Walking Together on a Path of Service

DETAILED OUTLINE OF BOOK 7

12/1/2009
**The Spiritual Path – Unit 1**

**Purpose:** To gain increased awareness of the spiritual dynamics of advancing along a path of service to the Cause and acquire an understanding of the forces at work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section 2: Polishing the mirror of our hearts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Our inherent capacity to reflect light</td>
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<td>• Sun of Truth shines on all mirrors</td>
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<td>• What is the “dust and dross of this world”</td>
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<td>• What helps us polish the mirror of our hearts?</td>
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<td>• Constant effort is required</td>
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<td>• A Pure Heart</td>
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<tr>
<th>Section 3: True Wealth</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Our Spiritual Qualities, our Knowledge and our service to humanity constitutes our true wealth</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Spiritual Qualities and virtues</td>
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<td>• Spiritual Wealth</td>
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<td>• Service and Virtue</td>
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<th>Section 4: Towards Excellence</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Capacity to know and love God</td>
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<td>• Only God knows our capacity</td>
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<td>• Our responsibility to develop</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Mediocrity versus Excellence</td>
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<td>• What is “moral degradation of society”</td>
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<td>• Protecting against frivolous conduct</td>
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<td>• Relative versus True Excellence</td>
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<th>Section 5: Love and Fear of God</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Love of God</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Various forms of Love</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Fear of God</td>
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<th>Section 6: Obedience to the Law of God</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Twin Duties</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Obey the Laws</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Example of Laws</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Obedient servant of God</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
- How to learn about the Laws of God
- Metaphors of the Law of God

**Section 7: Faith and Action**

- Aspects of Faith

**Section 8: Hope**

- Source of Hope
- To have Hope
- Our Hopeful effort

**Section 9: Longing Desire**

- Object of our desire
- Worldly versus heavenly desires

**Section 10: Will and effort**

- Effort
- Our free will
- Aspects of effort
  - Fate
  - Luck
  - Goal
  - Resistance
  - Supplication

**Section 11: Sacrifice**

- What is Sacrifice
- Purpose of Sacrifice
- What to Sacrifice

**Section 12: Joy**

- Joy of knowing God
- Joy of recognizing His Manifestation
- Joy of being immersed in the Ocean of His Mercy
**Becoming a Tutor of Books 1-6 – Unit 2**

**Purpose:** To explore some of the concepts and acquire some of the attitudes and skills that contribute to the capability of helping a group of friends go through books 1-6

**Practice:** To form a study circle and accompany it through at least one book.

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**Section 2**

**Motivation**

- Transitory
- Permanent

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**Section 3**

**Inner Joy**

- Enthusiasm
- Purity of Intention
  - Impurity as desire for recognition
  - Impurity as sense of superiority
  - Impurity as ambition
- Degrees of detachment
  - For the sake of God
  - For the sake of others
  - For the sake of ourselves

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**Section 4**

**Longing for Knowledge and Understanding**

- Source of Motivation

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**Section 5**

**Advancing in Understanding**

- Levels of Comprehension
  - Immediate meaning of the passage
  - Applying them in real life
  - Reflect on some of their implications
- Contributions to the consultations
- Behavior
- Exercises and Interventions
- Ability to foster and assess understanding

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**Section 6**

**Attraction to Beauty**

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**Section 7**

**Beauty of Atmosphere**
- Beauty of the Atmosphere in the physical setting
- Beauty of Atmosphere expressed in the behavior of all

### Section 8 Participation

- Methods, Approaches and Techniques
- Participatory Learning
- Teaching – Learning Dynamics
- Active versus Passive state of Learning

### Section 9 Aspects in a real Study Circle

- Participatory Approach
- Disciplined Consultation
- Managing silence and keeping the consultation going

### Section 10 Methodology of the Institute Process

### Section 11 Flexibility

### Section 12 Book 1

- Unit 1 – understanding the Bahá’í Writings
  - Simplicity
  - Bahá’í Identity by reading form the Writings every morning and evening
- Unit 2 – State of Prayer
- Unit 3 – Life after Death

### Section 13 Book 2

- Visiting Homes
- Qualities, attitudes and abilities that contribute to the capacity to nurturing others
- Introducing Bahá’í Beliefs
- The Joy of Teaching

### Section 14 Book 3

- Some Principles of Bahá’í Education
- Spiritual Education which includes moral development
- Lessons for Children’s Classes, Grade 1
  - Memorization
  - Songs
  - Stories
### Section 15  
**Book 4**
- Games
- Coloring

### Section 16  
**Book 5**
- Bahá’í Identity
- Crisis and Victory

### Section 17  
**Book 6**
- Being and Doing
- Nature of Teaching
- Effective presentation of the Faith

### Section 18  
**Branch Courses**

### Section 19  
**Nature and Purpose of a Study Circle**
- Regularity
- Participants
- Size
- Acts of Service
- Arts and cooperative games
- Activities in the community
- Not an isolated entity
- Joy in the group

### Section 20  
**Study Circle in Practice**

### Section 21  
**Tutors endeavor to embark**

### Section 22  
**Tutor Gatherings (“To the Collaborators” of book 1)**
- Reciprocal process of learning
- Participants responsible for learning
• Becoming conscious of the meaning and significance of what they are doing
• Three levels of comprehension
• Technique of dividing participants into pairs
• Focus attention on immediate and explicit meaning fosters unity
• Long discussions can be counterproductive
• Rhythm of progress
• Balance of approach to each unit
• Some question aim at raise awareness
• Each unit has an overall purpose
• Each section generally has one or two principal ideas that it tries to convey

Section 23  Tutor Gatherings (specific passages and exercises in unit 1 of book 1)

• Regularity
• Participants
• Size

Section 24  Tutor Gatherings (specific passages and exercises in unit 1 of book 1)

• Raise the level from discussion to consultation

Section 25  Tutor Gatherings (specific passages and exercises in unit 2 of book 1)

Section 26  Tutor Gatherings (specific passages and exercises in unit 3 of book 1)

Section 27  The Individual and the Community

Section 28  Moral and Spiritual Empowerment

Section 29  To Nurture Others
## Promoting the Arts at the Grassroots – Unit 3

**Purpose:** To appreciate the role of artistic endeavors in the activity of a study circle.

### Section 1 Introducing Arts

### Section 2 Arts
- Sources of Arts

### Section 3 Symmetry, Harmony and Perfection

### Section 4 Temporary and Lasting Beauty

### Section 5 About Music

### Section 6 Incorporating Music in the Study Circle
- Singing
- Enhance understanding
- Gaining a greater appreciation of the musical heritage of their people
- Acquire greater understanding of the role music can play

### Section 7 Stories

### Section 8 Drama

### Section 9 Crafts

### Section 10 Arts is one element in Study Circles