

**June 2014**  
**From the Desk of Rev. Chuck**  
Unity Church of Bakersfield  
1619 E Street, Bakersfield CA 93301  
[www.ucob.org](http://www.ucob.org)  
Church: 661-327-8614

---

Dear Friends,

A young man was apprenticed to a master artist who produced some of the most beautiful stained glass anywhere. No matter what the apprentice did or how hard he tried he could not approach the master's genius in creating such beautiful works of art with the stained glass. Then the young man thought, "I'll borrowed the master's tools, that should help me be like the master." After several weeks, the young man said to his teacher, "I'm not doing any better with your tools than I did with mine." The teacher replied, "It's not the tools of the master you need; it's the spirit of the master you need."

Throughout the ages, spiritual teachers have told us to let our light, our truth, shine so that we might help illuminate the world by just being in it. Jesus gave us these words that are just as true for us today as they were over 2,000 years ago:

*You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven (Matt 5:14-16).*

In her book *Our Future in the 21st Century*, Margaret McCormick writes:

Each of us is a bright and shining star--a strong, powerful spiritual being capable of so much more than we take the time to realize. We are a reflection outwardly of our inner selves, and we have choice as to whether we will let that inner self grow spiritually and reflect its bright, radiant light to others. Keep your inner self bright and glowing; let it become a beacon to those who may need help and nurturing.

When our lifetime is over, we will leave our legacy to others. Each person with whom we have come in contact, each friend, each relative, will be left a piece of our bright shining star. This is our gift to them. It will merge with their inner radiance, making it brighter.

Think of your inner radiance as a bank. You can make deposits regularly. The deposits may consist of some important lesson learned or growth that has taken place. It could consist of a good deed done for another, or just lending someone your moral support.

At the end of your lifetime, your bank account will have grown tremendously if you have made regular deposits, and your shining radiance will be left for the good of all.

As you go about living your daily life, remember you are a star. A bright shining star in your own life script. Strive to make that star grow brighter and brighter with each passing day, lighting your way and the way of others.

As the reflection of God is allowed to shine forth from us into the world, we in affect become like mirrors that take that light and reflect it over and over again. Much like taking a candle and holding a mirror next to it the light is magnified, add another mirror the light in the room again gets magnified even more.

Unity teaches the eternal truth that we are made in the image and likeness of God. All the spiritual teachers have told us that we are to model that image and likeness in our lives. That we can be a picture and an illustration of God if we but choose to be, so that when others look at us they will see God because we are so infilled with the presence of God.

Our job, as Neale Donald Walsh writes in his book *Conversations with God*, is to remember who and what we are...that's it. Just to remember who and what we are. I have come to realize over the years that much of my spiritual journey has been spending time remembering. Have you noticed that for yourself? Every time I heard some thing that resonated with me, every time I received an *ah hah*, it was but a reflection of the truth I already knew by someone who was holding it up for me to see again.

The key for me is having the belief in the potential of God working in and through me regardless of how the world looks. It's taking the I can't's and turning them into I can's, I will's, I'm going to right away.

Well friends, the truth is you do make a difference, you are needed, no life is ever lived in vain. Each of us has a purpose and a place in the greater scheme of things; and God counts on you to remember who and what you are so that you may be the reflection you were meant to be. I invite you to let your light shine.

Happy Father's Day to all the father figures who helped shape, mentor, teach, and show us how to let our light shine!