

An Example of Interdependence Based on the Spirit

R059-aj

By Jeff Liautaud

This short article spells out interdependence based on the [Spirit](#). It is a true story involving family behavior from the author's diary. Family behavior begins at an early age. Once learned, it becomes a habit out of sight. Most family behavior is good but some can be bad. It takes awareness before change can occur. For those who surrender, God does the healing.

1/18/21

A New Hire, was to begin April 1 working jointly for a company of mine and a company of one of my children. The New Hire said in full disclosure he had some stock benefits from his current employer coming that would expire after April 1. I was trying to protect my child and myself. My child was super busy. I wanted the New Hire to start earlier because we needed his help and I would rather know sooner than later if he did not intend to go with us. I offered the New Hire a signing bonus equal to what the New Hire had to wait for, a significant amount of money to start early, two months earlier than April 1.

The New Hire refused. I explained my reasons and alternatives. We negotiated a one day extension to reconsider. The New Hire who has been working with us as a side consultant for years said he would speak to my child. They did meet.

The child of mine, said: "It is not easy to get the right person to do what we need to have done. What if we had to work with a person like _____ (a consultant who acted like a bull

in a china shop)? Then if he didn't work out, and we had to start over again it could be a nightmare. The New Hire is the right person." We both loved working with him. The new hire had told us he wanted to move into our industry.

The child of mine also explained that even if the New Hire came on early, he still could not help the child because a seasonal year end crush of work is nearly over. The child had seven new clients that she had to put off, and now eagerly wanted to take care of them, as she alone could do. So, even if the New Hire came on early, my child could not take the time just then to work with the New Hire. I knew I had work for the New Hire that needed to be done and just could not get done as long as the New Hire had his current day job which was quite demanding.

I said "Sounds like, both you and New Hire had an excellent conversation. He wants to work with you and you want to work with him. Is that it?"

The child said: "Exactly. I sure wish you could find some way to compromise with him." I recognized that genuine mutual love and care felt by both the New Hire and my child as interdependence based on the Spirit. It was a caring presence outside of both. For the Spirit is love.

It made me ashamed I did not have more faith. I am supposed to have faith in all those around me, but was I?

I am a personality type on the Meyers Briggs test defined as an ENTJ. That means I feel compelled to move people and things in a direction they should go. I am trying to become an ENT- OK. My child and I

discussed my family behavior at its worst of being too impatient and too bulldozing of those around me to get my way without enough sensitivity to them.

That Spirit of love I felt too was proof that I needed to change! Now, the amazing thing is that by grace, I was lead to see my bad family behavior in a case like this. I felt determined to drop the bad family behavior, but it took the better part of an afternoon to come to grips with myself. I could not imagine the New Hire suffering any longer. I picked up my phone. The New Hire did not answer. I left a voice message that we would do everything just the way he asked a year ago and stay with his April 1 start date.

The New Hire called back and explained: “It all came down to the bonus that I was going to get from my current employer in February. I worked hard last year. I went over and above the call of duty, starting many initiatives that paid off well for my current employer. I earned that bonus, right? And it did not make sense that if you paid the bonus it would cost a significant % of your (Jeff’s) liquid net worth, when to a big company, like my current employer, it was a rounding error, right?”

The New Hire was looking out for me as I aged. He had the power of his conviction. He just could not see me paying extra for what he had already earned. That was an insight for me. The New Hire was a meticulous planner. He had integrity, knew what he was doing, and perseverance to follow thru. The New Hire was trying to protect me from myself!

This morning I explained to my wife that the early signing bonus retained by us will now

be the last amount spent in our retirement. So it will keep growing by whatever compound annual rate of return we would have missed, had I spent it.

My wife understood. She is kind to me. All around me, people are looking out for my good. **That is interdependence based on the Spirit.**

Left to my own devices, my own bad family behavior could keep ruining me. Thank goodness, God does the healing. What a curious way! Profound love was chosen by those around me to say “No” to my will and “Yes” to God’s will. As a windfall my great opportunity is to leave behind some bad family behavior. I needed awareness and a hard lesson. I received both. Now it is up to me to change.

I believe that by being in the grace of God, a spiritual direction found in [The Least](#), I receive armloads of information to change myself. My hope is that my company is used for the good of my family.

This is generational healing. I sincerely believe that by suffering at the hands of my siblings, not retaining my father’s company as he intended for the good of his family, God is now lifting me up, seemingly rewarding me for honoring my parent’s wishes as my children do for me, all of us bringing our same wish a bit closer to reality.

1/20/21

Today I prayed that coming over the big hill into Minong, Wisconsin that I might see what the Native Americans saw before me, which they named the floating, as if rising up from a fog, pleasant valley Minong. This

has been my summer home my whole life. For me the floating pleasant valley is a spiritual reality thru an interfaith Pocket of Prayer (“POP”). POP was started by Terry Turek to pray for people in greater Minong for over 20 years, but I only discovered it in 2020.

After my humbling experience yesterday of my profound need to change my family behavior, I was quiet today in POP. In the meeting, a person said he was inspired by me in our last meeting. He referred to my testimony about the Holy Spirit at a healing conference that I attended. He is inspired by the growing presence of the Holy Spirit in himself. A timely sermon after our last POP meeting, confirmed and made real the Holy Spirit for him. In POP talk, a big up arrow.

That confirming testimony of 3, myself, my friend, and his Pastor, was interdependence based on the Spirit. So while I felt humbled, God lifted me up by my friend’s testimony including me.

Then, whammy, another person in POP had a reading prepared for today:

James 4:10

“Humble yourself before the Lord, and he will lift you up.”

That made a 4th confirmation. That interdependence based on the Spirit did not stop there.

Everyone has a spiritual gas tank on their back. Our spiritual gas tanks are filled by testimonies from others in POP as “Miracles, First Hand.” Even small testimonies of a caring presence outside of our self creates a needed environment of

openness. Inspiration overcomes a hardened heart. The purpose of the power of the Holy Spirit is to go forth in holy boldness, proclaiming the good news of the arrival of the Second Pentecost. The abundance is spiraling into profound amazement by all of us “in unity for all” as found in Ephesians 4:13 so that we “all come together.” Interfaith dialogue and ecumenical dialogue may fulfill 2021 as the year of the universal Church.

The “Where Work Meets Faith” process includes both Christian Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialogue, not based on shared beliefs. The process is a direction to Christ, Biblical Christ, as our Capstone. The process is embodied in a Work Meets Faith small group. It is true that the Work Meets Faith small group may culminate in the spiritual direction found in the document called The Least. But to join The Least following the spiritual direction of The Least as a standalone document is also a possibility. There are no meetings of The Least, no money, just direction culminating in a path. The path is that “all come together,” unity for all mankind.

The “Where Work Meets Faith” process is executed thru Loquate and its website Loquate.tv. Loquate is a charitable center for peace that uses Smart® groups for intentional community building. Loquate’s Resource Page offers support free of charge to Work Meets Faith Ministry, and its Work Meets Faith small groups.

Open to all, not just POP or Work Meets Faith small groups, anyone can make this the year of the Universal Church by going into deeper devotion in prayer following the spiritual direction found in [The Least](#).