

Third Week of the Lenten Season 2010

If we fall short of the goal of *“the upward call of God in Christ Jesus”* -- to use Paul's words -- and to some degree we all do, the falling short may not be so much in failure to know, as in failure to fulfill what we know. As Shakespeare has Portia say in *The Merchant of Venice*: *“If to do were as easy as to know what were good to do, chapels had been churches, and poor men's cottages prince's palaces.”*

None of us in our human nature knows all that we feel we need to know. Yet the one sure way to increase our knowledge is to put what we do know into action. Often, people say Unity's teaching is simple. We must agree. It is simple but not easy to do! To dwell so constantly in the sense of God's presence that our response to people's thoughts and actions, and to situations that confront us, is **spontaneously** constructive and loving is a discipline of a lifetime.

Over and over we are brought to the realization that it is not just what we know (or more accurately, know about) but what we do about what we know, that makes us effective Unity students.

To contemplate this week:

“Deeply within me, I know the Truth. I discern it readily and apply it easily. There is an inner guide that offers me instruction and inspiration, a guide that sometimes I call the I Am, sometimes my Higher Self, and most often the Christ within me. I give thanks for this inner guidance now and always. I only ask that it is made clear and plain to me so that I shall not mistake it, because sometimes I feel like a little child, not knowing how to go out or come in; but with inner guidance, the darkness is as the light, the crooked places are made straight, and somehow by God's grace, all things work, and are now working, together for good.”

(The Week That Changed the World, Ernest Wilson, adapted.)