菩提田 Bodhi Field



A Miraculous Remedy: The Universal Door Chapter (Continued)

比丘尼恒君 2010年7月25日觀音菩薩成道日法會講於大齋堂 A talk given by Bhikshuni Heng Jyun in the Dining Hall at CTTB on July 25, 2010, during the celebration of Guanyin Bodhisattva's Enlightenment Day 陳親文 英譯 Translated into English by Chen Chin Wen



我忍不住讚歎說:「妳兒子的改 變,實在是出乎我的意料,妳的成績 單太好了。」她告訴我說:「法師, 除了您教給我的功課以外,每天我用 慚愧的心又念了一部《地藏經》。」 我說:「哦!難怪有這麼好的感應, 有這麼好的成績表現!」

「法師,我現在還要做什麼呢?」 我說:「妳再念9個108吧!」「啊!9 個?」「對,湊成10個!10個108不是 很好嘛?妳兒子是不是要申請大學? 他現在好不容易覺醒了,妳要幫助他 真正地做個好青年!」「好!」等她 念完第二個108的時候,剛好是母親 節,她兒子送給她第一張母親卡。他 從來沒有送過母親卡片,這是他第一 次,上面寫著「謝謝母親多年來對我 的包容!」

去年(2009)他的母親來到萬佛 城參加萬佛寶懺,她告訴我:「我的 兒子在大學讀書,每一天還有錢賺。 」原來他賣手機,不用去上班,業績 非常好;現在已經升當經理,一個小 時賺40塊美金,他替家裏也買了部車 子。出門的時候,常會放一些錢在桌 上,說:「爸爸媽媽,你們需要什麼 就去買吧!」看來她的10個108,成就 了一棵優秀的「搖錢樹」。

由於他長得一表人才,讀的是好的

I couldn't help but praise, "I never imagined your son would change so much. You have scored excellent marks on your report card in sutra recitation." She added, "Dharma Master, besides completing the recitation homework you gave me to do daily, I also recited the entire *Earth Store Sutra* each day." I responded, "Ah, no wonder you have had such wonderful and miraculous changes. They are validations of the work you have accomplished!"

"Dharma Master, what more can I do now?" I replied, "Why don't you continue by doing nine sets of 108 recitations of the Universal Door Chapter?" "Ahh! Nine?" she responded. "Yes, to make it ten in all! Wouldn't it be nice to have ten sets of 108?" I proposed. "Isn't your son in the process of applying to college? You should help him continue to develop as a solid and virtuous youth since he has finally awakened to the path of righteousness." "Sure!" she agreed. Coincidentally, the day she finished her second set of 108 Universal Door Chapter recitations was Mother's Day. Her son gave her her first Mother's Day card. She had never received any Mother's Day card from him before – it was the first one. Inside the card it said, "Thank you Mother for all your years of willingness to tolerate and forgive me!"

Last year, around the end of May 2009, this same mother came to CTTB to participate in the Jeweled Repentance Before Ten Thousand Buddhas. She told me, "Right now, my son is attending college while working at the same time." She explained that he was working as a cell phone salesperson and was not required to work in an office. She also indicated that he was so successful in selling cell phones that he was being promoted to a manager position. She further disclosed that he was earning \$40 an hour. Furthermore, he has purchased a car for the family. She happily shared as a proud mother that her son often leaves money on the table before he leaves the house and says, "Mom and Dad, please go ahead and buy whatever you need!" It seems that this mother's ten sets of 108 Universal Door Chapter recitations have turned into an excellent "money making tree."

Because this young man is attractive, goes to a very good university, and makes a good living, a 16-year-old girl is infatuated with him. This young girl

學校,又會賺錢,有一個16歲的女孩非常 喜歡他。這個女孩是富翁的女兒,可以把 整個場所都包下來開派對,她付得起這樣 的費用,可是這個男孩卻告訴她說:「在 我的心裏,只有我爸爸媽媽,別的都是其 次的。」

有一個媽媽聽我講這個故事,心想:「 這個簡單!《普門品》那麼短,不要50幾 天,我幾天就能念完。」結果她對我講: 「法師,我7天就念完了108部《普門品》 ,可是我兒子還是老樣子,沒什麼改變 呀!」我告訴她:「那個媽媽覺得自己沒 把兒子教好,她是用誠心、慚愧心念的, 妳念得快是趕數量。妳這個108,每一個 都只是畫個圈圈而已,裏面都是空的,『 觀音菩薩,我念完了!剩下是你的事情 了!』你兒子想要改變,他沒有時間,因 為妳太快了!念經一定要有誠心、真心, 不要趕快。」

念108的部《普門品》,每天至少要念一部,中間不能斷;如果斷了,要從斷了的 那天起重新計數,念經迴向的力量才能大發作用。迴向時,只是為了一件事;不能 這次迴向給子女,下次再加父母和先生, 以及世界和平。你這樣那樣,108部迴向太 多事情,車子還沒開動就被壓垮了,「我 這樣念沒有效果?」當然有,只是杯水車 薪,心有餘而力不足。

兩年前,有一個年輕女孩帶著美國男朋 友來到萬佛城,參加觀音法會;她跟觀音 菩薩說:「菩薩,我對這個男朋友已經很 煩了,我要跟他分手,麻煩您讓他放手。 」她事後對我說:「法師,您知道我這個 男朋友怎麼和觀音菩薩說的?他聽我說觀 音菩薩有求必應,他硬要跟著我來。他竟 然跟觀音菩薩說:觀音菩薩拜託您,不要 讓我的女朋友離開我!」

這個女孩很著急地問我:「法師,請問 觀音菩薩到底會幫誰?」你們說觀音菩薩 會幫誰呢?我告訴她:「妳要常念觀音菩 薩,誠心地念。是在一起好呢?還是分開 的好呢?觀音菩薩冥冥中會給妳智慧,自 然就會有答案的。」所以用慚愧心、用真 誠心念佛念經,感應必是不可思議的! comes from an affluent family, who is wealthy enough to afford leasing a public arena just for a party. However, he made it clear to this young lady that, "In my heart, the most important thing is my parents. Anything else is secondary."

After listening to my telling of this story, another mother thought to herself, "It's easy! The Universal Door Chapter is so brief. It won't take me fifty plus days to finish. I can complete the 108 recitations in a few days." At the end she told me, "Dharma Master, I finished 108 Universal Door Chapter recitations in seven days, but my son is still the same. Nothing has been changed!" I told her, "The other mother believed that she failed to adequately educate her son; therefore, she devoted her recitations with all of her sincerity and repentance. You recited with haste and were merely amassing quantity and going for the numbers. Your 108 recitations were just 108 circles to check off the task. The circles were empty, for your attitude was, 'Guanyin Bodhisattva, I finished the recitations and the rest is your work and responsibility!' Your son wouldn't have enough time to change because you are too fast! One must bring forth his true sincerity in reciting the sutras and should not be in a hurry."

In reciting the Universal Door Chapter 108 times, one must recite the entire Universal Door Chapter at least once a day, and there should not be any break. If there is any interruption, one should start over and count the first of the 108 recitations from the new start date. This way the power of the sutra recitations and transference of merit can be fully activated. When you transfer the recitation merit, it should only be dedicated to specific purposes. In other words, it wouldn't work as well if one day the merit is transferred to your children and the second day to your parents and your husband or to world peace, etc. When the transference is scattered to too many issues and people, (the power of the transference would be diverted) just like a car that is overloaded and cannot move forward.

Two years ago, one young girl came to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas with her boyfriend to participate in the Guanyin Bodhisattva's Dharma Assembly. She prayed to Guanyin Bodhisattva, "Dear Bodhisattva, I am very annoyed with my boyfriend and would like to break up with him. Please help by making him let go of me." She later told me, "Dharma Master, do you know what my boyfriend said to Guanyin Bodhisattva? Ever since he heard from me that Guanyin Bodhisattva would respond to all prayers, he insisted on following me here. He actually pleaded to Guanyin Bodhisattva, 'Guanyin Bodhisattva, please don't let my girlfriend leave me!"

So this young girl anxiously asked me, "Dharma Master, to whom do you think Guanyin Bodhisattva will respond?" What do you think? Whom would Guanyin Bodhisattva help? I instructed her, "You should recite Guanyin Bodhisattva's holy name often and with sincere faith. Whether it is good for you to stay with your boyfriend or to part with him, Guanyin Bodhisattva subtly helps by bestowing wisdom and inspiration upon you to guide you to the proper answer. When one devotes his utmost sincerity and repentance in sutra recitations, he will receive inconceivable responses and inspiration.