



#### OPENING DIALOGUE

- Solo: Peace be with you
- Unison: Acquire my Peace within you.
- Solo: Where are you from?
- Unison: We have come from the place where love is produced from itself
- Solo: Where is that place?
- Unison: It's a mystery
- Solo: But can you say you image the love?
- Unison: Yes, indeed. We carry the light within.
- Solo: And the peace?
- Unison: Yes, also the peace
- Solo: How do you know of such love and such peace?
- Unison: The sign is the feeling. The sign is the movement from within. The sign is the passion for the well-being of all.

Solo: Are you willing to spread your love and your peace?

• Unison: We are eager to spread them. They spread as love spreads

• Solo: The kingdom spreads out on the earth, just as love spreads

• Unison: But some people are not aware of it.

• Solo: Yet you are aware.

Unison: Yes, indeed. We are aware of the light and the movement and the
peace. And we cannot stand back. We will step forward. We will
overcome the violence, the domination, the hatred and spread love.

## The Gospel of Mary

Comparing the translations of Jean Yves LeLoup and David Curtis Page 10

Peter said to Mary: Sister, we know that the Teacher loved you differently from other women.

Tell us whatever you remember of any words he told you which we have not yet heard.

Mary said to them: I will now speak to you of that which has not been given to you to hear.

Then Peter said to Mary,
"Sister, we know that you are greatly loved by the Saviour, more than any other woman.

Tell us those words of His that you remember, the things which you know and we don't, the teachings we never heard."

Mary answered, saying: "What is hidden from you I shall reveal to you. Whatever is unknown to you, and I remember, I will tell you.

### The Gospel of Mary

Comparing the translations of Jean Yves LeLoup and David Curtis Page 10

I had a vision of the Teacher, and I said to him: 'Lord, I see you now in this vision.

'And he answered: You are blessed, for the sight of me does not disturb you.

There where is the *nous*, lies the treasure'.

And she began saying these words to them. She said, "Once I saw the Lord in a vision and I said to him: 'Lord, Rabbouni, now I see you in this vision.'

He answered me and said: 'Blessed are you Mary, for you do not waver at the sight of me. How wonderful you are!

For this is where the treasure lies - in (that place where heaven and earth meet, where deep understanding arises in the heart and mind), 'the nous'."

## The Gospel of Mary

Comparing the translations of Jean Yves LeLoup and David Curtis Page 10

Then I said to him, 'Lord, when someone meets you in a Moment of vision, is it through the soul [psyche] that they see, or is it through the Spirit [Pneuma]?

The Teacher answered: 'It is neither through the soul nor the spirit, but the **nous** between the two which sees the vision, and it is this which [...]

I asked him this: 'Now tell me Lord, how does a person see such a vision, is it through the agency of their soul or through The Spirit?'

The Saviour answered: 'It is neither through the soul nor through The Spirit, but through the understanding which arises between the two, that is how the vision is seen."

OLD TESTAMENT: To whom does the Divine send visions?

Then the LORD came down in the pillar of the cloud and stood in the door of the Tabernacle and called Aaron and Miriam. And they both came forth.

And He said, "Hear now My Words. If there is a Prophet of the LORD among you, I will be known to him by a vision, and will speak to him by dream.

Numbers 12:6 Revised Geneva Translation Bible

New Testament: To whom does the Divine send visions?

But this is what God told the prophet Joel to say,

"When the last days come, I will give my Spirit to everyone. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions and your old men will have dreams. In those days I will give my Spirit to my servants, both men and women, and they will prophesy."

Acts 2:17 Contemporary English Version Bible

".., as Leloup points out, **visionary knowledge** is not an experience, let alone a private or subjective one" it is an ontological reality entirely superior to mere possibility" It emanates from an act that is in fact more subtle and endowed with the real Being than our own...This realm would be given the title: **the imaginal realm**...it means the realm in which the images, the eternal prototypes reveal themselves in their full authenticity.

C Bourgeault The Meaning of Mary Magdalene, pg 61

...[H]ow does one get to have a vision?

What are the inner prerequisites for entering the visionary realm and sustaining an encounter there?...

[A] key factor in Mary's inner readiness is that she has learned to remain "undisturbed: that is completely still and inwardly composed.

The obvious question is what made her able to do this?

C Bourgeault, The Meaning of Mary Magdalene, p. 64

### Significance and implications

- Ubiquitous across millennia and cultures
- Paul's claims apostleship through his visions of the risen Christ.
- Peter's vision led him to understand God accepted Gentiles in the early Church
- Mary not only followed Yeshua in life (as Peter) but also received post resurrection visions (like Paul).
- Why was she not accepted as an "apostle" (after the 3rd century CE until relatively recently)?



# Reflections and Discussion

## How can we understand "nous" today?

- Optional resources for discussion in October...
- B C Adam, The Magdalene Mystique, appendix B -comparison of three translations
- C Bourgeault, The Meaning of Mary Magdalene, pg 61-65
- J-Y Leloup, The Gospel of Mary Magdalene, pg 115-128
- K King, The Gospel of Mary of Magdala, Chapter 7
- D Curtis <a href="https://www.thegospelofmary.org/the-gospel">https://www.thegospelofmary.org/the-gospel</a>

#### **CLOSING PRAYER to MARY MAGDALENE:**

- Blessed are you, Miriam, (Maryam, Mary) for you did not waver at the sight of the risen Master;
- You who were his companion and whom he loved more than any other woman.
- Holy Bride, Apostle to the Apostles, be at my right shoulder as I walk forth in the Infinite Light
- and bless me with the healing balm of your eternal presence.

Ameyn.

