



Living in Relational Wholeness

Coalesce Podcast

Episode 032 – Surrender to Love

Note, terms, scripture, practice



Jean-Pierre De Caussade (1675-1751)

[Mark 12:30](#)

Abandonment to Divine Providence, by Jean-Pierre De Caussade:

“The truly faithful soul accepts all things as a manifestation of God’s grace, ignores itself and thinks only of what God is doing.”

“Let us love, for love will give us everything.”

“Our only satisfaction must be to live in the present moment as if there were nothing to expect beyond it.”

“Perfection is neither more nor less than the soul’s faithful co-operation with God.”

“All will be well if we abandon ourselves to God.”

St. Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897)

omen novum—new sign, new message, or literally new omen

Her simple, childlike path was called her “Little Way”

The Story of a Soul, St. Thérèse of Lisieux autobiography

[Romans 7:14-24](#)

[Luke 18:9-10](#)

[Luke 18:11-14](#)

[Hebrews 10:31](#)

[Song of Songs 8:6](#)

[John 1:29](#)

[Luke 23:34](#)

Practice: Patience

When Thérèse, even at her young age, became assistant to the novice mistress, she counseled one sister who was impatient with her own impatience: “Sister, can you be willing to be patient with yourself until God gives you the willingness to be patient with the other sisters?”

Jean Pierre de Caussade wrote to Sister Marie-Thérèse de Vioménil:

My dear Sister, it is a great grace to see others behaving badly without feeling bitterness, indignation, impatience, or even disturbance. If, for good reasons, you speak about it, watch over your heart and your tongue, so that nothing may escape you that would not be approved by God. . . . Often ask God to give you great charity and circumspection, and then remain tranquil. . . . It is for [God] to finish the work [God] has begun in you; no one else would be able to succeed in it. . . . Let us sigh for this happiness, and let us never weary of begging for it. . . .

Practice yourself . . . in being patient with regard to yourself and in this perfect submission to the divine will. When you have acquired this you will enjoy great peace, and not distress yourself about anything, nor get out of humour with yourself, but put up with yourself with the same gentleness which you should use toward your neighbor.

So I invite you to practice patience. It surely does take practice, and God will no doubt allow you many opportunities to learn. When you are in a hurry or impatient for some particular outcome, first observe the sensation in your body. Notice what this impatience feels like, where it shows up—for example, jaw, neck, chest, or gut. Be present to the feeling. Slowly expand your awareness to include what your senses are taking in from the outside world—what you see, touch, smell, or taste. Be present to this moment. Let the reality of both your impatience and the outer reality be as they are, without your attachment to them. It is what it is. And all is grace.