

學習佛法，不要有一種依賴心，要是有依賴心，始終不會自立的。所以這一次我到南美旅行，也可以說是給你們一個實實在在的考驗。以前我對你們說過一首偈頌，這首偈頌雖然只是二十個字，但是每一天、每一個時辰、每一刻鐘、每一秒鐘，你們都應該不要忘了它。說的什麼呢？說的是：

一切是考驗，看爾怎麼辦？
觀面若不識，須再從頭煉。

你們自己問問自己：「現在要不要從頭煉過？」不是佛能替你們了生死，不是佛法能替你們了生死，不是師父能替你們了生死，不是僧人能替你們了生死，要你們自己了自己的生死！你們要自立，不要有一種依賴性，不要像小孩子似的，總要喝牛奶，總要吃糖，總要叫爸爸媽媽餵。

這一次我到南美，就把你們的「奶」斷了，看看你們能不能活下來？那麼到現在，有四個多月了，你們還沒有餓死，可以說有一點點自立的功夫，但是懶的功夫也不少。所以，只要把自立的功夫再立起來多一點，把懶的功夫減少一點，就可以合乎中道了。

Those of you who study Buddhism should not be reliant. If you always rely on others, you will never learn to be independent; so you could say that my trip to South America is a test for all of you. In the past I told you a verse. Although this verse only has twenty characters, but you should never forget them in every day, hour, minute or second. What is this verse? It goes:

Everything is a test, to see what you will do
Mistaking what's before your face, you'll have to start anew.

You should ask yourself: "Do I need to start anew?" The Buddha cannot end your birth and death; Buddhism cannot do this for you, your Master cannot do this for you, and no Sangha member can do this for you; you have to end your own birth and death! You need to be independent and not reliant like a young child who still needs weaning or needs his parents to give him candy.

This time when I went to South America, I tried to wean you off your dependents to see if you could survive on your own. And it seems that after four months, you didn't starve to death, so you've developed some skill, but your laziness had also advanced. If you can be more independent and less idle, you can adhere to the Middle Way.



Please Await My Return



摘自1973年上人從南美返回金山寺後第一次開示

An excerpt from the **Venerable Master's** instructional talk when he returned to Gold Mountain Monastery from his trip to South America in **1973**

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