

世間無常，修行要即時

The World Is Impermanent—Don't Wait to Cultivate!

比丘尼近康法師講於2019年2月10日臺北法界印經會梁皇寶懺

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A Dharma talk given by Bhikshuni Jin Kang during the Jeweled Repentance of the Emperor of Liang
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English Translation by Wu Lianlian



諸佛菩薩、各位法師、各位蓮友，大家阿彌陀佛！

先恭喜大家，闔家平安。很高興大家能夠在新年期間到道場來親近三寶，我想這是世間最大的寶藏。為甚麼呢？世間所有的五欲都會敗壞，今年我感受更深刻。宣公上人常開示「人生如夢要清醒」，我們都覺得日常生活裡面的人事物都很真實，我們的感覺是這麼真實，但是呢，這都是夢境。這個夢境我們要怎麼清醒呢？要透過修行，才有辦法把我們從夢境裡面給敲醒。我們很幸運能夠跟隨上人，聽上人的法，在上人的道場修行。我想，這也是最難能可貴的。

First, I would like to welcome everyone and wish you and your families peace and safety. I am very glad that you can attend this ceremony during the Lunar New Year to draw near to the Three Jewels [Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha]. I think that they are the greatest treasures in the world. Why? All things related to the five worldly desires (wealth, lust, fame, food, and sleep) will eventually disintegrate. This year, I feel this even more keenly. Venerable Master Hsuan Hua often taught us that “Life is like a dream” and that “We should wake up.” We all believe that the people and things in our life are very real, but they are actually merely a dream. How do we wake up? Only through our cultivation can we find a way to awaken. We are very lucky to be able to follow the Venerable Master, listen to his Dharma, and practice at one of his place of enlightenment. This is incredibly valuable and precious.

我們都知道九一一是一件很大的事情，罹難者裡面有幾個人在生命的最後一刻打電話給親愛的家人。其中有一位就是美國的銀行家愛德華先生，當天他在世貿大樓的十七樓，他看到當時的情況覺得自己生還的機率很低，就拿起手機很迅速地撥了幾通電話。當他撥第一個號碼的時候，很迅速地又打了另外一個號碼，還沒有等到電話通了，他想一想又趕快打第三通電話，當然他也在九一一的那場恐怖攻擊中喪生了。

他的律師跟助手在他的遺物裡面找到了他的手機。他的第一通電話是打給他的助手，第二通電話是打給他的律師，雖然他們的手機訊息都有接到愛德華先生打電話給他們，但是他們都沒有聽到他的聲音。所以他們就很好奇，他打的第三通電話是打給誰，講了甚麼。這件事情很重要，因為愛德華先生一生無兒無女，五年前離婚了，所以他的遺產就是一個問題。要怎麼處理他的遺產呢？因為他生前沒有立遺囑，所以他的律師就要看看他的第三通電話是打給誰。

律師就依這個電話號碼找到舊金山，原來這位是愛德華的母親。很快的，他到舊金山去拜訪她。愛德華的母親傷痛欲絕，因為這是她唯一的兒子。律師就跟他媽媽說：「我想知道他打給你的電話，到底跟你講了甚麼？」他的母親告訴律師：「愛德華沒有交代任何一件屬於公司的事情，這不關你的事情。」律師告訴她：「我知道你很傷心，但是請你告訴我，他到底跟你講了甚麼？因為這事關他的遺產。」愛德華的母親就跟律師講：「他生前根本不在乎他的財產。」律師很嚴肅地告訴她：「我有權利知道愛德華先生到底跟你講了甚麼？」最後，這位母親告訴他：「他最後並沒有交代他財產的事情，他只短短的留一個簡訊—媽媽，我愛你。」

那我想，其實在現在的工商社會，我們每一個人都很忙碌。我們把這個「忙」拆開來看，就是「心」跟「亡」。這個忙是甚麼意思呢？就是我們心裡面沒有希望、沒有未來，就是所謂的心死掉了。現在的社會，人與人之間的人際關係，不管是同事、家人、

We all remember 9/11 as a tragic international event of enormous. Some of the victims called their loved ones in the last moment of their lives. One of them was an American banker named Edward. That day, he was on the seventeenth floor of the World Trade Center. Analyzing the situation, he realized that his chances of survival were very slim. So, he picked up his cellphone and made a few phone calls. He dialed one number, then quickly dialed another, and then he dialed a third final number. Unfortunately, he died in the attack on 9/11.

His lawyer and assistant found his cell phone among his remains. His first call was to his assistant and then his second to was his lawyer. Although they both received the phone calls, they could not hear his voice. So they were curious about whom he called last and what he told them. This was important because Edward had no children and had been divorced five years earlier, so his estate was a concern. What was to happen with his estate? Because he had not made a will, his lawyer needed to know whom he made his third phone call.

The lawyer reached a San Francisco number. It turned out to be Edward's mother. A short while later, he went to visit her in San Francisco. Edward's mother was devastated because he was her only son. The lawyer asked his mother, "What did he tell you when he called you?" His mother told the lawyer, "Edward didn't say anything about the company. It has nothing to do with you." The lawyer told her, "I know you are sad, but please tell me what he told you. We need to know if it was regarding his estate." Edward's mother told the lawyer, "He didn't care about his assets." "I have a right to know what Edward told you," the lawyer told her gravely. In the end, Edward's mother told him, "He didn't say anything about his assets at the end of his life. He just left a short message, "Mom, I love you."

This incident made me reflect on our present day industrial and commercial society where everyone is very busy. If we look at the components of the Chinese character "busy", it means "heart" and "death". What does this character "busy" really mean? There is no hope in our hearts and no future! Heart are dead. In today's society, we when we interact with people, whether they are colleagues, family members, or friends, we often use the word "busy" as an excuse to not meet up; we've ignored our parents, our families, and opportunities to be together.

Although modern technology seems to be very advanced, it is reasonable to think that mobile phones are a convenience, right? Something happened to my mother, I should have been able to get

朋友，常常都用一個「忙」字來做藉口；忽略了我們的父母，忽略了我們的家人，忽略了彼此相聚的機會。

雖然科技看起來好像很發達，照理說，手機應該很方便，對不對？我媽媽發生事情的時候，第一時間應該很快就可以聯絡上。我住在國外，我姐姐人在高雄，我媽媽車禍的第一時間，在短短幾個鐘頭裡面，從車禍、急救到往生，我弟弟在這段時間發訊息給他周遭附近的親友，在那麼緊急的時候，竟然沒有一個人收到這個訊息。這個社會看起來很進步，但是我覺得人與人之間其實是非常疏離的。我們常以為看到表面上的進步，我們所要傳達的愛很快就可以傳達到。其實我覺得，真正要傳達我們彼此之間對他們的愛，對他們的關懷，應該是面對面的傳達，而不是只是用現代的科技。

我也要趁這個機會感恩大家，在我媽媽最後的那段時間，有很多人去幫我媽媽助念，我想這對我媽媽的幫助很大。媽媽出車禍的時候，我人在加拿大，我接到我弟的訊息跟我講說，媽媽往生了。後來還有一條訊息，「法界有人來助念了，媽媽很安詳，就好像睡覺一樣。」當我看到訊息的時候，覺得弟弟是在騙我，我覺得他是在安慰我。聽到消息，我趕快請道場幫我訂飛機，回來我馬上去殯儀館看媽媽，其實看到媽媽的時候，我的心就比較放下了。我覺得媽媽的面容的確是很安詳，就像睡覺一樣，而且還帶著一點笑容，一點俏皮。我跟媽媽說：「媽媽，你要放下。」因為媽媽是車禍，臨時撞上來，沒有準備的，衝擊是很大的。我看到媽媽的遺容時，心是比較安慰的。

這段期間，整理媽媽的遺物的時候，才發現媽媽不只皈依，還有受五戒。我媽媽這件事情，如果我們用因果的道理來看，你會覺得一個學佛的人，怎麼還會遇到這種災難？覺得跟你種的因好像不太符合。不過，我沒有這樣子想，其實我非常地慶幸，媽媽有皈依三寶，甚至還親近了道場，這都是之前我料想不到的。所以我們一定要相信佛法這個因果的道理都是正確的。

in touch very quickly. I live abroad and my sister is in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. When my mom was hit by a car, in just a few hours, my brother sent messages to friends and relatives about the accident, the medical attention that she received, and her final death. However, even in such an emergency, no one actually received his messages. Society seems to be very progressive, but people are actually very alienated from each other. We see superficial progress which makes us believe that we can always convey our love to those for whom we care. Yet, in fact, I think the real way to convey our love and care for each other is to communicate face to face, not just with modern technology.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone. At my mother's last moment of life, many people came to read sutras on her behalf. This was a great help to my mother. When the accident happened, I was in Canada. I received the message from my brother that my mother had passed away. Then there was another message, "People from Dharma Realm Buddhist Association came to recite sutras. Mom looked as peaceful as if she was sleeping." When I saw the message, I thought that my brother was lying to me, just trying to comfort me. Hearing the news, I quickly asked where her funeral would be held and booked my plane ticket. When I returned to Taiwan, I immediately went to the funeral home to see my mother. When I saw her, my heart was more at ease. My mother's face was indeed very peaceful as if she was sleeping. She also had a slight smile. I said to my mother, "Mom, you have to put everything down." My mom was hit by a car and died immediately upon impact, she was not prepared to leave this world, so the impact was huge. When I saw my mother's body, I felt quite relieved.

In the days that followed as I sorted out my mother's belongings, I learned that not only had she converted to Buddhism, but also received the Five Precepts. Regarding my mom's case from a Buddhist perspective of karma, you might ask why would a Buddhist encounter this kind of a disaster? It doesn't seem to fit with the kind of causes that were planted. However, I do not think like this. In fact, I am very glad that my mother converted to the Three Jewels and even drew close to a Way-Place, a monastery. I did not expect this at all. So we must believe that the Dharma principle of cause and effect is always correct.

This New Year, I would like to congratulate all of you whom practice Buddhism and draw near the Three Jewels. This is really invaluable. You can't buy them with any treasure in the world. We

在新年，我要很恭喜大家都在三寶裡面修行，這真的很難得，世間任何的財寶都買不到，要好好珍惜。尤其世間無常，對我來說，真得感受到無常的迅速。我希望媽媽這種出乎意料的方式，能夠警惕大家，希望大家要早作準備、早備資糧，這個很重要。人的生命其實非常短暫，而且生命是不可能永遠的，但是我們的慧命卻是永久的，可以帶到生生世世。希望我們都能夠親近三寶，聽聞正法。在菩提路上增進，大家早成佛道。將三寶所給予我們的智慧與資糧傳播給大家，希望很多苦難的眾生也能夠因為佛的力量，也讓它們能夠親近到三寶，讓它們早一點出離三界、出離苦海，阿彌陀佛。

編按：近康師的母親，張美華老居士於二零一九年一月二十四日晚間辭世。張老居士是在法總僧團座下皈依、受五戒；個性爽朗，不論是台北法界的法會或者是智慧之源義工，都可以看到她的身影。祝張老居士在西方精進修行，早證菩提。☸

這個《萬佛懺》的力量是不可思議的，萬佛來擁護你，所以你求甚麼就能遂心滿願。你求開大智慧，就會得大智慧；你求消除你的業障，就能消除你的業障；你求增長你的善根，就會增長你的善根。不是這個《萬佛懺》能增長你的善根，是十方諸佛都來加持你，令你的病也沒有了，令你的業障也消除了。所以這個《萬佛懺》是非常重要的！過去諸佛也是拜《萬佛懺》，現在諸佛還是拜《萬佛懺》，未來諸佛也都拜《萬佛懺》而成就的。你看，虛雲老和尚以前也拜《萬佛懺》。以前我遇見過一個福建人，他原來有心臟病——這個心臟病是很厲害的。那麼他就拜《華嚴經》，一個字一拜，一個字一拜，一天就拜一千多拜；後來他的心臟病不知不覺就沒有了。所以你修持佛法，必須要有一份至誠懇切的心，自然就有感應。

—摘自宣公上人《華嚴經淺釋》

have to cherish them, especially since everything is impermanent. For me, I really feel the impermanence of the world. I hope that my mother's unexpected passing can be an alarm for you. I hope that you prepare and make provisions as soon as possible. This is very important. Human life is actually very short, and it is impossible for life to last forever, but our wisdom is permanent and it can be taken to the next life. I hope that we can all gather close to the Three Jewels, hear the true Dharma, advance on the Bodhi road, and accomplish the Buddha Way quickly. We will share the accumulation of wisdom given by the Three Jewels with everyone. I hope that the Buddha's power can bring many suffering beings close to the Three Jewels so that they may escape the three realms and sea of suffering as soon as possible. Amitabha Buddha!

Editor's note: On the evening of January 24, 2019, Upasaka Meihua Chang, mother of Dharma Master Jinkang, passed away. The Elder Upasaka Chang converted to Buddhism under DRBA Dharma Masters (Sangha) and received the Five Precepts. She had a bright personality and volunteered frequently at DRBA's branch monastery in Taipei. May Elder Upasaka Chang practice energetically in the Western Pure Land and realize enlightenment right away. ☸

The power of the Ten Thousand Buddhas' Jeweled Repentance is inconceivable. Ten Thousand Buddhas come to protect you; therefore, you can gain everything you seek. If you seek to open your wisdom, you will gain wisdom. If you seek to eliminate your karma, you will eliminate your karma. If you seek to gain good roots, you will gain good roots. The Ten Thousand Buddhas will help you gain good roots, and the Buddhas will come bless you to help your illness and to eliminate your karma. Thus, the repentance is extremely important. The Buddhas of the past bowed in this repentance ceremony before Ten Thousand Buddhas, as the Buddhas of the present. The Buddhas of the future will realize Buddhahood through bowing this repentance. You see, Venerable Master Hsu Yun bowed in this repentance ceremony before the Ten Thousand Buddhas. I encountered a person from Fujian Province who had severe heart disease and was very sick. He bowed to each word of the *Avatamsaka Sutra*, making about 1000 bows each day. His heart disease disappeared. It is very important to have a sincere mind when you practice in Buddhism. Sincerity will bring a response.

—Excerpt from the commentary on the *Avatamsaka Sutra* by Master Hsuan Hua