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- *Eternal relationships with guides and family members*
- *Loving relationships originate prior to human life*
- *Spiritual identity within unity*

God blesses each of you with your awareness of life and of much that life holds for the development of your eternal selves. You are bathed in light. You are surrounded by love. You are incased in compassion, warmth, and an overriding sense of the presence of God in your lives.

Your awareness of God is not always one hundred percent in the front of your consciousness, and that is entirely appropriate. To live a life that both nurtures and is nurtured by your spiritual selves does not require that every waking moment should be somehow dominated by a heightened awareness of God's presence. You are, after all, given human lives in order to live them as human beings. You are not expected to live your lives as we live ours. You have had that opportunity in the past and you will have that opportunity yet again. But you are living your lives informed and nurtured by an awareness of an existence that flourishes beyond what you can sense directly.

There are many in your world who do not share that vision and they are no less blessed. They are no less destined to grow spiritually. They are in no way deprived of opportunity. They are in no way static in their development, for there is much to the development of your souls that is also independent of the nature and character of your physical lives. We would like to begin to explore that development, and we would like to connect that development that takes place to the reality of a spiritual life beyond human experience.

You wonder about the connection that exists between those of us whose lives are totally spiritual, and those of you whose lives are a blend between what is physical and what is spiritual. We are permanently connected to one another. This connection changes form, so to speak, throughout your lives, but this connection still remains intact. As an explanation, you must recognize that although you are most closely connected, in terms of these messages, to one particular guide or another whose identity may change from time to time, even when there is a change in the primary guide, the previous guide and all future guides associated with your lives remain associated with you. When you no longer have need for your physical bodies and your lives become purely spiritual, you remain connected to your guides. That connection is never abandoned. All human beings are connected to numerous guides. All souls on our plane maintain the same connections with their guides.

You are also still connected to the souls of your family and those with whom you experienced human life. What is the nature of this connection? You are connected in the sense that you are able to recognize the soul of another with whom you have lived and whom you have encountered in your human lives. The souls of your family are always identified as the souls of your family. Individuals who have no interest or

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understanding in their human lives concerning their spiritual life of the future still are connected spiritually to those with whom they interact. When they join our sphere of life, that connection is maintained, for in reality, those souls were connected to one another before they experienced human life.

It is perhaps an oversimplification to equate the reality of friendships and family relationships in human life to similar relationships in spiritual life, and yet there is a modicum of truth. All souls are indeed a single unit. It is also true that all souls maintain a kind of marker or identity. As a result, souls are easily able to identify themselves to one another. There is a light for each soul and you, each of you, will recognize the light that belongs to souls who are part of your human life together. You may not sense that light, that marker, in your human journey, but it is nevertheless there. Do you find it inexplicable at times that you are drawn quite strongly toward one individual and less so toward another, and yet they may both be total strangers? It is because of a recognition of the light, a previous knowledge. It is not a coincidence. Relationships that are positive, loving, supportive, mutually affirming have their origins prior to your current lives together.

There are relationships between souls that have within them a kind of mutual identity. We emphasize *mutual identity* rather than *exclusivity*. On the spiritual plane, there is no exclusivity. There is no sense of being different from others. There is no sense of belonging to one group rather than another, for all souls are equal in value, and all souls view one another with the equality of total nonjudgmental love. Still, there is a recognition between souls.

If you wonder whether you will again meet the souls of family members who have joined us earlier, you can be assured that answer is yes. What you may have experienced within a family relationship as less than perfect will no longer be a part of that relationship. The relationship will be all-loving.

Every soul that joins our sphere, our plane of life, is surrounded by souls that are known. Such an occasion brings comfort and peace, a sense of belonging, a renewed sense of being loved more powerfully than anything experienced in human life. As we have said, to be loving you must experience love. A soul's first experience on our plane is that of being totally, unconditionally loved. It is that beginning that provides the strength for all souls with us to be unconditionally loving, both toward the collective spirit that is our own unity, and toward those souls connected to human life.

We love because we are loved. We are loved by other souls. We feel that love in God's presence. That love is a brilliant pure light. For souls who have not had preparation for this new life, the adjustment would otherwise be difficult. Consequently, every soul is surrounded by familiar souls. There is no sense of loss. There is no sense of abandonment. There is no sense of separation. All souls feel the surrounding presence of love.

In our plane, therefore, souls recognize other souls easily. There is no distance because there is nothing physical that describes soul. It is a collection of lights that are

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at once individual and fully united as a single entity. There is no separation of lights. It is not like observing many candles. It is, in a sense, becoming a part of a very large and warm source of light, and within that light there are identities, but nothing is separate. In the ocean, there are atoms of hydrogen and oxygen. Those are separate atoms, but they are combined in a special way that ensures that they become water.

The combination of souls collectively is a part of the totality of the entity that is God. There is not, in fact, our light and then God's light somehow separate from us. We are not fully God, but we are not separated from God either. So our connection with one another is closer than you can perceive with your thoughts always based on physical descriptions. When you think of any item, it has an edge, it has a border, it has a shape, but that very edge and border and shape tend to define it and separate it from whatever are its surroundings. For us, there are no borders, no defining shapes.

The unity of all souls does not eliminate the reality of particular identities. This seeming conundrum is not clearly understood and will not be fully comprehended until you experience it. Just as we are not individually shaped, just as we do not occupy a separate space in our world, neither do your souls occupy a separate space from us. Your souls do not occupy a separate space from other individuals who have yet to come to an understanding, any understanding, of God. You are all connected...this you have heard. We are connected to you...this you know. We are all connected to one another.

Your connections to all souls experiencing human life are the same connections that exist between your souls and us. The connections are permanent. The sense of identity is permanent, and yet there is no spiritual separation that exists. All is One.

Your human lives provide opportunities for your growth. When we speak of your growth, of course what is most important is your spiritual growth, for that is what remains constant. It is important not to be over-concerned about your spiritual development to the expense of experiencing human life as human life, because in so doing you rob your soul of many opportunities it has for growth through your human life.

Keep a balance in your life. Be aware of what is permanent and what is temporal. Love what is permanent; respect what is temporal. Give meaning to what is temporal because of the meaning of what is permanent.

Your lives are filled with a golden light. Open your eyes to this light. Let it fill you completely. Resonate with it. Be a part of it. Expand its intensity through your love. You expand our lives when you turn your thoughts toward us lovingly. We benefit from love as much as you. We are love. We are God. God is love. And as you live with love, you express and affirm your own divinity. Be pure in intention. Be pure in your wish to be loving.

Amen.