

**Lessons from the Half Moon Bay, CA Teaching Mission Group
transmitted by Susan Kimsey**

A lesson on Patience from Tarkas

March 3, 1994

Tarkas: Patience is a virtue so desired by those of you who struggle with the difficulties of life. Patient actions are those which evoke a sense of relationship between you and those you wish to synchronize your efforts with. Imagine the image of those who work as a team gliding those beautiful boats...[racing sculls]...used by men at institutions such as Harvard, where they have teams which row together. Imagine the development of patience and coordination which comes from such an effort, working with your teammates to synchronize and coordinate the efforts that you make to move with the water. Patient actions are those which develop such a sense of consciousness--that your efforts, synchronized with those of others, will cause the entire activity to move with more quality, synchronized effort, and power of the combined energy working in unison. There is a laying aside of one's own agenda, or sense of timing, in this effort. You become conscious of your role as a team member. This patient sense of activity also recognizes the efforts of those around you as coordinated with you. You see their desire to work with you, not making the judgment that they are the adversary, to be somehow conquered or subjugated to your own sense of timing. Now consider patience from the broader perspective of God's timing. When you allow yourself to see that the best outworking of events comes with guidance from God, then you hold lightly to your plan, your expectations of how things may go. It is not an abandonment of your schedule. It is merely an open-minded attitude that perhaps alterations to your timing schedule are the Father's; and therefore, most welcome in the events of your life. Patience requires a gentleness in your attitude, a willingness to allow for quiet moments of contemplation. This gives opportunities for your Thought Adjuster to speak to you, to impress you with an expanded perspective of how you perceive events. Then there is the patience you show to yourself. This can be a great challenge at times. We can be so harsh in our judgment of our own efforts. This is not of God. The angry, insistent voice saying, "This is not enough." "This fails." "This is inadequate." This is not God speaking within you! This voice comes from pain, rejection, the inability to see you in your full capacity. Do not allow this voice to speak for you. It is indeed a spirit poison which contaminates all that it touches. Let yourself realize that patience cultivates an attitude of good humor toward yourself and others. It is the desire to see your flaws, and others,' as the weaknesses that create the challenge for you and others in life. It is as if God has put these vulnerabilities into our natures with the intention of allowing us to remain humble, and at the same time, recognize more clearly that we all, indeed, have growth yet to accomplish in our ascendant careers. You do not reject a blossom whose petals are only partially open. You say, "Ah, there is beauty in this flower and more beauty to come as it continues to open to the light." Take this attitude with your own closed petals. Say, "There is beauty here yet covered. But in time, with growth, this beauty will be exposed to the light." This is an attitude of patience. If you can offer patience to the growth of a flower, imagine the quality of patience offered by the Father toward you as another of his beautiful, blooming creations! Does this hearten you to think of this example?

Student: Yes, it's an appropriate image and helps a great deal in trying to focus my attention on what's important concerning patience. May I ask another question?

Tarkas: Yes, but let me close this lesson first by saying that you can take this patient attitude of seeing all life as a garden which is slowly opening to the light. A patient attitude gives one an ability to appreciate what is in that moment! One no longer projects other perceptions, forcing them upon that moment. Instead, one remains an observer of what is, seeking the beauty there. Remember, that as you strive for patience, that you are seeking the beauty of that moment! Now my lesson is complete.