



Freedom Inside

A National Newsletter For Prisoners
Based on the CWG Material
Issue # 10 December 2002

Which Fears Do We Choose?

Freedom Inside
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There is nothing but love and fear. Nothing else exists. I believe even fear does not exist since I see it as an absence of love and nothing more. So how do I live my life? What fears do I allow? Which fears do I actively choose to live with?

This question came to me when I realized how many fears we teach our children.

Don't talk to strangers!

Don't cross the street without looking both ways!

Don't go swimming alone!

Don't play with fire!

Don't! Don't! Don't!

All of these admonitions

are based on fear, of course. Fear is why we stop at red lights and have insurance.

So what would my life be like if I lived it knowing nothing could really

*"Don't talk to strangers!
Don't cross the street without looking both ways!
Don't go swimming alone!
Don't play with fire!"*

harm me? If I lived it in complete trust and love?

When I look at my life as a human being, I know I can be hurt but when I look at things as a spiritual being, I know nothing could ever hurt me.

I still occasionally feel

great pain when thinking about my son Nico's passing last year. That pain is not proof of my love for him, it is a statement of my fear. How will I ever live the rest of my life without him?

I know deep in my heart and soul that I am one decision away from never feeling this grief again but I refuse to make that decision.

Why?

This is the way I choose to still be his 'mom'.

If I chose to live my life as a spiritual being would I allow my granddaughter to be in danger? I cannot imagine doing that.

That is my choice and by choosing it I recog-

nize that I choose to live with certain fears.

So, I guess I'm not a Highly Evolved Being yet. But I know I have evolved because I recognize these fears and choose them consciously.

I define who I am by when and how I choose to love and when and how I choose to fear.

What fears do you live with? Have you chosen them?

Are you creating your life or are you reacting to it?

Think about it and let me know.

In Peace

Janine Gutierrez

Publisher/Editor

Ours Is Not a Better Way!

How many of the world's problems would be resolved if more people would only adopt this single thought: ours is not a better way, ours is merely another way.

This idea is repeated over and over again in many different ways throughout the CWG material. It seems like an easy idea but making it work in our lives seems very

difficult indeed!

This past month I have received many letters commenting on articles in issue #9 of Freedom Inside.

For the first time since I started this newsletter more than one year ago, some of the comments and questions were judgmental. I was surprised because it hadn't hap-

pened before but after thinking about it a while I realized I was more surprised that it hadn't happened before then.

The angry reactions to issue 9 mean that it touched people in very deep ways. We never get angry unless something is important to us. So I have come to see all the

(continued on page 2)

Ours is Not a Better Way

(continued from page 1)

criticism as a great opportunity to define who I am and what I choose Freedom Inside to be about.

Some of the comments touched on the same topic. Certain articles and letters are seen as too wordy, too long, or too intellectual.

Some of you commented that people should keep it simple, stop over-thinking everything and start living according to the concepts in the CWG books.

I can certainly understand why these comments were made. But I do not believe, as seems to be the case in many of those letters, that viewing the world, God, spiritually, or anything else "should" be done in any particular way.

Ours is not a better way.

Our is merely another way.

If We Are truly One, and I believe we are, then no one way is better than another. All the different perspectives represent a part of the whole.

So while some prefer to look at things emotionally, others choose their minds to analyze the world, and still other go within and simply know.

There are no 'wrong' ways to get to God. There is nowhere else to get to! There is nothing that is not God.

That is why I choose Freedom Inside to show every person's search. Many of us share a perspective and I choose for Freedom Inside to reflect them all knowing that each one will touch different people in different ways.

Please continue to share your views with me while respecting others' right to be different.

Our differences make us more complete. Let's enjoy them,

With love,

Janine

THE SKEPTIC'S CORNER

"I talk to everyone. All the time. The question is not to whom I talk, but who listens?"

"And so I will continue sending you the same messages over and over again, throughout the millennia, and to whatever corner of the universe you occupy. Endlessly I will send you My messages...My messages will come in a hundred forms, at a thousand moments, across a million years. You cannot miss them if you truly listen."

"Each of you experiences your conversations with God in your own way—and in different ways at different times"

-God, as quoted from CWG Book 1 and FWG

Like Neale Donald Walsch, I too have questions for the Big Guy Upstairs. There are things I'd like to say to Him, and things I'd like to know. There are things I just don't...get. For instance, does God really talk to us? Is He talking to us right now? How do we know? The CWG books would seem to indicate that if we truly listen, we will hear.

We will hear God.

We will hear God talking to us, right now.

Maybe I need a little help with this one, my friends. Am I doing something wrong? I mean, here I sit, in my cell, and all is pretty much quiet. I am alone, with no distractions. My ears are open, my eyes are open, and my heart is open. I am truly listening, in every sense of the word I can fathom. Yet I hear no Message from God.

Is it something within my skeptical nature that keeps me from hearing? Am I not worthy of the Word of God? Maybe He just has nothing to say to me right now. Is it possible that He's too busy to have a conversation with me? Do you know something I don't?

When a bird chirps, or a shooting star streaks through the sky, or a cloud takes on the form of a rabbit, is that a Message from God? Is that what I'm supposed to listen to? If so, what does it mean? How am I to decipher all of these symbols? And, if those types of things are Messages, then what isn't?

Obviously, I am missing something here. There's something I don't understand. I need your help. I desperately want to have my own conversation with God, but I don't know how. I realize that I am...well...a skeptic, and that, by definition, should make it more difficult to hear what God is saying, but where is a Message from God more needed than in the life of a skeptic?

So please, my friends, let me (and FI) know your take on this. What kinds of conversations have you had with the Big Guy? How did you listen, and what did He say? I'm more than curious about his one—I need to hear your answers to these questions! I'm at a loss here; I've tried everything I can think of. But I know you won't let me down. You'll let FI know what you think, and with your help, I will have my conversation with God.

Thank you all in advance

Respect,

J.M. "The Skeptic"

Arizona

Dear Skeptic,

Of course I'll let everyone answer your questions, knowing they will provide their own examples of conversations with God. It just never ceases to amaze me how much I get from all your letters.

You are one of God's messengers and I thank you for doing it so well.

With love

Janine

POETRY CORNER

THE MASTER OF THE MOMENT

The Master of the Moment is not one who sits and waits
 For an answer to surround her as she sits and contemplates
 The regrets of all her yesterdays and the chances that she missed
 To have the perfect lifetime just the way she would insist.

The master of the Moment shall not sit and dream of when
 He will be happy someday if only now and then.

The Master of the Moment counts the pebbles in a brook.

He sits and watches clouds go by as if pages in the **Book**

Of Life in which he notices all of the intricate detail

Of God in all of Her infinite forms as opportunities avail

Themselves in sequence as an intricate dance to songs that always give.

The Master knows that all of life is glorified because you lie.

The Master sees the question and the answer hand in hand.

She sees the answers everywhere for someone who is grand

Enough to listen to the flow of life, the rhythm of the mind.

Within all opportunities he knows what he shall find....

The questions that remain unasked as you go on your way,

And the pain becomes unbearable...you just survive each day!

The Master knows you'll reach the light, for in the end it's true,

The Master of the Moment is nowhere but **in you!**

With great LOVE.....JT
 Maryland

The **Conversations with God Foundation** offers special services to all of you. If you wish to avail yourself of any of these services whether it be Books For Friends, God's Pen Pals or if you wish to start a Study Group, please contact the resource person listed below directly .

Books For Friends

Providing the ...
With God books to those who do not have resources or access to them.
 Contact Donna Goswick, P.O. Box 129, Eugene, OR 97440.

God's Pen Pals

Prisoners sharing, exploring and applying the message in the CwG material by corresponding with supportive people 'outside'.
 Contact Paula Lynam, PMB #141, 1257 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland, OR, 97520

Study Groups Inside

In-depth exploration and understanding of how the message can transform lives and experience.
 Contact Julia Dekker, PMB #1150, 1257 Siskiyou Blvd, Ashland, OR 97520.

Do you have a poem that reflects the message in Freedom Inside? If so, send it in, it just may be chosen for a future

POETRY CORNER

Wishing you all Peace and Joy

During this Holiday

And Always



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*Thank you,
Janine Gutierrez*

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