

The Third Treasure: Faith

In today's webinar, we will continue our exploration of the seven spiritual treasures. In our time together, we will discuss and meditate upon faith. We will look at the inner maturation process that transforms identity, so that people may have faith; we will trace the octaves of the cord of faith; and discover how faith relates to the attunements, by which the Masters interface with our lives, and our spiritual essences. We will finish with some inspiration from the Swamis on this topic. So let us begin.

As the Spirit touches people, and transforms them, there is a change that occurs at the level of the Conscious mind. People undergo several stages of an identity shift, as this alchemical process is taking place within them. Identification changes in quantum leaps of realization—at one stage, faith awakens. This is a typical pattern:

Brain-based identity – at this stage, people feel they are the body, and are not aware of anything outside of it. They cannot conceive of anything transcending the immediate environment.

Environmental identity – in this type, identity extends to the world they see and hear around them, so they may come to sense that they are one with their land and their home, or they may come to think of themselves of being people of a particular area of the world.

Emotionalized identity – when this identity state arises in the mind, people identify with their feelings, and dramatizing what they feel becomes very important to them. For example, when they are unhappy with the actions of their government, they may go out to protest; when they are proud of their sports team, they may become avid fans.

People at this level are capable of great loyalty and devotion; they can be readily whipped into frenzy by inflammatory language. Group or crowd identification is common at this state—one is a fan, a citizen, a member of a clan, or a religious group—one tends to not think of oneself as an individual.

Rational identity – when reason becomes the ascendant element within a human being, they become strongly identified with their ability to think and solve problems. They become capable of analyzing information, beliefs, and assumptions, and readily set aside anything that cannot be empirically verified. These individuals take a scientific, empirical mindset. They are capable of withholding belief (skepticism), active challenge of others' beliefs (criticism), and not giving credence to anything they cannot verify (doubt).

Egoic identity – when the ego becomes the core identity within people, their desires and dreams become the highest priority for them. A sense of entitlement and narcissism marks this stage; they are focused on having what they want—pursuing what they believe will make them happy. Their passions of lust, anger, greed, attachment, and envy may drive them powerfully at this stage. They have begun to individualize from the herd mentality prevalent at the emotionalized identity stage—in this state they are focused on enjoying life and fulfilling their own desires.

Existential identity – when identity shifts to this level, a quest for meaning becomes paramount. In this identity state, people experience things and experiences as empty and not fulfilling. They intensely feel the anxiety and pain of human experience. People at this level begin to feel rootless, alienated, lonely, and different—that they belong nowhere and to no one. They begin to search for a purpose for their lives.

Some end their lives in this stage, some escape into addiction, some become beatniks and wanderers—while others find meaning in human love, art, philosophy, and communion with the beauty of Nature.

Faith-activated identity – when this core sense of identity encounters the cord of faith, it begins to conceive of something greater than the ego. Through the power of faith, people who dwell in the state of faith-activated identity can activate the powers of the Subconscious, Metaconscious, and Superconscious mind, and can reach up to commune with God. Humility, gratitude, hope, devotion, and love are brought to light with the birth of faith—and human beings reach beyond the little self into the supernal dimensions of existence, and draw their strength, courage, and sustenance from that Higher Power.

An inner maturation and transformation must occur before people can experience faith. Some Christian theologians believe that people cannot reach faith without a special gift or Grace of God—and without faith, one cannot consciously commune with God or receive His blessings.

Elsewhere in our writings, we have explored where this cord of faith originates on the Higher Planes, and the levels it traverses from its root in the human ego. We reproduce that article here for our review and discussion.

The Cord of Faith

First published in 2011 in
Religions, Cults, and Terrorism: What the Heck Are We Doing?

The cord of faith is the first transcendental bridge to the Superconscious Mind. It is encountered behind the ego in the Conscious mind.

When we examine the structures of the ego, the integrating center of the Conscious mind [e.g., when an individual has matured to the faith-activated stage of identity], we find the following layers [shown in the table below].

Layer	Description
Core of experience and cord of faith	Connection with a deeper life
Defensive layers	Protection of self concept by defensive mechanisms
Self concept	Ego's awareness of itself
Experience awareness	Ability to access memory
Mental awareness	Zone of reason and reality-testing
Emotional awareness	Sense of relatedness, reaction to events
Sensory awareness	Awareness of the external world and the body

As can be seen, this cord of faith is [encountered] at the deepest layer of the ego. This deepest core is stimulated when the available defenses become overwhelmed by the challenges of life and the external world.

This cord of faith calls upon the deeper resources of experience and social support network, the abilities of the Self, and a range of spiritual agencies in the Superconscious mind, ranging from the Subtle Realm to the top of the First Mesoteric Initiation. Major zones along this cord of faith are shown below:

Zone	Description
1	Belief in what one has experienced and the people in one's life
2	Belief in the Self and its abilities

Zone	Description
3	Belief in a god or goddess of the Subtle Plane, or of ancestral spirits
4	Belief in Lucifer, ruler of the Lower Astral Plane, and the powers of the Occult Adepts; may also take the form of belief of the magical powers of the Soul Spark
5	Belief in the Soul or Higher Self
6	Belief in the Moon Soul, the nucleus of identity of the First Exoteric Planetary Initiation
7	Belief in Jesus, a Master or Saint in the First Mesoteric Planetary Initiation
8	Belief in the Father God, origin of the cord of faith

The cord of faith, in its transpersonal extensions from zones three to eight, draws upon the resources of the Superconscious mind:

- Many so-called pagan religions draw their inner strength and support from zone three, where gods and goddesses are invoked.
- Those on the occult or magical path tap zone four (we may also note that Occult Initiates, who come to control large masses of people by inspiring faith in themselves as saviors, also awakened the cord of faith to this level in their followers).
- Those traversing the Planetary Realms from the Biophysical Universe to the Wisdom Plane typically believe in the Soul or Higher Self, drawing on the resources of zone five.
- At zone six, faith awakens the Moon Soul, a center in which individuals perceive themselves as humble, innocent children of God. At this level, individuals invoke the blessings of God through prayer and supplication, and worship God through song and praise.

- At zone seven, an individual believes in a Saint, a Master, or the Son of God. This is the faith advocated by the Christian and Jewish religions.
- At zone eight, the cord of faith taps the presence of God. At this stage, an individual comes to believe in One Almighty God, Creator of the Universe.

Atheism

We propose that atheists do not draw upon this core of faith beyond zones one and two. Since there is nothing within the Conscious mind, Subconscious mind, or Metaconscious mind to indicate the presence of spiritual, archetypal, angelic or Divine beings—and without prior religious influence or indoctrination—faith in elements of the Superconscious mind are outside their experience.

As a result of this lack of apparent evidence, atheists find nothing to support the existence of God, and so reject it as imagination, fairy tales, myths or fantasies. This suggests that if the cord of faith is fully explored, then an individual will discover the basis for faith in God.

The 12 Transcendental Pathways

Light Immersion awakens twelve major transcendental pathways, which lead beyond the personality. Attunement meditation interacts with the personality through these 12 pathways. These are summarized in the table below:

Attunement	Number	Content
Physical attunement	1	Physical seed atom – awakening higher vehicles – expression of the Soul’s gifts (7th Ray)
Etheric attunement	2	Etheric thread – life force – etheric body of the Metaconscious, Pranamayakosa, source of life force in the Cosmic Sphere (4th Ray)

Attunement	Number	Content
Emotional attunement	3	Cord of faith – ego – faith in a Higher Power beyond the ego (6th Ray)
Mental attunement	4	Intellectual thread – Illumination – guidance from the Superconscious mind and construction of the Antakarana (3rd Ray)
Volitional attunement	5	Volitional matrix – will – higher connection octaves of will (1st Ray)
Nada Yoga attunement	6	Path of the spirit behind the pineal center
Kundalini attunement	7	Path of the kundalini shakti through the spinal tube
Raja Yoga attunement	8	Path of the attentional principle behind the pituitary center
Incarnational attunement	9	Thread of past incarnations – etheric memory – personal unconscious, remembrance of past lives
Astral attunement	10	Silver cord – consciousness – astral body
Karmic attunement	11	Golden thread – karma – causal body
Essence attunement	12	Awakening of the Self, the nuclei of identity and the octaves of being

Pathways one through five are called the minor attunements and form a part of disciplic training in the Mudrashram® System of Integral Meditation.

Pathways six through eight are three aspects of the seven major attunements that constitute the initiatory tradition of the Mudrashram® System of Integral Meditation.

Pathways nine through twelve, the atypical attunements, are rarely utilized.

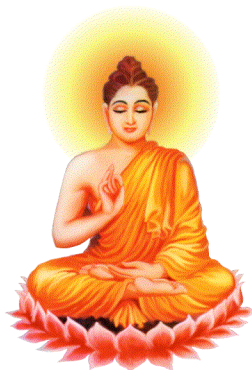
- Pathway nine grants remembrance of past lives. This attunement is given to awaken remembrance in those who have a calling to be past life readers or psychic guides.
- Pathway ten awakens the channel between the astral body and the Astral Soul: this work is typically reserved for disciples undergoing the Cosmic Initiations.
- Pathway eleven awakens the channel between the Supracosmic Soul and the causal body. This work is likewise reserved for disciples undergoing the Supra-cosmic Initiations.
- Pathway twelve confers Gnosis or Realization on the disciple. It is reserved for confirming the disciple for ministerial work.

While the first five minor attunements are really learned and practiced by anyone with the ability to gain union with the ensouling entity in full consciousness, the seven major attunements are not taught in the Mudrashram® tradition until the disciple has fulfilled the requirements for accepted discipleship.

The ability to perform atypical attunements nine and ten usually arises when the disciple has gained Cosmic Mastery after completing the Fifth Cosmic Initiation.

The ability to make atypical attunement eleven marks Mastery in the Supracosmic Sphere, which is gained at the summit of one of the 73 Supracosmic paths.

Atypical attunement twelve normally is not given until the disciple has attained the Mahatma stage on the path...



Beyond the Cord of Faith

When the Soul evolves beyond the First Mesoteric Initiation, it passes beyond the horizon of egoic faith. In these states, it connects with the personality by the five basic attunements.

- Physical attunement – This is the expression of the Soul’s abilities in human life. It is marked by the overshadowing of the personality by the Soul in speech and action. Expression of the Soul by speech is referred to as channeling or satsang. Expression of the Soul as inspired action we refer to as giftedness or genius.
- Etheric attunement – This promotes healing of physical illness, and renews and energizes the body and the mind. This attunement is expressed in those individuals who have a healing gift.
- Emotional attunement – This comforts the core of human suffering, provides support to the ego, and changes limiting or negative beliefs. It instills confidence, hope, courage and faith.
- Mental attunement – This gives intuitive guidance to the personality and reveals the higher octaves of the mind. This attunement is often established as a dialog between the Self and the Soul, in a question and answer format. In other cases, it has a revelatory function, in which it simply shows the personality a spiritual truth or principle.
- Volitional attunement – This expresses, as the higher octaves of will interfacing with the human will. This may take the form of a direct command from the Soul to carry out an action or to direct the personality to achieve a specific goal. Alternately it may postpone the personality’s action on certain goals, or outright stop certain behavior.

The Soul may also activate pathways six through eight, to guide and commune with the attentional principle or the spirit, and to awaken the full potential of the mind by arousing the Kundalini Shakti.

In these states faith, which arises from the ego, still persists, but the Soul begins to play a more active role in interfacing with the personality.

What Sustains You: Meditation on Your Cord of Faith



In our meditation today, we will examine the role that faith plays in your personal and spiritual life.

Do you believe in a Power Greater than yourself? What is this Power like?

How do you connect with this Power? Do you pray? Do you meditate? Do you invoke this Power through chants and songs?

How does this Power respond to your evocation? Do you feel an inner infilling? Does it speak to you through the voice of intuition? Do you see an inner Light?

Is your Higher Power something you believe in [e.g., through the Cord of Faith], or is it something you remember—beyond belief?

In what ways does faith enhance your life? Has it brought you benefits or blessings? What are some of those blessings?

Has faith ever disappointed you—has something you believed would happen not occur as you had expected, or did something that you had hoped for not materialize? How did that affect your faith?

What experiences have strengthened or renewed your faith?

Swami Prem Dayal on Faith

“Without faith, man never escapes from the bubble of the Conscious mind. He remains trapped in the prison of his own egoic kingdom, not realizing that beyond this insular domain there are the many dimensions of consciousness.”

“Mercifully, God has placed this cord of faith within each human being. If a man grasps this cord, he comes to realize that he is not alone, but there is something greater than himself—something limitless and immeasurable.”

“Through the cord of faith, man can begin to commune with that Being, and receive support and succor through the travails of life; but more, it inspires him to press his attention through the keyhole, to launch into these inner realms to find that Power that touches him, that blesses him, that forgives him, that teaches him, that guides him, and that loves him with an infinite, unbounded love.”

“When faith arises, man enters the kindergarten of the school of life. Spirituality begins here, aspiration begins here, and the quest for knowledge and a greater Light begins here.”

“Faith is the first cord that awakens. It connects the ego with God. The Antakarana is the second cord that awakens: it opens the intuitive bridge between the intellect and the Soul.”

Next, the bridges are opened through the attentional principle, the spirit, and the Kundalini Shakti, which awaken the Soul. This makes an individual capable of taking Initiation, and ascending the Great Spiral of Being, and ultimately communing with that Master Power that dwells at the Source of all Creation.”

“So the birth of faith is a very significant thing, it is a very important thing—it is a key milestone in the spiritual awakening of man. So it is for this reason that the Elder Brothers and Sisters that make up the Great Guardian Wall—in one accord—bless and affirm the awakening of faith—because what it brings, is a treasure.”

Thank you for attending our webinar today!

