

# “Interventions”



## One Who is Truly Spiritually Wise (d)

**Love** for our neighbor, by the Grace of God, works a *miracle* in our hearts: the problems and difficulties of our neighbor become our own problems!

**We** are glad when they are glad; we are sad when they are sad. We are always at their side in prayer.

**It** is a sign of great **spiritual emptiness** when, **trapped in our self-love**, we forget or avoid thinking about what is happening around us, about the pain and deprivation—whether spiritual or material—that many of our brethren are experiencing.

**Imprisoned in our egocentric self-sufficiency**, we blissfully enjoy God’s gifts without a sense of our unworthiness, without a prayer for those who are deprived and suffering in many ways, without a sense of gratitude and thanksgiving...

**Here** is yet another thought-provoking example of the **opening of one’s heart**, of how the “truly spiritual man,” the man in Christ, should think.

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**Fritz Kreisler** (1875-1962) of Austria, one of the greatest violinists of all time, thrilled audiences around the world with his skillful playing. Although he could have commanded the highest fees, he refused to do so and never became rich.

Kreisler once said, “**I never look upon the money I earn as my own. It is public money. It is only a fund entrusted to my care for proper disbursement.**”

**Speaking** for his wife as well as himself, he said: “**I feel morally guilty if I order a costly meal, for it deprives someone else of a slice of bread—some child perhaps of a bottle of milk.... In all these years of my so-called success in music, we have not built a home for ourselves. Between it and us stand all the homeless in the world!**”

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**Surely**, these are exceptional views in our modern consumer society, where the attitude “let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die” prevails.

**But** we need such voices to wake us up from our slumber of material and spiritual self-sufficiency.

**This** great musician considered every person in pain and suffering to be his neighbor. That is why he applied the commandment of Christ to all people without distinction: “Love thy neighbor as thyself.”

Presented by

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