

蛻變與成長

Transformation and Growth

文·謝智聰 培德男校

BY ALBERT SHAY, DEVELOPING VIRTUE BOYS' SCHOOL



我第一次來萬佛聖城，是在一九九九年來參加彌陀七的時候。我剛走進佛殿，就籠罩在無比的敬畏之中，因為我沒看過這麼多佛像。在參加法會時，我有一種無法形容的感覺；所以第二年，我又來參加觀音七。當我念著菩薩聖號時，感覺比上一次更殊勝；我開始真正喜歡上聖城，所以第三年，我就來參加夏令營。在夏令營時，我發現聖城有一個很好的學校叫「培德中學」；所以第四度來此，我就申請了這所學校。老師們錄取了我，我感到很幸運。

二〇〇二年，我來培德中學就讀八年級，當時我是十二歲。為什麼我決定來讀這所學校呢？原

因就是這個學校與外面的學校不同；這裏不能有電視、電腦、手機、電動玩具等等，這裏也不准吃肉；沒有黑社會幫派或毒品，而且男、女生要隔離。在我以前的學校，很多同學都嘲笑我、作弄我，因為我是中國人；而這裏，大部份都是中國人或亞洲人。

雖然我覺得培德中學是一個特別好的學校，可是我卻不該僅從表面就下決斷。當我住進宿舍，有很多別的規矩，是我所不習慣的；而且即使這學校大多是亞洲人，每個同學還是取笑我，因為我又胖又懶得洗澡。那時候我讀書方面很差，打球也特別的爛；我很快發現，在學校裏，除了一

The first time I visited the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas was in 1999, when I attended the Amitabha session. When I first stepped in the Buddha Hall, I was in a state of awe because I had never seen so many Buddha images. During the session I had a very special feeling that no words could describe. Therefore, the next year I also attended the Guanyin Session. While I was reciting, I had an even better feeling than before. I started to really like the City so the following year, I joined the summer camp. While I was in summer camp, I found out that there was this very good school in the City called Developing Virtue Boys School. Thus, on my fourth visit I applied to DVBS. I felt very fortunate that the teachers accepted me.



個叫Victor的宿舍老師之外，我連一個真正的朋友都沒有。他對我特別的好，每一天都盡力在幫助我，沒有放棄；他教我要如何做個好人，可是我不聽。

日子一天一天過去，我的生活比以前更加痛苦了；因為我沒有朋友，每個人都看不起我、嘲笑我。有一天，我再也受不了了，我終於想通了；所以我對自己發誓，我再也不要讓人看不起。從那一天開始，我每天跑五英哩、我開始自動自發地比別人更用功——我在生活中做了很大的改變。我總算適應了宿舍的生活，一學期終了，我瘦下了五十磅以上；而且成績也進步了很多，我的平均成績是3.6。我現在已能打敗以前說我籃球技術很爛的人，我的實力比以前強了十倍，現在別人都對我刮目相看。

現在我是十一年級，因為我在生活上戲劇化的進步，我變得驕傲自大，我開始嘲笑別人、看不起別人。過了一段時期，我省悟到我的心已被驕傲所染污，而自己竟然變成我曾經最害怕的那種人；我想起我被嘲笑過的那段時光，我決定再一次改過。

這所學校在我有困難的時候，幫助了我許多；它教我許多外面學校所不曾教的道德與人格。有一天，如果我有成就了，我一定會回饋這個學校。我深深感謝上人給了我一生受用不盡的教導！

In 2002, I began my 8th grade in DVBS. I was twelve at the time. Why did I decide to come to this school? The reason is that this school is different from other schools. This school does not allow TV, computers, cell phones,



(編按：謝智聰已於2007年畢業，目前在柏克萊大學讀書。)

[Editor's note: Albert graduated in 2007 and currently attends the University of California, Berkeley.]

video games, and more. This place does not allow meat; there are no gangsters or drugs, and boys and girls are segregated. In my old school everyone used to laugh at and make fun of me, because I was Chinese. Here mostly everyone is Chinese or Asian.

Although I thought this was a great school, I should have never judged a book by its cover. As I entered the dorm, there were other rules that I was not used to and even though this school has mostly Asian students, everyone still laughed and made fun of me because I was extremely overweight and very lazy about taking showers. My studies were very poor and my basketball skills were even worse. I soon realized that I didn't have even a single, true friend except for a dorm teacher named Victor. He treated me especially good; he would try his very best to help me everyday, never giving up. He taught me how I could become a better person, but I didn't listen.

Day by day, my life had more suffering than before because I had no

friends, everyone looked down upon me and laughed at me. One day I could not take it anymore. I finally figured it out. Therefore, I promised myself that I would never be looked down upon again. From that day forward, I ran five miles a day; I started to motivate myself to work harder than anyone. I made a huge change in life.

I got used to the life in the dorm. After one school year, I lost over 50 pounds and my studies improved dramatically; my GPA was 3.6. I could now defeat the people who had said my basketball skills were poor; I was ten times better in basketball. Now people see me and have a new impression.

I am currently in the 11th grade. Because of my dramatic improvement in life, I became cocky and arrogant. I started to laugh at people and look down upon them. After a period of time, I realized that my mind has stained by my own arrogance; I had become someone who I once feared the most. I thought of the time I had been picked on and I decided to change once more.

This school helped me the most when I was in difficulty. It taught me things other schools could never teach about virtue and character. One day, if I am prosperous, I will come back and make a big donation to this school. I thank the Venerable Master Hsuan Hua deeply for his teaching has benefited my life endlessly.

