

Claymont Society for Continuous Education
Higher Energies Workshop

July 10-14, 2024



The story of entering heaven is like a tale of two doors. These doors, unique to each of us, are entrances to two different levels between heaven and earth, between higher and lower, between us and our Source — The Source.

The first door is one we can open, by our own efforts. This entails building a platform in front of the wall, a spot where we can stand, gain our bearings in that high place, look for the door, find it, and open it. When we do open that door, even just a crack, the Light streams through, suffusing us with its ecstatic warmth. We build the platform by our inner work. And by further, wholehearted search, we may find the door and open it. Prayer can be part of that search.

Once we know our way to the door and can open it, that purifying Light gradually cleanses us, enabling us to open ourselves and thereby open that door wider and more often, almost at will. But we cannot pass through it until we have emptied ourselves enough and absorbed sufficient Light to stabilize our access to it. Then the precincts of the Real becomes a place for our further Work, involving a high energy crucial for all of us.

Yet there is another wall at an even higher level. To move beyond that wall, we need the second door, which only opens from the other side. That door we cannot find by our own efforts, nor can we open it. It finds us, when we are ready, and the One who lives beyond it opens it to us. Here the need is for total purity, complete emptying. Any gap between us and that One keeps this second door closed. Only by becoming perfectly empty can we hope to return to the place we never left, the place of no doors, no walls, and no separation.

Higher energies are the substance of these three realms: the platform before the first door, the Sacred Light beyond that door, and the Oneness beyond the second door. Our relationship to each of the energies differs. Toward some, we can learn to be active. Others require pure receptivity. And in between we have a third mode, which we may call directed receptivity.

In this workshop, we will explore approaches to the higher energies, by means of inner exercises, meditation, Gurdjieff movements, presence, and the practice of inwardly stepping aside to make room for the Sacred. What is presence, if not an opportunity to open ourselves to allow the Sacred to see through us, as us?

The workshop will be led by Joseph Naft. He is the author of www.innerfrontier.org and of seven books, most recently **Light on the Way**. He studied with J.G. Bennett at Sherborne, England in 1974 and has led Fourth Way groups since 1976. Deborah Rose Longo will teach movements, along with Joe.

The workshop will begin with dinner at 6:30 pm on Wednesday July 10 and end with lunch on Sunday July 14. All activities will be at the Great Barn.

You are cordially invited to join us in our work and exploration. Participants must have experience in Fourth Way groups or courses.

Suggested donation for the workshop is \$400 if you are staying overnight at Claymont and \$220 if you are not staying overnight at Claymont. However, do not let the cost prevent you from attending, as financial assistance is available.

For more information and to register please contact Amy Silver at Claymontgathering@hotmail.com.

For more information about the Claymont Society go to www.society.claymont.org