

Unity.

How is it that I'm glued to my neighbor? It's this unity thing.

Starting with the premise that all is God, then the concept of unity of the whole can be more easily understood.

It seems so counter intuitive to think that our enemies or those whom we think of as unloving can be so close to us. Yet in just those forms of thought and activity we are pressed to love. We are somehow invoked to forgive. If we let our own personalities fall away if even momentarily and perceive what's being presented as a possibility of a greater understanding, we can find the bigger truth in this unity of the whole concept.

As written in Joel Goldsmith's little book: *Practicing the Presence*, he states: "Christ-mind has in it no criticism, no judgment, and no condemnation", but beholds the Christ of God as the activity of individual being, as your Soul and mine.

Back to our premise, all is God. In this we see how difficult it is to differentiate those out there, from me and you. We recognize our Christ identity and see through the appearances and are lifted up, and in doing so we lift our neighbors, our seeming enemies.

In our mental world, we all want to be in a wonderful place and have this out-picture in our physical world. A world where no one and no thing is against us. How we get there is the remembrance of our premise again. All is God. In life we are equipped with the ability to step out and reach farther than our prior experiences and habits allowed. In a sense of unity, we gain an inner relationship of receptivity to the world around us. In this receptivity we also find another aspect which is the expansion of one's self. The aspect of giving. Giving of one's time, kindness, understanding and most precious, one's love.

For example, in daily interactions, I now try to practice giving in my listening. I had an old habit of cordiality built with manipulation to impress and influence the other person with my next bright statement while not really listening. I used their conversation as a path for my own sense of importance. It got me nowhere fast. I had a disconnect with the unity of others, let alone my own sense of worth.

A terrific way to enact this unity and aspect of giving was described uniquely in a little book called, *The Go-Giver* by Bob Burg and John David Mann. It described a way of giving as serving another in such a way that the giving is way beyond the expectation of the receiver, expressed as a law of value.

We can serve our neighbor now from an expanded consciousness formed in love and expressed through our own healed way of being that paves the course of serving with integrity and love. In doing so we keep our receptivity of life open and it gives back to us in untold bounty. This circle of giving and receiving in unity, with our neighbors creates an equilibrium of love that smoothes out the rough patches and heals us all, for when we don't, we are reminded that what we think can and will pull us out of love and create separation and the glue to our neighbors really becomes sticky.