

Life and Giving Thanks - Sidney Byrd - OSEU #3

Everything is related. And this is why I took that...you take a little kernel and put it in the ground. And you took a rock and put it in the ground. And he said, "You water the...one where you put the ground...the seed...the rock...after a few days, a shoot comes. But with the rock, nothing happens." Eventually, there's a stalk, an ear of corn. But nothing happens to the rock. What's the difference? Why does this one...it's something that has defied definition. Life. It has life. That little thing's got life. That's why it grows. The stone does not have life. But we are all related to all that has ever been created. We are only a small part of a total creation...**mitakuye oyasin**. Hold your breath...and time yourself.

Let me know when you can no longer hold your breath. The best things in life are free. Without air, you're dead. But, have you ever given thanks for the air we breathe? No one ever thinks about giving thanks for the air we breathe. But we are only a few minutes away from death. Without air, we are gone. We even sleep...breathe while we sleep...unconsciously. But, without air...but we never think about giving thanks for the air we breathe. That's an old man that tells me, "Thank **Wakan Tanka** for the breath." And there is a song that says the best things in life are free. It's free. You don't have to earn it. So that...this little kernel...has something called life. And that's why it can grow into this thing. You will look in a microscope and examine it...but you can't...

It's something...it has life. It defies definition. What is life? And the old man said, "**Wakan Tanka**, Great Spirit, is the giver of life. But we never give thanks for that."