覺海慈航度香江（續）

Crossing Hong Kong on the Ship of Compassion in the Sea of Awakening (continued)

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34. 幽冥離苦

上人以大悲心，方便一切眾生而傳授幽冥戒，以薦拔先靈及冤魂等眾生。上人弟子黎果合，一時疏忽，忘了為其先母代受幽冥淨戒，待下山返家途中，驟然腿痛，欲前不得⋯⋯

上人在香港建了西樂園後，由於有固定場所，信眾一天比一天多。為了方便眾生的需要，經常舉辦法會，也設立超薦牌位，並傳授幽冥戒。有一次，西樂園要傳授幽冥戒，黎果合前往報名，代其祖先受幽冥戒。之後，他隨眾人下山，走到半途中，突然腿痛，一步也邁不出去；奇怪的是，轉身往山上走，行動自如，腿一點也不痛。黎果合試了幾次都這樣，他只好回頭返回西樂園，向師父稟告這件事，上人笑著問他：「你是不是忘記為你母

34. Releasing the Suffering of Those in the Netherworld

The Venerable Master, with great compassion, transmitted the Precepts for the Deceased which is an expediency for all living beings, so as to liberate our ancestors and aggrieved spirits. Citing an instance, once the Venerable Master's disciple Li Guo He(黎果合Lí Guǒ Hé), absentmindedly forgot to register for the Precepts for the Deceased which he intended to take on behalf of his late mother. As he was going down the hill, halfway home, he suddenly felt an intense pain in his leg and was unable to walk.

When Venerable Master built Western Bliss Garden Monastery, the number of worshipers increased daily as once there was a permanent Bodhimanda. Dharma assemblies were frequently held to fulfill the needs of living beings, and plaques were set up for liberating and transmitting the Precepts for the Deceased. As such, Li Guo He registered his ancestors for the Precepts for the Deceased. Then, he followed everyone else down the hill, and once he was halfway down, he suddenly felt pain in his legs, and could not move another step further. The strange thing was that when he turned back to walk up the hill, the pain was gone and he could walk normally. He tried doing this a few times and the results were the same. So, left with no choice, he returned to the Western Bliss Garden and informed the Venerable Master about this experience. The Venerable Master smiled and asked, "Did you forget to register for the Precepts for the Deceased for your

1953年地藏七圓滿。
The final day of the Earth Store Recitation Session in 1953.

親受幽冥戒呢？」黎果合一聽，恍然大悟，於是趕緊為母親報名受幽冥戒；報完名，下山也沒有問題了。

【後記】恒實法師敘述：

　　求受幽冥戒是孝順報恩的行為，是行大孝的，各位都很清楚，就是說，「樹欲靜而風不止，子欲孝而親不在。」這大家都聽過，一個人他父母可能已經往生了，但父母生前，他自己不懂得行孝道；當他覺悟要行孝道的時候，沒辦法，父母已經不在了。你本來還有幾十年可以服侍他們，盡孝道報父母恩，很可惜錯過了。那怎麼樣？幽冥戒可以幫你繼續行孝道。我所代表的靈魂已經往生了，我都願意繼續給他們做功德，迴向幽冥戒的功德，那是把孝道延長了，越過了他們身體已經不在的階段。這是不是很妙的？這是令孝道法門的功德能繼續。為什麼？因為人雖然不在旁邊了，可是彼此的關係在我們心裡還是繼續著，所以你就用這個關係來做功德為他們迴向，這是很妙的。這是上人在萬佛城所解釋的幽冥戒。

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late mother?" Upon hearing that, Li Guo He suddenly realized that he had not done so, and quickly registered his late mother. After that, he had no difficulty going back down the mountain.

Reverend Heng Sure's Postscript :

Taking the Precepts for the Deceased is truly a filial act. It was said, "The tree wishes to be still, yet the wind blows on. The child wishes to be filial, yet the parents are gone." Everyone has heard this saying before. It describes how an individual whose parents have passed away, but did not know how to be filial when they were still alive. That is, although this person may realize that he should have been filial, even so, it was already too late for him. He could have taken good care of his parents for several decades, yet, he missed his chance. Nonetheless, people in this situation may further practice filial respect by receiving the Precepts for the Deceased on their parents' behalf.

Notably, the souls we represent have already passed on, but we can still create merit and virtue then transfer it to them, thereby extending the practice of filial respect beyond their physical life span. Is that not wonderful? Even though they are not physically around, we can still have a connection with them in our hearts, and we can use that connection to transfer merit to them. It is truly wonderful! This was how the Venerable Master explained the Precepts for the Deceased at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas.

ಞTo be continued