

We live in a physical world that runs on the laws of nature. Sometimes things happen the way they do just because of natural causes, storms and fires etc. sometimes we make choices that have consequences that we did not foresee or someone else acted to cause it to happen. Car accidents can happen easily on slippery roads or when someone is texting.

In the spiritual world relationships are affected by words and actions. This area can be more out of control and destructive than the physical world. We need to have the tools to prevent or mitigate the damage or bring about reconciliation.

I have experienced misunderstandings that almost destroyed relationship. It was necessary for me to alter my understanding of what God needed from me that would create the possibility for reconciliation. I had to see the situation from a changed perspective where there wasn't someone right and someone wrong, but someone hurt and someone responsible for the hurt feelings.

My going to God with the problem in prayer and really listening for God's answer was necessary. On my own I was sure I was right. God said "so what! Is this person worth more to you than being right?" And I knew God answered my prayer.

Our message today encourages us to gain tools to live according to God's will in both worlds. In God's eyes, there are not two worlds but God sees everything as Spiritual. God is in it all Let us use our eyes to see and open hearts to experience God in all parts of life.

Mel

Solitude is listening to the voice that calls you the Beloved. It is being alone with the One who says, "You are my Beloved, I want to be with you. Don't go running around, don't start to prove to everybody that you're beloved. You are already beloved." That is what God says to us. Solitude is the place where we go in order to hear the truth about ourselves. It asks us to let go of the other ways of proving, which are a lot more satisfying. The voice that calls us the beloved is not the voice that satisfies the senses. That's what the whole mystical life is about; it is beyond feelings and beyond thoughts.

Prayer

Oh God of all worlds approach you recognizing the challenges of "self" we face in our divisive world. Help us be your peace in the world we inhabit. Temper our egos, humble our ambitions, and help us listen more than speak. May we pray more than conjecture, love more than judge. We beseech you to hear our prayer as we yearn to feel the Spirit close bringing wisdom and strength that we might be found building your peaceable kingdom on earth. Amen