

Some Advice When Following A Spiritual Master

"Divinity has one ultimate secret, which it will also whisper in your ear if your mind becomes quieter than the fog at sunset: the God of this world is found within."

"The Simple Feeling of Being" by Ken Wilbur

This article continues our discussion of spiritual ascendancy and the teachers and students who pursue it. For as long as there have been mysteries of the soul, there have been mentors and students following the paths of ascended masters. Masters such as Abraham, Zoroaster, St. Germaine, Huxley, Crowley and Jesus, to name a few. As you can imagine, not all teachers are made in the same image as the masters named above but, neither are we. I frequently hear from my clients that they are in pursuit of a master or mentor, someone they can learn from spiritually. It was indeed my goal as well in the summer of 1986 when my "waiting was full" and one special teacher arrived. I would like to share some of the insights I acquired from that 18 year experience with a so-called avatar, countless students and clients.

Like many before me, the wonders of the Universe and the Higher Self called me to pursue loftier goals than most. I am not saying better goals but, more selfless and esoteric in nature. My parents always believed that volunteer work and offering spiritual help to those in need, was essential for us to grow up into the right people. Even as a young person, I was a misfit for my time. My philosophies included beliefs in Discipleship, the Qabala, Astrology, Reading the Akashic Records and so much more. And, my belief system was not just a mental knowing. I actually believed that I had been sent here for a noble purpose. Now, I know you are sitting there in front of your computer saying, "Me too." I absolutely and literally believed in the power of Moses, King Arthur, Jean Dixon and of course, Jesus. But, these figures of might were not just names in books, part of dogma or part of history. They existed in the present in dreams and visions that I had beheld since being quite young.

I was hand delivered from one teacher to another as I grew. One theme that always followed me was that of the righteous warrior, Archangel Michael and the deliverance of light to Earth by Gabriel or any other appointed Celestial Being. I just knew that I was meant to be a disciple of this time and age. And at 33, I met an impressive wizard-metaphysician who woke-up that spirit of goodness, protection and world server in me. Yes, I know. How convenient for this article that I was 33! Suffice it to say, I was 2 months shy of 34 and my world changed forever. Remember, epiphanies come at any age. The deal is to be ready to act after receiving any miracle. It is the difference between the teacher and the student.

I had met many accomplished psychics, astrologers and readers who were at the top of their game well before this master, so, I had an inner gauge as to real esoteric ability versus being a charlatan or magician. Lest you think I am bad-mouthing magicians...I am not. But, many masters operate best through slight of hand, not real clairvoyance and spiritual mastery. People like David Copperfield and Uri Geller come to mind. This profound new source of power being offered to me was an impressive combination of clairvoyance, ceremonial mastery, physical strength and the power to bring into manifestation a plan of attack which seemed to be designed by God, Himself! How do I know all this? Let me tell you how I knew.

When we read about masters of antiquity and even of the late 1800's, we see described men and women who made great personal sacrifices to pursue the truth as they saw it. They looked to bring the greatest amount of good to the outer populace and most of all, they were dedicated to change from within. Their reflection of God was strong enough to entice a following and their goals, while often too good to be true, went unrecognized for what they really were in the general society. In other words, they didn't win awards for popularity, most people didn't know who they were and if they did, they were probably called crackpots. Or, told they were "Going to Hell," for their beliefs, which is my all-time favorite!

All the above served to convince me that my teacher-mentor was a very special human being. He worked harder and longer than our group of students, remained painstakingly patient in the face of our ignorance and never gave us a break. When we made excuses for small or large failures such as, "Sorry but, I am only human," we were corrected harshly and immediately. The reminder that our actions and intentions must be godly since we were capable of that, often caught us up short. It was hard in the face of his shining example to get a handle on my own godliness at times. I also had to resist hero worship. Worshipping a mentor or teacher outside of yourself is like forgetting the First Commandment; "Thou shalt have no other god before ye." It was often easy to let him lead because following was not as fraught with disaster and rebuke. I learned much about keeping my mind and mouth clear of negativity, gossip and irrelevant conjecture. Mind you, I did not always practice what I should have but, I knew the difference. It is critical to remember when being tutored that respect, honor and often silence are the rule of the day. But, it is also very important that you remember to follow your inner truth at all times.

My teacher paved the way for all of us to assume the role of Captain by asking us to become shepherds, not sheep, in our everyday lives. In other words, my guide on Earth was asking us to hold a truth in our hearts' that said, "The best teacher is also the best student." You must continue to grow. And that may mean, growing past your current mentor, group or any other strong relationship in your life. The only way you can fulfill the destiny of the disciple is to take your own show on the road when you are called upon to do so by the Creator. I find this is the stage where many acolytes fall to earth and cannot continue to follow the a path of ascension. What is equally interesting to me is that this is also the stage when The Hermit within must sustain its power in groups, doing the Great Work and in the presence of persecution or during, say, a religious reformation, like we are going through in the United States today.

There is no simple formula in calling forth a master or mentor. When you are ready, the teacher will be called to you. What is extremely paramount in this process is that you realize always the cost of spiritual freedom, maintaining your inner truth and holding tight to your moral integrity. In the metaphysical community we hear often of teachers who manipulate and use their students' trust, abilities and hearts to their own advantage. Try to remember that no one can replace God in your heart and, if they try, wish them well and move on. Always remember, the spiritual army of God is gleaned from the few, not the many. We are like the Marines. We go in unawares of anything but our duty and accept the price of battle because there is only one end result that is acceptable. Being One with God at the end of the day.

All the best in this Summer of Becoming,

Dr. Gwen MacGregor
August, 2005