

GRATITUDE

Learning to see clearly beyond the fearful mind and create safety within helps you to trust in an abundant universe and feel gratitude for all that IS, irrespective of what it may look like.

Abundance and creativity are all around us in nature, however there is continual cycle of creation, death and rebirth.

You can see this playing out in your own life, but perhaps view it differently as success/failure, loss/gain, connection/separation, pleasure/pain.

Viewing the natural cycles of creation and death in this way can create suffering when processed through the mind. Suffering in itself is not 'bad', it is actually the messenger and offers the gateway to change. It is when we perceive it as bad and battle against the situation without seeing clearly that we can get stuck in a cycle of persistent struggle instead of a cycle of change.

Being able to see the gifts in any situation and being able to detach from 'good' or 'bad' mental labels, allows for the attitude of gratitude.

The energy of gratitude is a magnet for more abundance and the manifestation of our highest desires.

Gratitude implies appreciation for what is, whilst it is still possible to hold a desire for higher things without attachment to an outcome. You can train inner acceptance and gratitude whilst acting for positive change and holding a vision of higher potential.

In what area/s of your life do you find yourself feeling discontent and a difficulty with gratitude?

What pattern of creation and death does this represent?

What gift can you see in the aspect of death in this situation?

In what way has it led or could lead to the creation of something else?

RELATIONSHIPS

We all want to feel appreciated. So called negative or annoying behaviours all stem from a level of insecurity – either yours or theirs. Openly and honestly appreciating others, feeds their sense of safety and worth, but may challenge yours!

Showing your gratitude, helps bring out more of those same qualities and lessen the need for them to express the qualities that spring from insecurity. It also trains you to realise that you are not less than, just because someone else is shining.

The beautiful thing is that by living with appreciation, we create the magnetism for that appreciation to come back to us.

However, it isn't always linear and giving appreciation with expectation of something in return isn't true appreciation!

How do you feel giving appreciations in witness meditation?

How does it feel to give appreciations to someone you find challenging?

What qualities in others do you tend to find challenging?

Is it something that you feel may be a shadow for you or mirrored in you?

In a partner or dear friend, a behaviour that you may find annoying is often a behaviour that you appreciate, just turned up full volume – can you think of an example?

GRATITUDE, COMPASSION and FORGIVENESS:

1. Anchor yourself in womb space and connect to heart centre.
2. Hold the awareness of a person you find challenging in some way.
3. Cultivate compassion for any pain or suffering they may have been in or are currently experiencing.
4. Tune into any positive qualities of that person that you can perceive and/or the learnings that have come from your interaction with that person that has created growth for you – cultivate feelings of appreciation and gratitude for them for that growth.
5. If it feels appropriate you can choose to forgive them “I forgive you”.
6. Bless them “May you be safe, may you be healthy, may you be happy, may you live with ease”

PRACTICE FOCUS

Daily gratitude practice for ONE thing or person – keep it simple, with deep feeling.

BE IN THE NOW - Slow down and savour moments of food, sun, connections and small celebrations.

Appreciate aspects of someone that usually may irritate you, go through the practice above.

Give an appreciation to a stranger either in person or as a blessing.

Observe tendency to clutter your mind with dreams and schemes of future or miseries of the past, instead cultivate gratitude in awareness of the now:

“I am happy with.....”

“I appreciate....”

“I am so grateful for....”