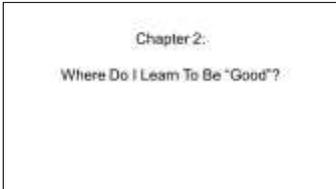
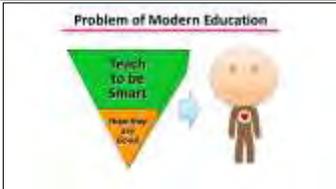
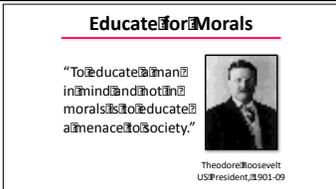
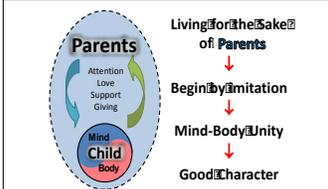


Chapter 2  
Where do I Learn to be “Good”?

This lesson will:

- Show that before being smart or popular, it is more important to be good.
- Explain why the family is the best environment to learn “living for the sake of others.”
- Encourage students to love and honor their parents.

No.	Slide	Narrative
1.		<p><i>PUBLISHER’S NOTE TO PRESENTERS:</i></p> <p><i>This is an exposition of the main themes of a true love character education curriculum. It is a blueprint for subjects and positions educators should use in presenting these themes in a way appropriate to the target age group.</i></p>
2.		<p>Since being good is the basis for true happiness, it is vitally important that we know where we can learn how to be good and develop the strength of character to do so.</p> <p>Where do we learn to be good?</p>
3.		<p>As we discovered in Chapter 1, being good means living for the sake of others. This is important because it allows us to get our priorities straight.</p>
4.		<p>Being good comes in second to being smart. Being smart and being good are both necessary and important, but society has over emphasized being smart. This is partly because for most people, being smart is easier than being good.</p> <p>In fact, being good is one of the most difficult things in the world to do.</p>
5.		<p>Sadly, emphasizing IQ over goodness creates problems. If someone thinks they are really smart, then it is easy to be arrogant (big headed) and self-centered (small hearted). Self-centered people who are really smart can do a lot of damage. They can take advantage of others, robbing us of freedom and happiness.</p>
6.		<p>This is why Theodore Roosevelt, the President of the United States from 1901 to 1909, said, “To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society.”</p>

No.	Slide	Narrative
7.		<p>The right priority is to place being good as the foundation of our character, and to put being smart on that foundation. Then we stay humble because we are sincerely trying to help others, not just promote ourselves. We become big hearted and not arrogant. Because we are doing good, we are altruistic and happier. We control our selfish desires and are public-minded, thus we are trusted by others. This feels good.</p> <p>All this together makes for a happy life and a life of true freedom. Without the foundation of goodness, we lose true happiness and freedom.</p> <p>Let's now address the question, "Where do I learn to be good?"</p>
8.	<p>Where do I learn to be "good"? From my parents.</p>	<p>Since being good means living for the sake of others, we can ask, "What person lives more for others than for him- or herself? Who lives for my happiness more than for their own? Who is the model of goodness for me?"</p> <p>The answer is obvious: it is my parents—my father and mother. They willingly sacrificed to give me food and shelter, education and opportunities. It is from them that I first learn the example of goodness.<sup>1</sup></p>
9.		<p>Then, <i>how</i> do I learn to be good from my parents? I do so by imitating them. They gave me love and attention, so I give them love and attention. They supported me, so I support them. They gave to me unconditionally, so I give to them unconditionally.</p> <p>In short—they live for me, so I live for them.</p> <p>By doing this, a child strengthens his or her mind and conscience, and begins the path toward mind-body unity. This builds good character.</p>
10.		<p>This is called <i>filial piety</i>. By honoring and serving our parents, the mind and body are aligned in the correct order—others are put above myself. Public-mindedness creates good character.</p> <p>Filial piety is one of the most important virtues in traditional cultures. In Asia, it is considered the root of goodness. It means offering love, respect and service to one's parents and other elders in the family.<sup>2</sup></p>

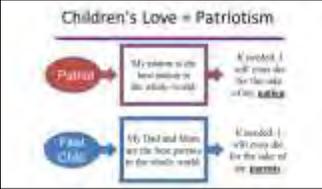
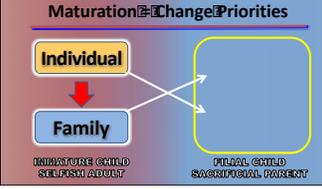
<sup>1</sup> The best family environment is where the biological parents are also the spiritual / emotional parents. However, if for any reason this is not possible, then being nurtured by spiritual / emotional parents (legal guardians) is more important than living with biological parents. In other words, the role of parents is more than just conceiving and giving birth to us. It is to love, care, educate and raise us so we can become good parents to our children.

<sup>2</sup> What Is Filial Piety? Definition of This Important Chinese Cultural Value, retrieved from <https://www.thoughtco.com/filial-piety-in-chinese-688386>, Sept. 7, 2017.

No.	Slide	Narrative
11.		<p>Confucius taught:          In serving his parents, a filial son reveres them in daily life; he makes them happy while he nourishes them; ... and he sacrifices to them with solemnity.<sup>3</sup></p>
12.		<p>Living for the sake of my parents doesn't stop with them. Since my parents care for the entire family, living for my parents means living for my family more than for myself.</p> <p>The practice of living for the greater good is what we call the "vertical standard." The amazing thing is, the vertical standard applies to greater realms. Families that live for the sake of the community are good families; communities that live for the sake of the nation are good communities; and finally, nations that live for the sake of other nations and the world are good nations.</p> <p>Living for the sake of others is the pillar of a new world order.</p>
13.		<p>Corresponding to this, special titles are given: a person of virtue, a filial child, a public servant, a loyal patriot, a saint. Living for the greater good and placing my community above my family makes me a person of civic virtue. To live for my nation above my community is to be a loyal patriot, and to live for the world above the nation is to be a saint.</p> <p>It is all a question of having the right priorities.</p>
14.		<p>Mahatma Gandhi, the father of modern India, taught this important social order that applies to all nations. Engraved in stone on his memorial in New Delhi are these words:</p> <p>I would like to see India free and strong... the individual, being pure, sacrifices himself for the family. The family for the village, the village for the district, the district for the province, the province for the nation, the nation for all. I want Khudai Raj, which is the same thing as the Kingdom of God on earth.</p>
15.		<p>The beginning of a nation of peace, is not a matter of race, religion or political party. It is when "the individual, being pure, sacrifices himself for the family."<sup>4</sup> This is the seed of goodness for a nation.</p>

<sup>3</sup> Ikels, Charlotte (2004). Filial piety: Practice and discourse in contemporary East Asia. Stanford: Stanford University Press. pp. 2–3. ISBN 978-0-8047-4791-2 retrieved from Wikipedia at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filial\\_piety#cite\\_note-ikels2-4](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filial_piety#cite_note-ikels2-4), Sept. 7, 2017.

<sup>4</sup> Carved in stone on the eastern gate of the Raj Ghat, the Gandhi memorial, in New Delhi, India.

No.	Slide	Narrative
16.		<p>In this way, filial piety and patriotism are based on the same principle, namely, the willingness to live for the greater good, applied with a wider scope.</p> <p>Children naturally think “My Dad and Mom are the best parents in the whole world.” But this feeling becomes substantial when the child can say, “If needed, I will even die for the sake of my parents.” This is filial piety.</p> <p>People naturally think, “My nation is the best nation in the whole world.” This is not to degrade other nations, any more to love one’s parents degrades other parents. But again this feeling becomes more substantial when the citizen can say, “If needed, I will even die for the sake of my nation.” This is patriotism and it is not just the responsibility of soldiers. Everyone should be willing to sacrifice for their nation.</p>
17.		<p>The path to maturity now becomes clear. The infant is immature and thinks basically of him- or herself. It is not wrong at that age. Children are not born with the full capacity to self-govern or be public-minded at birth. When a baby is hungry it cries. It cannot think, ‘It is early in the morning and mommy may be tired. I’ll wait until mommy wakes up to have breakfast.’ Mommies don’t mind this because they are more than willing to sacrifice for the sake of their children.</p> <p>Mature adults, on the other hand, especially good spouses and parents, always think of others and put themselves second or even forget about themselves altogether.</p> <p>The person in the middle is the teenager. Teenagers are transitioning from immaturity to maturity and naturally struggle with the priorities of public good versus personal benefit.</p>
18.		<p>As we will address fully later in the series, by the teenager inheriting the parent’s point of view, he or she learns to put the family first. This means that honoring parents by having a filial heart, sets the right priorities in a young person’s life. When the family is placed above the individual, then naturally the individual comes second.</p> <p>So the answer to the question, “Where do we learn to be good?” is easily understandable. It is from our parents. This is why the family is the cornerstone for peace, happiness and freedom.</p>

No.	Slide	Narrative
19.	<p data-bbox="289 235 539 260"><u>We Exist for the Sake of Others...</u></p> <p data-bbox="289 281 441 378">To realize that we exist for the sake of others is the great achievement that changes our lives.</p> 	<p data-bbox="587 235 1458 260">In his autobiography, Father Moon explained how important this is:</p> <p data-bbox="685 298 1425 361">To realize that we exist for the sake of others is the great achievement that changes our lives.</p> <p data-bbox="587 403 1464 554">When we love others, then living for their sake is natural. We desire to make them happy. But doing so makes us happy too; we feel good. Our first experience of the joy that comes from living for others is by loving our parents and imitating their unconditional love.</p>
20.	<p data-bbox="289 571 539 596"><u>Living for the Sake of my Parents</u></p> <ol data-bbox="279 634 565 722" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Always honor your Father and Mother.</li> <li>2. Stop what you are doing and listen respectfully—with eye contact.</li> <li>3. Obey them spontaneously and joyfully.</li> </ol>	<p data-bbox="587 571 1409 634">Learning to love your parents is essential for developing a good character. Here are some ways you can love your parents.</p> <ol data-bbox="636 634 1458 865" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Always honor your Father and Mother. Never put them down, not even in a joking manner.</li> <li>2. When parents are talking to you, stop what you are doing and listen respectfully (put down your smartphone). To give more of your attention (more of yourself) to your parents, look them in the eyes.</li> <li>3. Obey them spontaneously and joyfully.</li> </ol>
21.	<p data-bbox="289 873 539 898"><u>Will this make my Parents Happy?</u></p> <p data-bbox="279 919 571 1041">Loving your parents will protect you. When someone asks you to do bad things, just ask yourself a simple question: "Will this make my parents happy and proud of me?" If the answer is "No," then don't do it.</p>	<p data-bbox="587 873 1425 970">In addition to giving you greater happiness, living for the sake of your parents gives you freedom because it protects you from additions and bad behavior.</p> <p data-bbox="685 970 1442 1100">Loving your parents will protect you. When someone asks you to do bad things, just ask yourself a simple question: "Will this make my parents happy and proud of me?" If the answer is "No," then don't do it.</p> <p data-bbox="587 1138 1409 1264">In this way, loving your parents protects you wherever you are. Through such experiences, you will realize that your greatest happiness, utmost freedom and highest value begins when you love and honor your parents.</p>
22.		
23.	<p data-bbox="376 1474 457 1499">Activity #1:</p> <p data-bbox="279 1516 555 1558">Make a list of all the things your parents have done for you or given you.</p>	<p data-bbox="587 1474 1409 1537">Activity #1: Ask the students to make a list of all the things their parents or guardians have done for them or given them.</p> <p data-bbox="587 1570 1279 1600">[Give the students about 10 minutes to write this list.]</p> <p data-bbox="587 1642 1464 1726">Call on the students to read their list. After you hear from two or three students, ask other students if there are items on their list that are unique and have not been mentioned.</p>

No.	Slide	Narrative
24.	<p>Then ask yourself,            "Did they ever ask to be paid back?            Do they have a cash register in the            kitchen?"</p> <p>Why not?</p>	<p>Then ask the students,            "Do your parents ever ask you to pay them back for changing your            diapers, or giving you a house to live in? Do they have a cash            register in the kitchen?"</p> <p>The obvious answer is "No."            Then ask "Why not? Why don't your parents ask you to pay them            back?" Guide the students to understand that the love from their            parents is the willing to sacrifice for the sake of children. It is            unstoppable desire to give and unconditional in nature.</p>
25.	<p>Activity #2:</p> <p>Make a list of 10 things you can do to            show your love to your parents.</p> <p>Check-off two the items from the list            that you will do today.</p>	<p>Activity #2: Ask the students to make a list of 10 things they can do            to show their love to their parents. Then ask them to check-off two            items from the list that they will do today.</p>
26.	<p>Activity #2:</p> <p>The teacher will give a date by when            students need to do the other eight items.</p> <p>After finishing all 10 items students can            write a reflection paper on the theme,            "Making my parents happy."</p>	<p>Set a date for the students to complete the other eight items on the            list.</p> <p>After finishing all 10 items, have the students write a reflection            paper on the theme, "Making my parents happy." Be sure the            parents get a copy of that paper.</p>