



# 親近道場

## Drawing Near to Way-places

林賢生居士二〇〇三年一月五日講於印經會高雄分會

UPASAKA LIN XIEN SHENG'S DHARMA TALK AT DHARMA REALM BUDDHIST BOOKS DISTRIBUTION SOCIETY, KA-OSHIUNG BRANCH, ON JANUARY 5, 2003

洪蘭英 英譯 ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY CELESTE M. ANG (BBDC SINGAPORE)

今天分會共修的功課，是誦〈普門品〉及一〇八遍的〈大悲咒〉，師父上人曾說：每天虔誠持誦一〇八遍〈大悲咒〉，連續三年，那時以〈大悲咒〉來為人治病，就手到病除。上人希望每個人以〈大悲咒〉的力量，來挽救世界浩劫，讓人們永無災難，令正法永住世間。

今天我們在這裡一起共修、誦經持咒，是相當難得的。有時我在家想持一〇八遍的〈大悲咒〉，往往中間會被一些雜事打斷，甚或因為妄想，要花比較長的時間，但在分會藉大家共修的力量，我們可以持續不斷念一〇八遍的〈大悲咒〉，這正是親近道場的力量。

能夠親近道場，是很好的。上個星期，我前往萬佛聖城參加聖城的剃度大典，我女兒親玲也在這次出家了。親玲她學佛比較慢，但她來道場才幾次，在法師及師兄的帶領下，就菩提根發芽。這次出家的女眾有八位，其中有五位臺灣人。

在剃度大典的前一天晚上，大家都要上台報告出家的因緣。這八位女眾中，年紀最大的是一位六十歲的美國人，她說是在父母親皆往生後，才滿了出家的願。親玲上台報告時說，她是在唸大一那年(二年前)的暑假，來到聖城擔任兒童夏令營的義務老師，那次她聽到一位法師講了一個故事。法師說曾有一位女孩子想出家，那時她念大一，但是她想：大二時再出家好了；大二那年又想，再等一年，大三時再出家；唸大三時又想，明年再出家吧。(下接第38頁)

Today our group practice is to recite the "Universal Door Chapter" once and the Great Compassion Mantra 108 times. The Venerable Master once said, "Having sincerely recited the Great Compassion Mantra 108 times daily for three years, if you use the mantra to heal a sick person, you will cure that person." The Venerable Master hoped that by relying upon the strength of the Great Compassion Mantra, we would be able to save the world from calamities so that the Buddhadharma would remain forever in this world.

We have gathered here today to cultivate; it is a rare opportunity to be able to recite sutras and mantras. Sometimes at home, when I tried to recite the Great Compassion Mantra 108 times, I would be interrupted by some mundane affairs, or due to random thoughts, it would take me a longer time. Here, through the energy of our collective practice, we are able to recite 108 times without interruption. This is the power of drawing near a Way-place.

It is very good to be able to come to a Way-place. Last week, I attended the Head-shaving Ceremony at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas where my daughter, Chin Ling left the home life. She was slower in the study of Buddhism, but after coming to the Way-place just a few times, her Bodhi roots sprouted under the guidance of the Dharma Masters and her fellow cultivators. Of the eight women who left the home life this time, five were Taiwanese.

On the eve of the Head-shaving Ceremony, everyone had to go up the stage to say why they wanted to leave home. The oldest in this group of eight women was a 60-year-old American lady. She said she was able to fulfill her vow to leave home only after her parents' death. My daughter reported that when she went to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB) to be a volunteer teacher at the Summer Youth Camp two years ago, she heard a Dharma Master tell the following story.

The Dharma Master said that there was a woman who wanted to leave the home life. At that time, she was a freshman in college, but she thought, "I'll leave the home life next year when I'm a sophomore." The following year, she thought, "I'll wait one more year and leave home when I am a junior." In her junior year, she thought once more, "I think I'll wait one more year." (Continued on page 38)