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老點傳師賜導

田螺含水過冬

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一貫道高雄縣六龜鄉神威道場於2008年12月27日落成啟用。總統馬英九應邀在白陽殿廣場為啟用。總統馬英九表示,一貫道最迷人之處人養將儒學深化並內化為生命的一部分,提供為多處,是將儒學深化並內化為生命的一響,吸引這麼多說,對於一貫道來台早期遭受的委屈,也變力「很抱歉」,並形容那段日子猶如「田螺含水過冬」,因此一貫道解禁後,立刻成為主要宗教之一。(中華日報12.28)

「田螺含水過冬」是一句台灣諺語,在台灣 五十年代前出生的還可能了解這句話的含意,五十 年代後出生的很多人就不甚明白。在美國出生的所 謂ABC (America Born Chinese)對這句話的含意唯 有「聽弄無」(台語) 可以表達。在海外長大的孩子 苦於中文的閱讀,對台灣俚語的含意當然更加艱澀 難以明白瞭解。有一次,我去牙科診所看診,這位 牙醫也是來自台灣,除了鄉土的親切感之外,更重 要的是溝通上的方便,不需要比手畫腳或是翻譯, 生活在美國洛杉磯或舊金山的華人,最大的福氣是 可以輕易找到懂得中文的醫生,得以避免在需要緊 急就醫時,因為語言不通而延誤醫治。在診所看診 時,後學看見醫師的者丈人忙進忙出的在搬東西, 原因是最近他的診所要搬家,後學因為看診跟他相 識幾年了,知道他的岳父岳母嫁了女兒,不忍心女 兒來這裡受罪,也跟著來帶外孫女整理家務,後學 常讚嘆他是前世修得的福報,就順口說:「你的老 丈人真好!」這位醫師馬上回答:「你的老丈人也 很好吧! 1 我愣了一下, 問他女的哪有老丈人, 他 說:「你先生的爸爸呀!」在國外英文用多了,有 時當應用中文就有說不出來,寫不出來的窘態,相 信很多人頗有同感。一群同年齡銀髮族,大家坐在 一起訴說共同時代的回憶,對在海外的遊子而言其 實是一種享受。

「田螺含水過冬」的景象,在早期台灣鄉下的溝渠內常可以看到,讓農人佩服的是:螺科生物常在枯水期,將自己埋在爛泥巴裡,沒有空氣,沒有陽光,堅持隱忍,只為保持好體力。等春天雨水來時,才鑽出來。

金融風暴震盪全球之際,美國新任總統奧巴馬 先生一上任,就即刻面臨嚴峻的考驗。回顧一貫道 的歷史,我們經歷了多少磨難和無情的打擊,各組 線前人默默忍受莫須有的罪名和拷打;現在的新一 代修道士是多麽的有福報,在美國生長大的人,不 但豐衣足食,也充份享受自由國土福利;宗教自 由,言論自由;對前賢修道所經歷的苦難,或許只 有在一貫道歷史博物館才有機會再見到。在美國 公共場所,隨時可見有人任意浪費資源,如餐廳 裏,公廁中,水任意流、衛生紙、拭手紙任意拉 出讓它掉落滿地,那種心態不就是反正不是我付 錢的心態嗎?殊不知今天能生在這個快樂的國度, 是拜前世佈施福德所賜,每個人在他的功德銀行中 有定額儲蓄帳戶,今生不懂的惜福,不停的花用你 的存款就一直下降;每次和張老前人用餐,他老人 家總是慈爱的為眾人夾菜,看見有人飯菜掉落桌 上,立即撿起來自己吃掉,他說每粒米,每根菜都 是農人血汗換來的,我們要懂得珍惜這份情緣,疼 惜有緣的眾生也是疼惜自己的福份。古德云:「富 不過三代」為什麼不過三代呢?第一代白手起家, 都是一勤二儉錙珠必惜的日積月累而成;到了第二 代有了上一代的提供,用錢手頭就寬鬆,漸漸地隨 波逐流,講究穿著名牌服装,出入五星級飯店,數 百萬名車代步,加入富豪俱樂部,為的不就是名聲 地位,有出無進,有朝一日錢、福都不見了。現 代的企業家越來越有智慧,比爾蓋茲這位1976年 微軟(Microsoft)創辦起家的富豪,他明白看出留 「德」勝過於留「財產」的道理,把自己財產從 1997年到2000年,捐出了五億多美元給各類教育、 科研、慈善基金會。人類的傳統信仰和觀念,無不 面臨心得解讀和更新。

天緣佛堂

溫詠鳳

開春以來,陸續的天降甘霖,尤幸元宵之夕,欣見星光熠熠伴我行;大家都踴躍參班,享用了發心道親吳麗麗、娥妃宗姊妹準備的可口「順化」米粉兼愛心湯圓,溫媽媽的八寶油飯以及引保師帶來之大蛋糕,象徵道務步步高陞。一如往年邀請李青旺壇主獻上燈謎,同時善頌善禱,齊齊隨聲朗誦吉祥語,祝愿楊老和各位點傳師、壇主及前賢大德們,牛轉乾坤、大道宏展、身心安康!

由於「因緣」所牽,後學向大家互學共勉「重聖 輕凡」這一課題。重聖的思是:心意特別貴重「聖」 業即「道」業,它包括辦道、行道,甚至修道,一蓋 給予重視。「輕凡」的思是:莫把全副精力貫注在個 人的凡俗事務上,致而忽略了正當、重要的「道」 務。規勸我道親立定正確的心向,必須以「聖」業為 正,「凡」事為副,才算是本末順序;依循著重聖輕 「凡」實際為綱紀,將自己時間所有的力量,十分之 中用其六分以上,日夜不停掌握機緣,毋論台前幕後 固然每人方式不一樣,隨時隨地為著道務,為濟世度 人的努力奔走,所貢獻道場之目標是:化醒有智慧、 善良的人,都一齊參加重整光榮聖業的一份子。至於 尚餘的四分精神力量,再去辦理「後天」的「凡」 業。我道親宜體念在心,明白是非,本末,以衡量 輕、重,分辨清楚是盼!在鼓勵著我們貫注全神,認 真的實踐,為道業奉獻上忠誠,抱堅決志氣以達成心 向。

「求知」目的不是為了炫耀、自誇,而是為了 尋找「真理」——永遠「真」實不虛的道「理」,用 來啟迪智慧心;好讓這「真理」充滿於人世間,光明 這個社會;佛堂、道場成為濟世度人的法船,發揮真 正效能: 仰上對得起「天」, 俯下沒有辜負眾生的心 思、行為。保守自己的節操,始終如一,心地光明, 永遠為「大道」努力求精進,行「道」的人能夠抱持 這種意旨, 俾令大家明心的服膺「真理」, 最後必定 超「凡」入「聖」出苦海。仰仗智慧處事應物,自然 **覓獲出苦之方。所謂:知苦因,今生不再造業,嚐苦** 果則思出苦、離苦之策。藉此,摘錄郭文澄講師曾於 去年底所簡析的「因緣」法則:大家彼此相遇,每一 時段,皆留下痕跡。不管人、事、物,不論金錢、感 情、物質,我們相知、相聚,信有前緣而絕非偶然。 謹記面對它就必須及時處理它。如同負了債,即便是 對方寬容,不加計較,不予追究,然而切莫輕易的原 諒您自己;知否俟到下一輩子,將又是另一段因緣的 崛起,它是永無止境的延續向前走;任何因緣狀況一 霎那的稍縱即逝而非長駐下來:由所作之業「因」而 招感其應得的「果」報。當「緣」一開端,定必有正 「因」;世人固執這「凡」體的一個「我」,永不 知足、不覺悟,猶不知破「我見、我執」,「因」 造變成「惑」(迷惑錯誤,貪、瞋、痴等煩惱之總

稱),「惑」開始接觸外界成「業」,「業」不處理 則成了「果」。據悉:吾人之一切「善、惡」之思 想、行為都喚作「業」;業好的稱「善」業、乃樂 果的「因」。反之,業壞的稱「惡」業,乃苦果的 「因」。強調大家慶幸求「道」了,諦聽「真理」 之後具有信心,感悟「因果 定律是在啟」我們,憑 「後天」的努力「行善、修道」以改善「先天」的業 因,正是:播下「真理」的種子,篤定收獲「真理」 的果實。如此人生境界,必定有所提昇。深切來瞭 解:「大道」是生天地、生人、生萬物的「真理」, 維持宇宙的大秩序,它是玄妙又廣闊的,假設不修 「道」的人欲行「真理」於天下,是一件不容易的大 事情。於是乎,一不小心,往往全給弄砸了。「本」 身就是「本」有,要充份明白「聖」是真我、大我的 事情,「凡」僅是假我、小我而已。如是積極來透徹 「真理」、嚴守「真理」、推行「真理」,精誠表現 於外,觸令眾生受感化,它可以成為回到故家鄉的本 「因」。

道化人生

萬法唯心

張邦彦

心生則一切生,心滅則一切滅。宇宙世間所有的一切都是隨著我們的心識而顯現出來,透過心識而產生「森羅萬象」。即所謂「心生萬物隨時現,心有寶藏體無窮」。所以世界一切的事物,美好或是醜陋,都是心的顯現而造成的。

後學今天想跟大家來分享三個心:

- 1. 良心
- 2. 僥倖心
- 3. 善惡之心

首先我們來談談:「良心」。從前有個小偷在夜裡 潛入一戶人家,準備偷東西,這時他看到客廳裡只有一 位婦人,正是下手的好機會。可是詳細一看,婦人正在 哭泣,情形有點怪異,不久這位哭泣的婦人突然拿起放 在桌上的剪刀,要往自己的喉嚨刺上去,這個小偷看到 這種情形,不禁大吃一驚,他毫不猶豫的從暗中跳出 來,眼明手快的按住婦人的手,奪下婦人手中的剪刀, 嘴上喊著:「快不要自殺了。」婦人哭著說:「不要 管我了,讓我死。婦人竟咬了小偷的手,又把剪刀奪了 過去。這時小偷已顧不了那麼多,就驚喊著:「不得了 啦,有人要自殺,快來人呀。」這聲喊叫驚醒了全家 人,大家都從夢中驚醒過來,跑到客廳來,奪下婦人手 中的剪刀,勸服了這位婦人。家人以感激又驚奇的眼光 望著這位陌生人說:「您在危急中救了她一命,實在令 人感激,可是您是誰啊?怎麼會在這裡呢?」這時,小 偷自己也醒覺過來,感到自己身份特殊,只好坦白承認 說:「我實在是一名小偷,本來想偷些東西,不料遇到 這種事,為了急於救人竟忘了自己是誰,實在很不好意 思。」雖然家人都吃了一驚,但因為他救了婦人一命, 家人也就原諒他了。本來做小偷,幹偷竊搶劫不法的勾 當,是一個沒有良心的人,但是見人危急,奮不顧身的 去救人,卻是一個有良心人的行為。這兩件事情發生在 同一個人的身上,又發生在同一個地方,此人到底有沒 有良心呢?這實在是一個頗有趣味的問題。這也就是孟 子說的側隱之心。其實每一個人皆具有天賦善良的本 性。也就是「良心」。這位小偷。救了要自殺的婦人, 這就是良心本然反應所產生的善行,可見人人都有良 心,就是無惡不作之人亦不例外。

人人都有良心,善美的德行,又為何有:世風日下,人心不古之感歎呢?作奸犯科,喪失良心的事情到處可見,甚至有人說:今天世上有良心的人只有兩個,一個死了,另一個還未出生。其實這是因為良心被物慾所蒙敝,就如同陰雨天時太陽被鳥雲所遮蓋一樣。所以不是壞人沒有良心,不是陰天沒太陽。

自無始劫以來,眾生沉溺於無明慾海之中,不見光明,最可貴的佛性良心深埋於無底坑內,沒有發生實體之效用,誠是可惜。今天降大道,讓人人打開無明之枷鎖,良心本性躍出,當惜善用之。但是良心、道心微,故求則得之,捨得失之。

第二個我們要探討的「心」是「僥倖心」。從前在楚國南部麗水的地方盛產金砂。附近的居民都去那

人是有良知理性的,天秤可以街量事情的輕重對錯,是非善惡,但是明知故犯,後悔遺憾的,但是明知故犯為不應該,但是明知不可為,不應該不應之之。 麼偏偏又要去做呢?無非是「僥倖」。 是會被罰的是是犯法的人。 是會被罰的是是犯法的人。 是是為什麼還去作呢?這都是僥倖的心遇警察, 是以為我只要多注意一下,就可以逃過警察;或是 是以為我只要多注意一下,就可以為不會那麼人 我很幸運,不會那麼倒霉吧;總以為不會那麼 我也無可挽回了。

菩薩怕因,不敢造因,所以心田清淨。沒有播下種子,那會受果報呢?眾生不畏因,只怕果。所以常種因,心田不清淨,那有不受果報呢?

為什麼會有「僥倖心」,其實是對因果實相的不了解。因果存在於宇宙的任何地方,因果報應與人家知知道無關,因為種子是種在自己的心無理,不是種子已種在自己的心無時上、耳朵上,儘管做得天衣無縫,滿過全天下人的耳目,可是種子已種在自己的心為徹悟因果實相,所以杜絕因,不受輪迴果報。眾生不知因果實相,所以心存僥倖,造因受果報而落入輪迴。

他自己是痛苦的,感覺周遭也是不醜惡的。 菜根譚曰:「此心常看得圓滿,天下自無缺陷世界,此心常放得寬平,天下自無險側之人情。」有圓滿 的心,自無缺陷的世界;心常清靜能看透一切,則自能 看出世界之美麗;有寬平的心,自無險側之人情,心常 放平寬厚就能看出人情之溫馨。 人常以為環境會影響心境,但是心境何嘗不是會影響環境呢?環境變,心也跟著變,因此想改變環境,不如先改變心境。與其痴等環境之改變來讓自已快樂,不如自己開創美好的心境來讓一切環境變美好。其實善惡都決定在一心一念。一念即分美醜,一心則別天淵。

佛為眾生,而眾生是為自己,眾生對己有利則喜, 則愛;對自己有損則怒,則惡;就如同:春雨如膏,農 人喜其潤澤,行人惡其泥沼;明月如鏡,佳人樂其美 景,賊惡其光輝。此所暴露的就是眾生的劣根性。想到 對方對自己有利,則心存感激,高興;想到對方對自己有害,則心存怨恨,生氣。如此心無主宰,隨物而為物役,所以一切喜怒哀樂都受困於周遭之人、事、物。受困於一生之命運中而無法自立,不能解脫。

今我們得道,明理,修行,以自心之靈明,分別善惡,去惡存善,以自性真我,主宰身心,轉心役物,若此則心存皆美皆善,環境,命運也隨之而改,即得解脫自在。

活動報導

2009己丑年美國全真道院新春聯歡會

徐翠妤

二月一日大年初七,一大早天廚媽媽們就已經開始準備豐盛的菜肴,加上很多前賢各帶一道菜來加菜,希望能讓今天回來道院過新年的道親們享用美味的素食。九點半,點傳師們帶領著乾道、坤道辦事人員獻供、請壇、辦道,莊嚴隆重的禮儀讓今天有三十七位新求道人,求得寶貴的原一大道。

樓下聯歡會由六個民俗活動攤位的負責學長就 定位後,活動正式開始:

*春聯書法:陳國文學長大筆揮毫,寫的各式春聯吉祥話,字字渾厚有勁,讓老中青三代道親及小天使們也都躍蹤欲試,想看看自己的毛筆字寫的好不好看。陳學長特地寫了一個大大的「壽」字,送給楊老點傳師及陳點傳師,祝福他們身體健康,繼續帶領全真大法船。

*賀卡創作:襲麗虹學長提供彩色紙、剪刀漿糊及多種材料,讓道親們自由創作自己喜歡的賀年卡。道親們或剪貼或畫畫,各式各樣創作出來的賀年卡,喜氣洋洋的祝賀大家在金牛年能夠心想事成。

*泡茶話舊:盧清明學長帶了甘甜的冬茶與春茶來泡給道親們喝,加上滿桌的瓜子、餅乾、糖果等等,大家閒話家常,增進道親們互相了解的情誼,這真是成全道親們的好機會。

*摺紙藝術:楊維卿學長事先摺好一些五顏六色的紙鶴,用細線及珠子連成一串串,繫在竹棍上, 横掛在這個攤位的上方做裝飾,漂亮得讓大人小孩們都迫不及待的想趕快學習如何摺紙。

*風筝製作:吳振龍學長利用漂亮的包裝紙、細竹子、細線等等教授示範風箏,小天使們個個專心的製作,作完之後,三五成 地相邀到外面放風箏,後學看到小天使們放風箏快樂的模樣,自己也跟著滿心歡喜。

*中國棋藝:陳彥宏學長準備了象棋、跳棋、西洋棋等等,讓道親們動動腦筋。後學一直很鼓勵自己的三個小孩來學習圍棋、象棋等國粹,所以他們剛好可以趁這個機會向前輩們請教指點。

接著,祥獅獻瑞迎新年,由郭文澄學長慈悲請來聚義堂醒獅團熱鬧登場。四頭祥獅配合著雄壯有力的打鼓聲,由道院大門口,舞動到樓上中堂,熱鬧喧天地祈求全真道院道務宏展、道親們年年平安喜樂,事事如意。醒獅團精彩的表演,博得了大家熱烈的掌聲。

祥鄉獻瑞節目之後,緊接著是由中國舞蹈家協會的劉曉紅老師為大家表演新春祝福的舞蹈。劉老師曼妙的舞姿,讓道親們也很想跟著音樂婆娑舞舞。迎新年的另一項重要活動——猜燈謎,由吳鑌娟學長主持,吳學長出了很多簡單卻又不可不知的謎題,老中青三代及小天使們踴躍舉手回答,氣氛熱絡,把大家的心凝聚在最高點。

今天大約有二百位道親,三代同堂一起同歡, 大家笑顏逐開,互道新年恭喜。感恩點傳師們及所 有負責活動及辦道的學長們,讓新春聯歡會圓滿成 功。最後,祝福大家,健康快樂平安,聖凡如意! 5 美國全真通訊

Chinese New Year

By: Christopher Chen 6th Grader

陳恩弘 六年級

Chinese New Year is a very important holiday. There are many customs that are done on New Year's Eve and on New Year's Day.

On New Year's Eve, families come together for a celebration dinner, also called "surrounding the hearth (圍爐)." Sitting around the hearth symbolizes unity and the value of spending important occasions together with family. Dinner begins when everybody from the family is present. If someone cannot come, a table setting is still placed for that person to symbolize his or her presence. We eat New Year Cake (年糕) because it means getting better. We also eat dumplings because it is shaped like a gold ingot (元實) and represents wealth. People used to give New Year's money in one hundred copper coins strung on a piece of red string, symbolizing that one would live to be a hundred years old. Today, money is given in red envelopes (紅包) to represent good fortune.

Offerings are given to the ancestors when it is the end of the old year as gratitude for their blessings and to pray for peace in the coming year. According to the legend, there is a Nien monster (年獸) that comes to eat people. The Nien monster always ate other animals, but since there were none in winter, it started eating people. People of the village found out that it was afraid of the color red, fire, and loud noises, so they put red wood on their doors and windows, bonfires in front of their houses, and banged instruments to create loud noises. When the Nien monster came, it was so afraid that it ran back into the forest and never returned. The next day, people congratulated each other (恭禧) for not being eaten by the Nien monster. Now, we post spring couplets (春聯), light firecrackers (鞭炮), and stay up ushering the New Year (守歲) to keep away the Nien monster.

People also used to scare the Nien monster with loud pops made from bamboo and then placed in the fire. The invention of gunpowder helped the manufacture of exploding bamboo become more and more advanced and people began stringing individual bamboos together, creating the first incarnation of the modern day firecracker.

On Chinese New Year, a few restrictions are that no one should fight, punish, or pick up scissors because it means that you will fight and quarrel. No one should sweep the house or take out the trash because you will be throwing away your luck and wealth for the next year. You should not break any plates or bowls, but if you do, you must say "Peace (pieces) for all time."

People put poetic couplets of calligraphy on their front doors to express the feeling of life's renewal and the return of spring. It is also common to hang calligraphic writing of the Chinese characters for "spring (春)" and "wealth (福)." People will even invert these drawings since the Chinese word for "inverted (倒)" is a homonym in Chinese for "arrive (到)," thus signify that spring and wealth have arrived.

On February 1, our temple had a celebration for Chinese New Year. The temple had many events in the morning. First, we prayed to our ancestors. Next, there was a lion dance. There were four lions and two people controlled each. The lions first did a dance in front of the temple, and then they went upstairs to worship the Buddhas. After that, martial artists demonstrated different types of kung fu and used different weapons. The kung fu was so amazing and I wish I could do it too. When we were giving cabbages and tangerines to the lions, I was still holding on to the plate, so the food scattered everywhere. It was so embarrassing.

Then, we went inside to solve some riddles. I knew a lot of them, but I did not get a prize. In the middle, we watched a color string dancing performance (彩帶舞). The dancer used different color strings and twirled it while dancing.

In the afternoon, there were six booths for kite making, paper folding, holiday cards, spring couplets, games, and tea gathering. The kite-making booth used wrapping paper, string, plastic bag strips, and barbecue sticks. In paper folding, I made a pig puppet that looked really cute. Many people were making holiday cards to give to others. My sister made two cards, one for my mom and one for her friend.

At the spring couplet-making booth, I wrote the Chinese characters "spring (春)" and "wealth (福)." My mom also brought home one that said, "May your intentions become reality (心想事成)." A professional was writing a lot about luck, wealth, long life, and happiness, but my mom chose that one because she thought it was the most important. When we got home, we hung them in our house. We even inverted the ones that say spring and wealth. I also played Chinese chess at the games booth many times. Many older people were drinking tea and having conversations as well.

My favorite part of that day was the lion dance. I also liked the games booth. Sadly, my sister was sick, so she did not really experience Chinese New Year like I did. Still, Chinese New Year is the best holiday ever!

The Chef Cuts Up the Ox (Part 2)

by Derek Lin

(Continued)

Butchering may seem like an unlikely subject for Chuang Tzu. Is it really the best way for him to convey his ideas about the Tao? Why not tell a story about meditation instead? Why butchering?

Chuang Tzu understood that the Tao was everywhere, even in things and activities we least expect. He chose butchering deliberately to drive this point home. The truth is that we don't need to be in a temple to be close to the Tao. If a cook can connect with the Tao while cutting cattle in the kitchen, then we can also connect with it in anything we do, and in any place we happen to be.

His descriptions of the Royal Chef's actions were just as deliberate. They convey the essential characteristic of a sage: living life smoothly, gracefully, with a gentle touch, artistic flair... and surprising effectiveness.

How can we live life the same way? The Royal Chef offered the Duke a lesson in four parts:

1. Use Your Intuition

Tao sages never rely solely on their physical senses. Like the Chef meeting the ox with his mind, they always look beyond the surface to discern the underlying essence. This is particularly important in life, because so often we encounter situations that are not what they seem at first. Going by the appearance, like seeing the ox with the eyes instead of the mind, will all but guarantee that we miss the hidden agenda.

Once the sages perceive the underlying essence of a situation, they follow the dictates of this essence to determine their actions and words. This creates an interesting dynamic where observers see transcendant skill in everything they do, but they see themselves as simply moving along the natural path.

This application of the Tao requires practice to master. In recent history, we have seen decisions made with "gut feelings" or "instincts" that resulted in utter disasters. In every instance, it is invariably because the decider proceeded based on surface appearance without understanding the underlying essence. We can learn from their failures.

2. Maintain Your Sharpness

Many people struggle mightily against problems in life. They are the ones Chuang Tzu pointed to as the average cook. When they try to force their way through obstacles, it is just like an average cook trying to hack his way through an ox. They may eventually succeed, but only at a great cost – their blades have become much duller.

The sharpness of the blade in this context refers to your physical, mental and spiritual well-being. When this sharpness is blunted, your well-being suffers, and your ability to face other problems in life will diminish.

This is why it is eminently practical to study the Tao. By mastering and practicing the proven methods of the sages, we resolve problems (cut through oxen) effortlessly. There is no exhaustion, whether physical or otherwise. We feel great and full of energy (the blade remains sharp) and we are ready to face whatever other issues may come our way.

3. Focus Your Attention

Upon hearing that one should follow intuition, some may get the wrong idea and follow randomness instead. They act in careless and thoughtless ways when the teaching talks about being carefree yet thoughtful. Chuang Tzu was aware of this common error and addressed it by having the Chef emphasize the importance of slowing down, increasing your awareness, and being cautious.

Joints represent the complexities of life. Unraveling such complexities is like cutting through joints. They may be situations full of impossible and mutually incompatible demands, where satisfying one group of people brings you into conflict with another group. There is no way to solve such problems with simple solutions, just like a blade cannot separate a compex joint with a straight cut.

Sages solve such problems by focusing their attention. They observe the situation from different perspectives until they see exactly where they can do the most good. Often, this is a pivotal point where the skillful application of leverage produces the greatest impact. When they finally take action, it may be something small and seemingly effortless - perhaps only a word or a gesture - but the dillema falls apart, just like the ox.

4. Complete Your Work

Chuang Tzu's last point is to emphasize the art of living life. Even if you do not think of yourself as an artist, a life well lived is like a beautifully crafted work of art. There can be just as much joy and satisfaction in life as there is in creating a masterpiece. If butchering can be done with an artistic flair, then is there anything under the sun that cannot be done in a similar or better way?

This is a sense of fulfillment that goes well beyond the joy of maintaining one's physical, mental and spiritual health. You can look at your life and feel an inner knowing that you have lived exactly as you should. You know that you have done your part in the greater scheme of things, and all is right with the world.

As the Duke said, this is a priceless principle. It illustrates wu wei and clarifies its meaning. The Tao tradition does not teach "there is no need to do anything" as some may believe. From the words of the Chef, we can see the teaching really says "there is always a way to do anything that is smooth, graceful, effortless, and enjoyable at the deepest level." This is what wu wei really means.

When life brings you into contact with another ox, recall this story to mind. Bring out your blade - it should be as sharp as ever, if you have followed the teaching correctly. Regard the ox not with your eyes but with your mind. Let the Tao move your hands, but slow down whenever appropriate and vary your approach until you find the right spot.

Before long, you will become the skillful Royal Chef. Everyone around you will think you have great skills in solving the most complex problems in life. You alone will know that it is not a skill. Rather, it is the Tao that transcends all skills!

For more discussions on the Tao, please visit www.TrueTao.org!

全真道院週日班班程表

開班時間: 毎週日10:30AM-12:30PM

日期	班長	道寄韻律	道化人生	講師	專題講座	講師	點傳師賜導
03/01/2009	林貞伶	卓秀鳳	三曹普渡	陳秀真	孟子	黄明雲	郭詩永
03/08/2009	楊阿晟	吳韓衛	修道生活	吳韓衛	執著放下	林達雄	辜添脩
03/15/2009	張永美	溫潔芳	感恩懺悔	宋麗娜	十二因緣	郭文澄	陳正夫
03/22/2009	呂柏欣	吳韓衛	持齋意義	溫詠鳳	心經	吳鑌娟	郭詩永
03/29/2009	温潔芳		聯	合	開	班	

全真道院經典研究英文班 (Tao Study Group 10:30AM~12:30PM) 自責人(Moderator) 林信价(Derek Lin)

全真道院青年班班程表

10:30 ~ 11:00		11:00 ~12:30		負責人(Moderator)	
道	歌	禮	節	吳振龍、游士慶	
Tao S	Songs	Etic	quette	Rafael Wu · Brain Yu	

全真道院兒童班班程表	內 容	負責人
士具包机元里加拉程花	基礎勺勻口、看圖識字、中文故事、唱遊、唐詩	徐翠妤
入古兴龄日本清硕址北绍专	內 容	負責人
全真道院兒童讀經班班程表	論語、中文報紙	陳淑敏、杜梅瑞

全真道院辦道輪值表

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輪值點傳師	陳正夫	辜添脩	郭詩永	陳正夫	郭詩永

地方班班程表

03/28/09 全伶佛堂	03/28/09 天緣佛堂
(6:30pm-9:30pm)	(6:30pm-9:30pm)
專題:愿力業力	專題:愿力業力
講師:宋莉娜 點傳師:郭詩永	
528 Tri Net Court Walnut, CA 9178	
Tel:909.869.5579	Tel:626.572.3652

全真道院午獻杳/辦道負責人員

日	期	03/01/2009	03/08/2009	03/15/2009	03/22/2009	03/29/2009
-	坤	鄭末子、溫詠鳳	徐翠妤、陳品蓉	楊阿晟、陳絹英	杜梅瑞、蔡秋鶴	陳秀珍、張蓓智
j	乾	游士慶、林達雄	吳振龍、易榮熙	吴韓衛、史振英	陳柏瑋、陳宣霖	盧清明、盧威璁

不 炒	03/11/2009(二月十五)	勿棄聖訓	講師:陳佩芳講	師	修道心得:楊維卿	語譯	:陳佩芳	道寄韻律:呂柏欣
大廠饰室	03/27/2009(三月初一)	莫著形相	講師:譚覃光講	師	修道心得:譚覃光	語譯	:陳靜嫻	道寄韻律:陳佩芳

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日期	02/27, 03/01/09	03/08/2009	03/13, 15/09	03/22/2009	03/27, 29/09
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組長	武詩竹 林貞伶	郭海明 吳韓衛	趙淑娟 張書興	譚覃光 陳秀珍	趙淑娟 譚覃光 張書興 陳秀珍

櫃檯輪值表

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03/08/2009	鄭末子
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