

CHAPTER 4

The Big Picture

The Resolution of Resolution

I find it interesting that the same word used to describe the clarity of a picture on a television screen or a monitor is the same word used to describe a conflict that has been worked out. That same word being referred to is “**resolution.**” I am sure that I am not the first to notice the coincidence, but I find that exploring this coincidence to be quite enlightening regarding the dynamics of the communication of thought.

Individual and integral points of thought consideration, combined with other related individual and integral points of thought consideration develop what appears to be a picture of an inspiration, experience or observation on the screen of inner consciousness. In other words, when an individual is inspired, experiences or observes something, he builds an image of it in his mind one symbol or word at a time. This operation of the development of an image in thought occurs so rapidly that often one is not aware that the image he perceives is a conglomerate of individually considered thoughts. The image simply appears to be a complete picture with no subparts. Again,



A section of the image on the right, enlarged and showing how it is made of pixels.

Figure 4.1

like viewing a television monitor, unless one looks very closely at the television screen to observe the individual dots, the picture itself seems to be elemental and indivisible.

The color picture we see on a television screen is actually made up of thousands and sometimes millions of little dots of light called pixels. The term pixel is derived from the abbreviation of the expression “picture elements.” A pixel is a single point in a graphic image. Each pixel is an integral portion of the whole picture we see. The individual pixels are aligned so closely together that they appear to be connected and indivisible. Yet, they are individual. The individual pixels are very small and alone may seem insignificant, but each pixel is crucially important in presenting the full picture.

On the viewing screen of our inner consciousness, we experience everything that appears in our environment, envisionment and memory as a big picture. These pictures are comprised of many, many, tiny integral points of lighted thought. We shall call them pixels for the sake of illustration.

Each pixel (lighted thought consideration) is understood by the comprehensible word that is related to it. The appearance of these many lighted thought consideration points upon this viewing screen of our inner consciousness seems not only instantaneous but they all seem connected and indivisible. Yet, they are individual. These individual thought consideration pixels are very small and alone seem

insignificant, but each pixel is crucially important in comprehending and communicating the full picture. These individual and integral points of thought consideration, combined with other related individual and integral points of thought consideration, develop what appears on the screen of inner consciousness to be a picture of inspiration, experience or observation.

Like the graceful duck gliding smoothly and swiftly across the surface of the placid lake, we do not see the labored motor-like paddling of his feet beneath the surface. Everything we see in our environment, envisionment, or memory is presented in what appears to be complete and instant pictures. We do not readily focus on the intricate words, precise calculations or absolute precepts that generate the image. For general day-to-day routine operations we manage to get by somewhat productively without this comprehensive focus. Yet, when conflict appears to erupt, it becomes necessary to examine the image with a reasonably thorough micro-focus on the details if any semblance of resolution (or clear picture) is expected.

Any woman who has ever had a jewelry box in which her fine necklace chains have been carelessly strewn is likely to have found a jumbled mess to untangle when she goes to retrieve one of her chains to wear. If she is determined to wear it, she has found that she is not going to be able to put it on all tangled up with the others clumped with it. She also realizes that it is unwise to simply cut or tear the chains apart, because not only might she damage the piece she desires to wear, but she is likely to destroy other pieces she might like to wear in the future. So, she sits down, takes a patience inspiring breath, and proceeds to slowly and carefully follow the individual links of the tangled chains. She does this to restore distinction to the chains and order to the jewelry box. In conflict resolution these individual links are the individual words, phrases, and actions (pixels) that the party considers and uses to express the picture he entertains and embraces as his perspective.



The Mental Television Set

When two or more individuals come together in an effort to resolve a dispute it can look something like this:

One party comes to the session with what appears to him, in his mind, to be a clear picture of the situation. He sees exactly how the action he took or did not take was rational, logical and universally right. In his mind's eye the other party is either being stubborn, dishonest, ignorant, or has some other malicious intent that is prohibiting him from seeing, or admitting that he sees, this very clear picture.

The other party, on the other hand, sees in his mind what appears to him to be a very clear picture. He sees precisely how the action he took or did not take, that is being considered as contentious by the party, was rational, logical and universally right. In his mind's eye the party is either being stubborn, dishonest, ignorant, or has some other malicious intent, that is prohibiting him from seeing or admitting that he sees this very clear picture.

These very clear pictures held by the respective parties incline to support their conviction that the effort to communicate with the other is hopeless. It is as though the party expects that even without the effort of diligent communication activity his perspective should be seen and embraced. Also the party seems to fear the prospect of engaging in a diligent communication effort with the other, because he anticipates that the other party will be revealed as this stubborn, dishonest, ignorant or malicious person and the party expects that this realization will frustrate and anger him even more.

When a person watches an image of an object on the television monitor, the image of the whole original object does not travel in one solid piece from the TV station to the television screen at his home. The original is first converted into an electronic image. The electronic image is disassembled into its electrical elements. In this