

March 10, 2020



How to Know if You Have a Fear of God



 *Jennifer Hadley*
your daily shot of spiritual espresso

Copyright © 2020 by Reverend Jennifer Helen Hadley.
All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the written permission of the publisher.

Published by JenniferHadley.com. Printed in the United States of America.

For more inspiration to live a life of love,
visit www.JenniferHadley.com.





| | |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------|
| How to Know if You Have a Fear of God | 4 |
| Opening Prayer..... | 4 |
| We are Invulnerable..... | 5 |
| We Fear Because We Don't Trust | 6 |
| We Believe God is Not Trustworthy..... | 7 |
| We Don't Feel Safe | 8 |
| We Believe God Punishes Sinners..... | 10 |
| We Make Up a Story to Be Afraid Of..... | 10 |
| Upcoming Workshops & Retreats..... | 12 |
| We Don't Have to Earn Heaven | 12 |
| We Energize Our Beliefs of Lack..... | 14 |
| Our Struggles Are For Our Learning | 16 |
| We Have a Belief in Death | 17 |
| Self-forgiveness Is the Way Out of Fear | 19 |
| U.K. Retreat & Training..... | 20 |
| Closing Prayer | 21 |

March 10, 2020

How to Know if You Have a Fear of God

Welcome to *A Course in Miracles: Living the Love, Walking the Talk* with Reverend Jennifer Hadley. Get ready to focus on your intent to be the Love, be the Peace, through practical application.

Here is your host, Reverend Jennifer Hadley.

Jennifer Bonjour! Bonjour, mon ami, my friend! Thank you for joining me, transcending time and space together. I am so grateful! Grateful, grateful, grateful! Grateful that we get to have this Divine Opportunity that the technology of the world is providing us, the means to be the two or more gathered in the name and the nature of Christ.

Opening Prayer

We place our hand on our heart and we declare our willingness to know, to remember, to recognize the truth. We say “Yes!” to our Wholeness and our holiness. We’re already as holy as holy can be. We’re already completely perfect. This is the truth of our being and there’s nothing we can do about it. [laughs] It’s permanent, it’s everlasting, and we are grateful to recognize this is so.

We join together with the Higher Holy Spirit Self to recognize our perfection, our Wholeness, and our holiness and to see it reflected back to us in our brothers and sisters, for all is One, all are perfect, all are holy, all are blessed and we are grateful to open ourselves to receive the blessings that are ours to receive. We are truly grateful and truly thankful to know ourselves in our complete and perfect state, our natural state, our divinity.

We are grateful and thankful to say “Yes!” to tremendous Love and Light. We are grateful and thankful to allow ourselves to be lifted and shifted and carried. We’re relinquishing all resistance and reluctance to this life of Love that we desire. We’re allowing ourselves to fully have it. We’re allowing

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast **with Jennifer Hadley**

ourselves to fully know it, to recognize it, to see it and be it, and we are grateful and thankful say “Yes!” in this very moment now.

We are on a mission from God with a holy purpose to remember the truth and to share the benefits with everyone. In gratitude, we let it be. And so, it is. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Yes!

We are Invulnerable

I will just speak a word here for a moment about some other things before I get to our topic, which is “How to Know if You have a Fear of God”.

Right now in the world of effects -- I know you may end up listening to this many years from now, but today on this day of broadcast, there’s a lot going on in the world. Stock markets around the world are greatly affected. There’s a pandemic break-out of the Coronavirus, and there’s a lot of stuff going on.

I am getting ready to travel tomorrow to Los Angeles for an event there and I am paying attention to the news. I used to **not** pay attention at all to the news, but now I really see it as my prayer request list, and holding everything and everyone in the Light is part of my being truly helpful. So not buying into the illusion and delusion, but recognizing that other people **are**. Having compassion, holding the high watch, knowing the truth, it’s **our** responsibility.

So I’d like to share with you a couple of quotes from *A Course in Miracles* that I find inspiring and helpful. One is --

“The mind that serves spirit is invulnerable.” [T-1.IV.2]

I like to say I work for God, Incorporated, and so there, in my defenselessness, I am protected, I am invulnerable.

Another wonderful quote is,

“The truly helpful are invulnerable, because they are not protecting their egos and so nothing can hurt them.” [T-4.VII.8]

*In my
defenselessness,
I am protected,
I am
invulnerable.*

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

We can conclude from that, that if we **are** protecting our ego, that **will** hurt us. And, of course, we have plenty of examples of that in our life. Right? Have you ever tried to defend yourself and you're actually hurting yourself? Have you ever tried to argue that you're right about something and it actually hurt you, in the sense that you got upset, you got angry, you got annoyed, you got frustrated, you felt sad or depressed or anything because of defending the ego, protecting the ego?

So those who are invulnerable do **not** need to protect themselves. How do we get to be invulnerable? Be truly helpful and let your mind be in service to Spirit.

Most of us are going in and out of that, and one of the things that I find very helpful is to dedicate myself to it each and every day, and many, many times throughout the day to rededicate myself to it. So, for me, I like to say "I serve the Light. I serve the Light. I work for God, Incorporated and I serve the Light."

We Fear Because We Don't Trust

Alright! Now let's turn to "How to Know If You Have a Fear of God".

Gosh! It just keeps pinging in my mind that if you follow me on Facebook, there's a few ways to follow me. There's the [A Course in Miracles podcast](#) page, there's the [Jennifer Helen Hadley page](#), there's the [Prayer for Today page](#) and there's the [Living A Course in Miracles page](#). Those are four ways you can follow me. And you can also follow my personal profile, but I think I'm out of friends pretty much there, but you could still follow me. I like to post messages of encouragement and inspiration, so if you are feeling vulnerable you can look for that.

*This fear of God
is all about
protecting
the ego.*

And, of course, you can get "[My Daily Shot of Spiritual Espresso](#)" which is my prayer and my daily blog.

Now, having a fear of God is something that virtually all beings have, to some degree. Right? And we do different things with it. Okay? So, this dark fear is about protecting the ego. This fear of God is **all** about protecting the ego.

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

So, how to **know** if you have a fear of God -- when we are trying to make things better in our world by working **in** the world and relying upon our **own** interpretations of things, and we're arguing for what we think is **right**, then that's evidence that we don't trust God, that we fear God. Right? If we're not placing our full faith and trust **in** God, it could only be because we **fear** God.

Now, every year in [Masterful Living](#) I get a wonderful opportunity to have precious 1-on-1 time throughout the year, a number of different times, with the beautiful beings who participate in [Masterful Living](#). It's one of the best parts of my job. And in those 1-on-1 sessions we talk about their fears, and their concerns, and their aspirations, and their goals with each being.

Then what I can tell you is, from hundreds of these conversations -- right? If not more over the 12 years that I've been offering my [Masterful Living Course](#) -- in all these years, the majority of people tell me that their #1 issue is **trust**, which is why I put so much into that *Development of Trust* section in Chapter 4 of the *Manual for Teachers*, and I recommend that you look at it and study it.

I've done episodes of this podcast on trust, trust and faith. It's easy to search for in the archive. Remember, if you're on iTunes, there are two podcasts -- "[A Course in Miracles](#)" and "[A Course in Miracles Archive](#)". If you're on a different kind of a device, say Android or something, it's all just one podcast.

*Developing trust
and faith is the
pathway to undo
the fear of God.*

Trust and faith is a major issue for all of us, and that developing trust and faith is the pathway to **undo** the fear of God, because no one who places their trust and faith in God is **more** concerned about a **fear** of God. You see? So, **when** we place our trust and faith in God, it helps us **undo** the fear of God. It is the fastest path of undoing that I know. The way to undo the fear of God is through placing our trust and faith in Love. God is Love.

[We Believe God is Not Trustworthy](#)

So, when we have a fear of God, we will be **afraid** to trust God. Pretty simple, not confusing. So since most spiritual students, this is their biggest issue, trust and faith, **that** is how we undo the fear of God. So, if the biggest

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

issue that most spiritual students have is they're afraid to place their trust and faith in God, they must also **be** afraid of God. Right?

Think of a child. Right? Think of a child maybe 3-4 years old who is afraid to pet the dog. Right? And the dog is big. The dog is bigger of them. Of course, it could be a fearful experience! Right?

But an adult comes along and shows them, "Look! **I** can pet the dog. The dog is loving. The dog is safe. This dog **is** safe. See how the dog is being so gentle with me? See how the dog understands that you're afraid and is being gentle with you? You see how that's working? And see, look! I'm petting the dog, and here, take my hand and we'll pet the dog together." Right?

*We are
afraid to
trust God.*

Another example would be a child who is feeling afraid to go somewhere. Right? To whatever -- to go into the next room, to go into the ocean -- and the parent that the child **trusts** takes the child's hand, or picks the child up and says, "Let's go together! We'll go into the ocean together! Look! See? The waves do seem a big scary. But look! It's safe! Trust me!"

The child puts their hand in the parent's hand and goes with the parent to touch the dog, to go into the ocean, to test the water. The child is willing to place their trust in the parent's **knowing**, and so then the child can relax and feel safe and move forward.

If the child does **not** trust the parent, they will scream, they'll become hysterical. They won't want to do it. They'll become paralyzed with fear.

That's **us!** **We are** afraid to trust God. Why are we afraid to trust God? Because we **believe** that God is not trustworthy. **Why** do we believe that God is not trustworthy? It's a projection. Right?

We Don't Feel Safe

Last week I talked about perception and projection, so it's a projection, it's a **belief** that we're projecting onto God. It's **not** true. We **know** it's not true. How? Because it **upsets** us. The things that are true help us to feel safe and free. The things that are false upset us, they irritate us, they frighten us, they agitate us. So, we can easily know **where** we are in terms of where our trust and faith are.

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

When our trust and faith is actually in Love, then we **will** feel safe. But if our trust and faith is in our own opinions and judgments, our own capacity to discern, then we will **not** feel safe, because we know we make mistakes all the time and then we argue that we're right when we're **not** right, and we know that we do this -- and we've done it many, many times. It's a repeating pattern for us -- and so **this** is why we don't feel safe, but we project it onto God.

For instance, many people have had experiences where they prayed and prayed and prayed for something. "Please God, let me keep this job. Let me keep this job, please, please, please, please, please! Please help me! Help me, help me, help me!" Then they get fired, they get laid off, and they **think** that God doesn't love them, God doesn't care. They **think** they put their trust and faith in God, but they **didn't**. They didn't.

Begging and beseeching from a fearful place is **not** putting trust and faith in God, because when we're in a fearful place and we're begging and beseeching. What is the **thought** that we have invested in, what is the **belief** that we have placed our trust and faith in? Lack, limitation, separation from good, separation from God.

*We cannot
feel safe and
believe
in lack and
limitation.*

We cannot feel safe **and** believe in lack and limitation. So, if we're begging and beseeching and praying from a deep sense of lack, and we're praying to **get** something **from** a sense of lack, our faith is in the **lack**. We have made it **so real** in our mind. We have placed our trust and faith in it and blown it up to make it bigger than life, and now we're asking God to save us from the demon that we have fabricated. And that's our life story, right?

Until we realize, "Oh! That horror story is not my **true** story! That's the one I made up! My **real** story is a story of God's Glory. I'm here to glorify God, not to hide from God." But when we believe that we're sinners, we're going to hide from God because we have come to believe that God punishes sinners.

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

We Believe God Punishes Sinners

Now, I'm going to break this down a bit deeper here. So why do we believe that God punishes sinners? Well, what do we believe sin is? We believe that sin is murder, and sin is when we lie, and sin is when we steal and when we cheat. Right? We actually, deep down, believe that we have murdered the Christ within. We believe that we have stolen our life from God and we're using it willfully to make a mess of things, we're using it willfully to enjoy the pleasures of the body, and to be sexual beings, and to indulge in the seven deadly sins. Right? The avarice, and the greed, and the sloth, and all the things that we label ourselves as being bad for choosing, so we've made up this whole litany of sins. Right?

But God, in the Infinite Creator Mind, there's no such thing as **sin**, but we've made up the sin. In the Infinite Mind of God, in the Mind of the Creator, there's no judgment, so there can be no sin.

But what anyone could see is, "Oh, we have chosen to glorify the body instead of the Spirit." Well, if we choose to glorify the body instead of Spirit, we're going to experience the **effects** of that. And we can **label** it any way we'd like, but we're going to feel more and more disconnected from Spirit, which is the Source of all Love, all Joy, all Freedom, all Prosperity, all Harmony, all Beauty, all Wisdom, all Clarity. Everything that we desire so deeply is **only** given to us from God. "Seek the Kingdom first, and **everything else** will be added unto you." "Everything else" is that list I just named, that list of spiritual qualities that are omnipresent and omnipotent and omni active.

So when we are labeling ourselves as sinners we naturally, of course, feel unworthy, and we've been taught for thousands of years that we will be punished by God for **choosing** to run from God.

*Everything that
we desire so
deeply is only
given to us
from God.*

We Make Up a Story to Be Afraid Of

But you see, this is where Jesus is such a good Teacher to us. I often think, and I'm so grateful for, the parable of the day laborers and, of course, the prodigal son. They're really just different versions of the same teaching, really.

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

Of course we all know, in the prodigal son he squandered his inheritance. That was the **appearance**. That was the appearance that he squandered his inheritance, because the appearance, from the ego perspective, is that the inheritance is **finite**. Right? That the inheritance is certain amount of money, that is only worth something in this world. That is the **appearance** in the story of the prodigal son. But Jesus knows that's not true. Right?

So let's say -- I mean, just in practical terms, if you look at it in now, modern times, let's say that the son goes to the father and says, "Dad, I'd like my inheritance now, not when you pass away, because I'm an adventurer. I'd like to go out and enjoy life and experience life like Buddha did, and go out and experience all the pleasures of this world and I need cash to do that. So, can you give me my inheritance? I want to go see what I can do with it."

Let's say the inheritance is \$100,000. So, he goes out, he spends all that money. Now he's broke, he's destitute, he is the -- he's sleeping with the pigs, he's getting scraps of food from the pigs and he has this realization, "Holy cow! If I went back to my father's house and just was a **servant** in my father's house, I'd be eating better than I am now! I'm going home! I'm going back!"

*The
inheritance
of God's
Kingdom is
infinite.*

So, his sense of poverty, right? And, of course, to the Jewish young man, to be living among the pigs that's the worst thing. Right? Because pigs were unclean, you didn't eat pork, blah, blah, blah.

He goes home and the father welcomes him, as we all know, and gives him beautiful clothes, puts a ring on his finger and welcomes him home.

Now, the father, who knows? The father, the loving father, maybe his fortunes have doubled, tripled, quadrupled. Who knows, since the son left? There's a whole -- the inheritance is not **finite**. The inheritance of God's Kingdom is infinite, but we think in terms of limitation and lack because we feel separate from the Infinite, so we would **fear** going home. We would fear that returning home would mean that we would be attacked, we'd be ridiculed, we'd be shut out, we'd be shamed because we had made such a terrible, terrible mistake by leaving in the first place.

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

But the father who truly loves the son welcomes him back. “I thought you were dead! You were gone, I thought you were dead and you’re back! Oh, my God! This is my happiest day! You’ve returned to me!” No punishment, no sin’s been committed. The son did what young men often do and women, too. They go on adventures and they can return home.

But if we make up a whole story in our mind, we’re going to fear everything there is to fear about returning home, and this is why Jesus gave us this parable of the prodigal son.

Upcoming Workshops & Retreats

I’d like to go into the next thing, but I don’t have time before my break, so one of the things I’m going to tell you here, I’ve got a little bit of time, I’m going to do a [forgiveness workshop in the Boston area](#) March 22nd, Sunday, March 22nd and in the New York area Sunday, March 29th. You can -- it’s there’s no cost to it. It’s a donation only, but you must register at [JenniferHadley.com](#) on the [Events](#) page, so please register there.

Also, you’ll see the retreat that I’m doing, it’s online for [“Recovery From Sexual Abuse” online retreat](#) the first weekend in April, and then also I’m doing some events in the U.K., a retreat and things like that, so check it out! [JenniferHadley.com](#), [Events](#) page.

You’re listening to *A Course in Miracles* on Unity Online Radio. We’re living the Love, we’re walking the talk. I’ll be right back!

Thank you for tuning in for *A Course in Miracles: Living the Love, Walking the Talk*.

We Don't Have to Earn Heaven

And we’re back! So glad to be back!

Before the break I was sharing about the parable of the prodigal son and how it relates to this fear of God, and how to recognize if we have this fear of God.

The other parable that I find so helpful and **so** comforting, even more comforting than the one of the prodigal son, is the one of the day laborers. Many people don’t know this parable of the day laborers, which is why I bring it up frequently.

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

The story is of the landowner who needs day laborers to pick the crops and goes to town and says, “Come to my farm and help me pick the crops. There’s work!” So, all day long, people are coming. Some start work at 7 a.m., 8 a.m., 9 a.m. all the way. People are still coming at 4 p.m., 5 p.m. They’re still coming.

And then at the end of the day when the day is done, all the laborers are gathered together and the landowner pays them all the **same** wage and people are upset. “Hey! Wait a minute! This guy just got here an hour ago and I’ve been here since sunrise! I’ve been here since 7 a.m.! What do you mean you’re going to pay us the same? I’ve done 9, 10 hours work and this guy’s only done an hour! How could you pay us the same?”

*We don't have
to earn our
place in
Heaven.
It's given
to us.*

This is the difference in God’s Kingdom -- **all** are given the entire load of Heaven. No one is given more or less. There is no separation, there is no judgment, there is no favorite. We don't have to **earn** our place in Heaven. It’s given to us.

What we do have to do is -- and this is the whole point of the parable -- we have to show up! We have to show up and say “Yes! I’d like my entrance to the Kingdom! Yes, I’d like to work for the Lord, the great Law of Life! I would like to serve the Light! I would like to work for God, Incorporated!”

And all who show up, **whenever** they show up, are given the **full** employment package with all the benefits. That’s how God rolls in this world. [laughs]

But we don't believe it. We don't **believe** it, therefore we don't **see** it, and we think that some people are given more than others and some people are given better than others.

For instance, we can look at if we believe that wealth is more important than anything else, we’ll look at people who have wealth and say that they are favored by God in some way. “How come they have wealth and I don't? I work so hard! How come they have it and I don't?”

This is the judging mind that’s always evaluating things from a false system of beliefs. That’s why my go-to is “I don't know what anything is for,”
Lesson 25.

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

We Energize Our Beliefs of Lack

Now here's the thing about the fear of God that's so pervasive, it's just in everything, everywhere, the fear of God. If you look around your life and you just see that you're not trusting in God, you don't have faith in God, it's because you **fear** God. Just like the child who wouldn't go with the parent because they didn't trust them. "I'm not going in that ocean with you! You've done so many things with me, you've let me down so many times! I am not putting my hand in your hand to go with you into that ocean! I do not trust you! That does not look safe, and the very fact that you're leading me to it I do not trust!"

God is always leading us to more patience, more Love, more Peace, more Joy, more Freedom, more Prosperity, more Harmony, because those are the only things that are **real**. But we pull back. How do we pull back? We pull back through our opinions and judgments, through energizing our beliefs, through arguing that we are right.

*Every time I
feel upset
...that is my
opportunity
for healing.*

When we're upset, it's never for the reason we think. We're upset because we don't trust God. We trust our own opinions and judgments. That is why we are upset every time we're upset. There are **no** exceptions. Everything works together for good, and there are **no** exceptions!

But we like to make exceptions. When we make exceptions, where's our trust, where's our faith? It's not in God! It's not in the All-Good of God. It's in our discernment, and our discernment is -- our capacity for discernment, our ability to discern, the quality of our discernment is 100% related to the decisions that **we** have made about the past. Is that a good basis for us to discern anything? In my experience, it is **not** a good basis for me to discern anything.

Every time I feel upset, annoyed or frustrated with another human being, that is my opportunity for healing. When I feel upset, annoyed or frustrated with myself, that is my opportunity for healing. "Let me not make the same old choice, thinking that I'm right, energizing those old beliefs, decisions and patterns. Let me break from that paradigm and do what the prodigal son did -- let me return home. Let me go and labor in the field of Love working for God, Incorporated."

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

Those who serve the Light are invulnerable. This is the truth. The mind that serves Spirit is invulnerable.

“The truly helpful are invulnerable, because they are not protecting their egos and so nothing can hurt them.”

Whenever I feel a sense of fear or lack or limitation, I have put my trust and faith not in God, but in my own discernment, in my own sense of what I can do for myself. Let me not depend on that. This is such an intense habit to break because the whole world revolves around it. This is how we’ve been trained for thousands of years and generations.

But we -- you and I -- are the ones who are here in this experience to be truly helpful by **breaking** these attachments to these paradigms. So, we must do what we are here to do, which is to serve the Light with our whole heart and our whole being.

And people fear that, because the teaching of the ego thought system is that it means we have to take a vow of poverty and a vow of chastity, and it means we have to live without pleasure, and it means we have to wear ugly clothes and stay home, and we can’t go dancing, and we can’t enjoy life at all.

But that’s not true! That is **not** true! The greatest enjoyment of my life has always been when my heart is open and I’m freely expressing Love. It’s not when other people are loving me. It’s when I’m loving **them!** It’s when I’m enjoying that there’s Beauty in this world, that I am safe in the arms of Love in this world. **That** is the greatest Joy. For me, the greatest Joy has always been when I am being truly helpful, and this is the teaching of Jesus. There is no greater joy than to be truly helpful.

But if we fear God and we’re being helpful in ways that we’re **not** being guided or led to, but we’re leaning on our own opinions and judgments -- “Oh, I should help the poor. Oh, I should help those people. They’re really in trouble.” -- then we’re going to be in that position of making all kinds of errors because we’re not looking with the eyes of Love.

*For me, the
greatest Joy has
always been when
I am being
truly helpful.*

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

Our Struggles Are For Our Learning

For instance, here's another classic story. Not a parable of Jesus, but a modern parable of the internet. I used to get this story in my e-mail back in the 90s about the person who saw the butterfly struggling to get out of the cocoon, and went into the house and got a pair of little nail scissors and carefully clipped away the cocoon to liberate the butterfly from the cocoon, thinking that they were being truly helpful to that butterfly.

But what they didn't know, because they didn't know anything about butterflies, was that the butterfly **needed** that struggle out of the cocoon in order to be able to fully form their wings. They **needed** that struggle to get out. That that's the thing that would be this pressure on the wings that would help to distribute all the material -- I don't know what it is, the fluids in the wings to make them fully formed. Without that struggle, the butterfly was deformed the rest of its life. The person who liberated the butterfly crippled the butterfly, because it didn't understand.

And that's the thing. I see this with parents and their children all the time, that they don't let the children go through their own learning. They're trying to help them so much that the child is crippled, because the child has not learned to discern. The child has not had to struggle. Right?

We don't want to force our children to struggle, but if they don't have to work for things, if everything is given to them, we can help and support them and know the highest and best for them without doing it for them. You know?

It's like if your child would like to be a mountain climber and you say, "Oh, listen! I'll climb all the mountains for you. I'll hire somebody to climb the mountains for you and you can be a world-class mountain climber that way!" Well, that doesn't work and we know that doesn't work. It'd be ludicrous to think that anybody could become a gold-medal Olympic athlete by the parents hiring someone else to swim the laps for them or skate the ice for them. That would be insane! We know that's insane!

But people do that in other ways. Right? We've had that college admissions scandal in the last year, parents paying to get their children admitted into schools. People have been doing that as long as there have been schools. Right?

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

But is that the highest and best for the child? Well, the parents obviously think it is. So, like in that college admissions scandal, what is the worst part of that? Of course, this could be a judgment, but my sense is the greatest pain in it is that the children who it's been exposed that their parents paid for them, the children now know that their parents don't believe that they're capable of doing it on their own. **That** is the crushing blow to **their** ego.

Now, what can happen from this? The child cannot judge their parent and realize that their parent was just projecting onto them their own fears about their own parenting, that they haven't done good parenting so the child is not prepared or capable of getting into college on their own.

The child can not judge their parents, realize what's actually going on, and then they can, on their own merit, work to get into the college they'd like to get into and good for them! And then they turn all that karma around and become a blessing.

I didn't see that coming [laughs] in all of this. Alright!

So what I'm endeavoring to get myself to -- oh, my *A Course in Miracles* book is just falling apart! I need to have it re-bound, I guess. Yeah. Glued. I should look into who could do that.

We Have a Belief in Death

Alright! So, in Chapter 19, the section *The Obstacles to Peace* and I think I'll do a series on *The Obstacles to Peace*, but today I'm looking at this Chapter 19, Section IV, Paragraph 7 where it says,

“Those who fear death see not how often and how loudly they call to it, and bid it to come and save them from communication. For death is seen as safety, the great dark savior from the light of truth, the answer to the Answer, the silencer of the Voice that speaks for God.”

There are a lot of spiritual students that I meet. I've met many over the years who don't like this world so much that they look forward to death. And then, there are those who fear death. Right? Death is not real. This is the teaching.

In the paragraph before, Paragraph 6, Jesus tells us,

“The body can but serve your purpose.”

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

Now, what is our purpose? To be truly helpful, to teach only Love. Now, if we have a different purpose -- pleasure, escape -- the body can serve that purpose as well. The body doesn't choose, because the body does not have the awareness to choose. **We** choose. We are the choosers and we can choose again.

It says here in this Paragraph 6,

“Death, were it true, would be the final and complete disruption of communication which is the ego’s goal.”

Remember that Jesus tells us the body is for communication. Right? That’s what it’s **for**. It’s **very** helpful to us in our remembering the truth.

I’m communicating to you right now via the body.

Right? My body is helping me to say words, so that’s

how I’m communicating. You’re listening to it with the body, with the body’s ears -- so it all **seems**. Right?

But the body is not real. Only Spirit is real. So, the body **seems** to experience death, and in the ego thought system, the ego’s goal would be that complete disruption of communication, that we’re no longer to communicate with Spirit, with each other. And, of course, our goal here is to be truly helpful and teach only Love. So, when the body dies, that’s no longer possible. It’s a total disruption of communication.

Gary Renard, he talks about -- I love Gary Renard. He talks about how the ego is out to kill us. It’s constantly protecting and it’s out to kill us. It is the Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde of our experience in terms of -- and, of course, it’s all our **thoughts** about the body, our **thoughts** about ourselves, our **thoughts** about God that are playing out in our physical experience.

That’s why I go to Lesson 25,

“I do not know what anything is for.”

Instead of trying to understand everything, which is a fool’s errand, I place my trust and faith in God and say, “My intention, my aspiration, is to serve the Light. How can I best serve the Light? To choose the Atonement for myself, to recognize there is no separation. There is only Love and that is what I am. I AM that I AM. I am perfect Love. I’m already as holy as holy can be. I cannot become or be made any more holy. That is crazy, and I will

*Our thoughts
about God are
playing out in
our physical
experience.*

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

not go down crazy town anymore! I'm going to place my trust and faith in God."

Self-forgiveness Is the Way Out of Fear

When we are working hard in the world to get ahead, where's our trust and faith? Not in God. Why is it not in God? Because we fear God. When we're working so, so hard to get our goals met, we are **not** trusting in God. We **fear** God. It's that simple.

The way out of that pattern is to forgive ourselves, just like the prodigal son. In order to make that journey home, and to feel **worthy** of his father's love and acceptance and welcoming, the son must forgive himself for any judgments he's had.

Of course, the son, after having squandered his inheritance, is going to deeply intensely judge **himself**. The very use of the words "squandered his inheritance". What he did is, he invested it in learning about the pleasures of life and he learned about the fleeting happiness that that can bring, and now he has the perfect experience of contrast, the contrast between the joy of living in the Kingdom of God, being completely loved and adored by the Father, the contrast of that against seeking pleasure and living in those momentary bits of pleasure.

*When we're
working so, so
hard to get our
goals met,
we are not
trusting in God.*

The momentary bits of pleasure do not give sustaining support, and that's why his inheritance seemed to have been squandered. Right? The investments that he made in his own pleasuring and adventures did not give him more to invest, it did not increase his wealth, and health, and well-being.

But what it did was, his experience stripped away the delusion and the illusion that all of that experience is the great value. Now he **knows**, so now he can return home to his father and serve the Light, be of service. Right? That's the whole thing. When he's lying there in the pig sty with the pigs, or working there, whatever, that he realizes, "If I were a servant in my father's house, I would have more than I have here. I'm going home!"

A Course in Miracles Weekly Podcast with Jennifer Hadley

To me, that is a critical part of the story that I don't ever hear anybody else talking about. Be a servant to the Light. Dwell in your father's house serving the Lord and you **will** be invulnerable. You will not be worried about the virus. You will not be worried about the stock market. You will feel invulnerable.

I see it all the time. I see it all the time playing out, because when we're making decisions from a fearful place we're not going to make good decisions. So, when we're afraid, we know our trust and faith is in our own discernment, and that's when we can say, "Enough! I'm going back home. I'm going home. I'm going to wait until Spirit leads me and guides me."

That's the thing. To eliminate the fear of God is to place our trust and faith in God, be willing to make the most loving choices we could see. That **is** a demonstration of trust and faith in God, and we can practice that and get really good at it. And this is what my dedication is, and I'm so grateful that when I don't trust Love it doesn't feel good, and I can learn to make a U-turn and go the other way. Yes, yes, yes!

When we're making decisions from a fearful place we're not going to make good decisions.

U.K. Retreat & Training

I'd like to say here, if you're living in the U.K. or in Europe and you'd like me to come and do a retreat and do some teaching there, there's an opportunity for me to come, but I do need you to vote for it. I'm willing to do my [*Stop Playing Small!*](#) retreat and either my [*Teacher Training*](#) or my [*Spiritual Counseling Training*](#). I've got events planned end of May, early June but I'm only going to come if enough people register. So, you can pre-register with a modest deposit that's totally refundable. Check out the details on the [Events](#) page at JenniferHadley.com.

And, we still have [*A Course in Miracles Conference*](#) tickets. We've got a few left.

***A Course in Miracles* Weekly Podcast**
with **Jennifer Hadley**

Closing Prayer

Alright! I'm grateful and thankful to place my trust and faith in God. This is what I know for each and every one of us.

In gratitude, we serve the Light. We let it be. And so, it is. Amen. Amen.
Amen.

Mwah!