**Service to Self, Service to Others, Service to the Universe**

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | While preparing for this topic, it seems helpful to define what Service is. According to the Encarta Dictionary: |  |  | |
| **ser·vice**[súrvəss] *noun* (*plural* **ser·vic·es**)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **1.** | **work done for somebody else:** work done by somebody for somebody else as a job, duty, punishment, or favor   *After 25 years of service to the company, all I got was a watch.* | | **2.** | **helpful action:** an action done to help somebody or as a favor to somebody   *Would you do me one small service?* | | **3.** | **work for customers:** work done for the customers of a store, restaurant, hotel, or similar establishment, often with regard to whether it pleases them or not   *The service in this restaurant is lousy.*   *You can never get any service in this place!* | | **4.** | **house servant's work:** work done as a servant in a private house | | **5.** | **use:** the use that can be had from a machine or piece of equipment   *Treat it carefully, and it'll give you years of good service.* | | **6.** | **use or operation:** current use or operation   *The number you have dialed is not in service at this time.* | | **7.** | mechanical engineering **maintenance of machinery:** the act of cleaning, checking, adjusting, or making minor repairs to a piece of machinery, especially a motor vehicle, to make sure that it works properly   *take the car in for a service* | | **8.** | **meeting of public need:** a system or organization that provides people with something that they need, e.g. public transportation or a utility   *the tourist information service*   *a bus service* | | **9.** | **government agency:** a body of people who carry out work for the public benefit within an organization run by local or national government   *the diplomatic service*   *the police service* | | **10.** | **one of armed forces:** the armed forces of a country, or one of its branches   *Which branch of the service is your daughter in?* | | **11.** | **form of public worship:** a religious ceremony usually involving specific forms for worship and prayer   *a memorial service* | | **12.** | religion **religious ritual:** the prescribed form for a particular act of public worship or religious ceremony   *the marriage service* | | **13.** | **set of dishes:** a set of dishes and cups for use in serving a particular meal   *dinner service* | | **14.** | racket games: Tennis Service | | **15.** | **serving of legal document to somebody:** the delivery of a legal documentsuch as a writ or summons | |  |  |   *plural noun*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **1.** | **skills and work:** the work that somebody can do or does by virtue of their job, profession, or training   *You seem to need the services of a plumber.*   *I'm afraid we've decided to dispense with your services.* | | **2.** | **work that does not make anything:** jobs and businesses that provide something for other people but do not produce tangible goods, e.g. banking and insurance | | **3.** | **things provided by government:** things that are provided by national or local government and paid for by taxation, e.g. education, health care, and roads | | **4.** | **facilities for travelers:** facilities for travelers available at intervals along a highway, e.g. stores, restaurants, toilets, and a service station   *There are no services at the next exit.* |   *transitive verb* (*past and past participle* **ser·viced**, *present participle* **ser·vic·ing**, *3rd person present singular* **ser·vic·es**)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **1.** | **provide something for community:** to provide a community or organization with something that it needs   *The electric company services all nine counties.* | |  |  | | **3.** | **pay interest on debt:** to pay interest on a debt | |  |  |   *adjective*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **1.** | **providing service not goods:** relating to jobs or businesses that provide services but do not manufacture goods | |  |  | | **3.** | **used by employees or for deliveries:** intended for employees or deliveries rather than for members of the public (*often used before a noun*)   *a service elevator* |   [Pre-12th century. Via French < Latin *servitium* "servitude" <***servus* "slave"]**  -**ser·vic·er**, *noun*  **press somebody *or* something into service** to use something or somebody for an unusual purpose, especially in an emergency situation |

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**Whew! Those definitions cover a lot of ground, but let’s consider focusing more on the topic of this discussion, how people focus their efforts, whether mostly for their own benefit, for the benefit of others, or for the benefit of humanity, the world, or the universe.**

**As I developed this topic it became apparent to me that the difference between service to self and service to the multiverse is more of a continuum than a set of fixed well defined groupings, so let’s examine this just a bit as we work our way up the continuum.**

**Pure service to self is the person who’s every action is to enrich themselves or enhance their power or status purely at the expense of others. This goes so completely against the Mystical grain that it is not worth spending much time or effort on, we know it when we see it and we know that Karma will balance the scales in time, so we just avoid that paradigm and don’t give it energy.**

From the Rosicrucian Positio[[1]](#footnote-1): ***“Concerning human relationships, we think that people are more and more self-seeking and leave less and less room for altruism. Of course, outbreaks of solidarity occur, although it happens only occasionally during such catastrophes as floods, storms, earthquakes, etc. In ordinary times, the policy of “everyone for oneself” predominates in behavioral patterns. In our view, this increase in individualism is again a consequence of the excessive materialism that is rampant today in modern societies. Nevertheless, the resultant isolation should eventually bring about the desire and need to renew contact with others. Moreover, we may hope that this solitude will lead everyone to go increasingly within and eventually become aware of spirituality”****.*

**Service to others is where most Mystics spend most of their time. It is difficult to be totally in service to others at all times, as unless you are independently wealthy it is generally necessary to make some income to support yourself and your family. So now I ask you how we can best balance service to others with taking care of our own needs? …..**

***Discussion:***

**Examples: Teachers, EMT’s and Paramedics: Working to benefit others and receiving a paycheck (usually relatively small) for their service.**

***Question:* Is service through an intermediary like a church or charitable organization really service to the Universe, or is it service to the organization?**

**……. *Take time to Discuss*.**

**The lines can get rather fuzzy. I think some church or charitable service, while well intentioned is serving the particular church more than humanity, while nearer the far end of the spectrum someone like Mother Theresa, while connected to a church, served humanity without many if any strings attached.**

***Question:* Was Mahatma Gandhi in service to his religion, to his people, or to Humanity?**

**How can we raise our sights to even higher levels? How can we be of Service to the Universe? *Discussion:***

***Examples:* The Dalai Lama and his worldwide educational programs. Yoko Ono and her Imagine Peace Tower[[2]](#footnote-2).**

**There are many other efforts to uplift human thinking and bring about a spiritual evolution of humanity, such as the Peace Consciousness[[3]](#footnote-3) project and other similar efforts.**

**In most cases these efforts provide no income, and must therefore be part time endeavors in our current paradigm. The further up the spectrum you go the more selfless are your efforts, and the more they are aimed at uplifting and evolving humanity as a whole. Other efforts may be focused on the environment of the planet, or at working toward better relations with other nations, or even with other civilizations from around the universe.**

***Discussion:* Do humanities actions have any effect on the rest of the universe?**

**Do we affect the cosmic field of consciousness?**

***Points:* Fundamental oneness of all, quantum holographic interactions. Rogue planet status?**

***Question:* What is the Multiverse? hypothetical cosmos of multiple universes:** *a hypothetical cosmos that contains our universe as well as numerous other universes and space-times* **How can we use this concept to expand our thinking beyond 3rd dimensional physicality to include higher dimensional planes of existence?**

***Question:* Where do we fit into this larger paradigm of existence, and do our actions effect higher planes and dimensions? Can we experience this through Out of Body travel to different planes?**

***Question:* What is the difference between a Consensus Reality and a Thought Responsive reality, and is mental discipline more important in the higher realms.**

***Point:* As we enter higher and more thought responsive realms, our THOUGHTS manifest much more rapidly. Is this true even of undisciplined random thoughts, and could that cause us considerable problems?**

***Question:* How can we as individuals and as a society progress and evolve to higher levels of being?**

***Question:* What are the advantages to us and to our world of working to expand our thinking to fit this larger paradigm?**

From the Rosicrucian Positio: *Concerning humanity’s relationship with the Universe, we believe that it is based upon interdependence. As children of the Earth, and as the Earth is a child of the universe, we are therefore children of the universe. The atoms composing the human body originate in nature and remain within the confines of the Cosmos, which causes astrophysicists to comment that “We are children of the stars.” Even though we are indebted to the universe, it should also be noted that the universe owes much to humanity also—not its existence, of course, rather its reason for being. Indeed, what would the universe be if human eyes could not contemplate it? If our consciousness could not embrace it? If our soul could not be reflected in it? The universe and humanity need each other to know and even recognize each other, which reminds us of the famous saying: “Know thyself, and thou shalt know the Universe and the Gods.”*

*Nevertheless, we should not deduce that our conception of Creation is anthropocentric. Indeed, we do not make humans the center of the Divine Plan. Rather, let us say that we make humanity a focus of our concerns. In our opinion, humanity’s presence on Earth is not the result of mere happenstance; rather, it is the consequence of an intention originating from a Universal Intelligence commonly called “God.” Although God is incomprehensible and unintelligible because of Transcendency, this is not true of the laws through which God manifests within Creation. As previously mentioned, we have the power—if not the responsibility—to study these laws and to apply them for our material and spiritual welfare. We even believe that in this study and application lie our reason for being, as well as our happiness.*

*Humanity’s relationship with the universe also brings up the matter of knowing whether life exists elsewhere outside of Earth. We are convinced that this is the case. Since the universe includes approximately one hundred billion galaxies, and each galaxy has about one hundred billion stars, there probably exist millions of solar systems comparable to ours. Consequently, to think that only our planet is inhabited seems to us to be an absurdity and constitutes a form of egocentrism. Among the forms of life populating other worlds, some are probably more evolved than those existing on Earth; others may be less so. Yet they are all a part of the same Divine Plan and participate in Cosmic Evolution. As for knowing whether extraterrestrials are capable of contacting humanity, we feel that this will happen, and we are not spending time waiting for it. We have other priorities. Nonetheless, the day will come when this contact will happen, and it will constitute an unprecedented event. Indeed, the history of humanity will then integrate into that of Universal Life….RC*

***Closing thoughts:* What can happen when we make ourselves available to be of service to the universe? …..**

**What if she asks a favor!**

**This can potentially become a very mutually rewarding relationship, if we are ready for it.**

**Chapter Exercise: Lead your own discussion group**

Your chapter exercise is to download this chapter file from the web site [www.EvolutionThroughContact.com](http://www.EvolutionThroughContact.com) and revise it to suit your own style. Write in your own answers to the questions and make your own examples for the various points. Then, get a group of friends together and have an evening of philosophical discourse. Everyone will learn from the process, both about human interaction and about themselves.

1. http://rosicrucian.org/publications/positio.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. www.imagine**peace**tower.com [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. www.PeaceConsciusness.org [↑](#footnote-ref-3)