

Living Responsibly...It's Only Natural!

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Welcome! This week our topic of choice is "One's Path". Being it is the New Year, what's better to discuss than getting and staying on our path. Let's begin the year with a clear focus of what we want to be, how we want to be and thereby realize the path we will take to get us "there". The path. Everyone is on one. But, are we on the right Path? For some, it is easy to recognize our path. For some, it appears as an uncomfortable, fruitless search. So we search and we look and we listen. We approach a myriad of possible ways of living our lives. Is this the right way? So many have forged paths ahead of us; so many trails to take, proven "ways" to *get somewhere*. Think of the list of beautiful paths we could choose, forged by some really profound persons. One could choose the path of Nature, like John Muir or Thoreau. One could choose the path of Enlightenment, following Jesus or Buddha or any number of Saints and Sages. One could even choose to not choose and let the universe prod and pull us along. The choices are endless and they can be totally overwhelming when trying to discern the right *one* path from the many available, IF, one is trying to find one's path by looking outside of one self. One's path is found within. One's path will be forged, not found. That is what makes it our path. We design it with our thoughts and our lives become it. Our path is made by the steps we take. See, the thing about it is, a linear path requires linear time and linear time doesn't exist. So our path cannot be a trail ahead of us that someone else left. We can view those other paths as ideas on how we could live, even incorporate some of those ideals into our own lives, yet we can not walk someone else's path. Anyway, the "structure" of time being NOW, not linear, prevents us from experiencing true linear time so that our paths therefore must be inclusive, right now and in the moment. This means there is no distance, no further down the road. It suggests to us that our path is where we are right now, so if we want to forge ahead and bring new vision into our next present, our next foothold on the path, then we must consider the direction we want to be moving towards and then be there in the next *now* moment. This is our path.

How do we "know" our path *is*? How do we feel confident we are in the right *space*? It is through understanding the where-ness of oneself in relation to our perception of our best path. Where am I? Where am I going? It is by understanding that "our path" is designed according to our vision. When we have a good vision of the way in which we prefer to live our lives, then we take the necessary steps to do such and we then realize we are on our path. Truth be told, most of know when we are on our path or not and looking outside of our self to find some idea to follow is not allowing for completion of any cyclic natures which are the basis of all universal energy exchanges. We design and give attention to our intention, resulting in a manifestation of that energy which we put out. Our path is our intended direction, our intended journey. Yet, our path is the fruits that we have put forth from our journeys. The trail is before us as well as behind, because again the universe is different degrees of the same thing. The balance point is the present, the here and now. Perfection. Remember, perfection is not a destination, it is the journey, the understanding and recognition and realization of the eternal now that is us.

Find your path? Know Your path. Now, stay on the path. That's right; now that we see the path, how do we stay on our path? We stay on our path by being present, *all the time*. Like the Masters have said...Be Here Now. I know, easy said. For those of us who could use some assistance on this one, let us consider the following idea. Remember, it is always right now. It doesn't matter how many times you check during the day. It will always be right now. Right? Instead of thinking about what you want to do next week or next year, do what you can today. Want to assist a charity this year? Affirm you will call today. Desire to save money this year? Stash some away today, even if it is just pennies. Do something this day that you want to get done in the future and in the future it will have been done. Bingo. Live in the now with a vision of the future. We then realize the growth of our being includes the path we have been searching. And we find comfort that we have been on the right path, with awareness all along. Is it always a walk in the park? Not even. Does it always take us to where we need to be? Absolutely. Because the universe gives to us that which we project, we will always get the things we need to learn and experience and express to our fullest. Our path is our future. Our path is our existence proven. I think, therefore I am...I am, therefore I think. Different degrees of the same thing, always. We are the paths unto ourselves because there is nothing outside of our self. We will always be on our path.

