# The Culture of Giving

"...freely ye have received, freely give."

Jesus, Matt. 10: 8



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## The principle of giving

It was the wish of Martinus that the principle of giving should be the guiding principle in all our work.

"We represent a moral code, not a business."

Consequently: No business, no profit, no sales tax, no tuition fees, no membership or end of membership, no superiors or inferiors, no contracts. In the application of the cosmic analyses, everything is as free as the sun.

# Give freely!

"...freely ye have received, freely give" said Jesus in Matt. 10: 8. The disciples did not require a fee in order to tell others what Jesus had said. Paul worked as a tent-maker during his travels to avoid burdening others.

Already at the time of Paul there were individuals who were paid, simply because they were "elders". In all areas where money becomes a dominant force, it often exerts a demoralizing effect on people. The only solution is to apply the principle of giving and trust its validity.

#### Moral code

At the beginning of his practice, Martinus paid a visit to Lars Nibelvang. He realized that Martinus had extraordinary abilities, and in order to test him he said, that having such abilities could be a great source of income. Martinus refused to consider that as an option at all.

He only wanted to give his knowledge as a gift to humanity.



#### Spiritual knowledge should not have a price tag

Normally, even churches and temples provide free entrance. No assembly of faith charges money to preach the Gospel. Religions of the East operate in accordance with the principle of giving. People give contributions voluntarily.

THE SCHOOL OF LIFE in Martinus Spiritual Science & The Third Testament Foundation operate in accordance with the principle of giving. There is free admission to all talks and study groups. All books are available at cost, that is, without profit. All work is done by volunteers. Exhibitions occur nationwide and abroad. A Summer seminar is available. Brochures and study materials are published. Help is offered to individuals, who wish to start study groups in their local community.

....of course spending money is also a part of this.

#### Trusting the principle of giving

Many people make great efforts volunteering at THE SCHOOL OF LIFE in Martinus Spiritual Science and The Third Testament Foundation. Many contribute with gifts and inheritance funds. In the mindset of giving, it works both ways. There is great joy, when everything is given without calculation.

What if we do not attract sufficient funds? Is it possible to base one's activities exclusively on the trust that there will be enough contributions or gifts?

If an activity does not receive sufficient funding, it is due to the fact that the activity is not right and lack the blessing of Providence. This is the cue to change or limit the activities until financial viability is regained. Doing more than allowed by funding is not viable, but doing the right thing will automatically bring about an increase in contributions and help. THE SCHOOL OF LIFE in Martinus Spiritual Science has experienced this.

#### **Martinus writes**

From the article THE CULTURE OF GIVING:

"The most infallible characteristic of evolution is revealed not in the form of how much one owns but, on the contrary, in the form of how much joy one is able to feel when giving one's neighbour one or more of the things that one owns. Our relationship to "giving" is our relationship to evolution. It shows where one stands. It shows how far the terrestrial human is from being a "finished" being, which means the state of being that is expressed in "Livets Bog (The Book of Life)" as a "real human being".

The nature of animals is the principle of "taking"; the nature of real human beings is the principle of "giving".

"... Since the principle of giving is the opposite of the principle of coercion, wherever the former develops it will result in greater and greater freedom for society as well as for individual human beings."

# Freedom and volunteering

The freedom Martinus refers to above will be felt in the absence of coercion or control, and in situations where one is allowed to freely come and go, and freely give according to one's passion.

### The Third Testament comprises:

Livets Bog (The Book of Life) I-VII The Eternal World Picture I-IV, Logic, Funeral and about 30 shorter books.



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