



One finger cannot lift a pebble.

Cultures vary on to what degree they favor individuals versus communities. In some, the achievements of a lone person are uplifted as the ideal and in others success is measured by the triumphs of the group. As a human being, I know I am responsible for my choices, the meaning I create, and for how I treat myself and those around me.

As human beings, we all need each other.

We need each other to fully know ourselves. My solitary perspective of myself is an important source of knowledge about who I am. It is also limited. Others have different views of both me and of the world. Together, these perspectives paint a more complete picture of reality. As we see ourselves in relationship to others, we can better understand our unique gifts, our unseen limitations, our shared aspirations. In community, our true nature is fully revealed. There, we have the greatest opportunity to grow, to discover, and to love.

We need each other to bring to fruition the hopes of creation. There is a direction to life – to behold beauty, to nurture harmony, to further the common good. As an individual, I can contribute to all of those aims. As part of a community, our united gifts build upon one another – our actions multiply. We can notice diverse beauty, we can experience honest harmony, and we can assure conditions allowing all to flourish. Work that is impossible to do alone can be done collaboratively. My strengths and your strengths joined, move us past survival and into innovation, creativity, and unforeseen possibilities. Together our efforts can carry all of us forward into what tomorrow might best be.

Together, we can move stones to build foundations.

*How can I shift an individual effort into a group effort today?
What can someone else teach me about myself?*