

Onsite Biography Gathering – September 2025, Pondicherry, India

Faith, Love and Hope

Building Resilience for Challenging Times

*There is a knighthood of the 21st century
whose riders do not ride through the darkness
of physical forests as of old,
but through the forest of darkened minds.
They are armed with a spiritual armour
and an inner sun makes them radiant.*

*Out of them shines healing,
healing that flows from the knowledge
of the human being as a spiritual being.
They must create inner order, inner justice,
peace and conviction in the darkness
of our time.*

Karl König, 1902 – 1966

During the onsite Biography Gathering in September 2025, we examine the positive qualities of Faith, Love, Hope and Goodness, Beauty, Truth in our lives.

Our conscious work with these qualities gives us greater resilience to face their counter-images: Doubt, Lies & Falsehoods – Hate, Ugliness & Vileness – Fear, Immorality & Evil.

Clearly this work is essential in these challenging times as humanity develops Consciousness-soul and has to face adversarial forces on a new level.

Each day, Lectures delivered by Karl-Heinz Finke, followed by sharing in small groups, deepen our understanding of this theme.

These main Lectures introduce the importance of Faith, Love and Hope as forces in the human being. Rudolf Steiner talks about these forces in his Lectures in Nuremberg on 2nd and 3rd December 1911 stating: *Faith, Love, Hope, constitute three stages in the essential human nature. They are necessary for health and for life as a whole, for without them we cannot exist. Just as work cannot be done in a dark room until light is obtained, it is equally impossible for a human being to carry on in their four-fold nature if their three sheaths are not permeated, warmed through, and strengthened by Faith, Love, and Hope. For Faith, Love, Hope are the basic forces in our Astral-body, our Etheric-body, and our Physical-body.* (GA 130)

We explore –

- Faith in relation to the Emotional or Astral-body and the 3rd & 4th Septennials (15-21 years & 22-28 years),
- Love in relation to the Life or Etheric-body and the 2nd & 5th Septennials (8-14 years & 29-35 years), and
- Hope in relation to the Physical-body and the 1st & 6th Septennials (Birth-7 years & 36-42 years).

Please note that Septennials are our life phases, following a 7-year rhythm.

In Steiner's Lectures, we learn that if we lose the forces of faith, we become incapacitated for finding our way through life.

If there is no love at all in a person, the Etheric-body which is sustained by love-forces shrivels, and this person, empty of love, would meet with physical death.

A person who is unable to hope, goes through the world with this clearly visible in their physical appearance. Deep wrinkles, those deadening forces in the physical body, appear more quickly when there is lack of hope.

In his Lectures to Teachers, Steiner associates ideal guiding images with our first 3 Septennials: the world is good; the world is beautiful; the world is true.

Understanding these three qualities – Goodness, Beauty and Truth – can give us a clearer understanding of how their counter-images – Lies, Ugliness and Immorality – infiltrate everyday life.

The deepening group-work explores how experiences of Faith & Truth, Love & Beauty, Hope & Goodness, contribute to resilience and can counter-balance Doubt, Lies & Falsehood – Hate, Ugliness & Vileness – Fear, Immorality & Evil.

As a guiding image for the transformation of adversarial forces and evil, we conclude our exploration by looking at the contribution of the Manichean stream to the development and protection of the human soul.