

Weekly Meditation August 4, 2010
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False Notions of Myself

I have been crucified with Christ, my ego is no longer central. It is not longer important that I appear righteous before you, or have your good opinion, and I am no longer driven to impress God. Christ lives in me. The life you see me living is not "mine," but is lived by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I am not going to go back on that.
~ Galatians 2:19-21, *The Message*

Love is the funeral pyre where I have laid my living body. All the false notions of myself that once caused fear, pain, have turned to ash as I neared God. ~ Hafiz, *The Gift*

Question of the day: who are you trying to impress? Whose positive opinion or favor are you trying to win? Whose negative opinion are you trying to avoid or disprove? Whose notions of who you are, are driving you? Yours? Your parents? Your ideas of God?

Both of the quotes above are talking about the same thing. We are driven to impress, to seek attention, to prove ourselves, to seek validation from some one, some thing, some action. We are always looking for approval and affirmation, even if only secretly. It is exhausting and seems to be never-ending. And the alternative doesn't look so attractive...crucifixion?...funeral pyre? What's that about?

The spiritual quest to which we are daily called is to willingly surrender our "small self," to relinquish the tyranny of ego and obsession, in order for the life of God to flow through us freely, unobstructed, in order that the "Christ" – the anointing of God – might fill and fully possess us. Little do we realize that the things we cling to so tightly are actually the source of our fear and pain. But they can't take the heat of the love of God...just lay all those false notions on the fire...

Prayer: Holy One, in small things and big things today help me surrender to your love. I trust you to clear away all the clutter and debris that too often surrounds me. Let me be free of concern for what others will think. Let me draw near you. Amen.