

# Spiritual Contemplation

the Practice of Living The Mystical Life

# where Man meets God in Oneness!

facilitation by

## Marc Tankeh Contemplative Pathways

(Our teaching is **timeless** yet very **relevant** today, profoundly **true**, and yet... truly **simple**.)

An exceedingly fine thread of universal truth and profound spiritual wisdom weaves subtly and invisibly through the great religious systems of the world . . .



...opening the hearts and minds of people to the unseen oneness of everything, in a marvelous unifying experience of...

### illumination!

**Spiritual contemplation** illumines and transforms human awareness, to reveal the indwelling reality and presence of the one Divine Self that we are. **Those who awaken to It are known as mystics.** We invite you to **become one.** 

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My eyes
can no
longer hide
the
wondrous
fact
of who
you really
are!

Hafiz, Sufi Mystic

Divine Feminine/Mother/Goddess/The Human Soul

**neness** is the foundation of all authentic systems of *pure* spirituality. It is the living cornerstone of *true* **mysticism**\* whether ancient, classic or contemporary.

- **★ The Infinite Way** Joel S. Goldsmith
- \* Eight Point Program Eknath Easwaran
- **★ The Spiritual Journey** Fr. Thomas Keating
- ★ Unity School of Christianity The Fillmores
- \* Advaita Vedanta Vedanta Society/Hinduism
- **★ Buddhism:** Tibetan *Mahamudra* or *Dzogchen*, Japanese *Zen*, and Chinese *Chán*
- **★ Taoism** Indigenous mysticism of China (Lao Tzu)
- **★ Sufism** Islamic mysticism
- \* Classic Jewish Kabbalah
- \* The Mystery Schools / Gnosticism / Tarot
- \* The Perennial Philosophy / Alchemical Magic

Modern spirituality and science support the case for a 21st century **contemporary mysticism**—one that is timeless yet **relevant** now; profoundly true, and yet, *truly* **simple**.

Be part of today's worldwide spiritual awakening a time of accelerated spiritual growth: an opportunity for enlightenment, for transformation and empowerment, and for transcendence, liberation and ascension.

### Enter the Divine Mind to directly experience Truth/Spirit/Self/God.

We enter the silence to consciously experience our oneness within the one Mind, God... withdraw our attention from the manifest realm of effects and turn inward where we seek and find...

God in the silence...

in consciousness where God is directly experienced... [Unity: 100 Years of Faith and Vision by Unity Books (1988), pp. 18-19.]

**Contemplative prayer** is the opening of mind and heart—our whole being—to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words and emotions... whom we know... is within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking... than choosing—closer than consciousness itself. Contemplative prayer is... a process of interior purification, leading, if we consent, to divine union.

[Open Mind, Open Heart by Fr. Thomas Keating, OCSO.]

**Contemplation** refers to a very simple **experience**... an experience of **illumined consciousness**...

a heightened awareness of God...

when you are totally occupied in being lovingly aware of God... You are united to Him now...

[The Monastic Primer, http://www.newmelleray.org.]

The... student must **learn**... **the nature of God**... By cogitating, pondering, or meditating on the message that you listen to or read you can learn the nature of God...

from within your own being.

Truth reveals itself to you from within. The message must be taken into... consciousness and nurtured... like a seed, (until you) gain the conscious awareness of the presence of God... the conscious feeling of this inner voice, of this inner Self, of this inner peace... After that, there is no or very little, conscious effort... it all flows from within...

#### Find wholeness and experience healing in all areas and every aspect of your life.

There are no obstacles to illumination apart from the false sense of self we entertain in our conditioned human mind. We realize our spiritual identity and our oneness in God, once we release humanhood—the illusory sense of separation from God into which we are born humanly, conditioned mentally, and further reconditioned in life. As individual consciousness is transformed, the false self system is dismantled, and mind is enabled to function infinitely.

### The realized wholeness of God-being manifests as your healing.

[Marc of Contemplative Pathways]

#### Join the many people who are awakening now. Here is what they are saying about our program.

- I want to tell you all how much our weekly coming together in meditation means to me. It has brought much peace in my life. Thank you for your companionship in God awareness.
- This... class has become my anchor in my spiritual practice. It is very important to me, and I feel graced and blessed to have found Marc, the teacher.
- Marc, you have certainly enlightened me and at my age that is a major accomplishment. I do feel that God and I are at One... You keep me in touch with the spirit when I waver... We appreciate your constant search of ways to demonstrate your lessons and help us on our ways.

   Juanita H.
- I love the way Marc teaches and what he teaches. It is like taking a "masters" class...
  getting your doctorate in understanding higher consciousness. This class is
  the most inspiring, completely makes mysticism discernable. Suzanna W.—
- My goal now is to move on to studying the "Silence," your website has lots
  of useful information on the subject. I wanted to thank you for helping me
  in a strange and transitional part of my life.
- I was scrolling through some spiritual sites on the internet and was overjoyed to stumble across "the Mystical Path"... it is magnificent in its purity, clarity and presentation... it is striking and I am struck... — Anna R.—
- I'm so blessed to have these conversations with you. Thanks for the study material and the ongoing support.

[Visit https://contemplatingtruth.wordpress.com/about/feedback/ for more feedback.]

<sup>\*</sup>Our program includes and features the listed sampling of schools or systems.

#### **Our "Contemporary Mysticism" Program**

And He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God..." [Mark 4:2; Luke 8:10, NKJV]

Our **developmental program** in **contemporary mysticism** and **integral psycho-spiritual practice** is designed to impart and inculcate the principles of the mystical teaching, to *de-condition* and illumine the mind, and to spiritually liberate individual consciousness, in the course of **living the mystical life** daily. The following are the program's touchpoints and main areas of coverage and focal learning.

#### **TOUCHPOINT** AREAS OF DEVELOPMENTAL FOCUS AND SPIRITUAL LEARNING 1. Consciousness, mind The fabric of consciousness, loom of the mind, the mind-brain connection, the mind-body continuum, the metapsychology of the soul as corroborated by modern science: e.g., medicine, neuroscience, paleoanthropology, quantum and theoretical and awareness physics, astrophysics, cosmology, biology, genetics, biblical archeology, studies in metaphysics and human consciousness, etc. 2. Centering practices, Unfolding spiritual consciousness, the spectrum of awareness (from everyday waking awareness, to disengagement by relaxation contemplation, and and centering, and to entering the stillness of the single-pointed meditative mind), brain engagement techniques, centering methods, centering as both yogic practice and prayer, deepening inner silence/stillness in contemplation, spiritual rest in Godmeditation in the Presence, cultivating inner receptivity to the still small voice of God, the **neuroscience of the contemplation process**, etc. **Spiritual Journey** The mystery and paradox of mystical oneness, nonduality and indivisibility, developing the soul-senses for illumination through 3. Oneness, the true Self, mystical context and levels of human awareness, from the letter of Truth to its spirit, the God-experience in realizing oneness or Truth, lectio divina as paradigm for growing intimacy in the **mystical union**, attained Christhood by the realization of the true Self as individual content, the transformative experience consciousness (Self-realization, God-realization), "domesticating" our pet human beliefs, the **no-thingness** of here and now, etc. 4. The human condition The human condition, its origins and human suffering, the spiritual energy centers, the fundamental errors of duality and humanhood, the false self system and its subversive human programs for happiness, creation as mythical and ongoing paradigm, and the illusory nature stuck in the primitive earlier phases of evolving human consciousness, finally moving onward to fullness and completion, etc. of error or evil 5. Healing, karmic law, Freedom from karma, rising above duality/humanhood, living a life of grace and its fruitage, spiritual mind treatment, spiritual grace, and the two healing as the activity of grace at the center of Spirit-being, resurrection, transfiguration, ascension, the "catch-22" hell of the human

Our **methodology** is simple: **Learn** and **correctly understand** the *process*, the *content* and the *context* of the spiritual journey... and **practice** well, very well. The program includes *ongoing* **support for spiritual practice** and **guidance for continuing mystical studies and learning**, whether by yourself or in the nurturing environment of spiritual fellowship and group association.

condition, IS-ness and suchness, living between two worlds, dving daily to the illusion, overcoming "this world," back to Paradise, etc.

#### **Program Facilitation**

worlds

As facilitator, Marc Tankeh teaches *contemplative meditation* within the context of **contemporary mysticism**. His understanding of the mystical life is solidly based on years of personal study, practice, unfoldment, realization, and experience, by which he has received the gifts of spiritual discernment and spiritual transmission (*darshan*). His teaching methodology meaningfully and powerfully shifts consciousness in students through *darshan*. His work is an extraordinary synthesis and integration of the mysticism found in the teachings of modern mystics, notably: Joel S. Goldsmith, Fr. Thomas Keating, Eknath Easwaran, Sri Ramakrishna and his disciples, and the Unity School of Christianity, among other forms and systems of mysticism.

Discovering *The Infinite Way* teaching in the 1970s, Marc has immersed himself in its mysticism, and he has nurtured a *simple* contemplative practice based on its principles. He has a profound spiritual understanding of the *unitive* **healing message** common to all true mystical teachings. He began teaching in the 1980s tapping into the richness of Christianity first and then eventually to other diverse spiritual cultures and traditions, from which he promotes the **Mystical Life** and the **Spiritual Journey**. Marc fully integrates into the program this extensive synthesis of: the spiritual systems of the major religions, the all-time *perennial philosophy* of mankind, and the corroborative findings of 21st century modern science.

Today, Marc facilitates the mystical teachings under the style name of **Contemplative Pathways**, by which others are enabled to embark on the spiritual journey through living the mystical life. He conducts class and contemplation meetings in the S.F. Bay Area normally in a classroom or other group setting. **His methodology is divinely inspired and rooted firmly in authentic mysticism**. His approach is essentially nondenominational, non-sectarian, interfaith, transreligious, and definitively *unitive* or *nondualist*. His contributions to worldwide spiritual awakening and to the global contemplative movement include individual mentoring and direction. (For more, go to <a href="https://contemplatingtruth.wordpress.com/about/services/">https://contemplatingtruth.wordpress.com/about/services/</a>.)

Accept the gifts of **darshan** and the **Dharma** from us.

Our website is The Mystical Path



 $at \ {\color{red} contemplating truth. Word Press. com}.$ 

The site is a recipient of several Internet awards:













This is our **methodology** for **The Spiritual Journey**.



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