

# Intimacy

Have you ever felt the exhilaration of a moody spring day when the smell of rain is in the air? Perhaps you remember the raindrops that once spattered around you with a musical drumbeat and died out when the sun broke through, glimmering through the parted clouds, exposing the sights and sounds of springtime. Or the times when the magic of evening hangs suspended in a moment of pure discovery and vibrates like a celestial marimba, freeing all your senses to experience the sheer delight and wonders of life to the full? What a moment; what a joy! To then to kneel in the damp grass as you inspect the wonders of a diamond tiara glittering brightly as its tenant does a little spider dance in a once common web that has been transformed into a marvel of delight by the spring rain. It is a moment to savor.

Did you look about you as you experienced a moment such as this; when your only desire was to share your wonder and delight with your companion in the hope that he or she will feel the gentle motions of the spirit that have overwhelmed your senses and revealed to you the wonders of the moment? Sensitive feelings are the beginnings of intimacy.

People are so much more important than things. Possessions, Happenings, personal desires and recognition are often compelling motivations; but the feelings of our loved ones are so much more important than all of these put together. It is not uncommon for us to buy expensive equipment so that we can fine-tune into images and sounds that vibrate in the airwaves around us; yet we too often fail to tune into the more important vibrations—the intimate feelings—of those who are dearest to us, and we trample underfoot the hopes and joys that could be ours if we were more aware, more sensitive, more fine-tuned to their intimate feelings; but, too often, our hardened hearts are unaware; and so we fail to watch for, and listen to, the tender looks or the subtle bodily motions that suggest feelings of intimate need—be it joy or despair—and rudely hustle away to pursue our own pleasures.

And what then? Feeling abandoned, their intimate feelings turn first to flickers of anger. And then into a deep vacuum of disappointment because their companion is are so unaware—or utterly uncaring. Is it any wonder, then, when thoughts of divorce begin to be more enticing to our spouses than the continuing famine of a marriage that is starving for the delights of intimacy?