



Welcome to Unity's Interactive Worship Service

Today's Topic:
The Source Of All I Need:
Power Point notes available at:
www.unityofbakersfield.org

The Source Of All I Need

When you hear the word "source" what comes to mind? What does it mean for you? Well, I'd like to share this story with you today:

In a tiny Italian village stood a very beautiful church. For as long as anyone could remember, people had come near and far just to see the magnificent fresco call The Holy Family, which was painted on one of its walls.

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But one unfortunate day during World War II, the village was bombed, and part of the famous fresco was reduced to rubble.

After the war, the church was rebuilt, with the exception of the one wall. Where the beautiful fresco had once been, there now was only more than half of the work left, sitting side by side with a glaring stretch of new, bare plaster.

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The saddened villagers desperately sought to salvage their treasure. Artists and experts from all over the world were brought to the church, in hopes that they could restore the beloved painting. One by one they tried, but none succeeded. No one could capture the style and the colors of the original. It seemed as if the scene was gone forever.

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Then one day a very old man walked through the church doorway. He said he had heard about the damaged fresco and felt sure that he could restore it. After some time, he managed to persuade the priest to let him try his hand at restoring the pathetic wall. For two full days, the man worked in silence. The priest was becoming very uneasy, anxious to see some proof of the man's ability.

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But at the end of the third day, when the priest made his daily inspection of the work, he could hardly believe his eyes. A small portion of the missing fresco had been restored to its original beauty! So the man was commissioned to complete the work, which he did in a few months. When he finished, the church bells wildly rang out the great news and people everywhere streamed into the church.

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It was the most special day the tiny village had ever known so a great celebration was held to honor the artist. Someone asked him how it was possible for him to accomplish what so many others could not. He smiled and said:

"It was I who painted that fresco more than fifty years ago. I created it, and now I have restored it."

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Moment by moment, stroke by stroke, the creator of that painting knew what was needed to bring the beauty of it back to life.

What if we allowed the Creator, who made us, to bring the beauty of who we truly are back to life once again? What if we really understood that God is the source of all we need?

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As the Daily Word stated today: "I center my awareness in God and my divine identity. I anchor myself in the now moment, appreciative of its power and open to its gifts. It is by turning in to this moment that I feel the light and love of infinite Spirit and acknowledging that the source of all I need is within and all around me."

The "Prayer of Protection", states: "Wherever you are God is." What does this mean to you?

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Unity minister, Jim Rosemergy had this to say about God being the source of all we need in his article [The Spiritual Journey](#) for Unity Magazine: Is God the answer? In The Prayer of Faith by Hannah More Khoaus the statement of "God is my help in every need" holds great promise; but, there is a mystery.

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There are many people in need who are not being helped. Most likely, there is a human being crying out in pain every moment of every day. In thousands of cases, the anguish is not abated. No wonder people turn from God. They don't understand how a just God can allow the hurt to continue. Some of you, right now, are in crisis, and as of this moment, you cannot confirm that God has helped you.

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Others continue to give themselves to a spiritual life, but seldom do they experience God's help. They keep hoping for divine assistance, but thus far the help had not come.

I have a feeling it is not as simple as "God is the answer." At the same time, I have no desire to complicate things; however, just like you, I am searching for understanding. Could it be that God is not the answer?

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As I typed the last sentence, a word came to me. It may have come to you as well--blasphemy--and from a Unity Minister. Yes, but I am willing to consider the absurd as a part of my search for Truth. How else can I venture into those regions of the kingdom of God that are currently unknown to me? And so, into the darkness I go, assuming (for a moment) that God is not the answer, but remembering that...

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...many people, including myself, have been helped through the activity of Spirit.

A verse of scripture comes to me from: Ps 91:1-3 "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust. For he will deliver you." Here is the answer. No problem is too great or circumstance too challenging that we cannot be delivered; however, first, we must live in the shelter of the Most High.

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This is our responsibility. Our work is to be willing to awaken to God's presence. Poetically, in this psalm, this state of wakefulness is called living in the shelter of the Most High. [Jesus proclaimed this truth when He said, "First seek God and His righteousness and all things will be added onto you...seeking the shelter of the Most High.] The simple truth is that a consciousness of God is the answer. An awareness of the Presence is our help in every need.

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This is why our cries for help go unheeded. We want the pain to cease; we want God to do what we have been unable to do ourselves. We want God to serve us, but we have not desired the closer walk with God. Our focus has been on our world rather than our God. Fortunately, our Creator devised a universe that calls us to oneness with Itself. This divine plan not only delivers us from the human drama; it calls us to a life of conscious union with Spirit.

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May this understanding change our approach to living. When there is a problem, let us remember our responsibility is to be willing to live in the shelter of the Most High. Let us give our attention to God, not so God can help us, but so we can experience our innate oneness with the One. From this union, healings come, decisions are easily made, relationships are restored, and God is more than the one who fixes our earthly life--God is friend and the source of all we need.

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The great mystic, Meister Eckhart, who died of natural causes before the church could bring him to trial as a heretic wrote:

"To get at the core of God at his greatest, one must first get into the core of himself at the least, for no one can know God who has not first known himself. Go to the depths of the soul, the secret place of the Most High, to the roots, to the heights; for all that God can do is focused there."

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In conscious union with God we can affirm: “I center my awareness in God and my divine identity as a beloved child, knowing that a consciousness of God is the source of all I need.”

**You cannot believe in God
until you believe in yourself.**

Swami Vivekananda