

Connected Action

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In a narrow sense, *Connected Action* occurs when a person who is endeavoring to help another is connected to God when he or she acts. This action conveys the qualities of God directly to the one being helped.

There is a transmission of spiritual qualities directly to the other. The divine touch of love, power, light, kindness flows into the recipient. The recipient feels as if he or she is experiencing a sacred moment simply being in close proximity to the vessel. Of course, the vessel is not the Source of what has happened, but its cooperation with the Spirit was necessary.

In a broader sense, "Connected Action" occurs when the individual is so fused with God in his spirit, soul, and body that actions he undertakes-- even when he is alone and his focus isn't on helping others--convey a sense of the holy. *His salt keeps its flavor, his flame keeps burning.* Were someone to intrude, the sense of the Divine would bear upon the visitor.

We easily see that Christ was a continuous conduit of the divine flow when He was around people, but when Jesus was alone in the Wilderness, *His connection was so constant with Abba that even "the wild animals were with Him" in equanimity* (Mark 1:13). Wild animals tend to be wary of humans and shy away from our company. Not so with Jesus. They "were with Him" because this Man was one with all of nature. They were at ease around Him, and not sensing any threat of danger from this stranger, they offered none back. The

question naturally arises: since we are temples of the Holy Spirit who is always with us, *why doesn't connected action happen all the time?* Why isn't connected action continuous with us as it was with Jesus?

One reason is *self* can hinder the flow of divine life and light. *This little "me" with all its needs, concerns, responsibilities and cares can block the flow of God through any vessel to another.*

This principle of *connected action* is taught in an abundance of Scriptures. The treasure in the earthen vessel that is waiting to enrich another, rivers of living water inside that need to flow out to a thirsty one, inner light which is to be shining outward in a dark place...these and many more metaphors are given to convey the need for *connected action*.

Jesus Demonstrated Connected Action

We don't believe it yet, but Jesus did mean it when He told us He could do nothing, that it wasn't Him who did the miracles. He completely relied upon Another. "I can do nothing by myself," Jesus explained to onlookers. He added that the Source of all He did was Another who abided within: "The Father residing in Me does His works (miracles)." (John 5:30; 14:10)

We are informed of one occasion after another where Christ healed whosoever of whatsoever. To the human eye it looked like the man, Jesus, had healed the masses. To

the eye of Jesus, however, He saw the Father healing them. In fact, Jesus only did what He saw *Abba* doing. Jesus is telling us by His example that divine impulse is required to effect connected action. And it takes connected action to make God real to others.

Jesus Waited for Divine Impulse

Had Jesus been self-motivated He would have hurried to Mary and Martha's house and healed their gravely ill brother. Jesus was human too. Don't you imagine He wanted to run right over to Bethany? Any such impulse that may have come was disregarded. Instead, He waited for *Abba's* voice. It was four days after the urgent cry had come before Jesus went to Bethany. By this time Lazarus was no longer gravely sick; he was dead and buried! And both of Lazarus' sisters, each in her own way, let Jesus have it for that! *Abba* had a better plan (!). It took a voice connected with God to cry, "Lazarus, come forth" and comfort the sisters' hearts with the return of their brother.

Jesus lived in this realm of perfection, but you and I can also be greater conduits of divine love, wisdom and power.

By practicing becoming yielded to the Lord's promptings in each moment we can allow the flow to move through us for others. It requires a degree of vigilance to hear and obey.

It necessitates a willingness to wait for the timing of God in our lives.

But the results of connected action are amazing when once it happens before your eyes.

The Vine and the Branches

This must be what Jesus meant by His teaching of *abiding*. The lovely analogy He gives as recorded in John 15:1-5 shows that we must stay connected in order for the life flowing sap to flow within us, through us, and eventually reach others in the fruit we bear. "Abide in Me..."

Abiding. Waiting. Yielding. Listening. These are all things we do as we keep our focus on the spiritual while we live in the natural.

Then comes recognizing the divine impulse within and following the prompting. God is at work in and through us accomplishing His pleasure! The lovely thing is that it all rather flows together. You don't need to go mental now and try to memorize these suggestions as steps. Just remember this:

We are not to initiate anything;
we are to cooperate with Him.

All He asks is our availability. By sensing His Being in your own being throughout the day you are ready when He wants to speak or touch through you. An inner joy arises as we sense His prompting. A peace resides as we extend ourselves. A power not our own flows through us. Someone is helped; God is praised.

A connected touch, a connected smile, a connected word...any connected action can bring life.

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Let me hear
from
you soon.