

Contemplative Outreach Spiritual Journey with Thomas Keating Part 4 Tape 23(b)



What can we do in the area of justice as individuals? We do not have to wait for something big. "Somebody in need is right next door, in your family, at work, on the subway, everywhere you turn, if you're sensitive. And also if you take the first step, sometimes the whole journey opens up."

**Charity, that is, showing love,
is the greatest investment there is.**

Dom Helder Camara among the poor in Brazil and Franz Jagerstaetter in Nazi Germany are two outstanding examples of action for justice in very extreme circumstances.

**Every prejudice is afraid of peace-makers,
but not of peace-lovers.**

Neither do we have to wait until we are transformed in order to take action. Our very failure can teach us that all our efforts are dependent on God and that what we do, we do simply to serve and without demanding success or applause. Our effort without our expectation is what changes the world.

Review

"Last time we discovered what Contemplative Prayer is not: it is not self-hypnosis, a trance state, a magic carpet to bliss, charismatic gifts, psychic gifts, para-psychological phenomena, para-mystical phenomena, or a "felt" experience of God. We also looked at what the essence of Contemplative Prayer is according to St. John of the Cross's teaching and as the way of pure faith. We saw that the narrow way of pure faith is to persevere in Contemplative Prayer and the service of others without thinking of self, or worrying about where one is on the journey or about how one's spiritual situation compares with anyone else. The essence of Contemplative Prayer is to accept God as he is and to surrender oneself to him, whatever the psychological content of one's prayer."

