

The 10 Core Concepts of Science of Mind

Dr. Ernest Holmes, the founder of Religious Science and developer of the Science of Mind philosophy, gave this definition for his teaching:

Religious Science is a synthesis of the laws of science, opinions of philosophy, and revelations of religion, applied to human needs and the aspirations of humankind.

Dr. Ernest Holmes was a mystic who found God in the silence. Going within and experiencing God in the deepest part of himself was his spiritual practice. His spirituality was reflected in his living; he believed he was one with God, and he experienced that oneness in all that he did. As important as the mystical experience was to Dr. Holmes, he also believed that religion had to be applied to everyday life problems, as an integral part of the walk of faith. Wholeness involved the Presence, yes, but also the Power -- the two faces of the dual nature of God.

Dr. Holmes developed the Science of Mind philosophy to reflect his twin beliefs that the inner experience of God gave entry to the Power of God and that changing the way we think about our conditions causes the Power of the Universe to *change* those conditions to make our lives better. Science of Mind identifies the *spiritual principles* that apply equally to everyone in every situation, and it teaches us how to use them for our advantage.

In their 1993 revision of the Foundational Class curriculum, Religious Science educators demonstrated that the Science of Mind philosophy is based on **10 Core Concepts** that serve as the organizing principles of the Universe. The complete text of the Core Concepts can be found in the Foundational Class workbook. Summarized, with keywords, they are:

1 - Oneness - God is the Source of all that is, and God is all that is. Everything in the Universe is made of the God-substance and is a unique, individualized expression of God.

2 – Triune Nature - God expresses Itself in three aspects -- Spirit, Soul, and Body. Each human being also has these same three aspects. Thus, there is God as macrocosm, human beings as microcosm.

3 - Creative Nature - God thinks, and the world comes into being. Likewise, all human accomplishments originate in thought. Our human thinking process is a reflection of the Divine Creative Process in microcosm.

4 - Prayer - All Good is eternally available and ready to flow into human experience. We activate this flow by means of prayer. Through affirmative prayer, or spiritual mind treatment, we increase our consciousness of Good eternally flowing to us.

5 - Wholeness - Spirit is a transcendent, perfect Whole that contains and embraces all *seeming opposites*. As human beings, we have free will and can *choose* what we experience, whether it be positive or negative. The same Principle that brings us freedom, prosperity, and joy also allows us to experience bondage, lack, or misery, according to our consciousness.

6 - Abundance - All that anyone will ever need or desire is already provided by Universal Abundance. This applies to everybody, not just some people. Every person is heir to the riches of Creation, without regard to merit.

7 - The Reciprocal Universe - For every visible form there is an invisible counterpart. This means that what we receive corresponds to what we imagine and believe we can receive, the Law of Mental Equivalents. This also is the Golden Rule: that what we do to others will be done also to us, the Law of Cause and Effect.

8 - Forgiveness - In the Eternal Now, there can be no place for Divine anger, unforgiveness, or punishment. If we perceive a need for forgiveness, this is a human condition. Human forgiveness is the process that frees us to live in the Eternal Now. It is the essential step before real spiritual growth can flourish. Science of Mind teaches that the ultimate goal of life is complete emancipation from all discord of every nature, and that this goal is sure to be attained by all.

9 - Immortality - The Universal Truth about life is that life never ends. What we call death is simply the changing of one form of life for another. Death, the belief and perception that life must come to an end, is a human concept. As in birth the invisible becomes visible, so in dying the visible again becomes invisible. Life continues on another plane when the body has outlived its usefulness.

10 - The Christ - Christ is not a person, but a Principle, a Universal Presence, the Universal Image of God that is present in all Creation. This is the concept of the Cosmic Christ, which is present within every person. Each human individual partakes of the Christ nature to the degree that he or she recognizes the Cosmic Christ within and lives out of that revelation. Jesus of Nazareth was a human individual who revealed the Christ Nature to the highest degree ever known.