

External Considering Homework review

Opportunities

- View Video
- Review the Commentaries in volume 1
- “Daily, for the next week, decide to externally consider a particular person”
- “Everything is a grace.” How may we ask can everything – everyone by a grace?



Special Invitation – Practice External Considering
in listening, in sharing...and work with delight!



The Second Line of the Work

Topical Overview
Conceptual Background & Importance

Content



@ Three Lines of the Work

@ Second Line Work

@ Opportunities for Second Line Work

@ Purpose of Second Line Work

@ Our Responsibility

The Work Depends on Us

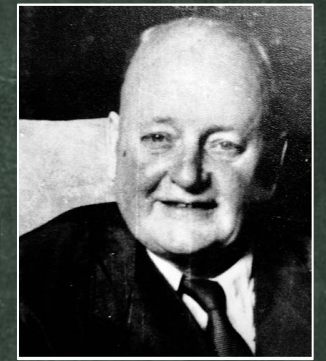


Mdme Jeanne
de Saltzman
The Reality of Being

The Work is a special current...its life depends on the individuals entering it, who are each and all together responsible for what gives it quality, lucidity. A work together is necessary cooperation to produce something – like a chain of beings seeking to be more conscious, whose efforts assist one another.”

|| The Work will not live without us, without our sharing in the responsibility”

Three Lines of the Work



First Line

Work on Oneself

Self-Study, Knowledge &
Application
Non-Identification
Self Remembering
Observe inner states,
mechanical talking,
self-justifying

Second Line

Work With Others In the Work

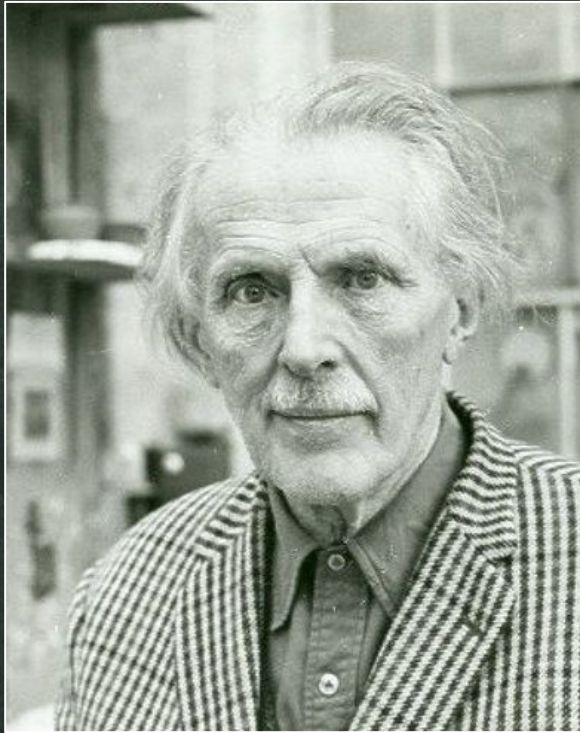
External Considering
Not taking in negative
impressions of others
Stop mechanical liking/disliking

Third Line

Work for the Work

Right valuation & attitude
toward the Work
Help the Work
Do what is necessary for the
School and all present &
future Work

JG Bennett, Lecture January 1973



1st
Line

We must Care for our Own
Being, Much is Hoped for Us

2nd
Line

We need one another,
We are One another.

3rd
Line

We must Contribute to the
Cosmic Process

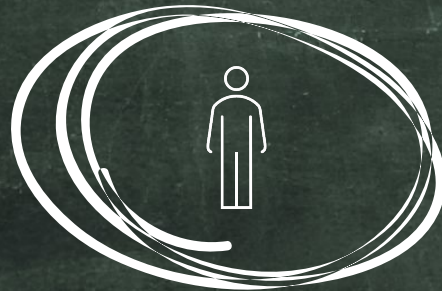
Lines of the Work are Mutually Interdependent

**Chat Discussion: Ways we can Participate in
Second Line Work**

Practicing Second Line Work

Moving Center

Observe Posture
Tensions in Body and How They Change
Practice Relaxation



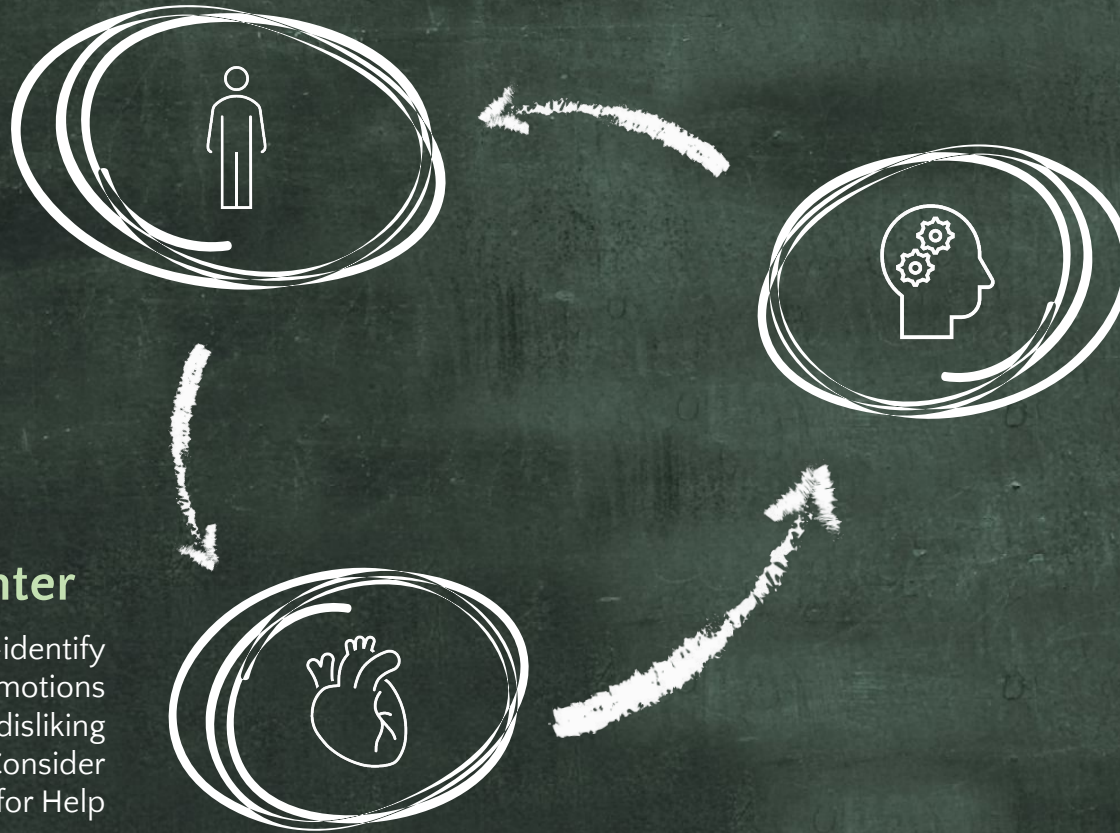
Intellectual Center

Observe thoughts, associations, attitudes
Efforts to stop unnecessary talking
Intentionally feed Work ideas
Aim to practice Work ideas
Hold intentions of others in highest regard
Be an active participant



Emotional Center

Observe emotions, non-identify
Effort to not express negative emotions
Refrain from mechanical disliking
Externally Consider
Pray for Help



Importance of Second Line Work

It is Essential

“If a man only wishes to work on himself, he will get nowhere” - Nicoll
“Liberation is ..to be found...in the disappearance of the ego and the union with everything and everyone.” - de Saltzman

Service to Others

We work for the Arising of Each Other
We aim to work with Reconciling Force,
Energy of Love
Equity Required
We are not Dependent, nor Dominant

Supports First Line Work

Ability to See Ourselves
Obtain Deeper
Understanding of Work
Ideas & Application

Supports Third Line Work

“Mr Gurdjieff speaks of our cosmic duty to create a very fine energy needed by conscious humanity. When energy is created, perhaps by group work, ... some goes into the eternal accumulator; this can be used for the redemption of humanity.”
Mind and Energy, Beryl Pogson

Our Responsibility

Ephesians 4: 25-26 *“Putting away falsehood, speak the truth, each one to his neighbor, for we are members of one another.”*

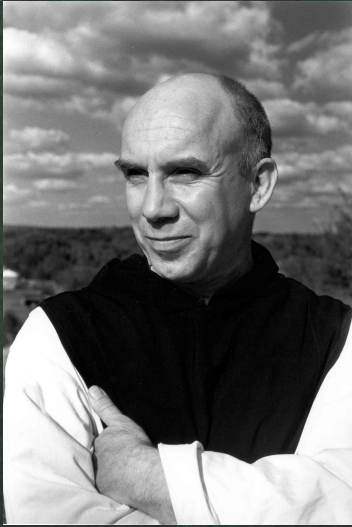


“We have an obligation to exchange, and to accept and help each one to play his role”

“When we come together, I must be prepared to speak. I must constantly reflect on my work and not come in a passive state”

“I am not alone in my work. When I decide something for myself, I have to feel my belonging to the group. Its life is greater than my own, and it represents something more on the scale of higher Being”

Perspective from the Contemplative Tradition



“Living with other people and learning to lose ourselves in the understanding of their weakness and deficiencies can help us to become true contemplatives. For there is no better means of getting rid of the rigidity and harshness and coarseness of our ingrained egoism.... even the courageous acceptance of interior trials in utter solitude cannot altogether compensate for the work of purification accomplished in us by patience and humility in loving others and sympathizing with their most unreasonable needs and demands.”

Thomas Merton
[New Seeds of Contemplation](#)

Homework



Identify the Second Line Work relationships and opportunities you have in your life. If there aren't any, make an effort to connect with a fellow Work student for the purpose of consciously chosen Second Line Work.



Not every Second Line Work relationship has friction. Each Second Line Work relationship is unique. There is delight in Working with another in a harmonious, peaceful way. Perhaps make an effort to express gratitude.



Ponder the four practical steps listed above in the email. Which aspect calls to you the most. Practice one or all of the steps this week. Observe what you see and feel and share your insights and experience(s) with your Work partner, Journey Group or during the Homework sharing during Thursday's class.