

# Let's Love More Deeply

## **CHANGING FROM NAGGING, COMPLAINING WORDS**

In the beginning, Chieko Yamaguchi didn't get along with her husband. She said that somehow, she couldn't stop from being judgmental of him. That was because, she explained, he would always glare and nag whenever he said anything to her. Their fights would begin when she said, "Dear, you and I aren't enemies. There's no need for you to glare like that when you talk to me."

However, after joining Seicho-No-Ie, she reflected on herself from various perspectives, and one day, when she was practicing Shinsokan meditation, she heard a voice from within telling her, "You are now a kind and gentle *child of God* and a wonderful wife." She was very taken aback, but reflected on herself and realized that while she had thought it was her husband who had been nagging her, she had actually been the one who had been snapping at *him*. She understood that this had been reflected in her husband and had appeared in this way.

The other reason for the disharmony between this couple was feelings of fear. She recognized that since she was fearful of how he would react when she said something, her expression was stiff and unyielding, as though she were talking to the devil.

After that, Mrs. Yamaguchi made a conscious effort to smile whenever she talked to her husband, and before she knew it, it became a habit. Now whenever they look at each other, they both smile, even though they may not have anything in particular to say. It is now almost as if they are courting again, and they are getting along quite well.

## **DIVINE LOVE IS ALREADY THERE**

In this way, married couples, as well as children and their parents, love each other by nature, so when that love is expressed naturally,

it is expressed in its entirety for the first time. At first, that love is a faltering, unstable love that seeks from others and is dependent on how the other person acts. In other words, it is the false condition of love in which we seek retribution. That gradually becomes a true, genuine love and is not affected, no matter how the other person may act, and a love that does not seek anything in return slowly appears.

God has given us everything and has provided us with sunshine free of charge, and, moreover, has asked for nothing in return. It is God who practices the total giving of love.

This is true love, and for us to get to this point, we go through a stage where we ask others for repayment in kindnesses or for physical pleasure. We must try to graduate beyond this halfway stage and become one who practices God's true love.

There may be those who think it impossible to love in a way that does not seek recompense, or only to give of love. It may be difficult to become totally like God's love immediately. However, God's love already exists within you. It never fails to express itself, and so it is definitely not impossible for it to appear. On the contrary, it would be odd for divine love not to show up eventually.

For example, there is a town in Japan with a very strange name which means "late riser." Now, it's not that all the people who live in this town are late risers, but there was a person named Yoshiaki Takei who lived there. Mr. Takei at first didn't get along with his father or his wife and was always arguing with them. The main reason for this was that his wife was sloppy. She was also extravagant and wasteful and didn't clean thoroughly. However, Mr. Takei attended the First Youth and Young Adult Convention, came back home and began really to propagate Seicho-No-Ie.

After having gone to the Convention, he would go to Readers' Meetings for adults and/or Youth and Young Adults' Meetings every night. When he got home, his wife would say, "Dear, we don't have any more rice." Since he had just been at the meeting and talked about how *a child of God* has been given an infinite supply, he would say, "We'll be fine" despite her negative attitude. Soon, however, he thought, "I can't participate in the Enlightenment

Movement without money. I myself have to put the infinite supply thinking into practice," and went to work in a coal mine. He decided that he would gradually begin participating in the Enlightenment Movement when he had ¥100,000 (approximately \$1,000 US). This mindset, however, always ends up in failure. Far from getting ¥100,000, he found himself ¥70,000 in debt. He concluded that this was all because his wife was so extravagant, and finally they ended up separating.

### PEOPLE ARE ALL BROTHERS AND SISTERS

But because Mr. Takei was practicing the Seicho-No-Ie teachings, he reconsidered and, with the sincere and enthusiastic help of the other members, got back together with his wife and began a local business that sold buckets. He fervently and steadily deepened his faith and found great joy in talking to different people about Seicho-No-Ie as he did his work.

One day, a person with tattoos all over his body came and wanted to hear about Seicho-No-Ie. Mr. Takei talked enthusiastically and earnestly about various things with regard to Seicho-No-Ie, especially of how, "All people are children of God and are brothers and sisters." That day, the person went home without saying anything, but one day not long after that, at about eleven o'clock at night, a taxi stopped in front of Mr. Takei's house. As he wondered what it could all be about, the tattooed man, who had a number of prior convictions, got out of the taxi and said, "Hey, you! Please pay this driver ¥3,500."

"What? ¥3,500? Why?"

"I came from Yoshinori without any money. It would be easy enough for me to go to prison for not paying for this taxi. But you said that we are all brothers. So pay it for me."

This reasoning was a little strange, but Mr. Takei sincerely wanted to somehow help this person become a great man who would never again commit a crime, and so he went to various people in the neighborhood and to the man's relatives and discussed the money matter with them. However, they wouldn't do anything to help. What

he decided to do then was to give the taxi driver a signed contract stating that he would guarantee payment of the ¥3,500. After that, Mr. Takei was somehow able to raise the money to pay the person from the company who came to collect it two days later. Despite this, however, the tattooed man made no effort whatsoever to repay Mr. Takei the money.

**TO LIVE THROUGH GOD**

In cases such as this, I would never recommend that you become the guarantor of the money as Mr. Takei did. On the contrary, in common sense terms, it's outrageous. However, even actions such as these that may seem like mistakes may, depending on what is done afterwards, end up with a wonderful outcome.

After Mr. Takei paid this ¥3,500, his wife was a bit upset, but she eventually calmed down and they both, husband and wife, focused on the divinity of each other and continued to practice Shinsokan meditation together, visualizing the true, wonderful nature of the tattooed man as *a child of God*. They prayed knowing that there is not one evil or bad person in the world created by God, and did not in the least pray that the tattooed man pay back the money or that he do something to return their favor. On the contrary, Mr. Takei was grateful and believed that through this ¥3,500, all his past negative karma had been destroyed and that his life had been saved.

This isn't something that just anyone can do. It meant being grateful to someone who had tricked and cheated him out of this money, which hardly makes any sense. However, faith transcends reasoning. Mr. Takei did not demand repayment from the tattooed man, nor did he ask to be thanked. All he did was pray earnestly and sincerely.

Days went by in this way, and eventually there was to be a Seicho-No-Ie Grand Seminar near Mr. Takei's home, so he sent postcards to those around him, inviting them to the event, and also included one to Mr. Tattoo. A short time later, Mr. Tattoo came hurriedly to Mr. Takei's, invitation in hand, and said, "Just what does this mean? I haven't been able to sleep at night thinking that I'd get a

letter from you demanding to get the money back. I've never felt this way no matter how bad the things I've done have been. I have nightmares every night and wake with a start. But then today, I get this postcard from you inviting me to a Seicho-No-Ie Grand Seminar and saying that you look forward to seeing me. I reread it over and over again, but couldn't find anything that even remotely referred to money. There was no demand for the ¥3,500. That's when I really felt guilty, from the bottom of my heart, for what I did to you, Mr. Takei. I immediately tried and was somehow able to get ¥3,500 together. I have it here with me now. Please take it."

In this way, this man, who had been previously uncontrollable and ignored even by his relatives, had manifested his God-nature in a wonderful way, and asked, "Please make me a Seicho-No-Ie member, too, and share that badge of membership with me" and at Mr. Takei's recommendation, joined the Holy Mission Fellowship.

From *Motto Fukaku Aisou*, "Let's Love More Deeply," pp. 18-25



**DO YOU NEED DIVINE HEALING?**

GOD IS LOVE—LOVE HEALS ALL. Let us help you by praying for you. We consider it a privilege to pray for anyone seeking divine healing. Term of prayer: One month. Freewill offering gratefully accepted. Please cut out the form below and mail to:

**SEICHO-NO-IE TRUTH OF LIFE CENTER**  
14527 South Vermont Avenue, Gardena, CA 90247

---

**DIVINE HEALING REQUEST**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of your problem: \_\_\_\_\_