

"My name is Gertrude . . . To me, money is a lot like water. For some folks it rushes through their life like a raging river. Money comes through my life like a little trickle. But I want to pass it on in a way that does the most good for the most folks. I see that as my right and as my responsibility. It's also my joy."

Getrude taught me that money is like water. Money flows through all our lives, sometimes like a rushing river, and sometimes like a trickle. When it is flowing it can purify, cleanse, create growth and nourish. But when it is blocked or held too long, it can grow stagnant and toxic to those withholding or hoarding it.

Like water, money is a carrier. It can carry blessed energy, possibility, and intention, or it can carry, control, domination, and guilt. It can be a current or currency of love—a conduit for commitment—or a carrier of hurt and harm.

As Gertrude so clearly demonstrated, money flowed through her life . . . in a way that she was able to receive it and direct it consistent with her highest commitments and values. When we see money as something that flows through our lives and through the world, we realize that it doesn't really belong to anyone; or we could say it belongs to everyone and the opportunity we have is to allow this resource, just like water, to move through the world in a way that nurtures the most people, and the highest purpose.

~ Lynn Twist  
excerpt from The Soul of Money