

Year One Fall, Healing School, October '07  
The Love

Sidi starts with standard invocation to the prophets. Followed by the prayer of peace with Amany translating:

Oh Allah, You are the source of peace. Peace comes from You. Peace relies on You, O Most High, Glory to You, Lord of Bounties and Majesty. Please let us live in peace. Let the suffering world return to live in peace. Let those who are suffering across the world live in peace and mercy and justice and love. Grant this for all people across the world.

Praise be to Allah and may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon His Messenger Muhammad and to all the prophets and messengers of Allah and the beloveds of Allah. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon the saints and upon all those who devoted their lives to the message of peace, beauty, love, justice, mercy and freedom.

I also greet you my beloveds with the greeting of peace and love with all the signs of mercy and that Allah made us carry to all people across the world without discrimination. I ask Allah to allow you to understand me, to understand Him, to understand His words, and to understand the truth and reality of the way of Sufism, the way of purity, and to apply it and follow it.

I have mentioned to you earlier this morning how the human can heal the animal body and the animal soul and how to heal the animal heart. Now I would like to explain to you the successful healing to purify this heart, and this soul and this intellect. I tell you the truth. The whole matter is based on love. It is based on peace, security, safety and mercy.

So first we will start with love because no one across the earth can live without love. There is no one in existence, no creature even (e.g., birds and other animals) who can live without love. There is not even a plant on the earth that can live without love. Even the worlds of solid matter need love. It is love that keeps the mountains in place. Allah says in His Quran, "If we had sent this Quran down upon the mountains you would you would have seen the mountain humbled and turned to dust."

Don't you see the water gush forth out of the rocks? It is the mountain that you live by and drink. It comes sometimes out of the mountains. This water has everything the human needs. All the mountains contain the minerals and underneath them are the metals that the human body needs. These resources can be used for the happiness of the human being or to destroy the human being.

Don't you see that underneath the surface the oil, the fires, all the metals, the gold and the silver, charcoal—all of these metals

and materials the human may need are contained within the earth? Even these matters cannot live without love.

What is love? Love is water. Don't you see that tremendous fires cannot be calmed down except by water? Why? Because the water is full of the love. When the water is sent down to the fire, what happens? It turns the fire off. So water prevents suffering. If the fire spreads, what happens? For example we see the volcanoes gushing forth burning lava. What prevents this from happening is the water across the earth. If it happens it is the water that turns it off. This means that water is the indication of love. It's a sign of love. If water is used in the right way it is the sign of love and it will revive life. Even in the mountains everything becomes calm and save by water.

From where does the water come? It is sent down from the sky. It comes down by the Lord of love, the Lord who created love within our hearts. The name of that lover is Allah, which in your language is "God." Isn't that true? In all languages there is a name that refers to that Being who is the creator, the one and only.

Let us now search in love. We explained the different signs of love across the earth. If people used this water in a holy way then the whole earth and its people will be happy, but if people use the water to destroy and to harm then it will make the human sick and miserable. We must use the water of love that Allah sent down to earth in a good way.

Allah fills the oceans and the seas with this water of love. Look at the oceans and seas. What do they contain? The vapor from these oceans rises into the skies. By the command of the almighty, the wise, the water accumulates and forms the clouds. The clouds are lead by the winds to the parts of the earth that are barren and without plants. When the water is sent down as rain to these lands it brings forth things that carry the fragrance of absolute beauty that the human being needs. It is a sign that shows to the human being the love of Allah. It talks to the human being and says, "Look at me. Don't pollute me. Keep me beautiful so you can become beautiful too."

When you walk by these fruits and flowers they call you to witness their beauty. They say, "Come to me. I will teach you about love. I will teach you to be beautiful." Everything in the creation talks to you. Allah also says in the Quran, "There is no creature but that it praises and glorifies Allah in prayer." Don't you hear the trees talking as they sway back and forth? They chant with the divine tongue. Don't you also hear the birds singing and chanting the praise of Allah? Everything glorifies Allah in prayer.

Allah wants you to be a beloved (of the creation), not a destroyer or a corruptor. He wants you to be beautiful, full of mercy for everything. He wants you to be merciful to the birds, to the trees, to everything. Don't you hear the currents of water running in the river praising Allah and thanking Him? He waters all the fruits and vegetables and trees for you. Isn't that the essence of love? Allah serves you. Allah made everything for you. He offered you the water of love. People need love. They need the pure and clean water of love.

My son and my daughter, how can you heal people unless your heart is full of love? This heart must be full of love and peace and security. The house of your heart must become the mercy. Those are three things: love, peace (including security), and mercy. If your heart is full of these qualities and you put your hand on the patient and you say, "Oh Allah, in your name 'the healer' (ash-shafi), then you are using the water of love that Allah put inside you and you can heal that person. However, you must ask Allah, "Please let the healing come through my hands."

So when the patient comes to you, you must first make him feel safe and at peace. You must first smile at his face with a heart full of love and beauty. You must take all the sadness out of his heart. You must be gentle and kind with him. You should never utter a word that may change him in a bad way or frighten him.

First ask him, "What do you feel?" or "What is your complaint?" Make him speak. You must be gentle and kind and not speak rough words to him. You must make him feel at ease and at peace. You must try to make him happy and joyful. Illuminate the love within his body and heart. Water him with the water of love. He will be healed when he feels the love, the peace and the mercy. He will trust and respect you because you give him this love and mercy.

He will know that you are truly his brother. The only difference is that you are carrying a Godly heart. This spiritual heart must be rejoicing in peace and mercy and love. You don't ask the patient, "Tell me about your history" in a way that he has to remember the things in the past that have hurt him. Don't try to know his secrets. Everyone has his or her privacy. Sometimes the secrets are painful secrets, horrible secrets. You shouldn't open this.

On the contrary, you can encourage him to say whatever is on his heart but you must be gentle and subtle. Then that person might actually confess (something like), "My father abused me" or "My father raped me" or "My mother treated me badly" and "It is painful for me. I can't forget about it." These people might then continue on and on to say, "And my brother did this to me, and my friend did that to me, and my wife did this to me."

He is allowed to tell you all of this but as a healer you must explain to him that, "These events took place in the past. These things took place because you were ignorant or helpless or young. Whatever happened it is over now. You must never return to the past. Forget it. Let it go." Tell the patient, "This is the hour that you will dress in a new garment. It is a new beginning, a new creation. You will be created anew. You will not remember the past. You cannot return to the past to change it. It is already past."

Can any one here return to the past to change it? No! Can you even bring yesterday to be today? Whatever you did for forty years, it's over and gone. You cannot change it. That's why as a healer you should not keep talking about the past and keep the patient thinking about it. You just tell him that, "The door of repentance, the door of returning to Allah is open. You are now a new child with a new creation. You must now start to wash your heart with the water of love and the water of mercy."

"No matter what your father or brother or friend or abuser did to you, leave him to Allah. Allah knows him. Allah will judge him and bring him to accountability."

"So whoever abused his daughter or his sister or any human Allah will judge him. Leave him to Allah. You, however, must always repent to Allah, return to Allah, and renew your promise with Allah and become the son (or daughter) of the moment. Allah says, 'The one who returns to Him full heartedly then Allah will continue to guide him and rectify his affairs.' You were deprived of love and Allah is giving you a chance to know His love. He brought you here. He washed you with the water of the love. He bestowed his mercy and forgiveness upon you. He always took care of you."

As a healer you must always wash his heart with the water of love by showing him love and by asking him to be forgiving, to leave the past and to know that the abuser shall be judged by Allah. Allah says in the Quran, "Whoever does an atom's weight of good shall receive its reward and whoever makes an atom's weight of evil shall suffer the consequences."

So you must first make the patient feel loved, and not feel that he is hated, or that he's a bad person. Let him feel he is equal to you. He is not worse than you. Make him feel that you are both equal and that he is a good human.

Allah says, "Pardon people and forgive them so that Allah may also pardon and forgive you." Allah says in the Hadith Qudsi, "If you have not made mistakes I would have brought forth another creature who would make mistakes so that I shall bestow my forgiveness upon him."

(Continuing to talk to the patient) "Understand that to Allah is our final return. Everyone, young or old, kind or not, will return back to Allah. We must realize that we will return back to Allah. So whoever abused you will be brought to Allah in front of your very eyes and you will see him suffering if you don't forgive him. Allah will bring him to accountability and will judge him. He will suffer the consequences of his abusive actions. He will suffer in the hellfire that is prepared for the evil ones."

But Allah is merciful. Whoever repents from his sins can turn back to Allah and say, "I confess my sins. Please forgive me." If he then sincerely promises Allah not to do that again, then Allah will forgive him. Allah on the Day of Judgment will bring the person who was violated and will say, "Look at this sinner who abused you and offended you. He repented and realized his mistake. Do you still want him to be punished?" If the person says, "I will forgive him," then Allah will say, "I am more forgiving and more merciful." Then He will reward (the one abused) with more blessings. He will compensate him for his injury and for all of the violations he suffered. He will give him a great reward and blessing as well as compensation for what he suffered.

Understand that all human beings have committed sins in one-way or another. Even Adam. Allah says about him in the Quran, "He disobeyed his lord." Allah said to him, "Don't eat from this tree" but the accursed shaytan, Iblis, whispered in his ear and lead him to eat from the forbidden tree. Why? Because there was a wisdom in that. If Adam hadn't eaten from the tree then we won't have seen you or you. (Sidi points to two of his students in the audience.) It was decreed. Allah says that He accepted the repentance (of Adam) and forgave him. Adam came from the garden to the lower realm of this world to build on it, to construct it, and to produce all of his offspring.

What did he do in the beginning? He ate the tree of love that is pure. You came from that tree. Allah wants you to live by this tree. He wants you to know the true love, to know that Allah is your true lord, and to know the true way of His love and mercy. These are the qualities that must be in the true healer. These are the foundations and the basics of healing.

For the healer to be a true healer you must have a heart full of love and mercy and peace. This will be the secret of your ability to heal. To carry these qualities is the secret of healing.

Know that Sufism, the way of purity, and the way of healing are one and the same. The message of Sufism, the message of purity, depends on the qualities of love, peace, mercy, pure goodness, beauty, justice and freedom. These are the foundations of Sufism, of purity. (These foundations) teach you, o human, where you come

from, why you were created, and what is your purpose. You must carry these qualities and purify your heart and not allow shaytan to whisper in your heart or to leave any of his traces in you. Listen only to the words of Allah and always remember the name of Allah.

Follow the shariah, the law of Muhammad, Ibrahim, and Musa and Isa. You must follow its teachings and instructions. There is no Sufism without following the law. If anyone claims to be a Sufi without following the divine law, the shariah, he is a liar. Such a person will be afflicted with diseases and problems. Allah will never heal people through his hands because Allah only heals through love, mercy and peace. These are the teachings that came through the tongues of all the messengers of Allah: Ibrahim, Musa, Isa (Jesus) and Muhammad. We must follow them and carry the message of true unity. There is no difference between any of these prophets. If you look with your heart and listen carefully to their words, it is one and the same message.

Look at this child. (Sidi is pointing to a young child who had just come up front to sit with her dad.) Isn't she a reflection of the divine mercy and beauty? (Do you see that) she is in complete surrender to Allah? She doesn't care about anything other than the search for love. When she finds love, she clings to it. She finds it now through her father. That's why she goes to him.

(Turning back to address all his students): you must also be like that: a child in the presence of Allah, clinging to Him to be fulfilled in love. Those are the children that are beloved to Allah.

So sit with them around the table of Allah. Who are the children? The children of Allah are the prophets and messengers of Allah, the pure ones who were completely purified. Return to your true essence. All of us must return to our real essence as a divine reflection.

My beloved sisters and brothers, daughters and sons, please do not return to the past again and open these painful memories to the patient and make him sicker than he was. Don't open this for them! You must make their world full of love, mercy and peace. Tell the patient to forget about the past and to be the son or daughter of their moment. This is the way of Allah, the way of all the prophets and messengers. I hope you have comprehended these words and will keep them in your hearts. I hope you will purify your hearts by these words.

Salih Kent starts to read from path to allah, page 71, but Sidi interrupts immediately:

For the one who doesn't have any love, it's better if he (just) throws himself into the fire because he actually wants the fire. He must pursue love so that he can find the garden. If he doesn't pursue love he will continue to be in the fire. He has free choice. Does he want to be in the garden or in the fire? Only through love can you live in the garden. You cannot find sufficiency without love.

Breaking the hearts is the most offensive sin. To break the heart of another person is the most tremendous crime that humanity can experience. Even animals—you should never break the heart of an animal. For example, if you have a dog it is important to understand that this dog has seven divine qualities. What are these qualities? The first one is love. The dog carries love because he loves his friend with the pure love of eternity. He teaches you about love. He also has the quality of surrendering, sincerity, truthfulness, and faithfulness and friendship. Do you see these seven qualities in one human? Show me that human! If I see him I will kiss his feet because that would mean he is one of the saints, one of the loyal friends and allies of Allah. **Sidi only listed six qualities. I've quadruple checked this on the recording. Feel free to add the 7<sup>th</sup> quality.**

The Prophet Muhammad, sallallahu alayhi wa salim, said that one man went directly into the garden when he once found a dog that was panting from thirst. There was no water. The man used to be a thief, a robber who traveled and violated other people and stole things from them. He was walking on the hot desert. He was thirsty and drank (the water from a well along the way.) He found the dog and felt (compassion) for the dog. "O, this dog is so thirsty. He can't reach the water in the well." He took off his shoes, filled them with water and brought the water to the dog. He offered the water to the dog who drank it until his thirst was satisfied. So Allah Most High, Glory to Him, send down the archangel Jibril who revealed to the Prophet, "There is a man who watered a thirsty dog in the desert. When he comes to you, o prophet, give him the good news that he shall dwell in the garden."

So what if any of you have the desire in your heart to water the thirsty heart of a child or to offer food to a homeless family in Africa, or in any other country including this country? What if we offered this food and clean water to these people, to the homeless people and the poor ones? In this country aren't there people in need of help? Yes! Here and everywhere else.

The one who is devoid of love is devoid of mercy as well. Love and mercy go together. Allah says to us, "Have mercy to those on earth so that the One in heaven will bestow His mercy upon you." The one who does not show any mercy will not receive any mercy. Our message is the message of love, mercy and peace. Those are the three qualities that all people on earth need, including the

sick ones and the homeless ones. The one who carries these qualities and rejoices in them is a true healer and Allah will grant healing through his hands.

Love has different degrees and levels that Salih will read about for us. So Salih, if you have love in your heart, read for us. I'm sure that he is full of love. Everyone has the love. Show me anyone who doesn't have any love in his heart. Anyone who is devoid of love will be deprived of life. Love is life. Love is the essence of life and life is the essence of love.

Salih reads from page 71 of Path to Allah. "Love has four names or categories. "The first is passion (al-hawa). Passion is love's descent into the heart, which is its appearance, its manifestation from the unseen to the seen. This descent is caused by a gaze or by hearing...Passion may cause a person to love something that his Lord orders him not to love."

Sidi and Amany: The one who has the lower passions does not know about true love. Let him go learn about love. Let him keep knocking on the door until he can find someone whom he can love with sincerity in a pure way. Let him give love in a pure, clean way and then he will receive love. Don't let him break any hearts. Let him come in humility and humbleness and ask for love in a true and pure way. Then Allah will provide for him a true lover.

If love actualizes in you and you become consumed in another person whom you love then know you didn't lose yourself to a human because that human is a divine reflection, a divine image. If you truly love in a pure way, you are loving the divine essence through this divine mirror. If you look at the one whom you love and you see (only) your own (human) face, then you are not yet in love. If you are in true love then you will look at the one you love and you see your own (essential, divine) face.

It doesn't mean you got annihilated or consumed or got lost to someone. It means that Allah revealed to you the secrets of His love through His creation. So be polite with the divine manifestations and give them the love and mercy. Help them and support them. Then you will be fulfilled in love and receive the divine love.

The Prophet, alayhi salat salam, says, "If you love me then follow me and Allah will love you." That means you must follow the messenger of Allah in all of his actions. Then your heart will be open to love all of the divine manifestations and to love all people. In fact, one doesn't hate the human being himself; one hates the actions that are in deviation of divine law. So instead of hating someone else, just try gently and with love to correct his way.

Salih Kent continues the reading. "So Allah says, 'Do not follow passion.' (2) Love (al-hub) This is when..." Until the early part of the next section (#3) on al-ishq: "... This is the love that takes over the human and makes him blind to other than his Beloved."

Sidi inserts: We don't mean by "blind" someone who can't see with his physical eyes. No. We mean the one whose heart is blind; the inner eyes within his heart cannot see. He has no insight. He cannot see the Reality (of Allah). He doesn't have any (divine) knowledge. Allah said, "The heavens and the earth cannot contain Me, but the heart of my faithful believer and lover contains me." Your heart can contain Allah. He said, "My heavens and earth cannot contain Me, but the heart of my slave worshipper, my lover, contains me."

Don't you want to be Allah's lover and beloved so Allah fulfills you and gives you what you need and become the eyes through which He sees and the ears through which He hears? If you want that then come to the way of Allah, the way of love. This is the way of Allah. There is no other way. This is the way of the lovers, the way of the prophets and messengers, the way of those who lost themselves in Allah and do not take anything except from Allah. They do not understand any language except the language of Allah. They are not holding any qualities except the divine attributes and the lofty ethics of Allah."

Salih continues reading about al-ishq: "This love takes over his spirit and all of his limbs. . . (to) his speech and his hearing are from Him and to Him"

Sidi: It is true. He will talk by the tongue of Allah. Know that you don't have anything except that which Allah gives you. Don't talk by the language of the selfish ego or the animal self. Don't talk in an impolite way or any way that is a violation of the lofty ethics of Allah. Do not backbite people. Do not speak badly about people, describing them by negative attributes.

If you do that your prayers are not beneficial for you. How many people are praying and they have no benefit from their prayers because their prayers will turn against that person. The prayer will tell that person that he is dirty, polluted. Why? Because he does not respect the prayer and nor does he give the prayer its true rights. Prayer is connection and communication with Allah. When you say, "Allahu akbar" it means that He is the greatest, greater than anything else. So why bother with anything else? Allah says, "Remember Me and I shall remember you by fulfilling you and by giving you My garden, My love, My peace, My healing, My happiness, My pure goodness and beauty."

Who doesn't love beauty, except for a diseased person? I am a slave of beauty wherever I go. I am a worshipper of beauty. I

prostrate and bow down to beauty. These are the poetic verses of Jalaluddin Rumi. I love everything across the earth because I see only Him in the whole world. So silent one who is still in your state, listen and understand. Live by love and lose yourself in love and you will learn the true divine essence. The one who tastes, knows. For the one who has no tasting, how can he distinguish between the honey and the onion? He will not be able to. The one who lost his sense of tasting will not be able to distinguish between the honey and the onion.

Did you taste the true taste of love? We don't mean when you are making physical love. We mean the pure, strong, powerful love that loves everything and everyone without limits or boundaries. There is no end to the divine life. It is eternal. So die before you die. Let everything in your life die except the truth and reality of Allah. Let go of the illusions and pictures. Transform from this realm of illusions to the divine reality that is full of love and peace and mercy. The Gnostic told us this.

I will tell you a story that happened in the past. A person came once to my master guide in Damascus, Syria. He asked my guide to give him the promise. My guide said, "How can I give you the covenant while you have this offensive physical odor about you? I don't think you know love. Did you ever fall in love?"

The man said, "No."

So my master guide said to him, "Go (and find love.) Love even a donkey. Taste the true taste of love and then come back to me to give me the promise."

I was beside my master guide and I laughed and asked my guide, "What is there in the donkey that he should love?"

He said, "The donkey carries a love that is greater than the love of the human being." I had my own donkey at that time but I had not yet smelled that love that the donkey carries.

So my guide told me to pull on the donkey's head with his leash. "Look. Won't he come you and respond to your call? Doesn't he stop when you say stop? Don't you ride on his back and he accepts you? And when you feed him he eats? And when you don't feed him he still remains silent and doesn't complain or rebel? He is obedient to you."

I said, "Yes, my master guide, that's true."

He said, "Isn't that an indication of love, of pure love?"

Everything Allah created carries this love. So carry it to. Give it to the child and to the elderly. Give it to all people. Give

it to the animals. Allah will bestow mercy on those who bestow their mercy on people.

So, the man (left my master guide) and went out to find love. All of the ladies refused him. No woman ever said to him, "Come to me my beloved." No one told him that. He came back to my master guide weeping bitterly. He kept weeping and weeping in his search for love until he lost his own eyesight.

At this point my master guide said to him, "Now your love is sincere and true. Come here." My guide was 113 years old at that time. He took some of his own saliva on his fingertips and touched the eyes of the man asking him, "What is your name?"

The man replied, "My name is Ahmed."

My guide asked, "Do you see me now?"

The man said, "Yes, I do see you now. All of a sudden my eyesight has returned."

My guide pointed out, "This is when you surrendered fully. Allah made your heart full of love."

The man said to the shaykh, "I know your saliva wasn't (just) saliva. It was the water of love that wanted to reach me and touch me. That's why it made me gain my sight back. Now I experience love from you. I now know the divine love through you."

Love causes everything to die except life- the pure, beautiful, true life needed by every creature that Allah created. There are other types of people who love lots of other people. They love a woman and then marry her. Then they divorce her and marry another person. No! In our way, in the way of Allah and the shariah, there is no divorce or separation. We do not let people marry with the intention of separating later.

We consider love as something very holy. We respect the human being as the divine mirror. We want to purify it and to preserve it as pure and clear. Everyone came through love. I ask men, "Who of you came (i.e., were born) outside of the way of love? So how come you go and break hearts? How come you ladies also break hearts? Didn't you receive love through your father when he gave his own water for you to be conceived?"

Allah is love. Allah is beauty. Allah is mercy. Allah is purity. That's why he starts the Quran, "In the name of Allah, the compassionate, the merciful." One of his names is "the giving." One of his names is "the merciful." One is "the compassionate." I'm trying to explain to you just a glimpse of the meaning of love. I hope you will understand it. If you comprehend this love

in the true way, the way of Allah, then you will be able to heal. This is the way of healing. The way of healing is the way of love, mercy and peace. The one who does not have these qualities will not be able to heal. The principle foundations of healing and the healer are these qualities. This is our law.

Salih continues on page 72: "he sees Him in every image that he sees. 'There is no limb or joint, except that it has the remembrance of You.' These lovers are consumed. . . . (through). . . and not changed in this state of love by anything, whether it is pleasant or unpleasant,"

Sidi: Drink my son, my daughter! Drink from the wine of love so that you can rejoice and live in happiness. Do not wait and deprive yourself of this pure drink. If you haven't gained even a sip of this wine then you will lose all of your life. Swim in the ocean of the Beloved so that you may see His marvelous actions that you've never seen before in your life. This poetry came through the spirit of Jalaluddin Rumi, the great Sufi guide. I think this is enough now, enough drinking.