

The Process of Spiritual Initiation -- Part Four: Enlightenment

We enter our lives with issues to resolve, lessons to learn, karma to heal. Life then presents us with opportunities to work on these issues. We can look at these situations as challenges that we must overcome, bad luck or a form of punishment or we can see them for what they are, an initiation process whose purpose is to move us forward along our spiritual path. The four parts of this process, birth, the trial, the lesson and enlightenment, each have a purpose in helping us to learn our lessons and heal our karma.

In the birth phase, we are presented with a situation that then reveals the trial. As we proceed through the trial we then learn the lesson. Once we have learned the lesson we achieve enlightenment that means that we have successfully completed the initiation and can move forward along our spiritual path.

Enlightenment, the final stage of the initiation process, is both an end and a new beginning, providing us with an opportunity to look at our life from a new perspective and with a new level of understanding.

It is important that we realize the true meaning of enlightenment, the attainment of knowledge and understanding.

It does not mean that once we achieve enlightenment we are finished with all of our lessons and can spend the rest of our lives never encountering another problem or difficulty.

What it does mean is that we can approach each new lesson with a higher level of understanding that can help us move more quickly through the process and achieve enlightenment in that lesson with less pain, less anguish, and seeing the lesson for what it is, a learning process on our ascension path.

In our linear world we tend to look at the process of spiritual growth as a straight line, believing that we continuously move forward along that line. But the process is not linear, it is a spiral. Each of us has unique lessons to learn that are the purpose of our life journey. These lessons form the center of our evolutionary spiral. Each initiation presents us with an opportunity to look at our spiritual lessons from another perspective.

As we learn our spiritual lessons we move higher along the spiral and the foundation for our upward movement is the knowledge that we have gained from each initiation process. It is a continuous process but it does not have to be difficult, for each initiation that we complete can ease the ones we have in the future.

How do we know when we achieve enlightenment? It is something that we achieve every day, in a number of different ways. We achieve enlightenment when we acknowledge our greatness and our perfection.

When we look at ourselves with forgiveness and acceptance and we extend that sentiment to everyone in our lives. When we look at a situation, recognize the lesson and allow ourselves to do something different, to make another kind of choice.

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Like our spiritual evolution, enlightenment is also a process of growth and transformation. Enlightenment and the peace and understanding that accompany it are a gift to us from the Universe, an acknowledgement of a job well done, a glimpse into the unconditional love that is our birthright.

Each time that we are faced with a new challenge, if we look at it in as an initiation process we can look for the lessons that will lead to enlightenment and peace.

You can find the worksheet and audio for this lesson in the Light Beacons Member Portal.