

上人的妙言



宣化上人於一九八三年十一月
開示於金輪聖寺

國際譯經學院翻譯

各位同學！今天與你們見面，我心裏很高興，你們都是有為的青年人。可是，有為的學生要做有為的事，假若頹靡不振，不能尊師重道，敦品立德，發奮讀書，那麼，就算有為也變成無爲了！反過來說，大家若能尊師重道，力求上進，則前途無可限量。來日可做每個國家的領袖，全世界的主人翁，每個家庭的好榜樣。

你們想成爲國家的領袖、世界的主人翁、家庭的好榜樣嗎？現在教你們一個好辦法。

第一、在家必須要孝順父母。父母叫你，你要趕快應答，不可慢條斯理。父母叫你做事，不可心存不滿，苟且懶惰。父母教訓你，叫你好好讀書，你就應該先把功課做好，才出去玩耍。不要蹦蹦跳跳，終日只看電視而忽略功課。你有什麼不對，父母懲罰你，你也應該順從接受。身爲子女，身爲學生，這種行爲最低限度要能做到。做人的基礎，是在每個家庭裏建立起來的。

第二、要將以上孝順父母之精神，轉到學校來，恭敬老師。不要面從心違、陽奉陰違。考試時更不可作弊來欺騙老師。要做忠實的學生，長大後

忠於國家。切不可生輕慢師長的心！老師們費盡心血來栽培你們這些小苗，令你們茁壯長大，本固枝榮，前途無量。切不可鬥爭老師、欺負師長。現在社會的風氣壞到極點。甚至有些小學、中學及大學生，鬥爭老師。這種狂妄的行爲，欺師滅祖，禽獸不如。你們既然到了金輪聖寺，在這兒念書，必定是有大善根，才得到這麼好的老師來教導你們。要珍惜這個機會，不要浪費寶貴光陰。

切記！將來的目標，是要幫助社會，不是爲自己發財做大官。首先要將道德的基礎打好。古代的人讀書爲了「明理」，現在的人讀書多爲「名利」。明理：就是研究如何治理國家，如何影響世界，移風易俗，做一些真實而有價值的事業。不是只顧自己生活能有多少享受，或想：「我將來做個醫生，賺多少的錢！」這種爲名爲利的思想太狹窄，太沒有出息！若把道德基礎打好了，名利是小問題。將來堪爲世界的主人翁，能做一番偉大的事業。現在是你們的黃金時代，不要錯過，否則將來後悔莫及！我這一番話是苦口婆心對你們說，所謂「忠言逆耳利於行，苦口良藥利於病」，不管你愛不愛聽，我是盡了一番心意！



The Venerable Master's Valuable Words

A TALK BY THE VENERABLE MASTER IN NOVEMBER 1983
AT GOLD WHEEL MONASTERY
TRANSLATED BY THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATION INSTITUTE



Fellow students, I am very glad to meet all of you today. You are all young people of achievement. However, in order to be a person of achievement you must have some achievement. If you are indolent, disrespectful to your teachers and the Way, and fail to create virtue and study hard, then your achievement is no achievement at all. On the other hand, if you can respect your teachers and the Way, and strive to progress in your studies, you will have a promising future. Then you can set a good example for all families and become leaders of nations and influential people in the world.

Do you want to set a good example for all families and become leaders of nations and of the world? Now let me tell you how to do it. First of all you must be filial to your parents at home. When they call you, you should respond immediately and not take your time answering. When they ask you to do something, you shouldn't be upset or lazy. When they admonish you and tell you to study hard, you should finish doing your homework before you go out to play. Don't just goof off or spend the whole day watching television, neglecting your school work. When you do something wrong, you should accept their punishment obediently. As a child and a student, that is the very least that you should do. A person's moral foundation is developed within the family.

Next, you should bring this spirit of filiality to school and be respectful to your teachers. Do not feign compliance. Do not cheat on tests. Be an honest student now and a loyal citizen when you grow up. Never look down on your teachers. They use all their energy to make you thrive and grow, to make your trunk strong

and branches thick so that your future will be promising. You should never fight with or bully your teacher.

The demoralization of society is now very extreme. Some elementary, secondary, and college students are already fighting their teachers. Such unscrupulous conduct is worse than that of animals. You all must have wholesome roots that enable you to come to this monastery and have such good teachers instruct you. You should cherish this opportunity and not waste precious time.

Remember that your future goal is to help society, not to make money or get a high position. First of all, you should build a good foundation of virtue. The ancients study for the purpose of understanding principles. Nowadays people study for the purpose of obtaining fame and benefit. Understanding principles involves studying how to govern a country, how to influence the world to change its unwholesome customs and habits, and how to carry out genuine and worthwhile endeavors. In life, you shouldn't be concerned with just your own enjoyment. You shouldn't think: "I want to be a physician, because doctors make a lot of money!" Such thoughts of fame and profit are petty and useless.

If you establish a good foundation of virtue, then fame and benefit are hardly an issue. You'll be influential people who will achieve great things in the world. Now is your golden age. Don't let it pass by in vain, or you will regret it later. It is said,

Truthful words jar the ear,
But help one to act wisely.
Good medicine is bitter to the taste,
But cures the sickness.

Whether or not you care to listen, I have tried my best.