

“Grandeur versus Grandiosity”

(T-9.VIII)

1. The ego’s fundamental belief about you is that you are little.

We saw this in yesterday’s section. This primarily means you are inadequate and have little value.

2. When you have a taste of your grandeur, your ego automatically seems meaningless and you withdraw investment from it accordingly.

Grandeur: the quality or state of being lofty, awesome, elevated, beautiful, impressively large, grand.

Whenever you become aware of [your grandeur], however dimly, you abandon the ego automatically, because in the presence of the grandeur of God the meaninglessness of the ego becomes perfectly apparent. (1:3)

3. To win you back, the ego will offer you its counterfeit version of grandeur: grandiosity.

Self-inflation is the only offering it can make. The grandiosity of the ego is its alternative to the grandeur of God. Which will you choose? (1:5-7)

4. Grandiosity is essentially competitive and thus attacking.

The essence of grandiosity is competitiveness, because it always involves attack. It is a delusional attempt to *outdo*, but not to *undo*. (2:5-6)

Grandiosity: an unrealistic sense of superiority, including an inflated sense of one’s importance, power, wealth, and knowledge; characterized by a view that one is better than others, while they are disdainfully regarded as inferior

5. Grandiosity is also hopeless, because it is a mere cover for the underlying belief in littleness.

Grandiosity is always a cover for despair. It is without hope, because it is not real. It is an attempt to counteract your littleness, based on the belief that the littleness is real. (2:1-3)

6. The ego also attacks your grandeur, telling you that it is delusional and arrogant.

It will tell you that you are insane, and argue that grandeur cannot be a real part of you, because of the littleness in which it believes. (5:2)

7. But your grandeur is neither delusional nor arrogant. You are merely accepting God’s view of you.

But your grandeur is not delusional, because *you* did not make it. (5:3)

Can your grandeur be arrogant when God Himself witnesses to it? (9:2)

To accept your littleness *is* arrogant, because it means that you believe that your evaluation of yourself is truer than *God's*. (11:5)

Exercise

Try to get in touch with your sense of littleness, your belief that you are inadequate and have little worth.

Then try to get in touch with your grandiosity—your belief that you are superior. Maybe you think you are more spiritual, more ethical, wealthier, better-looking, etc.

Try to realize how empty this is.

It is just a cover for your belief in being little, and so it is hopeless.

It's not actually satisfying.

Now try to accept that the grandeur of God is yours.

My grandeur is not delusional because I did not make it.

My grandeur is of God, Who created it out of His love.

God's grandeur is total, and I cannot be missing from it.

I am altogether irreplaceable in the Mind of God.

Now say to the Holy Spirit:

I know that I did not establish my value. Tell me what it is. I will not fear Your answer, because it comes from God. Holy Spirit, what is my value?