

Spiritual Wisdom Journal

Quarterly Inspiration from ECKANKAR October-December 2012

SURVIVAL IN A CHANGING

Focus: Secret to Fulfillment—Mastering the Spiritual Laws of Life

"Spiritual Law: Each Soul must personally seek to become a clear channel through which the Holy Spirit can flow to the outer world."

—Sri Harold Klemp, A Cosmic Sea of Words: The ECKANKAR Lexicon

FEATURE ARTICLE



How Spiritual Laws Work in Daily Life

By Sri Harold Klemp

ome of us are trained from childhood to look on the austere side of things. Many of the hymns in church are uplifting, but too many paint the individual as a sinner without any rights in heaven or on earth. "Just as I am, without one plea" is one such hymn. Strong on emotion, it makes a singer feel good about being worthless.

That sort of a degrading tone causes people to generate bad karma. They feel that God loves them more if they are miserable. That simply is not true.

Life has an abundance for everyone. It will give one as much as he can responsibly accept. The key word here is responsibly. Abundance is ours if we use it as a Co-worker with God. Some people clutch what few treasures they have and keep them all to themselves. They are afraid of deprivation if

1. Sri Harold Klemp is the spiritual leader of Eckankar.

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www.SpiritualWisdomJournal.org

A SPIRITUAL STORY

How to Find a Husband: Listen to Your Inner Voice!

By Kathia Haug Thalmann

 $oldsymbol{A}$ fter months of carefully planning an extended vacation in the United States, I was finally at the Eckankar seminar in San Francisco. I anticipated seeing friends after the seminar and traveling. But Saturday evening, after listening to Sri Harold Klemp speak, my plans abruptly changed.

I was doing my evening spiritual exercise when, all of a sudden, I knew I had to return to Switzerland tomorrow, as soon as the seminar was over!

. . . It didn't make sense!

But I have been a member of Eckankar for many years. I've learned to trust the inner instructions that come from the Holy Spirit, the ECK. So I canceled all my flights

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A SPIRITUAL EXERCISE TO TRY

How to Bring More Blessings of God Into Your Life



 $I_{\rm f}$ you want to bring more of the blessings of God into your life, first of all sit down and determine what you would like to have in your life. You have to know that first. Then make a reasonable plan to reach it. Then remember to sing HU, the love song to God.

Go about your life with love and thanksgiving. If you can do that, I think you will find that the Law of Plenty does work. I think you will find yourself the richest of people.

—From *The Spiritual Laws of Life*, by Harold Klemp

How Spiritual Laws Work

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they share them. We surely don't encourage the behavior of people who refuse to shoulder their obligations, for we use discrimination, right thinking, when acting as channels for the unlimited bounty of ECK.²

How limitations can haunt us!

Rising into the higher states of consciousness means getting rid of our limiting thoughts. Such thinking is a liability on the spiritual path, for we must keep our thoughts on a high level. All that comes to us is of our own making, so what is the use of complaint or shifting the burden?

This trap of limited thinking had caught me too in my early years in ECK. It took my six-year-old daughter to point out what I had let befall us.

Our family spent its vacation at an ECK seminar in Kansas City, Missouri. The trip had cut deeply into our savings. The moment we got home, our daughter just had to have a pair of roller skates. Every time she brought up the matter I put her off with, "We can't afford them. Our vacation made us poor!"

Within a few weeks an interesting thing happened. Short as money had been till then, the whole bottom now fell out of the piggy bank. Things were *really* tight. There was not enough money for the monthly bills, let alone for roller skates. It was that day, as I was trying to deter-

ECK (pronounced EHK) is the Life Force, the Holy Spirit, the Audible Life Current which sustains all life. Also, short for Eckankar. mine where our money had flown, that my daughter studied me earnestly with her big brown eyes.

"I never saw a poor man before," she said, "but *you* are poor."

That hit home. My attitude about poverty had brought the wolf to the door. From then on my tune changed to: "We're rich! We're rich!"

Of course wishing didn't make things right overnight. Our finances did eventually rally, but it still took awhile for my thoughts of limitation to run their course. It was a case of karma caused by wrong thinking.

By the way, my daughter got her skates.

Along the way, I was learning that the ECK, Divine Spirit, will give us all we need.

First, we must learn to expect the best in life, and then be willing to plan and work for it. Second, we also need a clear mental picture of what we desire. Third, that picture is to be held constantly, with the certainty that the ECK will supply any rightful desire. Fourth, there must be gratitude for every good thing received.

—Adapted from Autobiography of a Modern Prophet by Harold Klemp Back

Video Clip on What Eckankar

IS All About For a greater understanding of how to recognize yourself as a divine light of God on an individual spiritual path, click this box or go to www.Eckankar.org/whatis.html and click on "What the Path of ECK Is All About."

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Ask a Modern Prophet about the Spiritual Laws of Life

Is there really a divine plan, or is that something people say to make themselves feel better when things go wrong in their lives?

Every event in our life is part of a divine plan that accounts for each so-called mistake or happening of chance. Most people don't know that life connects. They don't realize that the events in their lives are diamonds and that invisible lines run between them in every possible direction and combination of points. To be happy, we must take the initiative to connect those points that bring love and goodness to us.

How do you start?

You cannot ever put too much emphasis upon having a spiritual frame of mind. So begin every day with the Spiritual Exercises of ECK. Sing HU or your personal word. The spiritual exercises will give you the strongest connection of all—a bond with the ECK, the Holy Spirit.

Second, sit back and dream the sort of life you would like. What would you like to do? To be? Think backward from the goal of your desire. That will be your plan for achievement.

Third, begin.

That's looking at your plan for spiritual happiness and success from end to beginning. Now let's look at it more logically. There will be three stages, or connecting diamonds, to this plan. First, you must do something, or make a beginning. But where? In what direction? Until you know the third, or final, point of the connecting diamonds (your goal), you cannot begin

Are You at a Spiritual Crossroads?

Learn about the advanced spiritual study of Eckankar at:

- www.Eckankar.org
- 1-800-LOVE GOD, Dept. SWJ (USA only)
- ECKANKAR, PO Box 2000, Chanhassen, MN 55317-2000 USA

to work toward that end. So see a picture of your goal.

You'll notice that an uncomfortable space still lies between step one, the starting point, and the third step, your goal. This middle point is the unformed, creative part where the Holy Spirit works Its wonders to help you accomplish what you cannot do yourself.

How do you get moving?

You'll never get to this miraculous part of life until you set a goal. Then you must take the initiative and begin to move toward it. Only then will the Holy Spirit help you through the large, unknown second area, where you must exercise your talents to create a better life for yourself.

Do you want to be happy? Then set out to learn about the connecting diamonds in your own life. They shimmer and glisten all around you.

But always begin your search by singing HU, or some other love song to God.

-The Living Word, Book 2, by Harold Klemp

The Law of Love

The spiritual laws are based on the Law of Love. They do not punish for the mere pleasure of inflicting pain. They do it to teach people a spiritual lesson, which is part of their entire education. A little here, a little there; a little arithmetic, a little bit of language and geography. All the aspects of a spiritual nature. So that one day Soul can become a Co-worker with God.

> -From The Spiritual Laws of Life, by Harold Klemp

Miracles in Your Life: To view a beautiful video presentation about HU, a majestic love song to God, go to www.MiraclesInYourLife.org.

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MEET SPIRITUALLY LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE

You Are Invited to a Spiritual Event

Eckankar seminars are an opportunity to join with other spiritual seekers and students of Eckankar for one to three days of workshops, small group discussions, inspiring creative arts, programs for youth and families, and outstanding speakers. Sri Harold Klemp is the featured speaker at the two major Eckankar seminars (spring and fall) each year.



Listen to Your Inner Voice!

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within the States, called all my friends and told them I couldn't visit; then I resignedly flew back to Switzerland. . . .

Then a day or two later, I received a phone call from the brother of my sister-in-law. I barely knew this man. Over the years, we'd met perhaps six times at the baptism, birthday parties, and wedding of our common nephew.

"Kathia, how are you?" he said. It was taking me a few moments to place his name and voice. "I'm going to be in your area to attend a tennis training camp soon," he continued. "I'd like to have dinner with you, if you're free."

I was a little surprised at this invitation, since I hadn't seen the man in at least six years. But then I thought, Why not? I casually agreed to join him at a nearby restaurant later in the week.

Over dinner, our conversation took an unexpected turn. This man I barely knew opened his heart and poured out a story of personal drama that had unfolded over the past year. His wife of sixteen years had left him quite unexpectedly for another man. His life had been so secure, planned out in every detail; he had not been prepared for such a shock.

Coming in October:

2012 ECK Worldwide Seminar A Year of Consecration October 19-21, 2012 Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA

For more information or to preregister for this seminar, go to www.ECKseminars.org. See a short excerpt of a seminar talk by Sri Harold

To view a video, "The ECK Seminar Experience," go to www.ECKseminars.org. ECKists of all ages share some of the benefits and the international atmosphere of a major ECK seminar.

He had been living alone for the last six months. Just the day before, he had received the final divorce papers from his lawyer. "I don't know why I'm telling you all this," he concluded. With sudden conviction he added, "Today a new life is beginning for me."

My inner voice was nudging me again. It was telling me very firmly: This is why you came home. This is your future husband! I was so shocked I almost fell off my chair! I had no intention of marrying. I tried my best to hide my sudden insight. "So," I asked feebly, "what made you think to call me?"

"You know," he grinned, "it was just a sudden thought. I haven't been out this way in ages. But I just knew I had to get in touch with you. I'm so glad you were home!"

"Me too," I agreed dryly. If I told him what I was thinking, he would get up and run out the door!

Since then, Kurt and I have enjoyed each other's company very much. Without any prompting from me, he became a member of Eckankar. And recently we were married in an ECK wedding ceremony at sunrise on the top of a mountain.

This is not only a love story; it has proven to me that anything can happen when you're open to the guidance of the ECK.

—Excerpted from a story in Earth to God Come in Back Please, Book 2, by Harold Klemp, Series Editor

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