

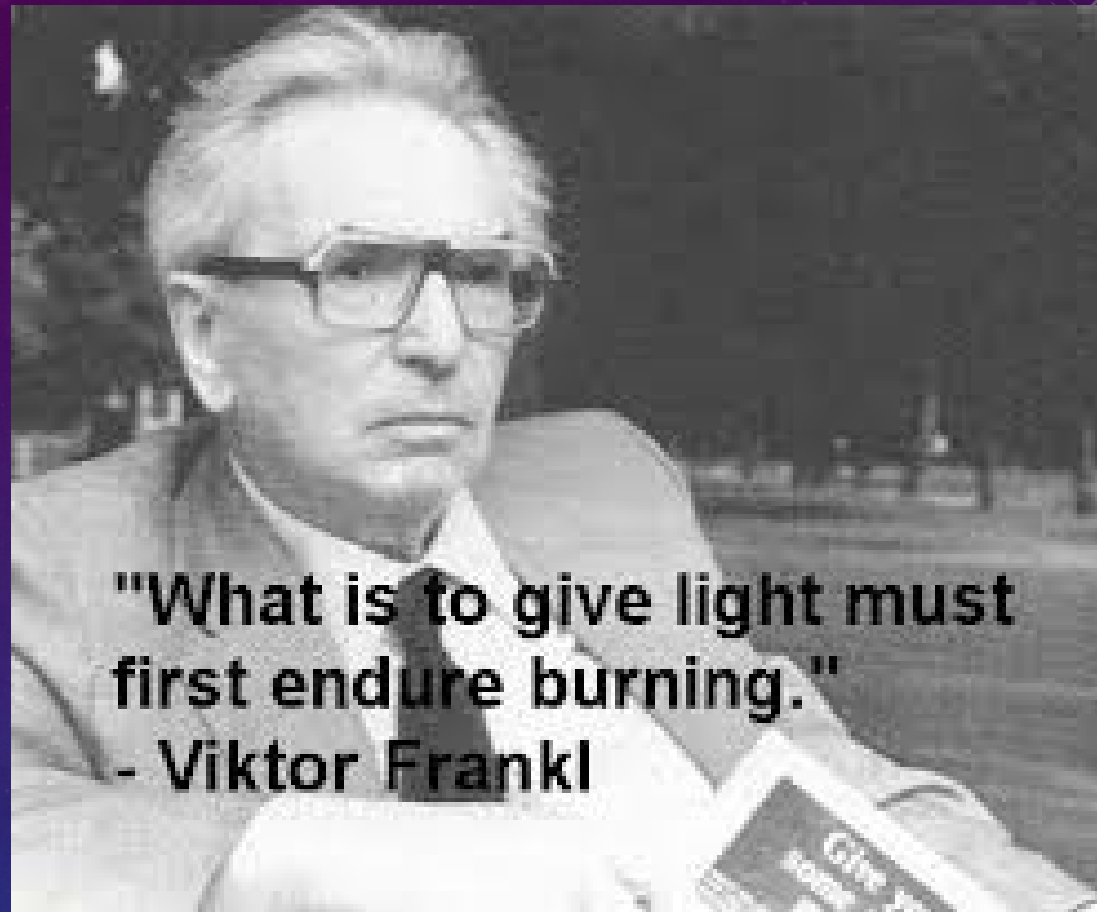
MAN'S
SEARCH
FOR
MEANING
VIKTOR E.
FRANKL

WITH A NEW FOREWORD BY
HAROLD S. KUSHNER



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REMEMBERING VIKTOR
FRANKL'S LIFE AND LEGACY



**"What is to give light must
first endure burning."
- Viktor Frankl**

Born March 26, 1905, died September 2, 1997.

Existentialist psychiatrist and philosopher

Corresponded with Freud

Spent 3 years in a concentration camp; wife killed.

MISERY IN THE DEATH CAMPS

Forced marches in the snow while barefoot.

A 12 year old tearing off parts of his frostbitten feet.

Sores, sickness, starvation.

Not knowing when you would be killed.

Constant degradation and abuse.

Seeing inmates commit suicide.



“EXISTENTIAL VOID”



The death camps forced him to ask:
Is there meaning in extreme suffering?
Many inmates said, “No!” and committed
suicide or, selfishly, turned on their comrades.

CREATING MEANING IN HELL



He found ways to resist.

He refused to escape and chose to stay with his patients.

He shared what little he had with those who had less.

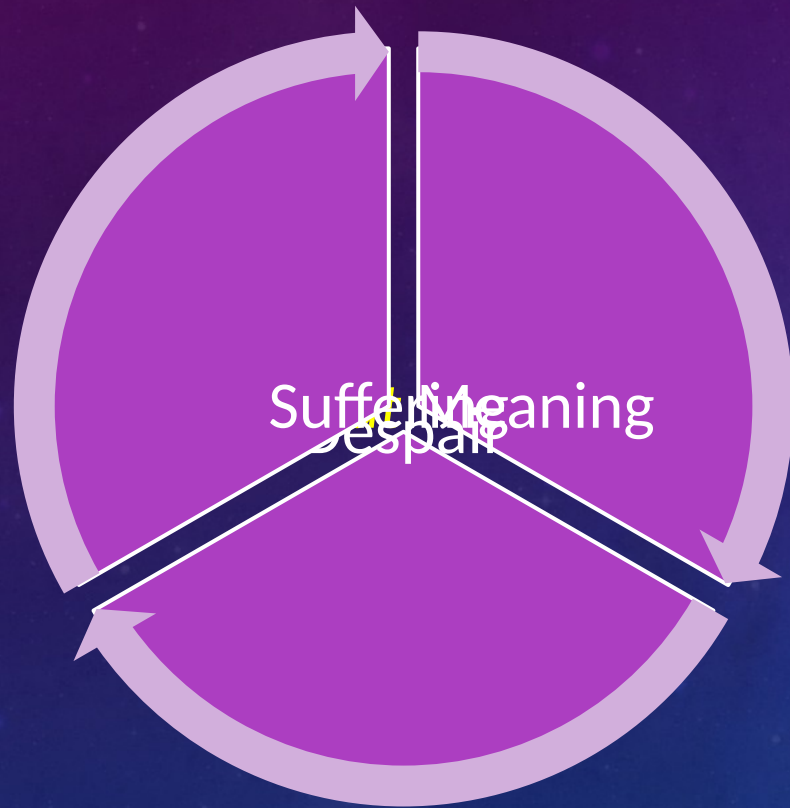
He would talk back to the guards.

He refused to see himself the way the guards saw him (fight internalized oppression).

He lived Nietzsche's maxim:

"He who has a Why to live for can bear almost any How."

“FACING SUFFERING WITH DIGNITY IS AN ACCOMPLISHMENT”



Therefore, hope is *always* possible.

ALWAYS FREE TO DO GOOD OR EVIL

Some inmates were “promoted” by the Nazis to be Capos. Some Nazi guards smuggled in medicine, thus risking their lives to be good.

Human beings always have the choice – whether one is in prisoner clothes or a Nazi uniform – to be a decent person.

