



CIRCLE OF ATONEMENT

Dedicated to *A Course in Miracles*

The Teachings of A Course in Miracles (Part 2)

ACIM RADIO #3 EPISODE GUIDE

A Course in Miracles offers a unique approach to the healing of human suffering. Following an educational (versus religious) model of learning, the Course provides a pathway out of our suffering through the disciplined practice of love and forgiveness.

In this episode of A Course in Miracles Radio, Robert Perry and Emily Bennington cover the final seven themes in a handout written by Robert entitled *The Teachings of A Course in Miracles*. (Please tune in to episode #2 where we cover Part One of this handout.)

7. Holy Spirit

Left to our own devices, we would stay forever stuck in the ego's closed loop. That is why God created the Holy Spirit, His Voice within our dream. The Holy Spirit's role is to take our hand and lead us into a higher way of thinking and perceiving. As we learn to still our minds, we will hear Him speak within us. He wants to gently guide not only our inner development, but also our outer decisions. The Course therefore teaches us to seek His guidance throughout each day.

8. Jesus

In addition to the Holy Spirit, we also have support in our journey from Jesus. The Course claims to have been authored by Jesus, yet this is a decidedly non-traditional Jesus, who was created as our equal. His only difference from us is that he has awakened to the identity we share as God's Son. His message is not one of judgment, but of learning how to give and receive unconditional forgiveness. We can follow his words without accepting him into our lives, yet he will help us a little more if we will treat him as a dear brother and let him personally guide us home.

9. Thought reversal

The way home lies in the reversal of our thinking. We need to train our minds into a new perception of reality. The way to do this is especially laid out in the Workbook. "The purpose of the workbook is to train the mind in a systematic way to a different perception of everything in the world." Through this process, we learn how to dispel negative emotions, forgive, and find peace. By transforming our perception, we transform our experience of reality.



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10. Forgiveness

The main change in perception needed is a shift in how we see others. We must go from seeing them as ego-driven bodies who have wronged us to seeing their true reality as holy Sons of God. This shift is forgiveness, but of a very different kind. We usually see forgiveness as heroically letting go of justified anger. Yet in the Course it is a change in our perception of what's real in which we recognize that our anger was never justified in the first place.

11. Vision

Through forgiveness we open up in us a different mode of perception, which does not rely on the body's eyes. We see with what the Course calls vision or true perception. Vision looks past the body, seeing a holy radiance in everyone and everything. This sight fills us with a happiness we never thought possible. Vision sees what the Course calls the real world, a world of innocence in which "Everyone and everything I see will lean toward me to bless me."

12. Giving miracles

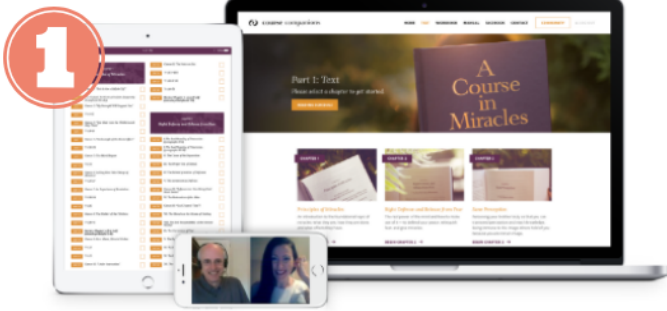
As we see others in a new light, we relate to them in a new way. Rather than using them for our own ends, we devote our days to giving them miracles. Miracles are expressions of love that heal others' perception of themselves and can even heal their bodies. Those we heal then become witnesses to the light in us, teaching us through their gratitude that we are far more than we thought we were. Giving miracles, then, is how we heal our own minds, for "giving and receiving are the same."

7. Salvation of the world

Each of us is given a special role through which we give miracles to the world, one that is uniquely tailored to our individual strengths. As all of us do our part in fulfilling these roles, the world will become more and more like Heaven. And when we have all reached the end of our learning, God Himself will lift us back into the heavenly state, and the world, being an illusion, will literally disappear. We will find ourselves back in the heart of God, realizing that in truth we never left.

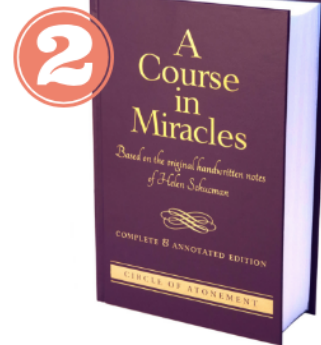
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Timestamp

The following is a timestamp of episode 3 for your convenience.

Announcements	:35
Holy Spirit	3:00
Jesus	13:40
Thought reversal	21:40
Forgiveness	32:40
Vision	39:30
Giving miracles	47:10
Salvation of the world	53:45
Closing thoughts	1:04:15

Reflection questions

We invite you to journal on the questions below and use them as conversation starters in your ACIM study group if you have one.

1. How easy or difficult is it to imagine interacting with people from the place of seeing the Holy Spirit in them, seeing them in the light of their holiness, as God's Sons and your beloved brothers? If you imagine that by doing so you will hear the Holy Spirit speak to you and answer your prayers through them, how willing are you to go in that direction?
2. How easy or difficult is it to see others as pure and holy regardless of their behavior? What would it mean to see everyone and everything this way? If you experience hesitation, what will help you make this choice in a wholehearted way?



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