

The background features a light gray gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered in the corners. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

Weekly Tao Spiritual Discussion Holy Teachings

Pu-Guang Temple, Plano TX
June 6th 2020

Four Great Books in Confucius Holy Teaching Important for Our Spiritual Cultivation

Confucius Analects

Book of Great Learning

Doctrine of the Mean

Book of Mencius









A working-class Italian-American bouncer becomes the driver of an African-American classical pianist (Shirley) on a tour of venues through the 1960s American South.

Examples of racism depicted in the movie:

1. Shirley is performing before a whites-only audience at a large mansion when -- during a break -- he asks for the location of the restroom. He is told to use the outhouse. (He instead opts to drive back to his motel.)
2. In Macon, Ga., he notices a sharp new suit in a store's window display, but is told by the worker that only whites are allowed to try on clothes.
3. In Birmingham, Ala., he is set to play in front of 400 guests at a whites-only restaurant, but is informed he can't dine with them. (They'll bring food to his dressing room, he is told.)
4. In Louisville, Kentucky, Shirley is beaten up for trying to get a drink in a whites-only bar.

Jimmy Carter: "People of power, privilege, and moral conscience must stand up and say 'no more' to a racially discriminatory police and justice system, immoral economic disparities between whites and blacks, and government actions that undermine our unified democracy. We are responsible for creating a world of peace and equality for ourselves and future generations."

Bill Clinton: "Fifty-seven years ago, Dr. King dreamed of a day when his 'four little children would be judged not by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.' Today, that dream seems even more out of reach, and we'll never reach it if we keep treating people of color with the unspoken assumption that they're less human."

George W Bush: "It remains a shocking failure that many African Americans, especially young African-American men, are harassed and threatened in their own country. It is a strength when protesters, protected by responsible law enforcement, march for a better future," Bush said in a statement.

Barack Obama: "Part of what's made me so hopeful is the fact that so many young people have galvanized and activated and motivated and mobilized because historically, so much of the progress that we've made in our society has been because of young people."

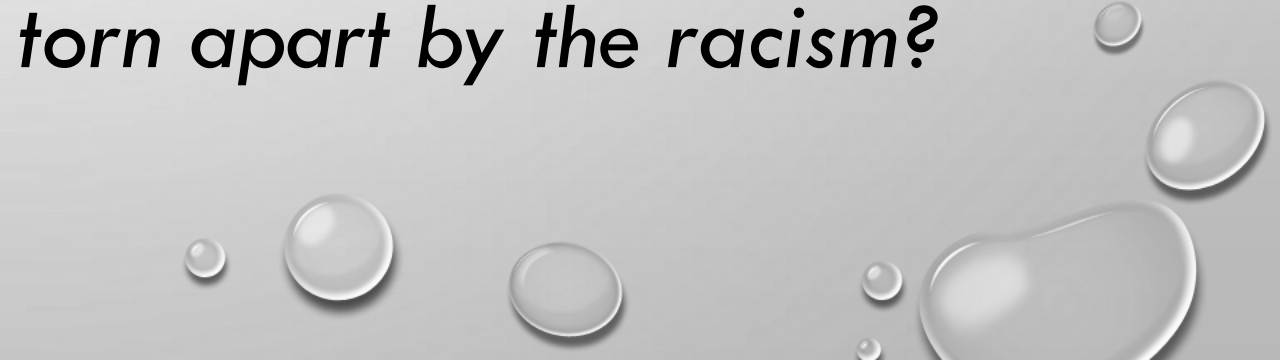
"There is a change in mindset that's taking place, a greater recognition that we can do better and that is not as a consequence of speeches by politicians, that's not the result of spotlights in news articles, that's a direct result of the activities and organizing and mobilization and engagement of so many young people across the country, who put themselves out on the line to make a difference."



Exposed historic and long-lasting racial and social injustice, which has permeated our society.

Racism is Real and Ugly.

What could we do, as Tao cultivators, to help bring together the communities, torn apart by the racism?





Holy Teachings



- Tao Teaching clearly says that **our true self originates from Heavenly Mother. Our true selves are the same, equal, and spiritually connected.**

Bible: All sin is ugly, but racism denies a basic core tenant of Scripture: that **all people are made in the image of God (Genesis 1:27)**. Rep. John Lewis, a friend of Martin Luther King Jr., said, “It is seared in my memory. Black men and women, our brothers and sisters, treated as second-class citizens, threatened for raising their family or earning a living, beaten and sometimes killed for the crime of trying to live a life with dignity.”

Holy Teaching from Platform Sutra



何期自性本自清淨!

Who would have thought that the our True Self is intrinsically pure!

何期自性本不生滅!

Who would have thought that our True Self is intrinsically free from becoming or annihilation!

何期自性本自具足!

Who would have thought that our True Self is intrinsically self-sufficient!

何期自性本無動搖!

Who would have thought that our True Self is intrinsically free from change!

何期自性能生萬法!

Who would have thought that all things are the manifestation of our True Self!"

Have Faith in Our True Self.



A tale of a white police officer named Bill "Mac" McDonald (Michael Joiner) whose life is shattered (and his faith severely challenged) when he loses his son in a tragic accident. Man who accidentally crashed his son was a black man. Mac grew resentment towards blacks.

Eighteen years of rage and hostility ensue, marked by rapidly crumbling relationships with his family members and strained relationships on the force.

One night out on patrol, the white police Mac and his partner black police Sam came across a robbery event. Unknowingly, Mac shot one of the suspects which turned out to be his son. Mac was devastated to think that he had to bear losing his second son. The son's kidney was badly damaged by the shooting and in dire need of a kidney transplant.

"Inside, We're Pretty Much All The Same"

Holy Teachings



子曰：「性相近也，習相遠也。」 Confucius said, “Our true selves are identical. Due to habits, desires, and attachments over time, we become different and wide apart.”

We are not born racist.



To eradicate racism and racial injustice, **being aware of our bias, understanding ourselves, and educating ourselves and future generations** represent key focus.

What should we do? Receive Tao. Cultivate diligently. Study holy scriptures. Use sacred three treasures to meditate and stay centered on our true self. Recognize own bias and have the courage to eliminate it for us, our children, and community.

Nelson Mandela is famously
quoted for saying this:





Slow down. Get back to basics. Stay frugal.

Use our resources wisely to support and care for one another. *Dr. Fauci: Now is the time, if ever there was one, for us to care selflessly about one another.*“

Determined to cultivate diligently. Use sacred three treasures to calm down our wandering heart and thoughts, and learn about holy teachings to better understand ourselves, to continuously cultivate and change for the better.

Be aware of the racial and social injustice. Do not look away or pretend that it does not exist. We all have a social responsibility.

For once,
Don't Do It.

However, We Can Be Blind to Sin.

Tony “Lip” Vallelonga agrees to be Shirley’s chauffeur and bodyguard even though he, himself, is racist. Yet, prior to the tour, we see him and his family praying to “Christ our Lord.”

This illogical dichotomy – loving God but hating your fellow man – extends to the South, where Shirley faces hatred from the very people who supposedly are the *most religious*.

How is this possible? As R. Albert Mohler Jr. wrote, professing Christians of the era had “ripped” [Bible](#) verses “out of their historical, literary, and theological context” to defend their beliefs. They ignored the plain reading of Scripture. They were blind to their own sin.

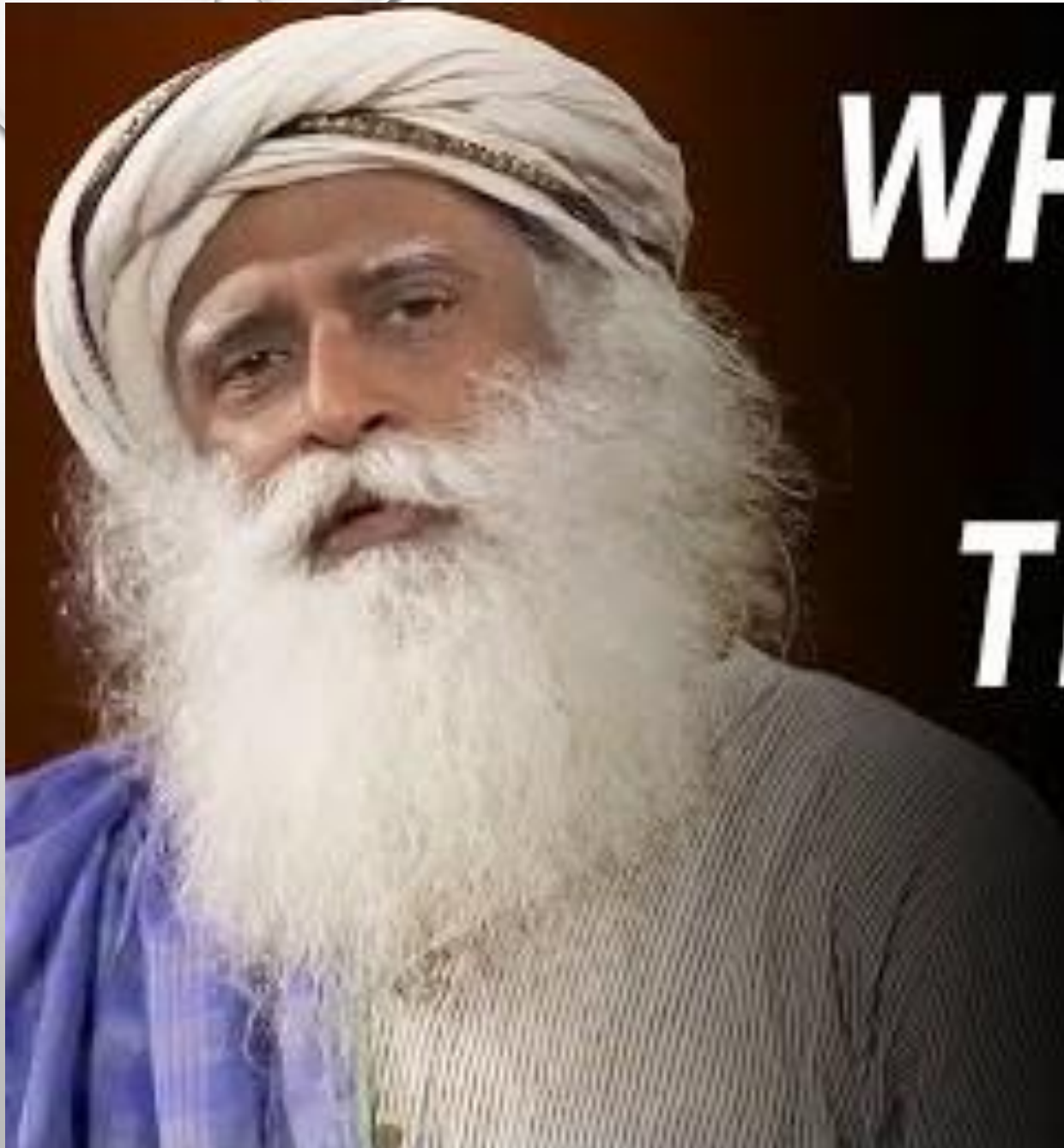


Believe that our true selves are forever pure, bright, and connected as we all come from our Heavenly Mother spiritually. Heart to heart transmission. Self reflection, awareness, and cultivation. Daily prayers and Zen meditation. Have courage to confront our inner demons to avoid being blind to our sins.



LET'S ALL BE PART OF CHANGE.

- Initiate and sustain personal change.
- Build stronger and tighter families, with love, respect, caring, compassion, and support.
- Learn to forgive others, as hatred is one of the three poisons in Holy Teachings.
 - I promise to pray for you everyday, ask you for your forgiveness, grant you the same, and be your friend always!
- Cultivate to perfect our ways to manage pain and disappointments, in accordance w/ Tao.
- Invite people to join the Tao sessions, so they could learn the spiritual teaching and meditation, receive the sacred three treasures, and start journey of their personal change.



**WHY SHOULD
I FORGIVE
THOSE WHO
HURT ME?**



LET'S ALL BE PART OF CHANGE.

- Initiate and promote systemic change.
- Get involved and make our voices heard. Non-violent methods do work.
 - *Green Book* contrasts the tough-talking, punch-throwing ways of Vallelonga and the dignified, nonviolent character of Shirley. Their differences come to a head in Mississippi, when the two end up in jail after Vallelonga hits a policeman who had insulted them with racial epithets.
 - “You never win with anger,” Shirley tells Vallelonga. “... Dignity always prevails.”
 - By using nonviolence – that is, never responding to evil with evil ([Romans 12:17](#)) – Shirley exposed the demonic, illogical sin of the South. And he did it with a piano.
 - “Nonviolence is a powerful and just weapon,” MLK [said](#). “Indeed, it is a weapon unique in history, which cuts without wounding and ennobles the man who wields it.”
- Stay hopeful and positive even during the darkest moment. Proverb: It's always **darkest before dawn**.

Holy Teachings

子路曰：「君子尚勇乎？」子曰：「君子義以為上。君子有勇而無義為亂，小人有勇而無義為盜。」

Paraphrase: 子路說：「君子提倡勇敢嗎？」孔子說：「君子以道義為上，君子如果勇敢而不講道義就會顛覆國家，小人如果勇敢而不講道義就會成為強盜。」

Paraphrase: Tsze-Lu asked, "Does a virtuous person promote courage?" Confucius answered, "A virtuous person deems righteousness as of the highest importance. A virtuous person acting courageous without righteousness will cause chaos. A selfish person acting courageous without righteousness will become a bandit."

子曰：「君子喻於義，小人喻於利。」

Paraphrase: 孔子說：「君子通曉道義，小人通曉私利。」

Paraphrase: Confucius said, "A virtuous person is conversant with morality and righteousness; a selfish person is conversant with personal gain."

Coach, Kate Spade CEO dismisses broken windows in stores: “I focus on the cause. What is it that was the underlying issue that caused people to step out into the street to protest, to take the steps that they took?” Zeitlin, an African American man, asked.

He added that physical destruction or missing merchandise can be replaced. “In fact, the losses that we suffer there are minimal relative to the, frankly, **the broader losses that society is suffering from and from the loss of life that so many families are suffering from. And that’s what’s key,**” Zeitlin said.

“My first thought was to our people. Thankfully all of our teams are safe,” Zeitlin [wrote in the LinkedIn post](#).

“I then thought about those that had smashed our windows and taken handbags, and shoes, and dresses. What was going through their minds as they acted? Has our society truly left them with little to lose and few other ways to force the rest of us to come to the negotiating table? **We can replace our windows and handbags, but we cannot bring back George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Eric Garner, Trayvon Martin, Emmett Till, and too many others. Each of these black lives matter.**”

Summary of Key Takeaways

Cultivate and have faith in Heavenly Mother and Our True Selves.

Initiate and sustain personal changes.

Initiate and promote systemic changes.

Tap into the power of forgiveness.

Stay positive and hopeful. Be the catalyst for unity and harmony.

Summary of Holy Teachings



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*THE JOURNEY OF TAO CULTIVATION IS OPEN TO ALL.
MAY YOUR JOURNEY BE FILLED WITH PEACE,
WISDOM, COMPASSION, AND HAPPINESS.*