

As we gather today, let us pray for the attendance of our unseen friends and loves. Please be with us beloved Divine Minister, our Mother; precious Spirit of Truth please embrace our minds; dearest Jesus - our brother who gave us freedom from patriarchy even though we couldn't receive it - we ask for your presence; we request the assistance and company of our cherished companion guardian angels; we also welcome the love and help of any other beings who may be available but unknown to us; and we welcome the guidance and love of our Sovereign who so graciously chose our planet to earn his sovereignty; and most ardently we ask our betrothed mystery monitors to stand close by us, turn up the volume and lead us in our endeavors today.

It is a joyous honor to make this announcement as we begin our efforts to clarify spiritual leadership. It has been my privilege to be in communication with Dr. Probal Dasgupta of the University of Hyderabad in India. Dr. Dasgupta is a linguist who has spoken out on gender-bound biases in our language. He was profoundly concerned, as were our Revelators, with the mental images produced by our language. He and his colleagues have some new words for us to try.

A major problem with English is the description-image of God as masculine when God is far beyond, though inclusive of, gender. The problem is the connection: God is he, man is he, God is man, man is God. This word concept, even though untrue, validates male supremacy; and, by omission, negates the validity of the female. We need a set of gender inclusive pronouns to transcend this mind-set.

The other major problem we have in English is with the names we have for God. They all have a masculine connotation. It's hard to cozy up to the name "The First Great Source and Center." We need a word-name which is gender inclusive and personal. In response to my request, Dr. Dasgupta has sent us four new words! We use them today so we can see how they fit. Try them.

As a name for God, let's try Primum. For pronouns we now have the conjugation of te, ter, tem; "te" for he/she, "ter" for his/her, "tem" for him/her. Pronounced like they, their, them, but with a t, not a th, these words will allow us to say and to write in keeping with our expanding concept of Primum. For, on page 1087:3 a Melchizedek writes "The spirit of religion is eternal, but the form of its expression

must be restated every time the dictionary of human language is revised." And, from David Jacquin, columnist, artist and Urantia Book student from Oregon comes the suggestion of transcending "Brotherhood" with the words "Sotherhood" and/or "Togetherhood."



We are gathered today to discuss another revision. Let's pause to reflect on all the revisions women are making on this the, apparently, third most bizarre planet in the universe. One revision we keep coming up against is in our sense of self-esteem... of self-respect.

You may be sure Primum has no low self-esteem. It has, undoubtedly, an accurate sense of self-respect. How many of us have an accurate sense of self-respect? How many of us struggle with a damaged self-esteem? How many of us can raise our

sense of self-esteem? And how many of us, at the expense of our own needs, nurture and raise the self-esteem of other women, of children, of men?

I submit: women need true self-esteem and accurate self-respect to be spiritually healthy, all the more to be spiritual leaders. We cannot be Primumlike with low self-esteem.

What cuts our self-esteem? The earth? plants? animals? children? women? men? What builds our self-esteem? Who are our enablers? It's a lovely list: our Monitors, guardian angels, the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, Jesus, the Sovereign and Divine Minister of Yebadon, the Supreme Being, Primum and others whom we have yet to know.

Jesus said "Forget not that I will stop at nothing to restore self-respect to those who have lost it, and who really desire to regain it." (1745:5) Would the students and experts of mind among us please produce and deliver to us recordings and papers which would teach us to improve our self-respect and to maintain those improvements?

Living as a female on this planet entails dealing with fear, anger, land, home, limiting and limited love. To be human we must accept this as part of our lives. To be spiritual we must transcend fear, anger, land, home, limited and limiting love.

Our femaleness can be our worst enemy when it prevents our transcendence of

these bonds. We must encourage, allow, accept and applaud growth in ourselves and each other which transcends these constraints.

What about the Chief of Seraphim stating that women have always been the spiritual leaders of humankind? Note that she is speaking of an ongoing reality. Where is this leadership?

We say leadership and we think of a triangle formation with the Fearless Leader out front in gilded gown, surrounded by banner carriers. We have this leadership in military, social, scientific and religious fields. And, in these tumultuous times within the readership, we have to ask ourselves, what if these leaders were women? What would we do differently?

On 938:7 we read "Male and female are, practically regarded, two distinct varieties of the same species living in close and intimate association. Their viewpoints and entire life reactions are essentially different; they are wholly incapable of full and real comprehension of each other. Complete understanding between the sexes is not attainable."

(emphasis mine). There can be no doubt women would do things differently. We are divinely created to be different in viewpoint and reaction.

Women, the spiritual leaders. Women, the moral standard bearers. Women, intended by the Sovereign and Divine Minister to be significantly different than men. We must define that difference. One aspect is assuredly our spirituality. The fruits of the spirit - which traditionally

have been denigrated as feminine even while they have also been sought after as ideals —

are:	loving service unselfish devotion courageous loyalty sincere fairness enlightened honesty undaing hope confiding trust merciful ministry	love joy peace long-suffering gentleness goodness faith meekness temperance
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381:6
Mighty
Messenger

unfailing goodness
forgiving tolerance

enduring peace

2054:4 Jesus

These are qualities the world has taught, and expects from, its females. But these are personal traits. And the ministry of Jesus was personal; he ministered spiritually "as he passed by." In 1546:1 the Midwives write "... nothing ever seemed so important

to Jesus as the individual human who chanced to be in his immediate presence." Totally personal. One to one. A Melchigadek writes (1095:6) "Spiritual development depends, first, on the maintenance of a living spiritual connection with true spiritual forces and, second, on the continuous bearing of spiritual fruit...."

I submit that women are spiritual leaders because it is our way to personally share and serve. Sister to sister. Parent to child. Friend to friend. And we always talk with Primus when we want help: when our children are sick - who do we talk to first? please, God....

Our energies, our time, our reserves run at nearly peak output on a regular

basis. The very idea of our having the wherewithal to take a congressional seat is outlandish. When was the last time you had 14 hours a day for four years with someone else doing the homework, childcare, & moneymaking, and, when is the next time you expect to have it again?

Therefore, we must measure our ministry. Prioritize who and what will get ministered. Not one of us is a superwoman. There is no truth, beauty or goodness - let alone love - in that image. Not one of us can minister to all the neediness we see. Be selective. Be wise. Stop throwing pearls to swine. We are spiritual leaders and we are needy. We must feed and nourish

our own spirits first. One cannot give what one does not have. Remember that Jesus rested. Remember that Jesus was selective.

There is no elitism here. Simply common sense, efficiency, wisdom. This society stands on the brink of good-samaritanizing itself into extinction. Over-zealous sentiment has yielded us legions of poor, crippled, mindless and degenerated bodies. No more waste. Please, measure your ministry. Help me to measure mine. Allow me to help you measure yours.

Our future achievement of light and life on Urantia lies within our children. The children of light are our children. We owe much allegiance to these children's training.

Teach our children well. And, although the current emphasis within the readership is on brotherhood, remember always that Jesus told over and over again that parental love far transcended sibling love. On 1573:7 "A <parents> affection can attain levels of devotion that immeasurably transcend a <siblings> affection."

Let us teach these precious few children that one "cannot truly love by a mere act of will. It requires thorough understanding of another's motives and sentiments." (1098:4). That "the quality of unselfishness revealed in disinterested labor for the welfare of one's earthly fellows, particularly worthy beings in need and in distress, that is the real measure of planetary greatness." (317:1)

And, that "At first life was a struggle for existence; now, for a standard of living; next it will be for quality of thinking, the coming earthly goal of human existence." 910: 2

The best harvest comes from the strongest plants, from these plants come the hardest seeds. Let us nurture most that which has the most potential - for example most Wanted Book readers. Let us be especially supportive of ourselves and our sisters. The world has great need of us: its spiritual leaders, its mothers. And our need for nurturance is great.

When we gather, when we organize, let it be for esteem enhancement, for spiritual nurturance, for giving and receiving love, for strengthening ourselves. Let us waste

none of our precious time or energy on major organisational structures until we have grown strong enough to have a surplus of time and energy. Let us maintain contact as do friends and sisters. Let us heed the dangers evidenced by the organisational structures around us.

Listen as a Melchizadek, on page 1092:3, describes the purpose of group religious activities:

1. dramatize the loyalties of religion
2. magnify the lures of truth, beauty, goodness
3. foster the attractions of supreme values
4. enhance service of unselfish fellowship
5. glorify potentials of family life
6. promote religious education
7. provide wise counsel, spiritual guidance
8. encourage group wisdom
9. encourage friendship
10. conserve morality
11. promote neighbourhood welfare
12. facilitate spreading the gospels of salvation.

Dear Jesus (1726:3) "Let me emphatically state this eternal truth: If you, by truth co-ordination, learn to exemplify in your lives this beautiful wholeness of righteousness, your fellow(s) will then seek after you that they may gain what you have so acquired. The measure wherewith truth seekers are drawn to you represents the measure of your truth endowment, your righteousness. The extent to which you have to go with your message to the people is, in a way, the measure of your failure to live the whole or righteous life, the truth co-ordinated life."

So we come to the bottom line. It is to engage in self-ministry; then in service.... not slavery, women.... service. Remember that personal ministry is the

heart of spiritual leadership and that you can not give what you do not have.

Let us promise to gather at conferences to build ourselves. And each day and night as the clock strikes 3, 6, 9, and 12, let us reach toward the spiritual by-ways and silently or aloud call out for and affirm Love! Love!

As I finished this missive, I asked all of our celestial family if there were any messages to us from anyone. The instantaneous response was "Yes." Tell them to love themselves as I love them." And then came the signatures of Jesus, the Divine Minister, The Sovereign of Nebadon, the Thought Controllers, and the Guardian Angels. In the warmth of their embrace let us worship Primum.