

## Be The light

[00:00:00] So today, actually my title is to "see the light". You've got to be the light. And we got to lean on each other because that's how you begin seeing the light and being the light. But I want to start by reminding the world it is hi Holly days in the Jewish tradition. It's the beginning of Yom Kippur and is considered the 10 days of all.

The 10 days of all. So for 10 days, what happens in the Jewish tradition and actually I really believe we should do this all over the planet. So I'm going to teach you how you'll begin, letting go of the past. You turn away from the past and you'll begin moving yourself into a sense of forgiveness.

When I was in ministerial school, actually I was going for my master's degree, and I went to a Yom Kippur service over by mercy hospital, at the Jewish school temple. And [00:01:00] it was such an amazing, beautiful experience because we sang all the songs that I sang as a child in the Catholic religion. and so I knew a lot of them because I grew up with them it was the first time I really felt that connection from Judaism and Catholicism and that sense of letting go of the past and forgiving every single thing you've done or somebody else has done. So that's why it's the 10 days of awe.

Because whenever you start thinking about the past, begin letting it go. And this is the perfect time of the year for our country to begin forgiving and letting go of the past and being in this present moment, declaring greater good is unfolding right now. Let's say that together greater good is unfolding right now because see, when we let go of the past and we move into forgiveness, we're able to be in that present moment.

We're able to be in the [00:02:00] center of spirit. We're able to experience all of that. So to be the light, you have to be willing to share your light and to step into your light. I haven't experienced yesterday. I got to go Missouri where Truman university is to see my granddaughter. And that's always such a delight to go see her.

Anyway. She is one of the most giving people I've ever met. She's in a sorority, that's all about giving and transforming and taking care of people and helping people and just being around her and listening to her views on no volunteer interviews on giving it's enlightening experience. So if you know a millennial that you want to have a conversation with do it, they are very deep.

They know so much more than I ever knew at that age. [00:03:00] So that was just an incredible experience. And part of being the light is being willing to give freely from who you are. So we may, some of you may have noticed around the building and the yard work this week, we had a couple people, three people we had skip and we had Carlos and we had Doug come and spend time cleaning out the weeds, cleaning out the all that dead stuff and just prepping it up. It feels so much better just walking outside. Y

Yeah. Thank you. Thank you, Carlos. Thank you, Stephen. Thank you and we have some new flowers in the back ready for the concert this afternoon. And then today, when I got here

out in the back, there were people singing and Tim's going to be bringing different people up to sing with them, some different songs.

And it's it reminds me of a story. And this story really is about how we transmit the light. And [00:04:00] the story is of a monastery. A couple of hundred years ago, that ended up with only five monks. And they were all in their 80 year. They were 80 years old and they thought the guru, what do, how we can build back up our monastery? And the guru said, no, I can't. But I can tell you one thing among the five that's left, one of you is the Messiah. So the head monk went back and told the other monks there. One of us is the Messiah. And so they all start talking, could it be Tim, the Messiah, Harry, could it be George?

Could it be Tom? Which one of us is the Messiah? And because they did not know, they started treating each other with reverence. And with love, how can we help? What can we [00:05:00] do? And the whole energy of the monastery started changing because they were so into service. They were so into being the light and sharing the light that the towns, people and people from far away would come to the grounds and they bring picnics and they would sit there and they'd have a picnic and they would walk the grounds and they would laugh and they would have joy.

And pretty soon, one of the people said, can we join the monastery? So they can have their first young person in the monastery in years. And pretty soon another one came and another one and it transformed that monastery. And what was transforming. It was the idea that one of them was the Messiah and maybe even themselves.

So right now, that's how we have to

this whole world is crumbling. [00:06:00] And one of us, this is the Messiah that's going to save it. And what the Messiah did, really, if they're talking about the master Jesus, the Christ, who was raised as a wonderful, good Jewish rabbi and child. And what he was to love one another, as you give, so you receive.

And so when the monks began giving and giving from that love that they are, their monastery began changing. So when we began looking at two. Live in the light, we have to be willing to give. So I know that so many people have been giving a little bit of that good stuff to not only see us sell, but people would come over to my house, our apart, our new apartment and print Beau spent hours sorting my jewelry [00:07:00] to finding pairs of earrings that matched.

Because I did take everything out of my jewelry case because they weren't going to clean it. So I brought it home to clean and actually I spent so many hours bending over to pick them up to hand them to her for two days I could barely walk. I'm like, Oh no, was that jewelry worth it? But I have lots of it bad up to give away to a charity.

And some of them give it here to CSL to give away. And it's. It's such a blessing. We've had people come over and bring us dinner. to be truthful, Larry has always cooked well, a lot of that, and right now he is working on getting his computers back up, running to get some of the programs back, backup, running to get the classes he was working on complete.

And. There hasn't been that same energy. When we get up in the morning to do the new things that we were doing, because [00:08:00] we're completing all this other stuff almost daily. We go over to the house because they want us to sign off on what they say is in each room. And so I started to sign off and I said, did you get this?

And did you get that? And she went in. She said, no, that wasn't on the list. I only remember that. So every day, I really don't like shopping, so I just order what I need on Amazon. And it comes to, we now have to refer with burnt house and the apartment, because sometimes it was like, okay, it's at the house, which house? And, so we go over daily. Make sure that everything's okay. And that it's been an interesting experience because the first day we were over there, they had taken everything out of our dining room, down to the studs.

There was no ceilings, there was no [00:09:00] floor, there was no chandelier, there's nothing. And it's wow. Then they tell us, they're getting rid of all the appliances in the kitchen and all the cabinets and everything in the kitchen. And I'm like, wow. And then they tell them they started upstairs. There was nothing upstairs, but plywood are not plywood two by fours or whatever you call them in the wall.

What do they call it studs? I forget the studs are in the wall of our house, all, it's just an interesting experience. Everything that's happening differently. And what, the only thing I can do in, and Larry can do is just keep not only herself in prayer, but our whole community and prayer. And that's what we've been doing.

So you will be, if you're on our mailing list, you will [00:10:00] be getting a letter because our intention is to email everybody a letter every single day. Not every, not everybody every day, but a people a day that we have you in prayer. And if there's anything you need in your life, call me, email me.

In prayer, the way we give our gift to you. so when you're giving miraculously things show up the other day, because Larry is a big giver, he shows up at the house and they had lost all of his hard drives. And they had told us they went through them and they were empty. Larry goes upstairs and he sees a hard drive underneath all this trash on the side of his room and he brings it home and sure enough.

Part of his class was in that hard drive. So I'm like, that is a gift from the universe back because Larry gives so much, so now I didn't lose [00:11:00] everything. He had that hard drive. So what is it that the universe wants to give us? How does it want to direct us? How has it directed us? There's a story about Abraham Lincoln.

You may have heard this, but I always knew there was something he was born for. Something he was supposed to give, but he didn't know what, and he wasn't really educated. He lived in the, on the frontier, which was Illinois, in a log cabin. And he's I know I need to be educated for what I need to do in the world.

One day, there was this man and he had a wheelbarrow full of old papers and an old magazines and stuff. And he came by and he said to Abraham, LinkedIn, I'd like to sell this because I have no money. I'm really broke. Would you like to buy all this stuff in my

wheelbarrow? And Abraham Lincoln's thinking, what do I need [00:12:00] was a bunch of stuff in a wheelbarrow, but he wanted to help the young man.

And so he pulled out a dollar because the man said, I can give it all to you for a dollar. He pulled out a dollar and he gave it to the young man. The young man goes away and Abraham started going through all this stuff. And at the bottom of that is a set of books that he studied over and over. And those books gave him an education in the law for him to become a lawyer and for him to go into politics because he gave somebody a dollar to help them out.

Not knowing what he was going to give back. How often have we given away something, or maybe you're a tither or giver here at CSL and you've gotten something back and you go, wow, where did that come from? It came from the fact that you're a giver. Jesus always said be a cheerful giver because that's how you have to give to receive.

[00:13:00] But you can't give to receive. You can't give because you want to receive. You have to give, because giving is part of your reign of your nature. And as you give, you do receive, I used to know people that got into the, this philosophy went, I'm going to start giving because I want to get so much back.

That's not why you give you, don't give to give it back. You give and you get it back. How many of you have ever experienced that? Raise your hand. If you've experienced that you give and you get back. Unexpectedly from divine sources, you might accidentally be going down the road, knowing you need something and turn it into a parking lot.

And there's a store and you go into the store and it has exactly what you needed. Anybody ever done that? Yeah. Or, you know what I think w I think this is the greatest demonstration. I don't. up until then, up until COVID I never watched a [00:14:00] lot of TV, but during COVID there was not much else to do. And so I started getting hooked on a couple of series.

there's one series in between had ads and the ad was John legend and his wife, Christy, Teagan. They were. Racing around this race track called Genesis. And I must have seen that ad two times or three times a day, whenever I turned on that episode, the next one. So one day Marsha Walton called and she said, I really need a new car and I need it by the end of July.

And I'm like, Oh good. Let's go look at a car. And she goes, I don't really know what to look at. And I said, let's go look at the Genesis. And she's I've never heard of it. I said I had never heard of it either, but John legend and his wife Chrissy, they drive it. So we went and we test a lot of cars and guess what?

Marcia ended up [00:15:00] buying. Genesis and it's a fabulous car. And every time I go to get in with her to go somewhere, I think, Oh, is John legend around? Or where's Chrissy dig? But, it's like those kinds of things happening. My daughter was shocked. She said, first of all, you don't watch commercials.

And second, how do you know who John legend and Christie Tega are? You don't know anybody? What do you mean? But I did know because the world's slowed down because of

COVID and I started watching commercials, when you're really bored, you watch the commercial.

But I think that's part of that giving and receiving you don't know what message you have and what message you have to give to somebody else. So there's one other thing is I want you to look at what gifts do you have that you want to give? some people say I don't have any gifts, we all have a gift of kindness.

[00:16:00] We all have a gift of love. it said, if you want to give what you want to give back, I learned that in my twenties, give what you want to give back. And so in those days I had two children. I was living on \$400 a month at a house in Kirkwood and a car I had to maintain a month, but because I knew I was accepting more money, I gave money.

I started giving every single week when I came to the center for spiritual living, because I knew the value of giving and out of the blue, I was always saying this out of the blue money shows up. I have enough money for all of my needs, and there was one day when I didn't have any money and I wouldn't get any money until Monday.

And it was a Friday. And I was, I used to model at the Viking restaurant over in Crestwood. Anybody ever hear about that? I don't think you're old enough to actually know that. But, we used to put [00:17:00] together a modeling team of three or four of us women. And we would go to a cup hoppers, first we'd give it blown us there for coats, and we'd go to the seven, nine, 11 store and they would loan us clothes and we would put on a fashion show and then we'd take all the clothes back.

And in the meantime, people would go to the store and buy them. So they liked that. So one day when I really didn't have any money, I was. Doing the modeling at a table. And this lady said, Oh my God, I love that outfit. I'm really not going to buy it, but here's \$20. And I said, thank you. She didn't know that I needed \$20 to buy bread amount to get me through till Monday.

And there was the money and I went, thank you, spirit. You always say thank you when you're given a gift because you never know, you know where it's coming back from. And you know what? A few years ago, that woman and her daughter that was at that modeling day with me at the Viking restaurant, [00:18:00] came to church here at CSL and became friends with Marshall Walton who bought the Genesis.

And everything's all connected. You give you receive, you, pass it on, you receive that's what this life is all about. There was a story. One time of this, of these two little kids and they were five and three years old and I was making pancakes that they were like, I want the pancakes first. And the other one said, no, I want to have the pancakes first.

And the mother thought, you know what? This is the time to teach them a lot us and about Jesus. And she said, you know what? Jesus would say, you can have the pancakes first. And the five-year-old Ryan said, great, Timmy. You be Jesus,

Jesus would say you get the pancakes first. And that's really what life is all about. How can we help? How can we serve? What can [00:19:00] we do to make this a world that works for

everyone? we hear that's one of the missions of the center for spiritual living is to create a world that works for everyone.

Not just a few people. But everyone in the way that a world works is by joy, by love, by caring and by giving away those qualities so that you become the model for a giving, loving, spiritual being. How many of you, how many of you already feel like you're on that path to be that it's okay. Raise your hand.

All of you raise your hand because I want to tell you're on that path or you would not be here. It's no accident that something drew you to the center for spiritual living, because the goal here is to assist all of us to awaken to that magnificence, to be that Christ, to be that model of spirituality, to live as a giver of life [00:20:00] and not just to take her.

we've all probably known people that have been takers or before we knew enough about how the universe works. Maybe we thought taking was more fun than giving because when you're a child, you don't always learn that. You just learn. I want mine. I want mine now. I want it now. And as we get older and we learn, wait a minute, it's a given a take universe, not just a take, we begin freely.

Giving. And I think one of the things I love most about the center for spiritual living is there are so many people here that when we say we need help with something, we go, can I help? Can I help? Can I help? What can I do to give back? How can I make life better? That's what we're called to do. So if you don't know what your gift is, go and ask a practitioner.

[00:21:00] Or come and ask us, what do you think my gift is? And we'll talk to you about it until what your gift is, and you're willing to give it because to be, to get the light, you must be the light. Are you willing to be that light of spirit? Are you willing to be that divine energy that gives freely and accepts freely?

So not only a good giver, but a good receiver. Let's say that I'm a good giver. I'm a good giver. And I'm a good receiver. I'm a good receiver. I know that now I accept that. Now that is who I am right now. And for this I give thanks. And so it is amen. God bless you. You are fabulous. You are givers. And one of you.

Is the Messiah. [00:22:00] God bless you.