

UNIVERSITY OF SANTA MONICA PRESENTS

WORLDWIDE COMMUNITY GATHERING  
JANUARY 5, 2023

## ANSWERING THE CALL OF SOUL'S PURPOSE IN 2023—AND BEYOND

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*"You receive in accordance with your clarity of vision, definiteness of purpose, steadiness of faith, and the depth of your gratitude."*

◆ John-Roger

*"Dedicate yourself to Love. Decide to let Love be your intention, your purpose, and your point. And then let Love inspire you, support you and guide you in every other dedication you make thereafter."*

◆ Robert Holden

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This evening as we explore what *Living Your Soul's Purpose in 2023—and Beyond* means to you, consider this: If the entelechy of an acorn is growing into a deeply rooted oak tree with a majestic canopy, what is your entelechy? Who are you? What is your purpose? And how can you make a meaningful contribution in your world? For us, what's present is: *"What will we bring forward as we contemplate 2023 and the crescendo of our lives?"* These questions are very powerful when considered from within the Spiritual Context—from the Awareness that you are a Divine Being having and using a human experience for the purpose of Awakening.

What often is in the way of making the courageous choices involved in answering the calling of your Heart—your Soul's purpose—is attachment. Attachment to the ego's limiting frame of reference expressed through patterns such as recognition . . . approval-seeking . . . self-importance . . . comfort . . . security . . . and control . . . Misidentifications with self-doubt and unworthiness . . . Attachment to an identity . . . attachment to a life style . . . attachment to other people's opinions . . . attachment to a story . . . attachment to limiting beliefs and misunderstandings of who you are and what you're doing here. All of these can result in the experience of dilemma, inertia, stagnation, and fear of the unknown.

Our friend and colleague Kirk Souder, in his recent post, posed a powerful question: *"What would I dare to let go of first to live my dreams—this seeming barrier to the new experience I long to create and live...?"* This evening you'll have the opportunity to explore this question for yourself.

Recently, we watched a broadcast of the 2022 Kennedy Center Honors. One of the honorees was singer-songwriter Amy Grant. As she was introduced, she was quoted as saying, "I consider myself a flat garden hose. My choice is what I'll plug into." This statement reflects an extraordinary Awareness of the courageous choice to surrender into being used as a conduit or instrument of the Divine—surrendering to the opportunities and blessings available as Spirit sings through her. This is a beautiful example of how Awareness of purpose on the Soul Line informs expression of purpose on the Goal Line.

One of our favorite all-time quotes is from Hafiz: "I am a hole in the flute that the Christ's breath moves through; listen to this music." We are all instruments in the orchestra. What music did you come to play?

We all have the opportunity of Awakening into the Awareness that our destiny and purpose is fulfilled through surrendering into the Loving that is our Essential Nature and sharing the unique gifts we came to share. Soul purpose is sharing your heart, doing what brings you joy—Love in action. As Howard Thurman said, *"Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive."*

(OVER)

## SIMPLE PRACTICES FOR ANSWERING THE CALL OF SOUL'S PURPOSE IN 2023—AND BEYOND:

We invite you to Center Yourself in your Loving and make your own notes in response to the following:

- 1) Reflect on the following questions and write your responses below: What moves your Heart and stirs your Soul? What experiences and expressions do you Love? What brings you Alive? What is the texture and content of your life revealing about your purpose? (Remember that the form is not important; what matters is answering the calling of your Heart—your Soul's purpose.)

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- 2) What limiting belief or false narrative has held you into a life too small for you?

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- 3) What attachment could you choose to release in service to answering the calling of your Heart—your Soul's purpose?

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- 4) The following is a simple and powerful practice for receiving Spirit's inspiration and guidance answering the call of Soul's purpose. We invite you to meditate on this question and listen in the Silence for Spirit's guidance.

*Center yourself in your Loving . . . Call yourself forward into the Light asking to be surrounded, protected, and filled with that Divine Light of Living Love . . . asking that only that which is for your Highest Good be brought forward keeping in mind your Soul's journey and your unique destiny on the planet . . . Move into your Heart . . . and reverently and prayerfully ask Spirit, "Given my experience, abilities, gifts, and skills, please show me, in a way I can recognize and understand, how I may serve. Please help me in recognizing and embracing the golden opportunities before me."*

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- 5) What is your intention for answering the call of Soul's purpose in 2023—and beyond?

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*"We must let go of the life we have planned, so as to accept the one that is waiting for us.  
The old skin has to be shed before the new one can come."*

◆ Joseph Campbell

*"Tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely  
and with too high a spirit to be encumbered with your old nonsense."*

◆ Ralph Waldo Emerson

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