Wise Mind from a Spiritual Perspective

Wise Mind as . . .

Contemplative practice

Mindfulness
Meditation
Contemplative prayer
Contemplative action
Centering prayer

Thoughts, attitudes, and actions designed to help us express or experience connection to:

- The sacred, the divine within, the transcendent.
- God, the Great Spirit, the Absolute, Elohim, the nameless one, Brahma, Allah, Parvardigar.
- Ultimate reality, the totality, the source, our essential nature, our true self, the core of our being, the ground of being.
- No self, emptiness.

Wise Mind experience from a spiritual perspective

Experience where a deeper layer of reality rises to consciousness. A reality that has always been there but has been misperceived. An experience of expansion of consciousness; the experience of unity and oneness within the sacred.

Wise Mind from the perspective of mysticism

(seven characteristics of mystical experiences)

- 1. **Direct experience:** Experience without words of *ultimate reality.*
- 2. **Experience of unity:** Awareness of oneness and of no distance between oneself, reality, and all other beings.
- 3. **Without words:** Experience of reality that cannot be grasped and can only be described with metaphors and stories.
- Certain: During the experience, certainty of the experience is total, undeniable, clear.
- 5. **Practical:** Experience that is concretely beneficial to one's life and well-being.
- 6. **Integrative:** Experience that establishes harmony of love, compassion, mercy, kindness; quieting of extreme emotions.
- 7. **Sapiential:** Experience that leads to wisdom, enhances capacity for intuitive knowledge.

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