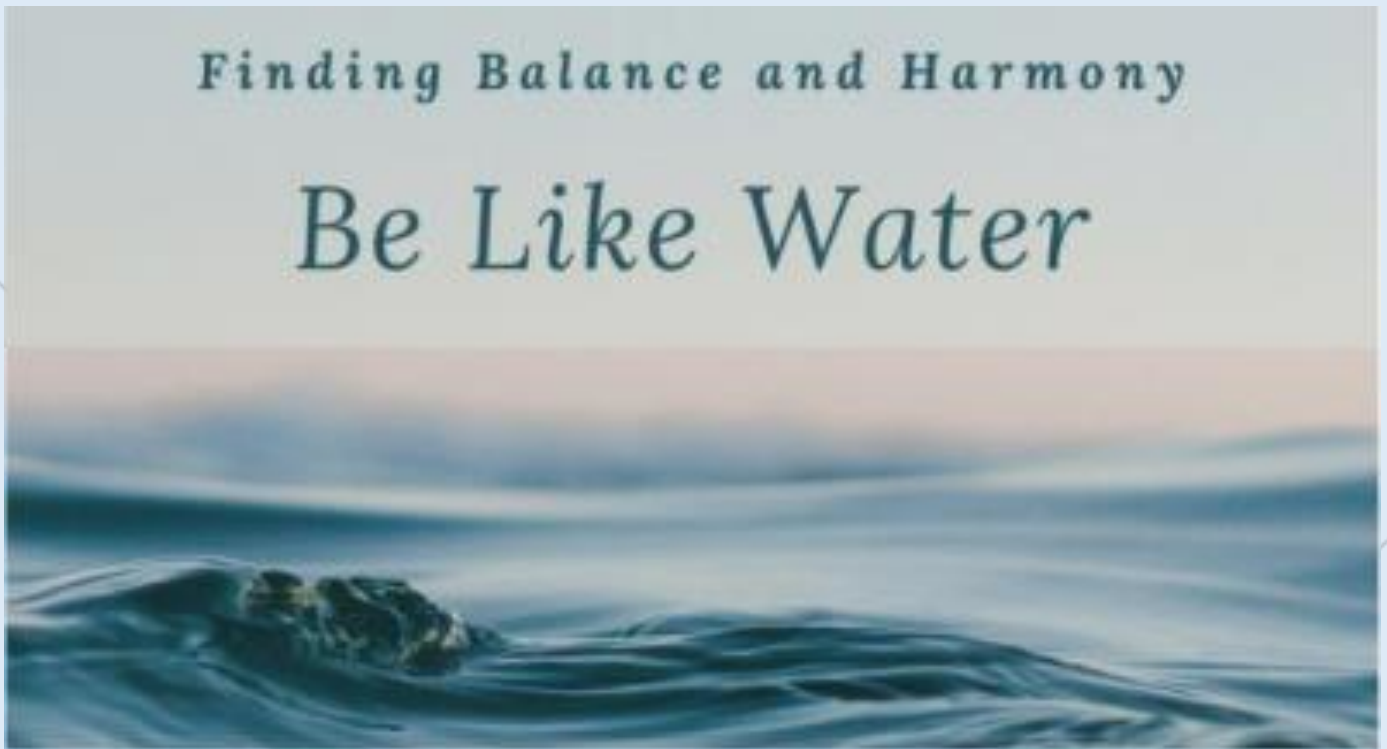


Water Philosophy: Flow, Adapt, and Thrive

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The nature of water tells a philosophy.

1. The Natural Way of Overcoming Obstacles

Think of water flowing down a mountain. It chooses the path of least resistance. If a rock stands in its way, it does not give up, nor does it fight the rock. Instead, it flows around it and continues on its path. Inspired by this nature of water, a saying goes:

"Do not engage with those who try to hinder you; if you do, you will stay in the same place as them. Just flow around and move on with your journey."

2. The Victory Earned by Water's Patience

Suppose water flowing down a mountain encounters a rock it cannot bypass. What does it do then? It gathers, accumulates, and overcomes it from above. If that is not possible, it patiently starts to carve through the rock, drop by drop. It is not the force of water that breaks the rock, but the persistence of the drops. This is called "patience."

To be patient does not mean to sit idly by doing nothing. As Shams Tabrizi once said:

"Patience is to envision the rose within the thorn, the daylight within the night."

The nature of water teaches that even the impossible can be achieved with patience and perseverance. And once the water carves through the rock, it naturally continues on its way.

3. Renew and Move Forward

Water always flows and keeps working, knowing that as it moves, it remains clean. Sometimes, puddles form near riverbanks; stagnant water becomes murky and starts to turn into mud! Dirt accumulates on it. That is why it is said:

"Be like water, always flowing!
Constantly renew yourself! Learn something new every day! Let no two days be the same, always move forward! Leave yesterday behind and embrace the new!"

4. Embracing Change Like Water

Water never fears change. However, people—though they claim to love change—actually fear it greatly. Water beautifully demonstrates "change."

Sometimes it becomes rain, sometimes snow, sometimes ice, sometimes vapor. When it turns into vapor, it rises to the sky, then returns to the earth as rain or snow once again.

5. Adaptability

Water is also adaptable. Pour it into a teacup, and it takes the shape of the teacup. Pour it into a bucket, and it takes the shape of the bucket. It

always adapts to its surroundings, yet its essence never changes.

It adjusts to everything, everywhere. Remember, in this world, those who adapt to nature survive. Adaptable beings are flexible, while those who resist change are rigid.

6. The Power of Flexibility

A storm can topple the strongest, most rigid trees, but it does nothing to flexible saplings or grass. That is why those who are flexible and adaptable survive.

At the same time, water surrenders to the flow. This surrender is not about submission but trust. Because water knows that in the end, all streams will eventually reach great seas and vast oceans.

This is about doing your best and then surrendering to the flow of life.

The Nurturing Power of Life

Water is pure and transparent. It is as it is—genuine. It is sharing, nourishing. It nourishes people, animals, and nature. It is the source of life and a constant creator. Wherever there is water, there are plants, animals, people—there is life. Because of this very nature, people say to one another:

"Be like water, my friend!"

