directly in the war,
there are so few people to do all that has to be done.

(This was another time when our nation was at war. To
those who feel helpless to stop the war, know that there
is something you can do. ---Editor)

How can we act, so that our action will bring the
greatest results? ... There is a more effective way than
any objective act. It is the kind of action that goes on
everywhere, at the front as well as here at home, within
you when you are sitting quiet, as well as when your
hands and head and heels are actively engaged.

It is the kind of an attitude that carries with it such
dynamic power that by it we accomplish infinitely more
than if we labored unceasingly for twenty hours a day.

Right thinking---right attitude!

Let us look at where we are going in life?
What is it that we want to accomplish by action?

Simply this:

If I am sick,

I want just one thing more than anything else;

I want to be well.

If I am hungry,

I want just one thing more than anything else;

I want to be fed.

If I am unhappy,

I shall not be satisfied until the cause of my unhappiness
is removed, and those conditions,
which to me would mean happiness, are established.

If we are at war,

we want victory and peace. ...

Am I in action when I take time out to study, time to
pray? If, through that study and that prayer I can induce
within myself an embodiment of the fulfillment of my
need (whatever that need is) I have experienced the most
dynamic action that the world has ever known, although
I have sat quite still.

Do you remember Jesus' answer when they asked him
who he was? He said, “Go tell John how the sick are

healed and the lame walk and the blind receive their
sight.” The power that accomplished such things was
real power, dynamic action!

Can we by study, by thinking, by prayer, by “practice
of the Presence” accomplish similar results? There can
be no other way to accomplish them, for only from
within man himself has man ever gained added power.

In the material realm, added power has come because
one man or two or three or a dozen, working through the
years, have discovered the law by which that power was
gained, and all the world has profited from that one
discovery. A Galileo has lived and thought and revealed,
(a Farraday, a Burbank, a Robert Fulton, a Newton, a
Henry Ford)---and all the world saw farther, lived more
fully, and traveled at greater ease or speed than before.

To some degree that is true also of spiritual power! A
Jesus lived and taught, (a Peter, a John, and later a man
named Paul)---through the years came the early
Christians: St. Francis, Luther, Fox, Wesley, and we
called ourselves a Christian world, with a new set of
ideals, the ideal of kindness, love, brotherhood, and
tolerance. Then a Swedenborg, an Emerson, a Quimby,
Malinda Cramer, Fannie James, Alethea Small, Nona
Brooks; and subtly the ideal had changed again, was
measured more closely to those words of Jesus, “Go, tell
John how the sick are healed and the lame walk, and the
blind receive their sight.”

A man lay dying for doctors had exhausted their skill,
yet that man is alive and well; and a woman whose heart
was breaking and who knew not which way to turn, has
found her happiness again; and it is greater than before.
One could go on and on citing examples, for all over the
world today men/women are praying and finding very
definite answers to their prayers. That spiritual power is
real there is no doubt, but unlike material power, each
person, to receive its full benefit, must learn to use it for
himself.

One man discovered the power of steam, and hundreds
and thousands traveled aboard trains and ships. Another
man (or two or a dozen) learned the laws of electricity
and invented an electric bulb, but millions have only to
push the button on the wall. However, only one child of
God can develop and use the spiritual power innate
within, and that is you, yourself. The age where every
person must learn to be the maker of his own power and
the ruler of his own destiny---is come.

The time for action has come,
but let us remember what we want to accomplish
with that action.

If we are sick, we want to be healed;
if we are poor or hungry or unhappy,

we want that need filled.

*We want power to leap the distance between
our experience in fact and our vision of reality.*

Machine power, electrical power, has gone far toward leaping that gap, and it may be that it is not even near the limit of its capacity. It may be that material inventions will come so that tomorrow will be very different from today. However, whether or not material power has reached its peak, the machine age, the electric age, merges surely into the age of spiritual power; and of spiritual power we have but touched the hem of the garment.

That is where we are going with our urge to action---toward a greater use of a power infinitely more able to fulfill our needs than any power that man has thus far developed.

The time for action has come, but that action is not mere running around in the haste of outer accomplishment. It is true that "there is a time for prayer and a time for action," but it is also true that there is a time when prayer **IS** action, *dynamic action*.

Listen, learn, study, pray!
Sit behind the steering wheel of your life
and take control.
You'll go infinitely further
than if you got out and pushed the car!

(Guest Minister Column)

▲ Letter from Paul

Reverend Lucia Faugno
Quimby Memorial Church – NJ

In a letter to the Corinthians Paul addresses some of the problems that existed in the newly formed groups of believers.

He confesses he knows there are problems amongst the groups, but writes, "No man can understand spiritual things until the Holy Spirit teaches them."

The city of Corinth was located about 40 miles west of Athens and was, as one critic wrote, "the sin city of the Roman Empire." If you were to travel to that part of the world you would still see the ruins of that city.

Growth and understanding comes from two different directions. They come by way of the Spirit of Truth or by working one's way through life's experiences.

Until we know without doubt, "I and the Father are one," until we are conscious of that oneness of self and Spirit we are missing the mark. Awareness of the Christ or Truth comes in the Silence. One recognizes a peace or tranquility unlike any before.

Emilie Cady, in her book, "Lessons in Truth," writes, "you must pass the place of doubt."

I met a young man several days ago, a friend, and in the course of our conversation he said, "Its no use even if you try---there are always people out there that don't want this for you."

However, the problem is not in the outer world but in our thinking and believing, or lack of believing. The problem is a matter of not realizing one's own power. He is defeated before he begins.

In each life what will be depends on what one accepts as his or her reality. This young man's reality was, "things never work," but the truth is ---*they do*. They work according to what we believe and what we accept as real or possible.

The problem among the Corinthians was that they were more concerned or interested in their differences.

There were four different groups of believers in the city of Corinth:

One was of Cephas which is to say "full of faith." They had a strong foundation upon which to build. It takes faith to build a spiritual consciousness.

One was of Apollos. He was an intellect. Paul said, "I planted; Apollos watered; but God gave the increase."

Some were of Paul, the great expresser of the word.

And some were of Jesus.

Even though Paul began his letter with much praise, he ends with much advice as to what it takes to have that spiritual Oneness we call truth.

Like the Corinthians, at times, we miss the point; we agonize when with a little effort we may accomplish great things.

The spiritual path is narrow we are told, yet safe and takes us in the right direction. It brings the rewards of the spirit, which are, as the Bible tells us, "more satisfying than gold or silver..."

Who and what is the Christ? ... it is the potential perfection within you. Jesus the Christ is the embodiment of that perfection. Some of the first things Jesus did was heal the sick, cast out demons, make the blind see, raise the dead; which is to say he brought to humankind a new consciousness and took us higher. ...

"No man can understand the things of the spirit until the Holy Spirit teaches them" and in due time it happens.

We grow through our difficulties and we are renewed in spirit. You hold the key to your good; no one can keep you from it.

The challenge is, *"to get past the place of doubt."*

We do not come to God for loaves and fishes.

We come to God for God, and when we have God, the loaves and fishes are added unto us.

Joel S. Goldsmith

Look for the Good and Praise It!

Wayne Elliott (an excerpt)

... Thousands of American investors feel optimistic only when the stock market goes up and pessimistic when it goes down. Yet, the market analysts attribute a rise in stocks to investor optimism and a drop to investor pessimism. Does that sound logical to you? The market affects our moods and our moods affect the stock market. Which comes first? What a foolish and futile exercise! No wonder there is such confusion and uncertainty, when we "pin our hopes" to such insubstantial and undependable factors.

It is true, however, that Wall Street is a barometer of the collective materialistic, human thinking of many Americans. This thinking is built upon the proverbial shifting sands, rather than on the rock of faith. Those who become addicted to negative thinking find it possible to be pessimistic about anything. If unemployment rises, they worry; if there is high employment, they fear "it won't last." They complain about inflation, but go into a panic about a depression if the economy cools a bit. However, even though we are bombarded daily with scandals and skepticism by the gloom-and-doom-sayers, and are influenced to a certain extent by the overall views, we can each help balance any negative trend in thinking by looking for the good and praising it. This is still the greatest country in the history of the world. It can become even greater in our third century, if the *national mode of thinking* is optimistic, enthusiastic, and constructive.

Look for the good and praise it! You may feel weak and ineffectual, but your influence on others is greater than you think. Businessmen found out long ago that word-of-mouth advertising is the best kind. Gently but firmly insist on talking up things, instead of talking down things, and your opinion will be felt. The total national consciousness is made up of the individual thoughts and attitudes of us all.

The Truth is that the entire physical universe is God's perfect idea, gradually unfolding and coming into visibility. The only factor, which slows or inhibits the complete manifestation of this Absolute Good into the realm of man's awareness, is man's ignorance and denial of it.

***Our individual and collective expectations
are reproduced objectively.
What we look for and believe in
is what we ultimately experience.
This is the Law.***

In day-to-day living we should ask ourselves, "Am I contributing to the problem, or to the solution? Am I doing anything constructive to make things better, or am I merely criticizing and making things worse?"

***"Scornful men bring a city into a snare;
but wise men turn away wrath,"
says the Book of Proverbs 29:8.***

**The Book of Psalms begins,
"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the
ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the**

***seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord;
and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall
be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth
forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also, shall not wither;
and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."***

The Bible lumps the scornful, the criticizers, with the sinners and the ungodly. "*But the way of the ungodly shall perish.*" God is affirmative, constructive, creative. Man was created by God to be like that too---full of praise and thanksgiving---envisioning the good and *praising it!* If you really desire the good and look for it, you will find it.

... Your consciousness is important! Expect the best; watch your thinking and speaking. What you think and say and do is important: gratitude, reverence, praise. The world needs you to help usher in the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. No contribution is too insignificant.

(Did any or all-of-the above excerpt sound like thoughts and ideas you have recently heard? Proof that the world and man lives through the same cycle of events and needs to move on is reflected in that this piece was written in 1977. ---Editor)

One of the joys of Divine Science
is that it includes in its outlook every process of life,
from the tiniest to the most sublime,
and declares that God is in action in each one,
unfolding His plan,
impelling the different forms of nature to move forward.
We feel assured that the inner process
that is going on in mankind has no end.
We cannot fully conceive infinity,
but we know that love is an infinite and universal quality
and that all process is in the care of this love.
---Fannie B. James

"Christianity has not failed. Churches may have failed but never was Christianity a more vital force in human life than it is today."
---John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

"Let each man sweep in front of his own door, and the whole world will be clean."
---Goethe

*"He that walketh with wise men shall be wise."
---The Wisdom of Solomon*

*Sometimes when an overwhelming experience overtakes us,
we stay too long in the experience;
we forget the years of happiness, of normal everyday living,
of accomplishment, of companionship ...
Jesus did not remain in the shadow of the cross;
He went on to greater fulfillment.*

---Carrie F. Munz 4

STUDIES in DIVINE SCIENCE

Mrs. C. L. Baum

(a continuation)

XV.

Living the Life

“And if you be led of the Spirit you are not under the law.”
“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering,
gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; against
such there is no law.”

We have to go back many centuries to find out what it really means to live the life, or as Paul puts it, “live by the Spirit.” He saw and told us in plain, simple words how to do easily that which we are striving to demonstrate today. All of the Illumined have appreciated the same law of beautiful living, for truth is eternal and changeless and must be perceived by all alike. The perfect inherencies of the Universal Source are ready to flow through us into outward expression, and it is our place to make the channel so clear that the glory of Omnipresence may be able to shine without obstruction. We who claim to have caught a glimpse of the indwelling One may, by cultivating the fruits of the Spirit, “make straight the pathway of the Lord.” Joy and tenderness, love, and peace without a ripple of emotion, serenity that nothing can disturb--these will combine to make the inner and outer as one.

Having become conscious of our Divine nature, we are now walking the path which leads eventually to the fulness of that health, peace, and satisfaction which we know has been given us, even though it may not yet be manifested. We are bringing our thought under control, and purifying our words and actions. We are no longer under any law, but are one with the spiritual law of unfoldment from the unlimited within. From now on we do not care to obtain external possessions, but our aspiration is to attain fuller consciousness of the Infinite Intelligence, Life, and Love that is our Source. As we begin consciously to desire this spiritual unfoldment, we find that our attitude toward the whole of life has undergone a change.

It is this changed attitude that shows most clearly our growth. We no longer find fault with or condemn the weather; neither are we subject to it, nor has it any power to influence our serenity. Rather do we exclaim with Ruskin, “There is no bad weather, but all kinds of good weather,” rejoicing in the truth that all weather ministers to our good as we feel our unity with it.

Another change we discern in our attitude is that we have no fear regarding our food. We see that the underlying Substance of all things is One, and know that our food, being one Substance with our body, has no power to hurt us or cause us pain. Spirit does not war upon Spirit, nor does food war upon the body. Knowledge of the foundation principle of unity releases us from the dualistic belief of separation, and we and our daily bread are at peace.

In the new life we find that criticism of neighbor and friend has passed away forever, for we see all as the children of the one Father, entitled to our never-failing consideration and love. The thought of co-operation helps us here, and as we reach up a hand to be helped by someone who has climbed higher in the path of attainment, we also reach the other hand

down to the one just below who needs our help; and as we are lifted up, so do we lift others up to us.

Worry, doubt, and fear become unknown to us, for we trust the Divine action everywhere. Judging no longer by appearances, we see the inherent goodness of every manifestation of life. We do not hate nor despise anyone or anything, but do our part in our place to the best of our ability. We cease to think and talk of our bodies and their sensations, for we live constantly in the full realization of the allness of the Good. In this state, the truth of the body is made manifest to us and we rejoice in its harmony and peace.

As we find God everywhere, the whole universe revealing His Presence, the darkness of ignorance is replaced by the light of Divine Wisdom; and walking in that light, we see the truth of all things, people, and places. The truth so clarifies our vision that we finally and wholly disconnect our thought from the superstitions of the past, and maintain our connection with the divine Mind. Thus we think with the Father and are guided into fuller enlightenment, so that every common day is filled with delight, and the inner peace is established in our consciousness forever.

Joy Commandments.

Thou shalt rejoice in every kind of weather.

“The earth is the Lord’s and the fulness thereof.”

Thou shalt bless thy food and thy drink.

“The pure in heart shall see God” in all things.

Thou shalt redeem thy body by knowing its inherent perfection.

“If thine eye be single to truth, thy whole body shall be full of light.”

Thou shalt commend thy neighbor and praise his goodness.

“Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.”

Thou shalt trust thyself and thy friends to the ever present Divine Love.

“For thy loving kindness is before mine eyes and I have walked in thy truth.”

Thou shalt love every living thing.

“And God saw everything that he had made, and behold it was very good.”

Thou shalt greet each morning with a smile.

“Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.”

Thou shalt be filled with the strength and power of the Lord.

“Wait on the Lord, be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thy heart.”

Thou shalt joyfully go wherever duty calls.

“The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in.”

Thou shalt lie down to sleep in abiding peace.

“He that keepeth thee will not slumber.”

So every spirit, as it is most pure,
And hath in it the more of Heavenly light,
So, it, the fairer body doth procure
To habit in, and it more fairly dight
With cheerful grace and amiable sight.
For, of the soul, the body form doth take,
For soul is form and doth the body make.

---Spenser

Regular Column Contributor:

Mary D. Rezendes, Minister at large

“...wrestling with God, Jacob’s name was changed at Jabbok into Israel.” Jabbok means *emptying* and Israel means *striving for God, dominion with God*.

It seems to me that many today, like Jacob, are still wrestling with God.

Despite the great advances in science and New Thought teaching over the past one hundred years, we still hear questions like, “if there is a god why does he let children suffer and die, or why does he let disease, war and poverty exist?” I ask, why do so many people still believe in a god, or a “he” god or any entity that is in any way possible of being God. And more important than that where do we as Divine Scientists fail to meet the challenge of “getting the Truth out there?” Are we doing our job?

Divine Science could be the leader in aiding humanity to a new understanding of the Omnipresence by dropping all the word images of god. Language cannot define God. But check out our literature, is it still stuck in the Old Testament image of god: father, he, him, king, lord, judge, or some other human form? God is not like anything we can know with our intellectual words. At best, and even this falls short, we can say *God is the creative force, imperceptible energy forming, and love that can only be intuitively felt and demonstrated*. This is the wrestling that goes on within us until we have the desire to know God from the inside out, and this doesn’t require books, lectures, tapes, or classes. Tools may guide us but cannot give us the experience of Omnipresent Being.

The nature of Omnipresence is too pure to behold iniquity. In IT there is no sick or dying, crime or poverty. We only see (behold) iniquity when we are stuck in our human will like Jacob. *We cannot know God when we struggle to fit God into our understanding, instead of letting God be our understanding. Prevailing with God transcends our logic, reasoning, and dual sense existence, it requires emptying ourselves of our filtered time language data, and opening ourselves to a higher reality. A superman god does not fit the 21st century picture. We need to relate to the needs of today’s youth and speak to them in their terms. Admitting that God doesn’t fit the picture handed to us over 2000 years ago is just the beginning.*

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When the Day of Pentecost was fulfilled ... suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues which were divided like flames of fire ... and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit.
Acts 2:1-4

Even the least of us have felt at times the touch of the Holy Spirit ... whom, Jesus the Christ promised, the Father would send in His name. We have sensed a comforting Presence in time of sorrow ... known peace and trust ... a feeling of protection as real as a hand upon a shoulder.

Few there be who have had the overwhelming descent of the Spirit experienced by those first Christians, and yet, whether the awareness of the Presence comes as a blinding light or the sound of celestial music ... or steals softly into our hearts as we sit in stillness or in secret prayer ... it matters not.

It is enough to know that we do find God when we seek with all our hearts. We do discover the kingdom of God within when we pray and when we listen with utter self-surrender. We come to know, and to know that we know, that God and His Son (sons and daughters – us) are One. ... **And this is eternal Life.**

---Barbara L. Wolfe, Practitioner

Our Creator would never have made such lovely days, and given us the deep hearts to enjoy them, above and beyond all thought, unless we were meant to be immortal.

---Nathaniel Hawthorne

***“I Can Do Anything Through Him
Who Gives Me Strength”***

Why is it true that man feels *small* in his failures,
but *large* in his successes?
How differently we should feel at these times.

How much bigger we should feel than any failure---
if we would do away with failure.

And how truly humble we should feel
in our times of success when we must know that
“The Father within doeth the work,”
for we of ourselves can do nothing.

How proud and vain we often become in
contemplating something which has been brought
into existence through us, whether it be a vast
cathedral, a field crop of corn, or our child. It is easy
to forget that our hearts should be filled with thanks
to the Father, the Source of all good and beauty,
from whom all things come and that we, His
expressions, are but the channels through which
He manifests.

From God we receive our talents. Through the
Christ Spirit of *Life* we are made awake to the truth
that we have the talents. Everyone has some
contribution to make to life. It is something for a
soul to be alive to this truth.

Through the Christ Spirit of *Truth*, we are made to
appreciate our talents and to comprehend them
and to understand where they come from and for
what they are. The Spirit of Truth reveals to us that
our talents are not merely for personal use but for
making our world better, happier, and lovelier.

Then through the Christ Spirit of *Love* we lose
every sense of difficult mental planning as to how
we can develop our abilities and express them. We
lose the sense of strained personal effort, if we
have had it in trying to earn a living. This is simply
expressing our God-gifts of power and ability.

Thanksgiving for all good things, all beautiful and all
new things that come into our world is absolutely a
necessity for him who would enjoy greater
blessings.

The Christ-love fills us with great love for God and
praise to Him as the Source of All-good. The Christ-
love fills us with a tender love for mankind and an
overwhelming desire to give our best to life.

---Alice R. Ritchie

Companioning With God

When we seek our spiritual unfoldment first, seek to
attain the rich consciousness of pure, unselfish
love, all the wealth we can wisely appropriate
comes to us.

Conscious growth is the law of man's being. All
progress begins in Spirit. All progress is the very
pressing out of the God-Life, the God-Mind, the
God-Love into our human affairs.

It all comes to pass as we mentally let go of the “I,
me, mine” attitude and take in the “we, you, our”
attitude. In this way we come out into the open
spaces of the Omnipresence. Finding the
Omnipresence we do not *lose* ourselves but *find*
ourselves.

Instead of seeking money or social position let us
seek the wealth consciousness of the love of God
and our fellowmen. When we seek our spiritual
unfoldment first, seek to attain the rich
consciousness of pure, unselfish love, all the
wealth we can wisely appropriate comes to us.

Be willing to let go of any habit of thinking that does
not coincide with the wisdom that God gives to you.

God's law of growth, expressed as success, is just
as operative in the financial world as in the fields of
grain approaching a bountiful harvest.

Let's drop all such foolish thoughts as “I earn my
own living through my own efforts.” Remember:
God is the life of the body. God is the wisdom of the
brain. God is the love of the heart. Something is
wrong with our concept of Truth if we are not more
companionable, more lovable, more understanding
than we were before we studied Truth.

Jesus healed and helped his brothers and sisters.
He could do this because he had something to give
them; something they needed and did not have.
Jesus had this to give because he drew his supply
of power consciously from God. Jesus spoke as
one having authority because his words were
uttered from the consciousness of his oneness with
the Father. The loving Father was his companion.
Jesus could do his mighty preaching and healing
because he was conscious that the Father did the
work.

---Alice R. Ritchie

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A Divine Science Federation International Newsletter

L ove
I ntegrity
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We Welcome You!

Jesus said to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonah, do you love me more than these things? He said to him, yes, my Lord, you know that I love you. Jesus said to him, feed my sheep.
John 21:15

Sunrise tipped the waves with red and gold, as the little fishing boat with its crew of weary, hungry men drew near the shore. The solitary figure standing on the beach called out to them. John recognized that voice. "It is our Lord," he said to Peter. Peter, impulsive as always, leaped into the water and half-swam, half-waded to shore, while the others brought in the boat.

After they had breakfasted together in the dear familiar way, Jesus turned to Peter, asking, "Simon, do you love me?" Three times He put the question; each time Peter reaffirmed his love, puzzled and rather hurt that Jesus felt it necessary to ask. Three times Jesus told him in His own vivid way that Peter must take the responsibility of leadership now. It would not be easy the Master implied, to give up the old headstrong ways and rise into a mature faith, a steady love that would carry him through what he must face as leader.

Facing responsibility, going on when things go wrong, requires of us---much faith, much love, much soul-searching prayer. By these we become mature and powerful, confident, successful.

---B. L. Wolfe
