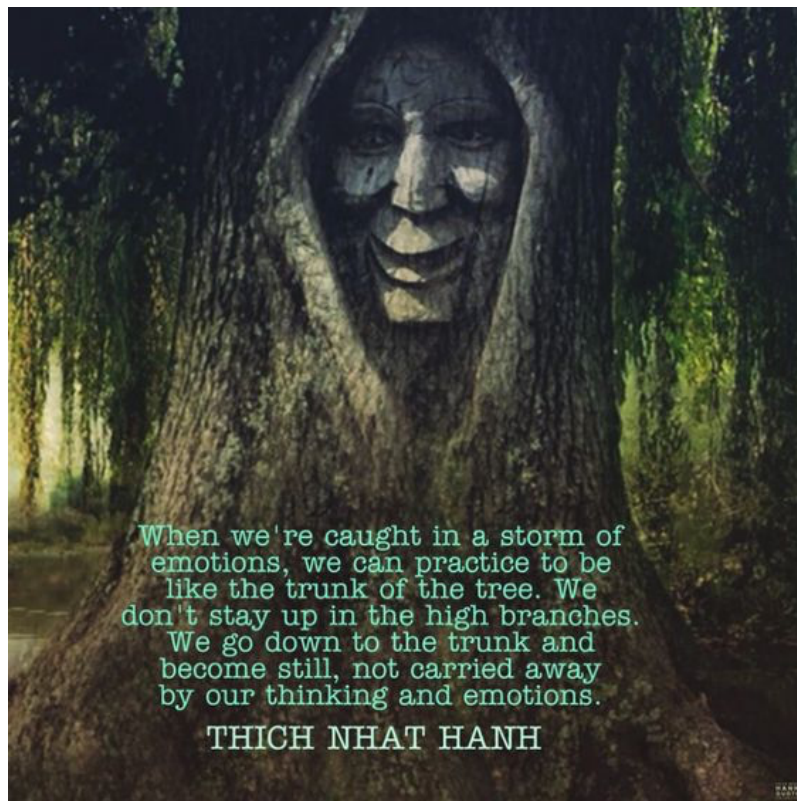


We did some exploration and sharing on some of our encounters this past week, noticing how easily sometimes we fall into judgment, separateness or some other form of unawareness. One of the beautiful things that I resonated with was that there was no blame, shame or guilt here; it was simply Awareness and the ability to change or transform the direction that our small self/limited self might have been taking us in.

To me that is a great Secret--to know that we are going to have continuing episodes of waking/sleeping of awareness/unawareness And yet when we come to a place of awareness after being asleep for a while, rather than beating ourselves up for falling asleep or becoming self-centered, we offer praise and gratitude for being awake again.

If we learn nothing else from tonight's lesson that would be enough.



**“When you decide things as the small self, you perpetuate the old because the small self knows itself in history.**

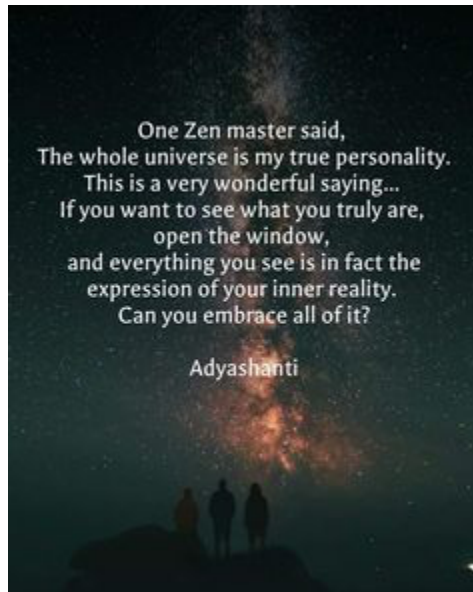
We have been chewing on this one for a while. It is one of those spiritual truths that it is necessary to come back to every once in a while. *You are not your history!* (you are not your history this lifetime nor any of your lifetimes.

Now when I think I am my history or I think my choices are dictated by my history, I become somewhat lost about the sense

of who I truly am. Without even realizing it, I find myself falling into that place of ‘doing the same thing expecting different results.’ Or thinking “I’ve always been this way.”

I also realize that this misunderstanding, this over attachment to history, can also affect my spiritual learning as well. You see what my intellect wants to do is to pigeonhole or categorize all the information that it gets. It's sort of like the brain has its own Dewey Decimal System--as soon as it comes across a new idea or new concept it immediately wants to compare it or align it up to something that has already been encountered or known. So I'm reading this wonderful

spiritual book and I come across a passage or an idea that just sort of jolts me into awareness and before I know it immediately my mind steps in and says “Oh yes, that’s just like such and such” and puts it in a category, a pigeon hole, and becomes rather smug and satisfied that it has digested another piece of spiritual wisdom and put it right where it belongs.



Almost immediately, we lose that sense of freshness, of wonder. We sacrifice that sense of newness for the safety and satisfaction that the thinking mind might bring us. And since I am working on this stuff quite often during the day it is very easy for me to fall into that trap.

I miss the magic of: *“behold I make all things new.”*

**“When you claim the True Self and your great identity... you move the will to a place of union or reconciliation with your divine purpose,”**

Almost immediately my mind jumps in and asks “Well, what is my Divine Purpose?” and again here is my small self looking for a definition and explanation something that will wrap all of this up in a nice neat little package. But you see it cannot be wrapped up, because it is Infinite. The Self/the Source is constantly evolving, Beyond history, Beyond feeling, Beyond words, Beyond thought.

Today is a gift. As is every day. The past is the past. It can't be brought back. It can't be changed. There are no do overs. So don't live in that space. Tomorrow isn't here yet, and last I checked none of us can predict the future. Oh sure, we can make plans, but that doesn't mean they'll come to fruition. And so, today is the present, and thus a gift. Live in the present. Live in the moment. Don't worry about what was or what might be. Right now is important. You all

**“The willingness to experience infinity actually requires you to release the need for those filters, for the language, because the nature of infinity, while it holds everything and nothing all at once, is the way it knows itself through you.”**

I am free; I am free; I am free!!!!!!

And here is an ultimate truth, spoken in words, and yet far beyond what words can convey:

**“this is the only moment in time that you may ever know, because in fact that is true. You may only know yourself or anything else in the present moment. Everything else is history or expectation.”**