

Welcome to The Little Garden. We present classes in many formats to help with your study of *A Course in Miracles*. Our goal is to inspire students of *A Course in Miracles* to read and study the Course for themselves, and to practice it as written.

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I. The Direction of the Curriculum

T-8.I.1. Knowledge is not the motivation for learning this course. 2 Peace is. 3 This is the prerequisite for knowledge only because those who are in conflict are not peaceful, and peace is the condition of knowledge because it is the condition of the Kingdom. 4 Knowledge can be restored only when you meet its conditions. 5 This is not a bargain made by God, Who makes no bargains. 6 It is merely the result of your misuse of His laws on behalf of an imaginary will that is not His. 7 Knowledge *is* His Will. 8 If you are opposing His Will, how can you have knowledge? 9 I have told you what knowledge offers you, but perhaps you do not yet regard this as wholly desirable. 10 If you did you would not be so ready to throw it away when the ego asks for your allegiance.

T-8.I.2. The distractions of the ego may seem to interfere with your learning, but the ego

has no power to distract you unless you give it the power to do so. 2 The ego's voice is an hallucination. 3 You cannot expect it to say "I am not real." 4 Yet you are not asked to dispel your hallucinations alone. 5 You are merely asked to evaluate them in terms of their results to you. 6 If you do not want them on the basis of loss of peace, they will be removed from your mind for you.

T-8.I.3. Every response to the ego is a call to war, and war does deprive you of peace. 2 Yet in this war there is no opponent. 3 This is the reinterpretation of reality that you must make to secure peace, and the only one you need ever make. 4 Those whom you perceive as opponents are part of your peace, which you are giving up by attacking them. 5 How can you have what you give up? 6 You share to have, but you do not give it up yourself. 7 When you give up peace, you are excluding yourself from it. 8 This is a condition so alien to the Kingdom that you cannot understand the state that prevails within it.

T-8.I.4. Your past learning must have taught you the wrong things, simply because it has not made you happy. 2 On this basis alone its value should be questioned. 3 If learning aims at change, and that is always its purpose, are you satisfied with the changes your learning has brought you? 4 Dissatisfaction with learning outcomes is a sign of learning failure, since it means that you did not get what you wanted.

T-8.I.5. The curriculum of the Atonement is the opposite of the curriculum you have established for yourself, but so is its outcome. 2 If the outcome of yours has made you unhappy, and if you want a different one, a change in the curriculum is obviously necessary. 3 The first change to be introduced is a change in direction. 4 A meaningful curriculum cannot be inconsistent. 5 If it is planned by two teachers, each believing in diametrically opposed ideas, it cannot be integrated. 6 If it is carried out by these two teachers simultaneously, each one merely interferes with the other. 7 This leads to fluctuation, but not to change. 8 The volatile have no direction. 9 They cannot choose one because they cannot relinquish the other, even if it does not exist. 10 Their conflicted curriculum teaches them that *all* directions exist, and gives them no rationale for choice.

T-8.I.6. The total senselessness of such a curriculum must be fully recognized before a real change in direction becomes possible. 2 You cannot learn simultaneously from two teachers who are in total disagreement about everything. 3 Their joint curriculum presents an impossible learning task. 4 They are teaching you entirely different things in entirely different ways, which might be possible except that both are teaching you about yourself. 5 Your reality is unaffected by both, but if you listen to both, your mind will be split about what your reality is.

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