

WHY BAD RELATIONSHIPS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE

Why don't relationships work like an old Disney movie? Boy meets girl. They fall in love. Get married. Make babies. Actually speak to each other at dinner. What happened to growing old and happy together, 'till death do us part?

I don't remember asking for arguments, hurt feelings, and the silent treatment. When did I order things like loneliness, jealousy and divorce? I mean, what did I do to deserve all this? Is there a way of looking at relationships that makes any kind of sense...or does God just have a masochistic sense of humor?

Not too long ago, the average Joe thought the world was flat. As you might imagine, this made any long distance navigation difficult, confusing, and falling off the edge was more than a little frightening. Then some fool proposed the outrageous notion that the earth was round. Eventually, the idea caught on which made possible, logical navigation and Caribbean cruises.

So here are some other outrageous notions...basic principles...that might start to answer some of those "why me?" Questions:

Basic Principle #1: Earth is a school. The purpose of this school is to teach us the lessons we need to mature as human beings. (Specifically, to learn how to live congruently with our basic nature which is one of love.)

Basic Principle #2: We are all students, and school is now in session...in fact, it's always in session.

Basic Principle #3: Principles #1 and #2 are true whether we like it or not.

Basic Principle #4: This means we are brought just the right relationships and circumstances in our lives, to teach us our daily lessons. When we focus attention on ourselves...to see where we are personally responsible and make appropriate course corrections...we learn and grow. When we choose to ignore the lesson, to focus on who's to blame and how life's unfair...we discover Basic Principle #5.

Basic Principle #5: Our school is caring enough to bring us the lesson over and over and over again, until we're ready to listen. Does this sound heartless? It is not. Life is committed to showing us a better way, a way of profound fulfillment. Every day we are given opportunities to learn, to forgive, to clean up our mistakes, to express our caring, to go for our dreams.

Basic Principle #6: What makes our lives so difficult is that most of us are totally committed to our comfort, whether or not it's fulfilling. The earth school, however, is totally committed to our fulfillment, whether or not it's comfortable (have you noticed?). When we live our lives contrary to the school curriculum, we create tremendous stress for ourselves, and life can feel like swimming up a waterfall.

Basic Principle #7: Who you are, is incredibly precious. So precious that the universe has been set up to educate you. Please consider the possibility that everything you can perceive (even that which you call terrible) is a gift dedicated to the evolution of your wisdom, and there truly is no such thing as mere coincidence.

When you think about it, holding relationships in this context, opens a remarkable opportunity. Is it possible that as we grow personally in both our wisdom and skills, we can develop a level of mastery in how we relate to others? As we demonstrate this mastery with others, is it possible that people will relate back to us in a way that reflects more joy and satisfaction? Is it possible that creating outrageously fulfilling relationships truly is an inside job?

Here is a promise I solemnly offer to you. As you practice the principles described in this little book, the quality of both your relationships and your life will be significantly enhanced.

Just imagine. It's one year from today. You have been diligent in learning the lessons of this earth school. You have put your insights to work and now see life from a higher altitude. Your relationships both romantic and otherwise, are a continual source of tremendous joy. What does it feel like to have literally manifested the dreams of your heart in this arena?

**To purchase the entire book
'Outrageously Fulfilling Relationships'**

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