

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF...

By

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Today, I was helping some friends of mine and marveled at how good it made me feel. It was pretty simple really. They are Vietnam Veterans and exposed to Agent Orange. I went online and found the Vietnam Veterans of America site at www.vva.org which offers detailed information for vets to apply for compensation. I urged them to look at it and push for their compensation. I shared my experience and delays with the Veterans Administration to get my compensation for injuries in the Korean War in my efforts to help them.

After I finished helping them, I was sipping on my morning coffee and thinking about their situation and why I was trying so hard to help. Then I thought about, What Would Happen If we all showed the same concern for others that we give ourselves? I fought hard to get my compensation from the VA and it took years. By sharing my experience and information with my friends and encouraging them, they will have improved lives and get compensated for their service to America in times of war. Now, I am writing this to urge you to make an effort to help others with the same concern you give yourself. Now, I am well aware of the "Golden Rule" and the Lord's commandment to, "Love others as you love yourself". I heard them all my life, but I must confess I was unable to always do it. I could do it in spurts and on occasions, but not as a general thing to do all the time. To me it was a goal to try for, but leave plenty of margin for failures supplied by excuses. Oh, I didn't have time, or I did not feel like it. Want to help but cannot afford it. Sick horse or pet, or car trouble or somebody else needed me, etc. Today I realize that my attitude was, " this is an option to do when I want to or when I am able to force myself to do it".

I have finally realized some of the depth and wisdom in the Lord's commandment to, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you". In the past, the emphasis in my mind was He was focused on others and not on me when He said this. I was wrong in my thinking. He was concerned for me and you as individuals. He knew the fulfillment of satisfaction and pleasure we would receive in our souls as the result of helping others. How great it is to feel peace and joy in seeing the fruits of your labors producing good results in other people's lives. I don't mean the once in awhile dose of donations or hugging trees or save the whales or protect the pets or save the planet. I mean living it every day "others first" as a way of life. It calls for effort and determined dedication. It means doing it even when others don't show appreciation or may even reject your efforts. Smiling at a mean face and it stays mean does not go unrewarded. When you walk away, you will feel glad you made the effort instead of letting the mean face making you feel mean, angry or resentful. Besides that, behind that mean face is a soul that will be touched by your smile or kind words after you are gone.

I'm making you aware of the hidden fruits produced by your good intentions, both in others and within yourself. When we plant seeds it always takes time for them to grow. When we share good fruit from our tree of life with others, it takes time to be digested. It will grow and produce seeds to grow good fruit in their lives, so they in turn can share it with others. On the other hand, when we give fruit to others from a tree of bitterness, resentment, anger, pride, hate or envy, it produces the same in others. Bad fruit poisons everyone's tree of life. What we communicate and interchange among ourselves determines the course of our daily lives. This world thrives on bad news and generating fears to produce worry, anxiety, depression and distrust. Violence, deceit, theft and feeding the lusts of mind and body seem to all be tolerated on some basis in society today. The world is full of false gods to be worshipped or tolerated by the majority as a substitute for the only true GOD and His son JESUS.

Meditation and yoga combined with many versions of elevating souls and controlling minds and bodies are expanding by leaps and bounds. I am most concerned with man's spirit and where it is destined to go after it departs this fleshly temple. I'm talking ABOUT THE AFTERLIFE. Where we go from here is the vital question. Heaven or Hell is man's choice. You can give others hell and feel like it or you can share kindness with others and enjoy it. I am not advocating some major task for you to achieve. I am saying kiss "keep it simple stupid" as Sister Cory used to say. Just make the effort each day and do the best you can. It takes some time for good fruit to ripen after it is on the vine. I'm looking at 85 years in this life come July and my fruit is just now coming to full growth. Got delayed cause I sometimes used bad fertilizer and spread loads of crap in my minefield. Had to bulldoze and dump the waste and start over many times. That's OK too. There is a river of living water that keeps washing my soul and the Blood of The Lamb that covers the bad and evil buried there.

So now I am asking you a question and hoping you will find the right answer. WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF.. WE ALL SHOWED THE SAME CONCERN FOR OTHERS THAT WE GIVE OURSELVES?

God Bless Your Efforts