

August 2011 From the Desk of Rev. Chuck Unity Church of Bakersfield 1619 E Street, Bakersfield CA 93301

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Dear Friends,

I have been a pulpit minister for almost 18 years now. During that time I have seen hundreds of people come and go through the doors of our church. People from all walks of life and religious backgrounds, looking to understand how the study of metaphysics and the application of spiritual principles in their lives could help them create a consciousness of prosperity and well-being.

Since 1889 Unity has been a leader in the metaphysical studies of the spiritual principles that govern the universe and the world in which we live. Using the power of spiritual discernment Unity students have been able to apply these principles in their lives to bring about a greater awareness and connection to God. The study of metaphysics is a life long process of going deeper in the understanding of how the spiritual principles work, as many long time Unity students have discovered.

I once had a man tell me that this "stuff" didn't work. It was all "Pollyannaish" in telling people they could create a good life for themselves. He didn't get it! He couldn't understand Jesus's message to the people when he said, "It is the father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." When you realize what a kingdom really is you're on your way to unlocking the secrets of metaphysics.

The study of metaphysics does not say your life is going to be perfect, that you will not have problems, that you will not experience pain or suffering. All these things belong to the physical world into which we were born. Yes, we're spiritual beings in a physical body. As Jesus stated, "In this life you will have trials and tribulations, but be of good cheer for I have overcome them and you will too!"

Metaphysics is not a course in getting rich, amassing wealth and possessions, circumventing divine order, denial of personal problems, issues, or health challenges. I have seen many people come into Unity's spiritual program only to leave very disappointed and upset because they thought the study of metaphysics would allow them to have all this and more.

"The truth that will set you free" is simply this: God is everything you will ever need. Your awareness of the divine presence in your life will give you a sense of prosperity, your needs will be met, you'll come to realize that you do not have to manipulate the physical world to meet your needs, answers to your problems will appear, and you'll gain a greater faith in knowing God is the Master Physician for all your health challenges.

While it is true that to change our world we need to change our thoughts, we must also keep in mind that as we learn how to change those thoughts we do so under the direction of Spirit and not our ego.

Jim and I were taking a prosperity class at Unity of Ft. Lauderdale. He was wanting a new car and started affirming this for himself. Within a week a friend of his offered to give him his car, fully paid for, as he was leaving the county. Jim refused the gift saying, "God will give me what I what." Jim got his new car and within six months he lost his job and later lost the car. Without a car it took him several months to find a job that he could ride the bus to. Spirit knew what Jim needed, but he didn't listen. Jim choose to listen to ego's voice. Had he taken the gift car he'd still have it with no debt.

The truth we teach is not new, it's the same truth taught by all the great spiritual teachers: God is the only Presence and Power in the universe and in my life as Good. "For God knows your needs before you even ask," said Jesus.

Join us as we help you gain a greater awareness of God and a newfound appreciation of the study of metaphysics.