


Reply: fcj4

14 Jan. 14

Hi Mike

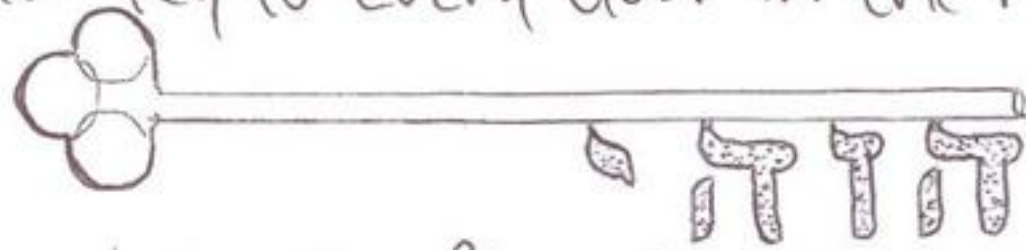


I've been basking in our re-union since I posted my previous letter with those pictures of us to you last week. I'm just so stoked to see your initial introduction is under my "WHO AM I" essay. It is my hope that exercise helped others see that many of us in this unnatural existence have similar experiences within the matrix of social conformity, and therein know they are not alone without a way to rise above the rest if and when they so desire, son.

Do you know the story of Helen Keller (1880-1968), that deaf and blind kid who was a real wild child? She was a real hellion — until she learned to communicate. Can you imagine how difficult that must have been? This is pretty much the condition with most of humanity. We tend to fear what we don't understand, and consequently feel a need to attack and conquer our fears. Bravo! I say. Hell, that's why 'learning-by-living' is considered the school of hard knocks! What's funny is that instead of a diploma, we get scars to show for our time discovering F.E.A.R. is usually an acronym which stands for: False Evidence Appearing Real.

Of course some drop-out of that school, subjecting themselves to a life of mediocrity, while others like myself are kicked out and discouraged from challenging the cast of conformity. I'm here to tell ya, life has a way of finding a place for everyone to fit in. Look, the vast majority of people 'get in where they fit in', and I'm not knocking that, unless that is a miserable life they're living. I'm just saying that in hindsight I'm able to tell you that this world is a stage of self-realizations within a mansion of opportunities full of rooms which reflect what you expect, i.e.: where you expect the world is hostile — it is! Where you fear you'll ruin something valuable in a hostile world — you just might. Conversely, when you see the world as a place of infinite opportunities, and trust your eternal ability to make the most of every situation

— then you'll likely do just that! Here, I want to give you the master-key to every door in the mansion, Mike:



Simply acknowledge The Eternal orchestrator in all your ways and trust there is a useful purpose within every event, in accord with what you believe. (Proverb 3:6 / John 11:40).

Unfortunately there are Suppressive agents in the world which seem to infect our belief system with guilt-tripping us into conforming to their beliefs. This is why we have so many laws in the land... and... so many pharmaceutical commercials on the air... not to mention all the _____, which in effect keep the master key away from our control.

Do you get any of this, I wonder? I sure hope so! Where life challenges your abilities, I'd like to know all my kids make those events into opportunities to excell.

Which brings me to (Proverb 29:18 KJV)... "where there is no vision, the people perish". There is a way to be free of Suppressive agents and overcome their infecting influence in our lives, ... yet... without developing goals to achieve on our own account, what purpose would that "freedom" serve?

That being said, I wish that you kids would tell me — What is your vision of life? How do you see the world... and where is your place in our mansion of existence? What are some of your short-term and long-term goals? Do you know the story of Sleeping Beauty? It's so much more than a fairy tale, ya know.

Okay... okay! in a world where you've been told not to think for yourselves, I'm encouraging you to do just that. It would be irresponsible of me to ignite this forging fire without suggesting ways to apply the damper-valve of Meditation, to help control that fire of awakening intelligence, Stoner boy. (I sure hope that you're not reading all this as me lecturing you about life ~ which I admit it appears I'm doing. When I was your age I would've loved such insight.)

Here's what I know, son: My mind is constantly calculating something or other — it's what it does! Whether it calculates with positive or negative thoughts of true or false data is pretty much determined by our focus. Meditation is focused attention, as expressed in Phillipians 4:8, for example. But there are literally many ways to meditate/focus your attention. Walking, jogging, counting reps in exercise routines, watching my breath, repeating a mantra, etc. For me, I usually awake around 4 or 5 a.m. and do a lil yoga routine to honor my body's wellness, and then I sit cross-leg on a fat pillow for about an hour. At first I watch all the thoughts my mind is scanning, until the real Eternal me determines to rise above the storm of thoughts into a peaceful stillness of non-attached observation of perfection. Imagine, if you will, the eternal view of some of the episodes of our life... they really aren't all that significant in the eternal scope of things! This is what I achieve in my meditations, and those moments of clarity permit me to face the day with that eternal assurance.

Please pardon me if I've overwhelmed you with any of this stuff Mike. I'm here for you if you wish to discuss any of this further. Until then, I'm glad to have this opportunity to share these thoughts with you.

In reply to your letters, I wanted to mention I used to love fishing for bass up around the gold fields and — the rice field culverts and adjoining streams. I'd always take my pole and lures with me to work — driving trucks, doing roofs, or the oil rigs out yonder, and I'd often stop just long enough to provoke a few fish. Yup, I used to be a real outside guy myself too. I sure miss a lot of that!

So what kinda dog y'all got? Is it trained to do anything special? I think it's pretty smart for a young couple to care for a pet together... Before they start having kids together, ya know? How's that working for you two? "Getting into arguments over stupid stuff" just tickles me to death! It's just mental sparring, son.

Well developed debating skills can be useful in life, so try thinking of it as practice — Keeping each other sharp. You can manage to keep it from developing into the resentful shouting matches you grew up hearing, right? There's a real reason behind why we tend to push people away at times... but because we know that about ourselves, it is within our power to do what's right despite how we feel — most times is.

And you love to cook? Me too! I even like to watch cooking shows on T.V., believe it or not. Check out the website californiabountiful.com, to see what organic cooks are doing out there.

Oh, and as long as your in cyberspace, check out the site acomplaintfreeworld.org, where you might want to get a few of their bracelets to gift to people you know who can use them. There's just too much Awesome-ness in life!

Back to 'cooking' (ummm): what's involved in cooking school anyway? Tell me more. Isn't there Nutritionist classes at the community college which supports that vocation? Job Corps in Sacramento used to have Bakery trade too. How much research have you done to see if this is what you want to invest your (life) time into? I really am very interested to learn what you've discovered.

Memphis TN — wow! I used to transport 30 lb bales from Key West FLA to Memphis, when I was about 18 too. Imagine that! Back in 1981-82. Wow.

Anyway son — thanks for sharing this time with me. I'm looking forward to hearing back from you soon.

Be blessed.