

THE CHAIN OF LIFE

Lesson from Spirit received through the mediumship of Rev. Florence Becker

Reverend Florence Becker founded the Golden Gate Spiritualist Church in San Francisco in 1924 and was its principal medium and spiritual leader until her passing in July, 1970. Her weekly séances were well known for the variety of physical phenomena that occurred in them. In these séances, Spirit voices manifested through trumpets that moved unaided by human hands around the séance circle. Music boxes floated about the room playing. Spirit voices manifested not only through the trumpets, but independently anywhere in the séance room, speaking to those present and giving evidence of the identities of the Spirit speakers and comfort to loved ones. While all this was going on, Spirit also spoke through Rev. Becker's entranced body. Rev. Florence Becker's mediumship was widely known for the high Spiritual level and accuracy of its direct Spirit contact.

Special séances were held from time to time at the direction of Spirit for the production of paintings precipitated directly on canvas from the Spirit world through Rev. Becker's mediumship. More than 20 of these precipitated paintings are presently on display at the Golden Gate Spiritualist Church in San Francisco.

For many years, Rev. Becker worked publicly as a trance medium. Learned addresses were delivered through her by her guide Dr. E. J. Briggs and others from the Spirit side. A Native American woman, Squaw Sally, gave messages to the church assembly using Rev. Becker's entranced body. Some years later, Rev. Becker took over most of the public lecture work and message work.

Rev. Becker received reports from members of the assembly that Squaw Sally was sometimes very direct in her message work, revealing information about the person receiving the message that the person didn't particularly want others in the assembly to hear or know. Rev. Becker, being highly clairvoyant and clairaudient, decided to take over the message work herself.

When she first tried to give messages from Spirit from the platform in this way, she found the pull mentally from all those in the assembly interfered too much with her message work. She decided to have people write their question on pieces of paper (billets) and submit them. This didn't work too well. She found the strong mental pull from the assembly directed at her still interfered with Spirit contact.

She decided to work blindfolded to divert the attention of the audience from her to the billets, using two large linen dinner napkins as a blindfold. The conductor of the service would tie them tightly around her head, one at a time. Since she could see neither the billets nor the people, the assembled audience would have no reason to focus on her, to try to mentally influence her.

To give messages from Spirit, Rev. Becker planned to use her gift of psychometry that allowed her to "read" the billet by holding it in her hand. She found she was unable to distinguish one person's vibration on the paper from another when the billets were placed all together in a basket. The individual vibrations were mixed.

To keep the individual vibrations from becoming mixed, she decided to ask people to put the billet in an envelope, then write identification on the envelope before placing it in a basket. On the platform, Rev. Becker held the envelope with its

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identification up so her Guides could read the identification to her, which she then spoke out.

Receiving a response, Rev. Becker opened the envelope, removed the billet, held it in her hand, and, through her gift of psychometry, told the person exactly what they had written on the billet. She then answered their inquiry through her various gifts of mediumship. Remember, she was completely blindfolded while doing this. She worked this way from the platform of the Golden Gate Spiritualist Church and many other Spiritualist platforms, including those of California State and NSA (later NSAC) conventions, for approximately 3 decades.

A large portion of Rev. Becker's Spiritual work was devoted to teachings from the Spirit world of a very high nature. These teachings were received through her mediumship in various ways. One time she was taken into trance for 16 consecutive hours to learn the nerve currents that interpenetrate our physical and mental bodies. These are the channels to us and through us that those on the Spirit side use to communicate. Balance of these nerve currents helps our Spiritual progression.

Another time she was directed by Spirit to obtain a large roll of butcher paper and gather together 5 of her students. Spirit told her they were going to take her in trance for an extended period of time to dictate lessons through her. Her students were to take turns writing these lessons down, eating, and sleeping.

This was accomplished. Spirit held her in trance for 36 hours while the body of knowledge known as the *Science of Being* was dictated through her. After she passed to Spirit in 1970, Rev. Becker's husband published these teachings together with some others that had been received through her mediumship. That book, *The Science of Being*, is available through the NSAC bookstore (bookstore@nsac.org).

During the 1940's, 50's, and 60's, a large body of teachings known as *The Faculties of Being* were revealed from Spirit through Rev. Becker. This material remains unpublished. The following lesson is from these teachings. It touches on the First Faculty of our Being, Duty, Gratitude, and Tolerance. This is one of her briefest lessons, but beautiful nonetheless.

CHAIN OF LIFE

The Chain of Life that links all mankind together is the Golden Thread of Truth of man's Being – his Oneness with God. Seek this Golden Thread or Wisdom – it must be found. It is by nature separate from the function, but man loves to mingle it with the tangled web of human weaving. You become weary as you try to function alone without God. When there is confusion, struggle, and unrest, it is because of your failure to use the power intelligently which God has for you to use.

Halt! Stand tall and might in this Presence. Take your rightful place from this moment that no day shall dawn nor sun set without a few quiet moments with God that the human weakness or error may be given over to God's strength. If you would learn to turn within to find that which you wish expressed in your outer world, you will have learned one of the greatest secrets of the Universe. You pause, you think, you apply, you concentrate,

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you mediate – then search for this Mighty Treasure. When you have found it, no outward thing can take it from you.

God’s likeness (Christ Principle) is awakened in your consciousness. Then you can strengthen not only your human weakness but the error of others.

How little you realize the power you carry with you. It shall lead you on and upward to this Path of Life. It shall flood your Universe and burn through all conditions if you keep it lighted. But if the way points to force of the human, you are mixed with illusion. If it leads to Spiritual Substance, it points the way to Freedom.

Gratitude, Tolerance, and Duty – store up Spiritual Substance.

Spiritual Substance, she taught, is that out of which Spiritual bodies are made. Spiritual Substance is formed from the Formless through the application of the Second Faculty of our Being - Faith, Poise, and Humility. The “Formless” is that Great God Power Everywhere Present in the Universe. We have the Functions of the brain, our 5 physical senses, and our Faculties of Being, "which house our soul and lead us out."

A more complete article about Rev. Florence Becker, her life, work, and mediumship appeared in the July, 2006 issue of *The National Spiritualist Summit*. Reprints of this article, and another detailing a séance she held on the 100th Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism that also appeared in *TNS*, may be obtained from the writer, Rev. Del Lauderback. Email him at engeltie@aol.com and include your U. S. Postal mailing address. In the subject space of the email, write “Rev. Becker Reprints.”