

The Process of Spiritual Initiation -- Part Five : After Enlightenment, Now What?

The final stage of any healing initiation is enlightenment, the point at which we have made our way through the initiation's four stages, managed to complete the trial, understood and learned the lesson, and acknowledged our enlightenment (that part is important). Our success is accompanied by a sense of accomplishment followed by a feeling of peace and understanding.

But if we think that our work here is complete, we may be disappointed. Each lesson is followed by yet another lesson, each one designed to move us farther along our evolutionary ascension journey. But this should not cause us grief because with each new enlightenment experience we are empowered with the knowledge and understanding to help us with the next initiation.

There is a Taoist saying 'Before enlightenment, carry water. After enlightenment, carry water.' I used to wonder what that meant and now I know. While enlightenment may give us a sense of peace and empowerment, all it means is that we have the internal tools to help us make more sense of our external environment.

Nothing else really changes. We still have to make our way through the world, live our lives, and navigate through the obstacles that appear on our path. Enlightenment does not entitle us to a life that is free of lessons or problems, all it does is make them easier to resolve, if we recognize the situations that we encounter and use the tools that we have acquired to resolve them.

So if we continue to experience lessons and have no assurance that successfully completing our initiations will bring us relief, what's the point? Why work so hard to achieve enlightenment if its realization brings us no relief or respite from our problems? That's a valid question and one that is asked by many people.

And the answer is because the purpose of our life here is to grow spiritually. We do that by experiencing as many lessons as we can in order to gather enough spiritual tools to move us along our spiritual path. If we learn nothing from our lessons then we have not accomplished our objective because we are not here simply to experience lessons, but to learn from them.

Each new lesson has its special gifts and blessings and one of our tasks is to find those gifts and blessings and to appreciate them so that we can learn from them.

As we achieve enlightenment we should be proud of our accomplishments and carefully note what we have learned and what spiritual tools we have gained.

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Because we will have other lessons that will provide us with opportunities to utilize those tools by remembering prior trials, realizing that each new one is a variation of what we have already experienced.

As you achieve enlightenment, do not expect your life to change dramatically (although it might) but be aware that you have passed a test and gained a prize that has taken you lifetimes to win. What enlightenment does bring us is peace, grace and the knowledge that life can be an effortless flow of blessings, that we do have control and are in charge, that we are the creators of our reality.

Find comfort in the peace and understanding that you have gained and with that knowledge comes the empowerment that is enlightenment's reward.

Congratulations and good work! I hope you have enjoyed and benefited from the Spiritual Initiation Program. Now you have tools to apply to every aspect of your life and be confidently empowered to go through this process with understanding, grace, and ease.

Many blessings,

Jennifer Hoffman

Questions? Please send them to support@enlighteninglife.com

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