

吳宗樺：我是從愛荷華州來的。首先要感謝上人，建立這麼好的道場，讓我們共修。還有，如果我們有法會的話，最忙的是香積組；我們非常感謝香積組，準備這麼好的飯菜；也感謝所有協辦佛七的一些同仁，就是蓮友，我們一併致上謝意！

首先，我要談的就是有關拜願。我們拜願是在（早上）五點到六點之間，那時空氣特別好，大殿裡燒著那個沉（水）香跟檀香，香味非常好。我們在大殿裡唱誦佛號，那聲音久久迴盪。等我拜完了這一個小時，我感覺身心都非常舒暢，不知道您是否有同樣的感覺？

第二是，坐念時，我在注意聆聽佛號的時候，維那在最後會唱得比較快速。他第一句佛號出去的時候，最後幾句佛號唱得非常快速；第一句佛號出去以後，跟第二句我們在唱誦的時候，第一句佛號會回來，從空中回來；第三句又出去的時候，會產生很大的共鳴。我不知道諸位會不會有種經驗：當你平心靜下來聽這一些佛號的話，你會感覺你的身心非常和諧，非常平靜！

平常我在念經的時候，有時會有一些比較沒有辦法理解的東西。但是這一次來聖城，聽上人跟一些法師的開示，然後我在經行的時候，有一些豁然開朗的感覺，會感覺到：哦！我想通了一些事情，想通了經裡的一些事情。

我們常常聽到有一句話，就是：「萬般帶不去，唯有業隨身」；這是我們常講的一句話。但是我們將來能帶得去的，第一個是你的業，一定跟著你；第二個，你的福德一定跟著你；第三個，你的功德一定跟著你；第四個，你的智慧一定跟著你。那麼，你今天打了佛七，將種下菩提的種子；這個種子將生生世世地跟著你，這是對你最大的利益。如果你勤加練習的話，就能早證菩提。所以，我們祝福您在菩提道上一帆風順，也祝福您心浴蓮花水！阿彌陀佛！

John Scroggs：我的名字叫約翰·史考格，做上人皈依弟子已經很久了；我

## *Bloom and Shine from California out Across the Land: 2010 Amitabha Session at CTTB*

# 朵朵霞光照美加 ——2010年萬佛城佛七報導



編輯部彙編 Compiled by the Editorial Staff

**Zonghua Wu:** I came from Iowa. First of all, I would like to thank the Venerable Master who built such a great monastery for us so that we can practice here. During the Dharma session, the busiest people are the kitchen staff. We deeply appreciate them for cooking such wonderful food, and also thank all those who worked to support this session.

The first thing I would like to mention is the universal bowing from 5:00 to 6:00 a.m. The quality of air mixing with the fragrance of aloewood and sandalwood was really great. The chanting the Buddha's name echoed in the Buddha Hall. After one hour of bowing, I was happy and entirely free from worry both mentally and physically. Do you feel the same way?

The second thing I noticed was that when the cantor sped up the chanting at the very end of each recitation period, the echo of the first recitation bounced back after the second recitation, and this echo and the third recitation produced an acoustic resonance in the air. I don't know if you experienced this. When I calmed down to listen to the chanting, it made me feel really peaceful and tranquil.

When I used to recite sutras, I couldn't comprehend certain parts. However, after hearing the Venerable Master's lectures and other Dharma Masters' instructional talks during the evening lecture time or through



目前住在威利斯(Willits)，而在萬佛城工作。我在想，何時是我最後一次參加阿彌陀七，不過我第一次參加是在1985年。那次經驗不像我所想的那麼糟，事實上我每十年或十五年總會參加一次佛七。因此無論如何，我的生活對某些人可說是一種警訊。你可以很容易就被你自己的夢想追及，而時光在自己的夢幻世界裡過得特別快。有一個特別好的辦法來這麼做，就是居住在道場外面，但是在道場裡面工作，時光就飛也似的消逝了。

所以無論如何，我非常高興終於能再度參加佛七；我非常感恩，也有點慚愧地察覺到，我竟然每十或十五年才來參加一次佛七。我可以看到周遭人事是如何在改變，似乎我們這兒的佛七和來這兒參加的人都真的能得到一種力量，有的人還真的潛心於修行。這令我感覺我好像錯過了什麼。不過另一方面，師父常常說：「不要看不起你自己！」如果我沒記錯的話，釋迦牟尼佛自己就曾經是常不輕菩薩。我相信！

所以我這次來打佛七，我感覺滿好的。基本上，我自己的修行是極為有限的。我大部分時間都在忙，忙著把道場維持下去。但是，有個動機使我還偶而會現身來打七，也得到一些好的消息。所以，你們誰若有類似情形不能每一年來參加，因為其他情況不能隨心如願修行，不要看輕自己！只要你能來這裡，你就有這個緣，就會有感應。

**比丘近巖：**剛才，李立君居士跟吳宗樺居士都不約而同地提到了這個香積菩薩。就是講我們在廚房工作的每一個人，每個菩薩來幫我們成就這個法會。我們在這邊也很感恩他們的時間跟精力的付出；特別令人感動的是，當我們走進大齋堂，一排的人都同時在那邊切菜、洗菜。

那麼，今天晚上的佛七，就在這邊劃上一個圓滿的句號，希望大家能夠把佛號，帶回到你們的生活之中；明年的佛七再相會！阿彌陀佛！

walking meditation, my mind suddenly opened up. I felt: *Oh, I understand now.* I was able to comprehend and make connections on the parts that had been unintelligible to me.

We frequently hear the verse: *We can take nothing with us. Only our karma follows us.* This is something we say quite often. What we can really take with us in the end is our karma because it definitely follows us. The second thing that will follow us is our blessing. The third is our virtue. The fourth is our wisdom. Since we have participated in this Buddha Recitation Session, we have planted Bodhi seeds, which will also follow us in life after life. This is the biggest benefit we have. If we practice diligently, we will be awakened to Bodhi quickly. So, I would like to wish everyone a smooth journey treading on the Path of Bodhi. May your mind be bathed in the water of Lotus (referring to purity of the Western Land). Amitabha!

**John Scroggs:** My name is John Scroggs. I have been a refuge disciple for a long time, and I currently live in Willits and work here. I was reflecting on when was the last time that I attended an Amitabha Session, and I came to the conclusion that the first was in 1985. That was not quite as bad as I think; actually I have gone to later ones every ten, fifteen years. So anyway, my life was sort of a cautionary tale for some. You can get caught up in your own dream, and time goes by quickly in your own dream world. A particularly good way to do that is to live outside the monastery and work at the monastery. Time just flies.

So anyway, I was very happy to finally be able to attend an Amitabha Session once again, and I find myself to be grateful and also somewhat ashamed in that I've had the perspective of checking in once every ten, fifteen years. I can see how things have changed. It seems that our session here, and the people who are practicing here, have really gained strength and real depth to their practice. And that makes me feel that maybe I'm missing out. On the other hand, Shr Fu always said, "Don't slight yourself." If I remember correctly, Shakyamuni Buddha himself used to be Never-slighting Bodhisattva.

So I had a pretty good session. Basically, my practice is fairly minimal. I stay busy most of the time doing my best to keep the monastery going, which is the reason why I could pop into this session once in a while, and I had a really good response. Those of you who are caught up in a similar situation where you can't attend every year, and if you can't cultivate as much as you want because of other situations, don't get discouraged. Don't slight yourself. You can just come here. You do have conditions and you can have a response.

**Bhikshu Jin Yan:** Just now, Junli Li and Zonghua Wu mentioned the 'Fragrance Accumulation Bodhisattvas.' This term refers to the kitchen staff who work very hard in the kitchen, like Bodhisattvas who help us to advance spiritually in this assembly. We thank the kitchen staff who contributed their time and energy to support this assembly. When we walk into the dining hall at lunch time, we always see a touching scene: a group of people washing and cutting vegetables to prepare for the next day's lunch. Tonight, we conclude our Amitabha Session for this year. I hope everyone will take the Buddha's name back to your daily life. See you next year! Amitabha.