

THE SPIRITUAL SCIENTIST

An ezine for those who think!

Reincarnation and Relationships



Question: How does the knowledge of reincarnation affect our relationships?

Answer: The knowledge of reincarnation corrects the acute short-term perspectives that cause most relationship problems.

When we re-cognize ourselves as souls who have been reincarnating over many lives, this broadened perspective helps us see the world not as a jungle, but as a university. This paradigm shift happens in two primary ways:

1. See competitors as fellow-students:

By redefining our view of others as fellow-students, the reincarnation-based worldview helps us to see those less endowed with qualities and abilities than us sympathetically rather than scornfully; they are like the kinder-garden students, who deserve the encouragement, not the scorn, of the college students. The awareness that we too were at that level once inspires us to extend a lifting hand rather than a pushing hand. This worldview also engenders respect for those better endowed than us; they have earned their PhDs by diligent study in the same university where we are striving to pass through junior college. As the same spiritual expressway that they took is open to us, we feel inspired to accelerate our journey on that way by learning from them instead of getting stuck where we are by envying them.

2. See that our competition is not with others, but with ourselves:

All material endeavors create within us a scarcity mentality: success is available for only limited people, so our success requires others' failure, as in academics where the limited seats in a prestigious university necessitates that students can get those seats only by edging out their competitors. The reincarnation-based worldview replaces this scarcity mentality with an abundance mentality. We understand that as eternal beings, our best prospects lie not in proving our superiority over other, but in reclaiming our rightful place in our spiritual home, the kingdom of God. There nobody has to compete for anyone else's seat; all of us have our own individual seat in the spiritual world reserved inalienably for us, just waiting to be reclaimed. To reclaim our eternal home, all that we need is to develop a loving service attitude toward God and his children – without bothering whether we do better than others or others do better than us. Thus we understand that our life's competition is not against others, but against our own lower self that drags us into irrational, growth-stunting choices. And the more we win our competition against our lower self, the more we can use our god-given talents for not only fulfilling our own potentials, but also assisting others in fulfilling theirs.

Thus the reincarnation worldview heals our relationships by replacing the fighting and grabbing mood often seen in worldly relationships with a learning and sharing mood.

