

# Personal Growth Concepts™

[www.personalgrowthconcepts.com](http://www.personalgrowthconcepts.com)

## Q&A Forum - Review

### Spiritual Mentoring

[27-Aug-2003]

Fellow Q&Aers,

Greetings! Today we welcome Kevin, Val and Kim to our list. We now have 128 and are growing. Do you know anybody who would like to join us? Please tell them, forward this Q&A to them and encourage them to sign up by sending me an email.

Today, I'd also like to welcome Janice to our staff full-time. Janice has been with us at PGC for the past 2 years, and, before that, as a student intern. She recently obtained her license as a Social Worker in the State of Connecticut and will be starting full time as our Senior Clinician on Monday, Sept. 8th. She will also hold the title of Special Projects Coordinator and will be helping me with several administrative projects around the office and in the community.

Your PGC staff enjoyed the beautiful weather this past Sunday with a superb staff picnic and "wind down" time. You should find them rested and invigorated. Just don't ask any of them about the list of comments they made when we finally became engaged in our recreational activities! Thanx to both Pat and Mike for planning and attending to the details of this for the rest of us.

Today's question is the last one in the Q&A hopper so, if you have been hesitating to send one, now would be a good time. I can't Q&A what hasn't been Qd, ok?

I would like to also thank 2 different Nancy's and Pat today for their contributions to this Q&A's bonus section.

**Q:** Why is it so hard to find a spiritual mentor, vs. finding a spiritual director? Why do people charge money for spiritual direction? I know "time is money" but with God's work, why? As a volunteer I charge nothing regardless of the commitment. God's love has no strings; why should ours? Career building is one thing but soul building is another. Where are all the spiritual mentors????

**A:** Wow - there are certainly a lot of "why"s in your question. Here are some thoughts for you to consider.

- Mentor usually implies to take under one's wing, offer guidance, show the ropes and the finer parts of the task. In business no money is involved. In direction (a management function) money is involved as one's skill is being used and the implication is a certain amount of control. Spiritual direction I believe, is more authoritative and more is expected.
- Are you a volunteer spiritual mentor? or are you looking to be mentored?
- In corporate mentoring, it is usually incumbent upon the person seeking the mentoring to search out, locate and approach appropriate mentors and, as appropriate, negotiate a relationship.
- At Personal Growth Concepts, Inc. about 6 years ago, we added a service to our brochure and our web site called "Spiritual Guidance." I remember the discussion re: the wording of this service - we discussed mentors, guides, directors, counselors and coaches and finally settled on guide. We also limited it to Christian since none of the staff had more than a passing notion of other faiths. We have had no takers, and only 1 clearly defined inquiry about the service. That person needed a good counselor with a strong Christian orientation. We are considering dropping the service. Since we as counselors and coaches are open to spiritual issues, we find that they frequently weave themselves throughout the work that we do. Perhaps that is enough.
- Many people may not be aware that spiritual mentoring exists. Many religions don't outwardly acknowledge it and often, laity think that spiritual mentoring or directing is something ordained clergy do, or should do. Are there organizations for spiritual mentors to register where someone can look them up and see who is available? How about spiritual directors?
- Finally, I think prayer groups and prayer partners may be more in vogue today. The distribution of power is different with a prayer partner or group where all are equal vs. with spiritual direction, mentoring or guidance where one of the two is supposed to be the leader, guide, authority figure. I hope these ideas provide you some things to think about - Let me know if I can be of any more help. Peace, John

Quote: "One step in the right direction is worth a hundred years of thinking about it." T. Harv Eker

---

### Bonus 1: Kids, Kids, Kids

More examples of creativity provided by a 6th grade class during history tests:

1. The greatest writer of the Renaissance was William Shakespeare. He was born in the 1564, supposedly on his birthday. He never made much money and is famous only because of his plays. He wrote tragedies, comedies, and hysterectomies, all in Islamic

pentameter. Romeo and Juliet are an example of a heroic couple.

2. Writing at the same time as Shakespeare was Miguel Cervantes. He wrote Donkey Hote. The next great author was John Milton. Milton wrote Paradise Lost. Then his wife died and he wrote Paradise Regained.

3. Delegates from the original 13 states formed the Contented Congress. Thomas Jefferson, a virgin, and Benjamin Franklin were to 2 singers of the Declaration of Independence. Franklin discovered electricity by rubbing two cats backward and declared, "a horse divided against itself can not stand." Franklin died in 1790 and is still dead.

4. Abraham Lincoln was America's greatest precedent. Lincoln's mother died in infancy, and he was born in a log cabin which he built with his own hands. Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves by signing the Emasculation Proclamation . On the night of April 14, 1865, Lincoln went to the theater and got shot in his seat by one of the actors in the moving picture show. They believe the assassin was John Wilkes Booth, a supposedly insane actor. This ruined Booth's career.

5. Johann Bach wrote a great many musical compositions and had a large number of children. In between he practiced on an old spinster which he kept up in his attic. Bach died from 1750 to the present. Bach was the most famous composer in the world and so was Handel. Handel was half German, half Italian, and half English. He was very large.

6. Beethoven wrote music even though he was deaf. He was so deaf he wrote loud music. He took long walks in the forest even when everyone was calling for him. Beethoven expired in 1827 and later died from this.

Bonus 2:

**Money:**

It can buy a House.....But not a Home

It can buy a Bed.....But not Sleep

It can buy a Clock.....But not Time

It can buy you a Book.....But not knowledge

It can buy you a Position.....But not Respect

It can buy you Medicine.....But not Health

It can buy you Blood.....But not Life

It can buy you Sex.....But not Love

So you see, money isn't everything.

And it often causes pain and suffering.

I tell you all this because I am your Friend, and as your Friend I want to take away your pain and suffering.....

So send me all your money..... And I will suffer for you.

CASH ONLY PLEASE

bonus #3

**What is it like to be a Christian?**

A lady recently being baptized was asked by a coworker what it was like to be a Christian.

She replied, 'It's like being a pumpkin.' God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off you may have gotten from the other pumpkins. Then he cuts the top off and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc., Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see.

Passed on to me from another pumpkin. Now you pass it on to another pumpkin, ok?

---

The information provided in this email is presented for educational purposes only. It is not a substitute for the advice and treatment of a licensed professional clinician, doctor, coach or pastoral counselor. To unsubscribe, type unsubscribe-Q&A in the subject line of an email back to me. [jpacheco@personalgrowthconcepts.com](mailto:jpacheco@personalgrowthconcepts.com)

**We wish you peace in who you are and in all that you do!**

© Copyright 2004 Personal Growth Concepts