

GIVING AND RECEIVING

Chalice Circle Preparation

Quotes

Give without expectation and receive with reckless abandon.

– Colleen Mariotti

Humans are givers by nature; that's why it's easier to do something for another than for oneself.

– Charbel Tadros

Give, but know how and what to give! Plant your seeds; nurture them well for the best fruits; from the fruits you can feed thousands, and you can also get seeds from the fruits for further sowing. If, however, you keep giving your seeds in the name of benevolence, there shall come a time when you shall neither have a fruit to feed just a person nor a seed for replanting and harvesting!”

– Ernest Agyemang Yeboah

Questions

Giving and receiving are related, but our feelings about each are often so different. Think about what it means to give and to receive.

Think back to your childhood. What messages did you receive from the adults in your family about the concepts of giving and receiving? What behaviors related to giving were modeled by the adults in your family and by others close to you?

What do you think the difference is between giving and receiving in the context of being “in relationship” with another person?

Are you someone who finds it easy to give, someone who likes to give? How are you at receiving from others?

When were you last really aware that you were “giving,” and what was it that you gave? Was it something material, or something abstract from within yourself?

When was the last time you were very aware of receiving something? What was it that was given to you? Was it something material or abstract from another person?