

Ways of Thinking

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I wish to speak today on ways of thinking. I will take for example self-examination. Why is it that you conduct self-examination and reflect on your own behavior? Is it because you wish to acquire an attractive personality, or is it because you wish to be liked by those of us in the Celestial Realm? Perhaps it is because you have deep feelings of guilt at having done something wrong. Self-examination means to reflect on why your words or actions were mistaken, or otherwise to find out why you had bad thoughts so that you do not repeat the same mistake.

If you reflect on your own behavior only because you wish to possess an attractive personality, just feeling sorry that you did something wrong should be enough to put your mind at ease. Those whose aim is to develop an attractive personality rarely seriously think about their relationship to others, and are wholly absorbed in developing their character so they are able to gain satisfaction just by knowing that they are individuals humble enough to reflect on their own actions. These are people who make no progress because they lack consideration for others and repeat the same mistakes even though they are constantly examining themselves.

On the other hand, people who wish to be liked by those of us in the Celestial Realm and reflect on their actions because they are always conscious of the presence of their guardian spirits are never able to become independent individuals. Their attitude of looking to some authority figure and submitting to this person is accompanied with a lack of consideration for others. These people only vaguely feel that they have done something wrong, but they never think deeply about it. These people do not grow spiritually.

There is not so much new material for self-examination from one day to the next, and it is impossible to lead a normal life when trivial mistakes in one's daily life are each reflected on one at a time. What the Celestial Realm wants you to reflect on are those character defects of yours which come up time and time again, but go uncorrected. This is because the problems in your life and most of your mistakes in personal relationships have their origin here.

To begin with, you must seriously reflect on what effect your character defects have on others. To do this, the personality type and the feeling of others have to be taken into account. And by doing this, a feeling of imperativeness and guilt will come over you and you will feel apologetic and resolve never to do it again. Such a feeling of imperativeness and guilt occurs very rarely among those who are never able to correct their faults despite continued self-examination, and those who do not acquire any wisdom no matter how hard they try. Have you ever once been struck by this imperative feeling by thinking of others without considering yourself first?

(Nov. 24, 1981, Dictated to Noriko Tsuchida through her clairaudience.)