

# 慈悲的不同面觀

(續) (Continued)



## *Different Aspects of Kindness and Compassion*

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A Dharma talk by Dharma Master Heng Sure at Longquan Monastery in China on December 11, 2009

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剛才說到「滿二求」，就是送子觀音，求男得男，求女得女。有兩個故事很有意思，令很多西方人認識觀世音菩薩，有一位護士叫果通，在美國早已經親近上人。她想生兒子但她不能生育。她問了很多醫生，醫生告訴她說：「以妳的狀況，妳自己生孩子可能有問題，但可以領養孩子。」她已經是上人的皈依弟子，所以她就去向上人求救。

果通：「師父，醫生說我沒辦法生孩子，那怎麼辦呢？」

上人：「妳讀過〈普門品〉，經文裏面有求男得男，求女得女，為什麼不念觀音菩薩的聖號，向觀音菩薩來求子呢？」

果通：「哇！真的可以這樣做麼？我以為只是書本上的一個道理。」

上人：「妳根本不相信觀世音菩薩！現在妳至誠懇切向觀音菩薩禮拜、求子，相信就會有好消息。」

果通：「好啊！」

她就在觀音菩薩相前禮拜，誦〈普門品〉

We just spoke about Guanyin Bodhisattva who 'responds to two types of request.' The two prayers refer to prayers for a son or a daughter. Here is a story that helped many Westerners better understand Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva. There was a nurse called Guo Tong. She had studied with Master Hua in the U.S. for awhile. She wanted to have children but was unable to give birth. She consulted many doctors, and they all told her: "With your condition, it's dangerous for you to try to bear children, but you can adopt one." She was already a disciple of Master Hua, so she went to the Master and asked for help.

Guo Tong: "Shifu [Master], the doctor said I cannot give birth to children. What can I do?"

Master: "You have read *The Universal Door Chapter*. The sutra says that if you ask for a son, you will give birth to a son. If you ask for a daughter, you will give birth to a daughter. Why don't you go and recite Guanyin Bodhisattva's holy name? Why don't you pray to Guanyin Bodhisattva for a child?"

Guo Tong: "Wow! Can I really do that? I thought that was just something you read in books."

Master: "You simply do not believe in Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva! Now bow to Guanyin Bodhisattva sincerely and pray for a child! I believe there will be good news soon."

Guo Tong: "All right."

，然後學習背〈大悲咒〉。不到三個月，有一天，果通下班跑過來說：「師父，師父，我懷孕了！」然後再過五個月，她說：「師父，醫生說可能會難產，因有什麼問題，孩子可能會掉了，師父怎麼辦呢？」上人：「妳的信心不太夠，還須要努力。要誠懇地求觀音菩薩。不要擔心！用那份力量擔心，就是浪費汽油了！妳把那個擔心的力量放在誠心上，要加倍誠心。」

果通居士真的去做，就叫一些朋友用鉛筆、毛筆畫觀音菩薩的像，放在廟裏，她很用功的拜〈大悲懺〉。到她生孩子時候，金山寺居士們都在門外異口同音地念「南無觀世音菩薩，南無觀世音菩薩，南無觀世音菩薩……」。然後門開了，紅頭髮胖胖的一個八磅兒子生出來了。後來大家問她怎樣？她說：「本來很痛，可是我拼命念觀世音菩薩聖號。當我睜開眼睛時，就看到床的一邊站著穿著白衣拿著一根柳條、慈悲的觀音菩薩。菩薩在我頭頂上灑很清涼的水，說：『我一定要果通生下一個長頭髮的胖胖兒子。』」原來如此，所以我們應該加倍誠心念觀世音菩薩！現在果通有兩個兒子，一個是六尺四寸，一個是六尺三寸，兩個紅頭髮的兒子。

還有一個故事，就是聖母瑪麗亞。我個人是當教授的，課程是每個學期有十三、十四個學生。一半的學生是佛教徒，一半的學生是基督教徒。應該是三年前，一個穿典型天主教修女的服裝，黑黑的一頂帽子，長長的衣服的學生來了。她自我介紹說：「我是越南裔美國人，在佛教家庭長大的。」我們問：「既然在佛教家庭長大的，為什麼現在是當天主教的修女？」她說：「因為觀音菩薩的慈悲。」一個學期十四個禮拜快結束，輪到她要發言的那一天，她就給我們講她的故事，真的是很動人的故事。她說：

1975年已經到了越戰末期的時候，那時越南國家很亂。如果可能，每個人都會把孩子送到海外去，可是很不容易做到。我母親是百分之百的佛教徒，她對於觀世音菩薩非常虔誠。而我們一家五個孩子，我排第五，最小。我母親先把我哥哥送到海外去，然後繼續把其他兄弟姐妹也送出去。

那個時候坐船要拿黃金，他們不要鈔票。要有十個盎司的黃金，才能上船。人家

She bowed in front of the image of Guanyin Bodhisattva and recited *The Universal Door Chapter* aloud. Then she learned to recite the Great Compassion Mantra by heart. Less than three months later, Guo Tong finished work and went to see the Master. "Shifu! Shifu!" she said. "I'm pregnant!" Then after five months, she said, "Shifu, the doctor said there is a possibility of an irregular delivery because of some problems with the fetus. I may lose the child. Shifu, what should I do?" Master Hua replied, "Your belief is not strong enough. You need to try harder. You must pray to Guanyin Bodhisattva sincerely. Don't worry! It's just a waste of gasoline if you use the energy to worry. Instead, put all the energy of worrying into your practice and be very sincere."

Guo Tong really did that. She asked some friends to draw Guanyin Bodhisattva with a Chinese brush and had the drawings placed in the temple. She bowed sincerely and diligently in the Great Compassion Repentance. When she was delivering her child, the lay people from Gold Mountain Monastery were reciting Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva's name. Then a big eight-pound baby boy came into this world. Afterwards they asked her how it went. She said, "At first, it was painful, so I recited Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva's holy name nonstop. When I opened my eyes, I saw the compassionate Guanyin Bodhisattva in her white robe holding a willow branch in her hand. She was standing beside the bed. Guanyin Bodhisattva scattered cool water on my forehead and said, 'I want Guo Tong to give birth to a big, fat boy who has hair.'" That's the story. So let's be sincere when we recite the name of Guanyin Bodhisattva. Guo Tong has two sons now. One is six foot four, the other is six foot three. Both of them have red hair.

Here's a story about Mother Mary. I am a professor with thirteen or fourteen students in my class each semester. Half of them are Buddhist, and the other half are Christian. Three years ago, a student dressed in the typical attire of a Catholic nun – a black hood with a long robe – came into my class. She introduced herself, "I am a Vietnamese American. I grew up in a Buddhist family." We asked her, "You grew up in a Buddhist family. What made you become a Catholic nun?" She said, "It was due to the kindness and compassion of Guanyin Bodhisattva." Fourteen weeks later as the semester was about to conclude, she told us her story. It was a really moving story. She said:

It was already the end of the Vietnam War in 1975. Vietnam was very chaotic at that time. If people could, they sent their children overseas. But that was not easy. My mother was a devout Buddhist. She deeply revered Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva. I am the youngest of five children in my family. My mother sent my eldest brother overseas first, then continued sending the other younger children.

At that time, the boatmen only took gold. They didn't want paper currency. You could take the trip for ten ounces of gold. People said you could only bring gold, food, clothes, and a blanket – nothing else. Well, my mother put Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva's image in her son's pocket, and she told him to recite Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva's name. The ship was only supposed to hold two hundred people, but they



說只能帶黃金、食物、衣服、被子，不能帶太多。母親就把觀音菩薩像放在兒子的口袋裏，告訴兒子一定要念觀世音菩薩。那條船本來只能坐兩百個人，而船上已經坐滿四百個人，船到了水裏是危險得很。但沒辦法，已經把黃金給那個人了！

我母親回來後，就在家裏點香，熬夜通宵在觀音菩薩前禮拜，誦〈普門品〉，不停念『南無觀世音菩薩救苦救難，南無觀世音菩薩救苦救難，南無觀世音菩薩救苦救難』……，一直都沒有大哥的訊息。三個月後，大哥來了一封信，說已經安全到了菲律賓。整個船本來很危險，又有海嘯、大風暴雨；有時候靠岸到一個地方，當地的人又把船推到海裏去了，不讓它靠岸。最後，安全的到了菲律賓。哇！觀世音菩薩多麼慈悲！然後母親就開始把二哥，第三個，第四個，送到海外去，輪到最後一個我。」

我們問：「結果呢？」

她說：「因為母親虔信觀世音菩薩有求必應，能千手千眼救度。結果去年全家在南加州團聚了，一個人都沒少。」

我們問：「好啊，你呢？為什麼成為天主教徒呢？」

她接著說：「我們還沒有出國前，有一天我舅舅病了，那個時候到舅舅那村莊很危險。可是我母親就是一定要親自送藥去給他吃，所以我和姐姐陪著母親到那個村莊去。到了那邊，聽見機關槍的聲音：『啪啪啪』……很危險。我們到了那個村莊，舅舅也不見了，那個房子也沒有人，其實那個村莊也沒有人了。哦，那個聲音快來了。母親把地毯拿開，地面露出一個秘門，她就打開門，把我和姐姐放在地下室，然後把門關上。把地毯鋪好了，母親就坐在那上邊，很緊張一直念『南無觀世音菩薩救苦救難，南無觀世音菩薩救苦救難，南無觀世音菩薩救苦救難……我們感覺母親就在我們頭上。』」

一下子，有一個男人的聲音傳來，這個男人的聲音很宏亮、很有氣力，說：『這裏沒有人了，繼續走！』這裏沒有人了，好了，安全了！然後啪啪啪……的聲音離開了。母親把門打開，我們三個人抱在一起哭。母親就說：『那個聲音不知是誰呀？也沒有看到呢！是不是觀音菩薩現身？我相信是觀世音菩薩。』」

packed on four hundred. When the ship set out on the water, it would be very dangerous. But my mother had already paid the gold. There was no way out!

When my mother came home that night, she lit incense and stayed up all night bowing to Guanyin. She recited *The Universal Door Chapter*. She chanted 'Namo Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva who saves those who are suffering' over and over. We heard no news from my older brother until three months later. One day, we received a letter. He said he had arrived in the Philippines safely. In addition to the overcrowded ship, he'd also met with a tsunami and a gale storm. Sometimes the ship stopped on shore. But the natives pushed the ship back into the sea. They didn't want the refugee ship on their shores. Finally, he arrived in the Philippines safely. Wow! How kind and compassionate Guanyin Bodhisattva is. After that my mother sent the second oldest, the third oldest and then the fourth child. I was the fifth, the last one."

"So how did it all turn out?" we asked.

She said, "Because my mother believed in Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva sincerely, Guanyin granted her requests. She used her thousand hands and thousand eyes to help us. The entire family was reunited last year in Southern California; we were all there."

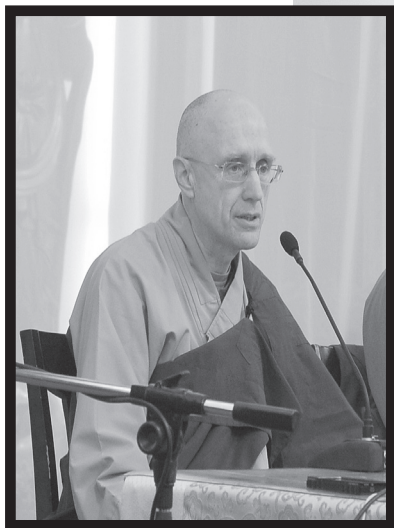
"Great! So why did you become a Catholic?" we asked.

Then she continued, "Before we went abroad, one day my uncle was sick. It was very dangerous at that time to go to my uncle's village. But my mother had to go and deliver the medicine to him in person. So my older sister and I went along with her. When we got there, we heard the sound of a gun: 'bang, bang, bang!' It was very dangerous. When we arrived, my uncle was gone and no one was in the house. In fact, there was no one in the village. The sound of the guns was so near! My mother pulled back a rug, revealing a secret door. She opened the door and put my older sister and me in the basement. Then she closed the door and replaced the rug. She sat there and recited, 'Namo Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva who saves those who are suffering' over and over again with great anxiety. We heard her just above us.

"All of a sudden, we heard the voice of a man. He had a very sonorous and strong voice, and he said, 'There's nobody here, let's keep moving!' 'Nobody here'!? It was great! We were safe! The sound of the 'bang, bang, bang' disappeared. Mother opened the door, and the three of us hugged each other and cried. Mother said, 'Do you know whose voice that was? I didn't see anyone. Was that Guanyin Bodhisattva in a transformation body? I believe it was!'"

"The car needed to be driven back. We had to pass through a battlefield filled with the sound of gunfire. It was so dangerous. Mother said, 'Tuck your heads in the car and concentrate on reciting Guanyin Bodhisattva's name.' She drove the car through the battlefield. It was not hit by a single bullet. It was unbelievable!"

She ended, "Because Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva was so kind and compassionate to our family, I decided to leave the home life and become a nun."



「還有，汽車要開回去，要路過一個戰場，兩邊都是『啪啪』聲，太危險了！母親就說：『把妳們的頭收進來，專心念觀音菩薩。』那個車子經過了，一個槍彈都沒有打到，很奇怪！」

她說：「因為觀世音菩薩對我們一家這麼慈悲，所以我就出了家做修女了。」

我說：「好哇，妳做一個修女，一定要做一個好好的修女，像耶穌那麼虔誠也好了。」

她說：「是呀，是呀！」

奇怪，她也可能沒有像我那麼大的分別心；我認為她應該在佛教裏面出家。不過不要緊了，她也是做天主教裏的一個佛教徒了，我們也可以做佛教裏面虔誠的天主教徒。

在各位學佛很多年的法師們、居士們面前，我覺得自己的智慧是非常有限的。所以請大家多多指教，這是非常需要的。

我們還有個佛青班，參加的都是大學佛教青年。將來，如果龍泉寺的義工、居士們跟美國法界佛教青年有合作的關係，一起為佛教光明的前途盡力，這是最大的貢獻，全世界都會知道佛法的偉大。這些年輕人他們多數是受到我們佛教的教育，有這種道德觀念。現在他們有已經大學畢業的，有出來做工的，有回來在廟上、在僧團下面學習佛法的。如果想知道多一點上人講的經，現在國內有宗教文化出版社，出版了十二本簡體字的宣化上人講的經，可以到書店裏去請。我也是每個星期六在美國用網路講經，可以直接上網聽，就是現在的中國時間星期天早上十一點半。

OK，我所準備講的，就到這裏。

I said, "Great, you are a nun. You must be a good nun. Be as sincere as Jesus."

She said, "Yes, indeed!"

Surprisingly, she is probably much more open-minded than I am. In my opinion, she should have become a nun in a Buddhist temple. But that was not important. She's now a Buddhist in a Catholic church. We can also be reverent Catholics in Buddhism.

I feel my knowledge and wisdom is extremely limited when I am in front of Dharma Masters and Dharma friends who have been studying Buddhism for many years. Therefore, advice and comments are always welcome. They are necessary.

We also have the Dharma Realm Buddhist Young Adults (DRBY) group which consists of college students and young adults who are interested in Buddhism. In the future, if the volunteers and laypeople of Longquan Monastery would like to help out with DRBY, they would be making contributions to a bright future for Buddhism. This would be a great way to contribute. All the world will be able to know the greatness of Buddhism. Many of these young people have received a Buddhist education and have a notion of morality. Now many of them have already graduated from college. Some have gone out into the world to work. Some have returned to the monastery to study Buddhism. If you want to hear more Dharma talks by Master Hua, the press of the Bureau of Religion and Culture in China has published twelve volumes of Dharma talks by Master Hua in simplified Chinese. You may purchase them in the bookstore. I also give Dharma Talks every Saturday in the U.S. over the Internet. You can access them online at 11:30 Sunday morning Chinese time.

OK, that's all I've prepared. Let's stop here.