



ARE YOU LISTENING, GOD?

By Pamela Dussault of Passage To Inner Joy

One day a client asked me, “Why didn’t God answer my prayers?”, reminding me that at one time in my life I used to ask myself this very question. She was in pain believing that God had abandoned her by not answering her prayers. Everyday she would pray to God to heal her raging alcoholic husband, but this never happened. She loved him deeply but felt helpless in the presence of his addiction. In the end she made the choice to leave him because of the trauma it was causing her children. She was angry that she was forced to make the decision to leave him. Later he died from his disease. She believed if God had answered her prayers her husband would be alive and the entire family would be happy and healthy today. .

I know there are many who have prayed in desperation to God to save their loved ones from pain and suffering. I know that they not only wanted their loved ones to be spared from feeling pain and suffering, but they too wanted to be spared. I know and understand the depth of their sorrow. My heart aches for those who unavailingly plead with God. I too felt that sorrow at one time in my life and I also witnessed it in my children. I had a similar situation as my client with my ex-husband and father of my children. I have also witnessed the struggle my step-children have had with the loss of their mother to cancer.

How many of us have asked, “Why did God do this to me?”, “How could a God who loved someone so much allow them to suffer?” and “Why didn’t God answer my prayers?” There are several answers to these questions – some of which I have written about further in this essay.

God Created Us As Powerful Beings

God gave us the power to overcome our adversities. When we put total responsibility on God, or anyone else for that matter, we give our power away. While God truly loves us and has the power to take away our pain, there are times when God knows it’s much better for us to take responsibility and use our own power. That way we can blossom into who we really are – a powerful, divine being who is whole and complete unto ourselves. You see, if God removed our pain for us while we idly sat by doing nothing, we would never realize how powerful we truly are.

This can be compared to someone who is overly dependent. While in a state of over-dependency, this person will not take responsibility for their own well-being. Instead, they

place total responsibility on others to heal or make them whole. Not only are they not taking responsibility for themselves but they are also giving their power away. This renders them powerless and overly-dependent. Until this person breaks the cycle by taking responsibility for their own well-being, they will never realize their power or full potential. This is not what God has created us to be. God has created each person with innate power and infinite potential to become the greatest version of our true self.

What I have learned through my experiences is that God never abandoned me. I was not saved from my deep pain and sorrow by God and now I am grateful for that. Had God simply answered my prayers and “saved” me at that time, I never would have pulled myself through and recognized just how powerful I really was. God was supporting me all along. God knew who I really was, a divine being who had the power to save myself. I would have been robbed of that discovery had I been saved. The same holds true for everyone no matter how heart-wrenching their sorrow may be. God is offering us the opportunity to discover how powerful we really are.

Neale Donald Walsh, author of the *Conversations With God* series, has said “It is not God’s function to create, or uncreate, the circumstances or conditions in your life. God created you, in the image and likeness of God. You have created the rest, through the power that God has given you.”

You see, we either don’t understand or somehow overlook that God is a part of us. We really are created in the image and likeness of God. Therefore, all that responsibility we put onto God to save us is misplaced and actually should be put upon *ourselves*. Because God has made us powerful creators we have, to some extent, created our circumstances and conditions. Perhaps it was not an intentional or even a conscious one, but it is our creation none-the-less. You may ask, “Why would I ever create this experience that is causing so much pain?”. Sometimes fear, familial conditioning and cultural programming play a role in this creation. Other time it is simply the fact that our soul designs a challenging experience for us to have. I explain this in greater detail further in this essay. Still, one way or another, *you* have truly created this experience. However, know that all the while God is there supporting you and is willing to assist *you* in co-creating a new experience.

Whenever we want God to listen to us and answer our prayers, an opportunity has arisen for us to turn inward and ask, “What is it I am experiencing right now?”, “How might I have created this experience?”, and “What do I want to experience instead?”. Once you

have answered these questions you can then seek guidance on how to change it instead of having it changed *for* you.

God Knows We Have The Power To Turn Hardships Into Blessings

Circumstances that are painful for us happen for a reason. It's not punishment, mind you, but a blessing in disguise. There is always something good that comes out of our pain – *always*. All you need is to be willing to believe this and trust you will be guided to where you need to go. You can then look back on what took place and see the blessing that has occurred for you. It's up to you to drop any anger or resentment towards God for letting you go through it.

So what about our loved ones with fatal diseases or debilitating conditions? Why did God allow that to happen? Understand there are limitless opportunities for growth that are unique to each individual situation. In some cases this happens so everyone involved can know their creative power. They can create with heart-felt intentions how they wish to respond to these situations. God also gave us the option to write our own stories, which include the possibility to be the hero in it. That may mean actively participating in uncovering the cause, treatment and recovery. If you aren't able to be part of something tangible for your loved one, then ask yourself "How can I be the best I possibly can in this situation?" How can you turn this into something beneficial for yourself, your loved ones or others in a similar situation? Know that with your God-given power to be a Divine Creator, you are able to find a solution.

God Is Also Compassionate In Death

Death is undoubtedly one of the greatest challenges of turning a hardship into a blessing. As human beings, it's very hard to find the "good" in the loss of a loved one. Our thoughts and emotions make it extremely challenging to see any blessing in this type of grief and pain. Losing a loved one to a fatal illness, sudden tragedy or old age is going to be painful and we simply must accept that.

Yet despite the grief, pain and despair, there truly is a hidden blessing for each and every person affected. Our loved one's departure *will* help each survivor grow and blossom in a way *that their soul needs*. Emotional immaturity and excessive attachment may cause one to temporarily reject this growth. However, sooner or later, they will accept, address and embrace this growth. Once that process takes place, a new understanding will come to light. The understanding is that the deceased loved one has, in some way, agreed to depart for the benefit of others. The departed soul understands that leaving will impart gifts on those left behind. This is their gift to support your growth. The emergence out of the depths of despair and adversity and rising up to the glorified height of your unlimited potential is the greatest gift of all.

God's role is always a supportive one. God allows for and supports the soul's agreement to depart, knowing it is based in love and knowing it will yield loving gifts. God helps to execute both the giving and receiving of these gifts. Therefore, God is compassionate towards all souls. With God, only love is real - even in death.

God Cooperates With Our Soul

Our souls choose what lessons we need to learn in our lifetime which shapes the course we follow in our lives. Our souls will choose in such a way that is never selfish and always for the greater good of all. The choice is made with love and compassion for ourselves and everyone – especially those we are close to. There's always harmony and order in this choice whether we as humans can see it or not. God, who has infinite love and compassion for each and every one of us, simply agrees and allows our soul's plan because God knows the end result will bring us the greatest joy.

There is a hidden opportunity in pain and suffering. This opportunity is a chance to both overcome and transform it into a blessing. We have that power and our soul is eager to use it. Our soul desires to be victorious! It wishes to rise up in victory over pain, suffering, adversity and every challenge that comes our way in life. There is no suppressing this desire and we must accept it, allow it and embrace it. We must surrender to our spiritual destiny to become victorious and to attain inner peace.

God Loves You More Than You Know

Existing within all of life's ups and downs is God's unwavering love for us. What you may think of as a curse is really a blessing. And, of course, what you may think is a blessing is just that. Therefore, there are ONLY blessings that exist in life. This statement may be hard for us as humans to grasp, let alone believe. However, if you are willing to exchange your old beliefs for this new belief you'll understand.

My journey in life has led me to this understanding. I experience God's love everyday in every way. I'm still human so I do have my moments when I temporarily forget, but I always come back to understanding and experiencing God's love and life's blessings. You can experience them too. Release your old beliefs, embrace this new belief and trust all is well. These are your 3 main tasks in order to feel God's love and life's blessings over and over again.

Sometimes our ego gets in the way of this. God and our soul know what is truly best for us – our ego doesn't. Our ego has wants and needs that are separate from our soul's desires. If we get caught up in our ego, we will eventually get caught up in misery. We become misaligned, scattered and lost. Our ego keeps us stuck in the past or in fear of the future. Yet when we align with our soul's desires and come back to the present moment we can feel all the abundant love and blessings that flow to and through us. The present moment is God's gift to us. Contained within are God's "presents" for us. Here lies the truth that God loves each one of us and wants us to be happy.

It is important to stop resisting what is. It doesn't matter if your present circumstances or conditions are "good" or "bad". If you let go of resistance, you *will* feel inner peace. Once you are in a state of acceptance, your heart will naturally open to receive God's love despite how awful you believe the experience is. By allowing yourself to receive God's love, you will have a profound understanding that everything is okay. All is going to work out beautifully.

Many people carry much resistance in believing and trusting that God is really on their side. They resist giving up their old belief systems which tell them otherwise. Yet it is up to them to be willing to change, just as it is for you.

God always answers your prayers despite your beliefs otherwise. The answers may come in unexpected ways, but they do come. You will understand the answers when you free your mind and open your heart. All you need is be willing to do so. Have faith that God is there to help.

Thank you for reading this e-book, I hope you enjoyed it and found it to be helpful. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at Pamela@passagetoinnerjoy.com

I wish you many blessings, love and joy,

Pamela

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