

A COURSE IN MIRACLES

STUDY GUIDE

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(Chapter Extract)

Chapter 14: Teaching for Truth

Section I. The Conditions of Learning

1. If we are blessed but don't know it, how do we learn that this is so?
 - 270/T-14.I.1:1-end

Section II. The Happy Learner

2. How do we become a happy learner?
 - 272/T-14.II.1:1-2:2
 - 273/T-14.II.5:1-6:2

3. **Application:** Practicing the presence is very much about being the happy learner (273/T-14.II.6:1) and inviting the Holy Spirit to show us what we are to think, say, or do. What might you do this week to remember to practice the presence more often?

Section III. The Decision for Guiltlessness

4. What are key steps in the decision for guiltlessness?
 - 274/T-14.III.1:1-end, 3:3-end; 275/T-14.III.7:1-8:4
 - 277/T-14.III.15:1-2, 278/T-14.III.16:1-19:5

5. **Application:** The *Course* advises us to teach everyone about their guiltlessness by showing them that no matter what they try to do to us it is of no effect because we are invulnerable (275/T-14.III.7:1-7). How did Jesus teach this in His lifetime, and how are we to teach this now?

Section IV. Your Function in the Atonement

6. What is our function in the Atonement and instead of asking for forgiveness, what is it that we are to ask for?
 - 279/T-14.IV.3:4-end

7. What should we do before we make any decisions for ourselves?

- 280/T-14.IV.5:1-6:2

Section V. The Circle of Atonement

8. What is the key message of the Atonement, and how does living this message complete the Circle of Atonement?

- 282/T-14.V.2:1-3, 283/T-14.V.5:7-8
- 283/T-14.V.7:5-8:7

9. **Application:** Read 284/T-14.V.11:1-9. Who is that one who is your savior? Who is that one whom you crucify from time to time in your mind? What can you do to begin seeing that one as God created him/her?

Section VI. The Light of Communication

10. What makes something terrifying and what is our role and the Holy Spirit's role in bringing light to communication?

- 285/T-14.VI.1:1-5
- 286/T-14.VI.8:1-4, 6:6-7

Section VII. Sharing Perception with the Holy Spirit

11. Why is it that we must bring opposites together to share the perception of the Holy Spirit?

- 287/T-14.VII.1:1-6, 4:4-5:1; 288 6:1-7:end

Section VIII. The Holy Meeting Place

12. Why is it that we seem not to know God and what are characteristics of the holy meeting place?

- 289/T-14.VIII.2:3-9
- 289/T-14.VIII.2:10-11; 290/T-14.VIII.2:13-16, 4:9-11

13. **Application:** We are asked to leave what we would communicate to Him. (286/T-14.VI.6:6)

- When are the times in your life when you are NOT willing to do that?
- What causes you to NOT be willing to give to Him whatever interferes with communication?
- How can you prepare yourself to be more willing during those times?

Section IX. The Reflection of Holiness

14. What is it that makes us holy and how do we reflect our holiness in this earthly experience?

- 291/T-14.IX.1-1-4
- 291/T-14.IX.3:8-9, 292/T-14.IX.5:1-5

15. How do we become ready for Heaven?

- 292/T-14.IX.8:4-7

Section X. The Equality of Miracles

16. If there is no order of difficulty in miracles and all miracles are equal, why is it that some of our thoughts, ideas, and experiences seem more important, larger, or better than others?

- 293/T-14.X.4:3-5

17. How does the Holy Spirit judge and why does it seem that we can't be trusted with judging and should therefore turn all judgment over to the Holy Spirit?

- 294/T-14.X.6:3-10
- 294/T-14.X.7:1-6

18. Why is it impossible to remember God by ourselves?

- 295/T-14.X.10:1-7

19. **Application:** *A Course in Miracles* frequently reminds us to turn over judgment to the Holy Spirit. In our lives we all have one or more people that we experience as EGRs (extra grace required).^{*} And yet these people are present to remind us of areas where we need healing. Pick one EGR in your life. What is a strategy you can use, when thinking of or interacting with this person, to help you see his/her call for love and respond as the Holy Spirit would have you do?

**A phrase credited to Rick Warren, The Purpose Driven Life*

Section XI. The Test of Truth

20. What is it that stands between you and the power of God in you?
- 296/T-14.XI.1:1-end

21. What is the test of truth, that is, what is the test to determine if what you have learned is true, and what does the absence of perfect peace mean?
- 297/T-14.XI.5:1-3
 - 297/T-14.XI.5:4-6

22. What must we do, and not do, to be ready to learn?

- 299/T-14.XI.12:1, 13:1-2, 14:1
- 299/T-14.XI.12:2-3, 13:3, 13:5

23. **Application:** *The Course* tells us that if we leave room for the Holy Spirit, we will find ourselves so filled with power that nothing will prevail against our peace. What does it mean for you to leave room for Him? (300/T-14.XI.15:5)

Notes

Section I. The Conditions of Learning

1. If we are blessed but don't know it, how do we learn that this is so?
 - 270/T-14.I.1:1-end By giving blessings to others, we learn we must have the blessing, because we can't give what we don't have.

Section II. The Happy Learner

2. How do we become a happy learner?
 - 272/T-14.II.1:1-2:2 We have been devoted to valuing nothing, the perishable, and yet there is a fundamental truth: Truth is true (*and nothing else is true*).
 - 273/T-14.II.5:1-6:2 When we teach truth, we learn it. We become happy learners when we are willing to turn our learning over to the Holy Spirit.
3. **Application:** Practicing the presence is very much about being the happy learner (273/T-14.II.6:1) and inviting the Holy Spirit to show us what we are to think, say, or do. What might you do this week to remember to practice the presence more often?

Section III. The Decision for Guiltlessness

4. What are key steps in the decision for guiltlessness?
 - 274/T-14.III.1:1-end The recognition that guilt is interference and serves no useful function.
 - 274/T-14.III.3:3-end Remembering that when we yield to guilt, we are deciding against our own happiness.
 - 275/T-14.III.7:1-8:4 We must teach our brothers that they are guiltless and cannot harm us because Spirit is invulnerable.
 - 277/T-14.III.15:1-2 Seek not to evaluate the worth of our brothers.
 - 278/T-14.III.16:1-19:5 We ask the Holy Spirit to decide for us.
5. **Application:** The *Course* advises us to teach everyone about their guiltlessness by showing them that no matter what they try to do to us it is of no effect because we are invulnerable (275/T-14.III.7:1-7). How did Jesus teach this in His lifetime, and how are we to teach this now?

Section IV. Your Function in the Atonement

6. What is our function in the Atonement and instead of asking for forgiveness, what is it that we are to ask for?
 - 279/T-14.IV.3:4-end Our function on earth is to learn how to forgive. Ask for this, rather than asking for forgiveness.
7. What should we do before we make any decisions for ourselves?
 - 280/T-14.IV.5:1-6:2 Before making a decision for ourselves, we should decide against deciding because we haven't yet accepted what our true function on earth is, and we will decide unwisely. Let the Holy Spirit decide for us.

Section V. The Circle of Atonement

8. What is the key message of the Atonement, and how does living this message complete the Circle of Atonement?
- 282/T-14.V.2:1-3 The message of the Atonement is simply: God's Son is guiltless.
 - 283/T-14.V.5:7-8 People who demonstrate through their own attack that they don't understand the guiltlessness of all God's sons ... they need teaching, not attack; should we attack, we are failing to learn the lesson they have come to teach us.
 - 283/T-14.V.7:5-8:7 Through releasing others is how we find our own guiltlessness and the circle of Atonement is complete.
9. **Application:** Read 284/T-14.V.11:1-9. Who is that one who is your savior? Who is that one whom you crucify from time to time in your mind? What can you do to begin seeing that one as God created him/her?

Section VI. The Light of Communication

10. What makes something terrifying and what is our role and the Holy Spirit's role in bringing light to communication?
- 285/T-14.VI.1:1-5 Something is terrifying only because it is hidden. It is its hiddenness, not the thing itself that makes it terrifying to us.
 - 286/T-14.VI.8:1-4 The Holy Spirit's role is to remove whatever interferes with communication (i.e., *removing the blocks to the awareness of love's presence*).
 - 286/T-14.VI.6:6-7 Our role is to leave what we would communicate to Him, to bring to Him anything that would interfere with communication.

Section VII. Sharing Perception with the Holy Spirit

11. Why is it that we must bring opposites together to share the perception of the Holy Spirit?
- 287/T-14.VII.1:1-6 Opposites must be brought together, not kept apart.
 - 287/T-14.VII.4:4-5:1 By bringing opposites together it becomes clear that they cannot both exist.
 - 288 6:1-7:end When we bring the opposites we seem to see to Him, He will share His seeing with us.

Section VIII. The Holy Meeting Place

12. Why is it that we seem not to know God and what are characteristics of the holy meeting place?
- 289/T-14.VIII.2:3-9 Any gift offered to God's Son is offered to God because we are one. We seem not to know God because we offer gifts of guilt to our brothers.
 - 289/T-14.VIII.2:10-11 In the holy meeting place, the Holy Spirit shines and God speaks to His Son through Him.
 - 290/T-14.VIII.2:13-16 In the holy meeting place, love flows unbroken and uninterrupted.
 - 290/T-14.VIII.4:9-11 In the holy meeting place, the Father and His creations are joined.

13. **Application:** We are asked to leave what we would communicate to Him. (286/T-14.VI.6:6)

- When are the times in your life when you are NOT willing to do that?
- What causes you NOT to be willing to give to Him whatever interferes with communication?
- How can you prepare yourself to be more willing during those times?

Section IX. The Reflection of Holiness

14. What is it that makes us holy and how do we reflect our holiness in this earthly experience?

- 291/T-14.IX.1-1-4 It is not the Atonement that establishes our holiness. We were created that way.
- 291/T-14.IX.3:8-9 The temple is still holy despite our laying other gods on it.
- 292/T-14.IX.5:1-5 We can reflect the holiness of God by becoming a spotless mirror.

15. How do we become ready for Heaven?

- 292/T-14.IX.8:4-7 We become ready for Heaven by offering only healing.

Section X. The Equality of Miracles

16. If there is no order of difficulty in miracles and all miracles are equal, why is it that some of our thoughts, ideas, and experiences seem more important, larger, or better than others?

- 293/T-14.X.4:3-5 This variation in importance can be attributed to some of our thoughts being reflections of Heaven while others are motivated by the ego.

17. How does the Holy Spirit judge and why does it seem that we can't be trusted with judging and should therefore turn all judgment over to the Holy Spirit?

- 294/T-14.X.6:3-10 Miracles offer the same response to every call, without judging the call.
- 294/T-14.X.7:1-6 Our focus is on form and not content and therefore we struggle with recognizing the fundamental truth that everything is either an act of love or a call for love.

18. Why is it impossible to remember God by ourselves?

- 295/T-14.X.10:1-7 Our search is for oneness and therefore we must join and recognize our oneness to find it.

19. **Application:** *A Course in Miracles* frequently reminds us to turn over judgment to the Holy Spirit. In our lives we all have one or more people that we experience as EGRs (extra grace required). And yet these people are present to remind us of areas where we need healing. Pick one EGR in your life. What is a strategy you can use, when thinking of or interacting with this person, to help you see his/her call for love and respond as the Holy Spirit would have you do?

Section XI. The Test of Truth

20. What is it that stands between you and the power of God in you?

- 296/T-14.XI.1:1-end Our belief in what is not true and our attempts to undo what is true.

21. What is the test of truth, that is, what is the test to determine if what you have learned is true, and what does the absence of perfect peace mean?

- 297/T-14.XI.5:1-3 Freedom from fear and a sense of peace that you have, and others have when they think of you, are signs that you are learning God's lessons and not the lessons of the ego.
- 297/T-14.XI.5:4-6 The absence of perfect peace means that our will for God's Son is different from God's.

22. What must we do, and not do, to be ready to learn?

- 299/T-14.XI.12:1 We must remember always that we know nothing.
- 299/T-14.XI.13:1-2 We must want peace and nothing else.
- 299/T-14.XI.14:1 We must abandon the teacher of attack.
- 299/T-14.XI.12:2-3 We must not think we already know.
- 299/T-14.XI.13:3 When we think we know, peace departs from us.
- 299/T-14.XI.13:5 We must not call on the ego for anything.

23. **Application:** *The Course* tells us that if we leave room for the Holy Spirit, we will find ourselves so filled with power that nothing will prevail against our peace. What does it mean for you to leave room for Him? (300/T-14.XI.15:5)

A COURSE IN MIRACLES STUDY GUIDE

For many, *A Course in Miracles* can be a very challenging read. The terminology can be confusing and the concepts sometimes difficult to grasp.

But suppose there was a set of **key questions** that could help you to discover the spiritual insights in each chapter and then **application questions** that could guide you in applying the insights to your everyday life?

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