

WHAT DO YOU/WE DO AFTER THE PROTESTING by Carl Powell

After the protesting there will still be injustice, hatred, racism, violent behavior and the feel of better than.

Some of the protest signs will become billboards, some framed for keepsakes, and a great number will make their way into the landfill." Now what do you/we do". We must realize and accept that our society is suffering from spiritual illness.

As a society we have a duty to use our past for educational experiences to strive to correct our ways going forward. But, the we must start with an individual positive change in our spiritual life in order to support the we.

The solutions to problems we face today in our society have been voiced for years by the Volunteers of America's in the form of core values.

Integrity Commitment Compassion Diversity Justice

As I look at Integrity: the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles: moral uprightness and undivided. Integrity must be applied to all the other four values to bring about the positive change in my life so I can be a vital part of the We.

Commitment: the state or quality of being dedicated to a cause or mission, with the integrity to be responsible to do what I say I will do despite the trials and setbacks.

Compassion: sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others. Integrity should be used to show compassion because we all have experienced some form of suffering and or misfortunes whether seen or unseen by others.

Diversity: understanding that each individual is unique, and recognizing our individual differences. These can be along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs, or other ideologies. There should be honest integrity and compassion when faced with situations and individuals that differ from us or our present comfortable/fortunate state of being. Our integrity should bring us to a realization that we have experienced and or lived one or more of the above. Therefore the unpleasant experiences should move us to desire to help lives and situations that are different from us and or present state.

Justice: just behavior or treatment. A concern for justice, peace, fairness, and genuine respect for people. 1. Jesus put a high value on justice. He spoke in Matthew 23: 2-4. 2. The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. 3. So you must obey them and do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. 4. They tie up heavy loads and put them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.

I believe if we live and teach this scripture we can help bring about Justice.