

Cameo 20

“The Undivided Mind”

There is some fascinating teaching about Bill that is found in this cameo, teaching that many of us will be able to relate to:

Bill does not know his wholeness. He believes that there is a central core of himself which *is* invulnerable, but he does not include *all of himself* in it. His is a peculiar self-concept now, because he is shifting his belief about himself, but has not yet done so completely. As a result, he believes in *degrees of invulnerability*, a concept which does not really *mean* anything.

Invulnerability is the opposite of vulnerability, and is total. He once thought he was totally vulnerable. He now thinks he is partly *invulnerable* and partly vulnerable. This has *limited* his anxiety greatly, but has not yet gotten rid of it.

This is ultimately because of his persistent belief that there *is* an order of difficulty in miracles. He finds this easier to say than to believe, but when he *believes* there is no order of difficulty in following *everything* I teach, he will include *all* of himself in My teaching.

Bill has made progress via the Course

1. Bill (pre-Course) believed he was totally vulnerable.

This understandably entailed a great deal of anxiety

2. Now he believes he has a central core of himself that is invulnerable, surrounded by the rest of himself, which is not.

This has greatly limited his anxiety, but hasn't gotten rid of it.

What do we make of this?

I would think this is great. It's all about progress, not perfection, right? Every bit of anxiety I can get rid of is worth it.

What does Jesus make of it?

Jesus instead focuses on four problems with this view.

1. It means that Bill does not know his wholeness.

How can Bill feel whole when he is split down the middle between vulnerable and invulnerable? It's like he is part Superman and part jellyfish.

2. It means Bill's self-concept is a walking contradiction, being made up of totally incompatible elements.

“Invulnerability is the opposite of vulnerability, and is total.” Invulnerability says that vulnerability is wrong. Vulnerability says that invulnerability is wrong. If invulnerability is true, it is the only thing that is true. Its opposite must be false. Bill now has a mind in which half of it completely invalidates the other half.

3. It means that Bill still has anxiety.

“This has *limited* his anxiety greatly, but has not yet gotten rid of it.” Which would you prefer—limiting your anxiety or getting rid of it?

4. It means that, though Bill may say there is no order of difficulty in miracles, he doesn’t believe it.

If Bill believed there was no order of difficulty in miracles, he would believe there was no order of difficulty in following Jesus’ teaching. And then he would think it was just as easy to believe in total invulnerability as in partial invulnerability.

All of these points add up to one overall idea:

The only thing that makes sense is for Bill to totally believe in his complete invulnerability.

Exercise

Has the Course made you aware that there is something in you that cannot be hurt or injured? If so, has your anxiety gone down?

Try not to be content with this. Realize that it’s within your reach to go farther, to go all the way. Say to yourself,

*I renounce my belief in being only partly invulnerable.
That makes no sense.
If invulnerability is true at all for me, it is **totally** true.
I have a central core that is invulnerable.
And **all** of myself is included in that core.*