

## *To Ponder*

### **Awareness by Anthony de Mello**

We don't want to be unconditionally happy. I'm ready to be happy provided I have this and that and the other thing. We cannot imagine being happy without those conditions. We've been taught to place our happiness in them.

We need to understand that if we want to come awake, which is the same thing as saying: if we want to love, if we want freedom, if we want joy and peace and spirituality. In that sense, spirituality is the most practical thing in the whole wide world. I challenge anyone to think of anything more practical than spirituality as I have defined it — not piety, not devotion, not religion, not worship, but spirituality — waking up, waking up!

The only way to change is by changing your understanding...I just need to get in touch with reality. I need to break out of this prison of mine, this programming, this conditioning, these false beliefs, these fantasies; I need to break out into reality.

Reality is lovely; it is an absolute delight. Eternal life is now. We're surrounded by it, like the fish in the ocean, but we have no notion about it at all. We're too distracted with this attachment.

You will never understand yourself if you seek to change yourself. The harder you try to change yourself, the worse it gets. You are called upon to be aware. Get the feel of that jangling telephone; get the feel of jarred nerves; get the sensation of the steering wheel in the car. In other words, come to reality, and let tension or the calmness take care of itself.

Step by step, let whatever happens, happen. Real change will come when it is brought about, not by your ego, but by reality. Awareness releases reality to change you.

It's not a question of imitating Christ, it's a question of becoming what Jesus was. It's a question of BECOMING Christ, becoming aware, understanding what's going on within you.

## *Reading*

### **Revelation 22: 1-5**

And he showed me a pure river of water of life,  
clear as crystal,  
proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river,  
was there the tree of life, which bore twelve manner of fruits,  
and yielded her fruit every month:  
and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

And there shall be no more curse:  
but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it;  
and his servants shall serve him:  
and they shall see his face;  
and his name shall be on their foreheads.

And there shall be no night there;  
and they need no candle, neither light of the sun;  
for the Lord God giveth them light:  
and they shall reign for ever and ever.

## *Sharing...*

*a word...*

*a phrase...*

*a reflection...*



## Song

*Crystal Bue Persuasion*  
by Tommy James & the Shondells

Look over yonder  
What do you see?  
The sun is a'rising  
Most definitely  
A new day is coming, ooh, ooh  
People are changing  
Ain't it beautiful, ooh, ooh  
Crystal blue persuasion

Better get ready to see the light  
Love, love is the answer, ooh, ooh  
And that's all right  
So don't you give up now, ooh, ooh  
So easy to find  
Just look to your soul  
And open your mind

Crystal blue persuasion,  
mmm, mmm  
It's a new vibration  
Crystal blue persuasion

Crystal, blue persuasion  
Maybe tomorrow  
When he looks down  
On every green field, ooh, ooh  
And every town  
All of his children  
And every nation  
They'll be peace and good  
brotherhood

Crystal blue persuasion, yeah  
Crystal blue persuasion, aha  
Crystal blue persuasion, aha  
Crystal blue persuasion, aha

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## Thank You For Joining Us!

Your Prayer Leader

Syndie Eardly

**08/01/17**

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## Eternal life is now...

*When will I see it? How can I be it?*



Our prayer is characterized by silence  
**Be still and know that I am God!**

In that silence we listen for a new word.  
God is present in all our lives.  
God cares for us, and  
our life experiences are a source  
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence  
we share from our hearts.