Lesson 3 Surrender - for easy living

3a. Aaah... surrender....

Release... and trust. Go with the flow. That's what this lesson is all about.



I know that may sound somewhat bordering on woo-woo maybe. But don't worry, you'll see that it's common sense really to surrender a bit more. Remember that what I discuss here is always about changing in small steps, doing one thing differently, and then another. Then the whole puzzel starts to become clearer. You don't have to force yourself to do everything, at once, in the right way and order. It's not meant to be like that. This is more like a suggestion and an inspiration. In your normal day-to-day, you'll remember it and implement at that moment what you can and what fits. Or you might resonate very much with a particular aspect of it, and make it an intention for yourself to work on, while for example journalling on how it is going for you. So, see it that way.

O - and one more thing: a misconception we tend to have is that these acts of surrender, release and trust mean that we would just *do nothing*, wait for our lives to unfold and just hope for the best. The more you go on this intuition route, the more you'll realise this is far from how it really is. What we're working on here, is to live in alignment with our true selves, we wish to connect to ourselves, we wish to live lifes that fit us like a glove. While we can come a long way of course doing that with our thinking minds, we - most of us - have forgotten that we cannot think up everything that fits us most. There are a gazzilion ways in which our lives can go. We cannot think up all the possible ways in which our lives can go. If we think out every detail, and that way automatically stop certain other things from happening that don't necessary, immediately make sense, we will miss out on a lot of possibilities. So if we focus more on feeling, on our core being and general direction, we might encouter things perfect for us that will lead to even more aligned events etc.

Keep that in mind as we'll continue with this lesson about Surrender and easy living.

3b Release your hold

An important aspect of letting intuition lead the way, living in the easy way in surrender-mode, is to release your hold.

I 'learned' to hold on after my father left our family when I was 9, and even more when not much later, 2 important relationships ended. I held on to people, to situations, to things, anything, to make sure nothing would change again. After my father 25 years later, my initial reaction was to tighten my hold onto what I had still, with enormous effort. It became very clear then, that holding on makes everything stagnant and unmoving. The flow of life, of your body, of Spirit, of energy, it all kind of stops then. I felt, lacking a better word, 'rigid' on the inside. Nothing happened unless I made it so. Life doesn't feel natural and easy and good, when that happens. Well, I probably don't need to tell you that, as we all go through these things and likely notice that stagnation that happens when we cling onto something, trying to keep everything as it is.

When you release, it feels like letting a huge breath out after you've been holding your breath for too long without noticing it. It feels like beautiful fresh light streaming right into your living room after having kept the heavy curtains drawn for a week.

When you release, let go and trust, everything will feel natural and easy again. You don't have to control everything... just let go.... and <u>trust</u>.

3c Release your attachment to a specific outcome

Something very close to releasing your hold is to don't put your focus on the precize outcome of something.

We will learn every time a little bit more, as we go through the program together, that clinging onto anything specific, will block good solutions and outcomes to come into your life. Don't be attached to how things SHOULD look for you, in your life, or in your job for example. Or in a partner. When you put your intention to something, make sure to really think about what it is that you really want. Do you want to live in a house with a garden, or is it just that you would want a lot of green around you? Do you want a 5000 euro income, or do you really long for something else you could do with that money? Make a trip? Have enough to spare for your expensive hobby? Maybe you want to feel less scared about being able to pay the monthly bills. You see the difference? The perfect house for you might pass you by if you focus on that garden, instead of on the feeling you get when you are surrounded by green and nature. This is something we'll practice in some fun exercises in Module 6 ACT.

3d Go the soft way

Just to be very clear. Surrendering to what is best, and releasing your hold can also mean this:

We can let go of what we've been taught about what it is that we need: in school, university, sports teams, parents maybe - that we can achieve everything and anything, whatever we want, we can do and get.

Often the most important external influence depicting in us how we should be, what we should do etc is ...ourselves (in my own case very much so), saying to us "I can do anything!!" You know you can force it into being.

But to go THE SOFT WAY, the road of the least resistence, you will follow what is put in front of you, instead of forcing it. You will start to trust that those things are for you, in your best interest, even if your mind can't make logical sense of it and therefore wishes us to ignore it.

An example of following the soft way could be that you today you receive a nudge to go for a walk. You meet a certain person. They introduce you to a man, who much later on becomes your partner with whom you'll have children. Or someone who gives you your biggest client when you want to start out on your own. Or... fill in the blank.

But you see how you cannot orchestrate & foresee every possible outcome of everything.

Manipulating the outcome is very much possible. I did this for YEARS

This is how it worked for me back then. I said to myself, so many times over: "I can do and become anything I want" And it was true, I made it so. I became a judge..... but it brought me endless miles away from my true self. And if I am correct, here, you most likely have a similar story from your twenties or thirties. These ages in our lives are really meant for striving and achieving. At a later point in our late twenties and thirties, different for everyone, this changes: you want to live your life much closer to who you really are. Your need to be great at everything gradually makes place for a longing to stay closer to what you can do, to what fits you, what talents you have, and perfect it, work on it and give it to others too.

3e Trust

Something very similar, equally important for living in alignment with yourself

and always knowing where you are and where you're going, is TRUST. I already mentioned it a bit.

In praying or wishing or setting intentions, however you call it, it is so very important to trust that the good stuff will come your way, and that everything that comes that isn't directly wonderful offers a chance for you to grow.

A good intention you can say or write while journalling is:

"I know I will be shown the steps that are in my highest good.

I will recognize steps and clues when they're shown to me.

I am open and willing to see coincidences as they're intended..."

Trust is something we're not really used to having a lot of anymore. But it's incredibly important if we want to live true to who we are at the core.

Trust starts with the investigation to see if you are really free to be who you are. And in very close connection is our self-love, because if we don't have true self-love we can't trust ourselves either.

Are you free from external influences, so you can truly trust what is within you? Module 3 is dedicated to all aspects of TRUST.

3f The thinking mind and the intuition

Don't let your thinking mind take the lead as much anymore, and give more room for your intuition to guide you.

We already talked a bit about the difference between the voice of the thinking mind and the voice of the intuition.

It is our thinking mind's job to make sure that we're safe. 'Safe', in it's eyes, is just everything completely the way things are right now. So, it wants us to remain just right here, where we are now, and don't do anything differently. Noooo change. And the funny thing is, even if that change might very well be for the better, our thinking minds still - most of the time - wants to keep us stationary, not moving.

If we follow our intuition more, it doesn't mean we won't think about it anymore. But you'll notice that the more you get used to listening to your intuition, the more you'll see good things will come of it, the more you will trust that what it guides you towards can only be good. It can be small, seemingly insignificant things your intuition steers you towards. These can turn out a catalist for huge change, but they don't have to be. What we're learning here as well, is that the small things matter. So if your intuition steers you in a certain direction today, it might just be that it brings you a laugh because you needed cheering up. And all those small synchronicities add up to a feeling of ease and trust. Everything added up together in that way, you'll be on your TRUE PATH every day.

But coming back to that question we all struggle with so much: how can you tell what it is you're hearing or feeling or seeing, the ego or the higher self, the thinking mind or the intuition?

Let's make this clearer with an example of the voice of the thinking mind and the voice of the intuiton - and what we can do to choose the guidance of the intuition more often. Let's say our intuition lets us know something, and for example gives us a feeling that we like something very much - let's say painting.

Then a soft, gentle voice, very difficult to distinguish over all the other noice, suggest in a completely non-judgmental, respectful manner that we may want to pursue this further. And our thinking mind is very quick and clear (and loud!) to let us now in a negative maybe even judgmental and often fear-based or angerbased voice: "That isn't real, it's just a fantasy". Or "You're not worth it, who would be interested in something from you?!" And this one: "You couldn't do that if your life depended on it!" And my old-time favorite: "You're just imagining that you

heard it, nothing is really there".

So when you hear this inside your mind, you can respectfully think to yourself: "I know I am only trying to protect myself. But now, I do want to venture outside the protective environment of how things are right now. Let me think of 1 thing I could do to investigate if this prompt I got from my intuition might work." Another thing you could say to yourself is "I would like to feel more [and insert a feeling here], and that's why I AM going to follow up on what my intuition told me". These emotions or feelings you would like to experience could be: excited, bubbly, proud, anticipating, sparkling, happy, no anxiety anymore about this or that.

Go to the Resources area in this lesson, print out the exercise and journal on this process.

3g The bottom line

So the bottom line of this lesson is Let go of specific outcomes. Surrender to what must come your way. Pay attention to cues and prompts and guidance. "It's easy living!"

