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- *Seeking balance during challenging times*
- *The sacredness of all things*
- *What divine intervention is and isn't*
- *Guides can act as angels*

God, who is the protector and creator of all that is, is indeed with each of you now and, of course, at all times. You ask for more understanding of how to achieve the necessary balance in your daily lives that can assist on the human side of existence, the human form of energy.

It begins for everyone with openness, and it's not just an openness to the presence of the Spirit Center. It is not just an openness to our presence in your individual and collective lives. It is a bigger and, in some ways, equally difficult way of examining openness, namely an openness to your own place as a bridge that joins others together.

As human beings you have a unique opportunity to join humans together that other forms of life do not share, for every day you have some interaction in your lives that will intersect with other human beings. It does not mean that you are necessarily in direct contact with another person each day, although that may be so, but your lives are at one level or another impacted by the lives of others, and in like measure, their lives are impacted in ways that they may not know of by your lives.

If you seek balance in your human endeavors, then find ways of seeking balance with one other person. In so doing, you affirm the humanity, the value, the sacredness of all in your connections to one.

Human life is, in its most fundamental view, life that is connected to others. Human life is not intended to be experienced alone. Even for those whose lives are physically alone by choice, by belief, by necessity, those individuals are impacted by, and impact themselves, upon the lives of others. As human beings you cannot live on a virtual island. No matter your condition, no matter the difficulty of your own physical surroundings, no matter the difficulty of emotional pressures, you are not alone.

We speak so often that you are never separated from God's love, but that means a reality beyond just your relationship to the Spirit Center, because if you are never separated from God's love, and God's love actually belongs to all that is, then you can say with total truthfulness that you are never separated from all that is. That being the case, you are never totally alone.

The balance you seek as human life-forms involves your relationships, your openness, and your acknowledgment of others. These relationships are always in multi-directions. They are not relationships just to one person, but in finding a relationship with another, whether that be directly or through thoughts and prayers, that reaching out is an act of love, and in that reaching out, you are moving toward the balance in life that you seek.

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You pray for peace. You pray for justice. What is peace? What is justice if it is not a full acknowledgment of the sacredness of the other? If you fully acknowledge the sacredness of another person, you cannot deny the sacredness of all people. If you acknowledge the sacredness of a tree, you cannot deny the sacredness of a stone, of a mountain, of all the minerals that exist. You cannot deny the sacredness of thought and ideas. You cannot deny the sacredness of the search for true meaning.

How you deal with great loss of dignity, crushing loss of the ability to provide for oneself, one's family, for others, how you keep on keeping up—isn't it easy just to give up and quit and back away somehow? Of course, it's easy to withdraw, but where do you go? It's easy to deny the falsehoods that you experience, but if you deny and fail to construct, there is nothing. Meeting the challenge of living a human life and finding balance in the midst of great loss, great frustration, searing sadness, anger, there must be a way, there must be something that can supplant, that can take the place of what is causing the pain, the grief.

First of all, as you have recognized, there needs to be an acknowledgment of what is lost and an acknowledgment of what is needed. Acknowledging both what is lost and what is needed is humbling and yet can be the basis for a growing and strengthening love born out of the desire to affirm, to redeem, to strengthen, rejuvenate, repair, to build, to develop.

When you are faced by times of great need, and you acknowledge that fact, ask yourselves what is it that you can do that affirms your relationships with another? The question of what you can do is not necessarily a call to action in visible terms but rather a recognition in thought and prayer and attitude that there is value, there is sacredness in another. As you recognize that reality, you will discover ways that you can respond that will lighten the burden of another and lighten your own concerns. The difficulty of human life is not only recognizing the difficulty of others but the difficulty of your own pathway.

When you pray to God for vision, for understanding, for a way forward, what is the mechanism through which the light is seen? As you know, the mechanism is not one of activating God but being open to the present God.

You have questions about intervention, and you recall events in your lives when there clearly appear to be interventions. Is this what happens, and how is that intervention defined?

First of all, we remind you, no life is predetermined, and yet for one individual what is prevented will for another individual occur. Is this because of intervention where one is chosen and the other is sacrificed? The answer is a resounding no. God does not will that one individual flourishes and another suffers. It is not part of the design of creation that certain elements of creation are chosen to suffer or to flourish more than others.

Human life is one of encountering countless energy-forms that work together and collide in opposition to one or another. That is part of what it means to be human. So it is important to remove a sense of predetermined directions in life. You are given choice

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because choice exists, but there are times when you are faced with events in life that are not of your choosing, and you pray that God will step in and make all things right.

Interventions as defined in such a way are not the function of God. The strength that is God is not waiting to be engaged. The strength of God is already engaged. So what happens when you seem to be rescued, and it is not through conscious efforts on your part? Things just happen that you look back upon with wonder and appreciation. What actually takes place in such events?

We, who are your guides, surround you constantly with our own loving presence, and we will also say with our own loving protection. But in our desires to expand your opportunities for growth, there are always forces that belong to the human experience that operate regardless of our presence in your lives, for our primary purpose is to help you along your own spiritual pathways. Sometimes to facilitate that spiritual growth, it is necessary to provide what you might describe as a field of energy that surrounds you with a kind of protective presence because we recognize the necessity of some things occurring that will enable other things to evolve. That's not unlike being a parent and permitting, from time to time, things to impact upon a child's life so that in the future, there is a consequence to the impact that enhances and enriches the life of that child in adulthood.

There is much we as your guides are able to see. We don't see the future in specific terms, because the future has not been determined in your sense of time. But we do understand intimately the nature of each of your souls, and we understand what is essential for the soul to learn during its human attachment, its human experience. The soul learns not just because of spiritual lessons. The soul is attached to human life because of what it can learn from human challenges, from just the act of living as a human being. Those lessons are unique to the human experience. There are other lessons in your development that can only be learned in other energy-forms that are unrelated to the human experience.

So, we see your lives as a pathway of growth, and we are able to serve in some ways as what you would identify as guardian angels. Your physical attributes are not of any importance to us. We know of your thoughts because your thoughts are a view to what lies within the spirit. But what we truly see are your individual spirits as a form of energy. We have described this energy as being like colors where each soul emits a different color, because the energies contained within each soul are unique, and it is through our vision of your souls that we are empowered to minister to what is needed, be it physical safety or physical health or emotional balance. There are many ways that we are able to intervene to assist in your own spiritual growth along your personal pathway.

So if you ask if we intervene, in the sense that we have an impact on your lives that benefits the soul according to the needs of the soul, yes, we intervene, for we are teachers, protectors, and guardians. We are many things to your soul, but do we step in when you say "help me out"? We enable you to find a way. We provide you with insights

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so that you may take the most appropriate steps that are in keeping with your soul's development. This is not to say that it is your souls that are important but what you want is unimportant. That is not the case. We have referred to components of your development of which you are unaware as human beings. It is in part these unseen components that are directly connected to our presence and allow us to step in, to provide guidance, to provide a means for achieving balance.

We speak to your spirits, your souls, not just in words, not just in nudges to do something or say something or be something. There are many more levels to our connections to you, and those connections, those pathways, are always open, and occasionally the outcome of those connections is experienced with total surprise because they cannot be defined in finite, logical, human-like terms. This transfer of energy from ourselves to aspects of you that you never see are energy forms that will not be fully understood by human beings and yet are absolutely present for all.

You may receive our assistance as your guides without having expressed or felt the need. It just seems to happen. That is not because it is random. That is not because you have been chosen or selected among others. There is that connection that is unique between the human experience and our ability to impact that experience. Intervention is not a result of supplication. Intervention is merely the presence that is enacted through openness, conscious openness, subconscious openness, an openness that you have no concept of even existing, but the connection is there.

We grow in our balance because we engage with each of you in love. It is precisely that engagement even through thought, through prayer, with others, even one other that does make a difference. It makes a difference to the other, but it also gives meaning to your own lives, and in the doing, in the praying, in the compassionate thought, you are gaining a balance. You are finding grounds for valuing others, and that loving outreach to others is precisely the nourishment that is needed for you to experience more balance.

As long as there is a bit of imbalance, there is the call to action. If you experience total balance throughout your lives, there is little impetus to grow, and there is little ground upon which your soul can become stronger. It is for that reason that your lives will always contain moments of repose and stress, balance and imbalance, an ability to give and a need to receive, a capacity to love and the vulnerability to receive love. In this giving and taking, in this reaching out and reaching up, there is a kind of balance that goes back and forth like a seesaw, and that swinging from side to side, up and down, will provide in its very action the nourishment that feeds the spirit and gives full meaning to your human experience.

We know of your frustrations, your fears, your agonies. We know of your need for comfort, the need for understanding, the need for peace, the need for strength, the need for justice, and we respond to those needs in ways that you may see, in ways that may come in a complete unexpected surprise, and in ways that you may never recognize, for

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our response to your lives is out of pure love, out of respect for the dignity of the spirit and the sacredness of human life.

Be comforted in our presence. Be open to our guidance. Be grateful for the signs of God's love wherever it may surprise you.

Amen.