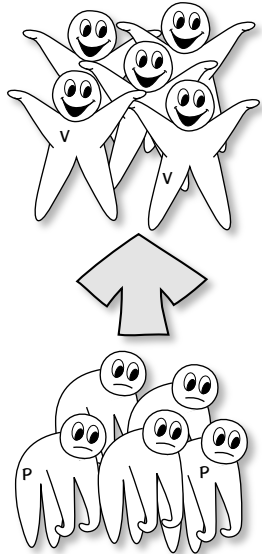


Spiritual growth and development is an ongoing process in every human soul. It can take place unconsciously through evolution or consciously through an intentional process called initiation.

Evolution is Uncconscious Change

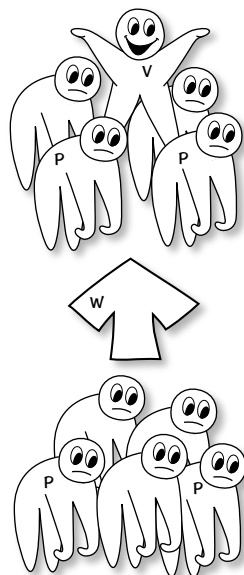


'Slow Motion Growth'

Evolution • A gradual process by which something changes into a different and usually better or more complex form.*

- **Evolution is a natural process.** It is the way that we unconsciously undergo spiritual growth and transformation.
- **Evolution is biological.** It takes place through the blood and body of our ancestors over many generations. Hence it is a slow and seemingly accidental process.
- **Evolution is a group activity.** In order for an individual to change, the species, clan or culture that they are most closely associated must change. Hence, individuals seeking positive change in their lives feel compelled to try and change everyone else in order to "save the world" and themselves.
- **Evolution is like erosion.** Evolution *appears* to be a process of "building up" in order to become more effective in life. However, what is actually taking place is that the '*lies inside of us*' are being washed away by the river of Spiritual Truth that is forever flowing through us. It is the removal of what is false within us that is actually creating whatever is new and improved in our experience of life.

Initiation is Conscious Change



'Change at the Speed of Light'

Initiation • The act or instance of '*causing to begin.*'*

- **Initiation is a conscious process.** It is the way that we intentionally initiate a conscious program of spiritual growth and transformation within our own being.
- **Initiation is psychological.** It takes place within the consciousness of the individual seeking change in their own life. Hence, the pace of change is determined by the commitment and intensity that an individual brings to their own spiritual practice.
- **Initiation is an individualized activity.** Fully developed individuals have the ability to initiate their own spiritual growth apart from any species, clan or culture that they may be associated with. Hence, Initiates do not feel the need to '*save the world.*' Instead, they work on themselves and serve others by graciously imparting their acquired wisdom to those who have the '*ears to hear.*'
- **Initiation is like an explosion.** It doesn't produce anything that evolution wouldn't eventually accomplish. It merely collapses the time that it takes for evolutionary changes to occur in our lives. For example, a stick of dynamite can turn a boulder to dust in a second. The natural forces of erosion will accomplish the same thing over eons of time. Either way, every boulder will eventually turn to dust.

* Definitions from Webster's Dictionary.
(Mar. '20)