

Hyun Jin Nim's Guidance for Blessed Families

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Family Peace Association

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Learning and Growing from Hoon Dok Hwe

Every time you come to hoon dok hwe, you should be continuously learning and growing. Don't think that you should just come to hoon dok hwe because you're expected to. The whole process of hoon dok hwe is for the sake of learning and helping you make self-discoveries. It is an opportunity for you to learn, grow, and become enlightened men and women.

Through hoon dok hwe, you can learn how to live a better life and build a better relationship with God so that you can make a significant contribution to God's Providence. You need to develop personal merit. It takes hard work. Always remember your spiritual life. Your spiritual life has nothing to do with what other people think. It has everything to do with your relationship with Heavenly Father. Other people cannot walk that path for you. It's a path that only you can walk.

Your aspiration should be to eventually become true parents, true teachers and true masters of all creation. Therefore, you should be constantly learning and aspiring to become a manifestation of the principles and values that we adhere to. Principles and values mean nothing unless there are people who embody those principles and values. It's going to be a challenge, but that should instruct your sense of personal responsibility, your spiritual life, your relationship with God, and the relationship that you have with True Parents and True Family.

The Culture of True Leadership

Especially when it comes to leadership, one of the things I try to instill is the importance of initiative. Creativity is part of ownership. If you just follow, you don't own anything. If you don't participate, you don't contribute anything, and you won't have any merit. You should be constantly proactive.

You cannot always control the circumstances of your life, but you have 100% over how you deal with it. Yes, there are some environmental influences, but you have the power to override all of them, to make a negative into a positive. Therefore, at the end of the day, there are no excuses. You write your own book. It is what you write that determines who you are and what you become. If you have a good attitude, you can overcome everything. If you had a lot of challenges in your life and you're able to digest and overcome it, that means you become that much stronger. You should accept those things with gratitude. Attitude has a lot to do with it.

Raising Responsible Children

What aspiration do you think parents have when looking upon their children? They want their children to be better than them. That means they want their children to have more merit than them. If the children have big shoes to fill, it will not just happen automatically. It requires effort; they have to work for it.

That is why principles and values are so important. There will be challenges in life, ups and downs, but the outcome is determined by how we internalize and process it. Principles and values provide us with the philosophy of life that will allow us to deal with those challenges in the best way possible. They give us the proper toolset to deal with all the circumstances in life that we face. The second generation just want to go the easy way, but God gave us the gift of co-creation so we can participate and contribute to His ideal. Therefore, we need to make the effort and grow.

Your growth is really determined by you. If you're lazy, you're not going to grow. It's like muscle; if you don't work it, you're not going to get stronger. Animals just follow instinct and don't have free will. If human beings were the same, then we wouldn't have the ability to develop ourselves into whatever capacity, imagination, hopes and dreams that we have. Human beings are not instructed by instinct alone. We are like clay; we mold it. That is the gift of co-creation. That's why we put such a heavy emphasis on responsibility.

Giving all your money to your children will not be a blessing for them. As a matter of fact, people who just give their children money without principles and values are dooming their family, cursing their family. Money is a tool. It is principles and values that makes people blessed.

The greatest gift you could give to your children is ownership over God's Providence, because that naturally is aligned to their identity as blessed children. That will give them riches on every single level. You should be supporting them to become owners of God's Providence, not only as individuals, but also as families, tribes, and eventually as nations.

Blessing Is Real, Not Conceptual

Blessing is not conceptual, it's real. Those who are more aligned to God's Will are the ones who will have more impact, influence and blessing, not only in their generation, but in the subsequent generations.

There are some cynics who think only evil people get ahead in this world. However, if you look at the arc of human history, people who were evil and went against principle did not last, either in their lifetime or in the lifetime of their children. If you are evil, you will not last.

There's a reason why the British empire became as vast as it did. The British excelled in most things because they looked at self-sacrifice as a virtue. In World War II, when all the other

countries were fallen and Britain was standing alone against Hitler, with their cities were being bombed, what Churchill tapped into was the British virtue of self-sacrifice. That was their strength.

Throughout its history, humanity has been getting closer and closer to God's ideal, because God moves through human history. Those who are aligned to Him are those who will be blessed, and their families will be blessed. But more importantly, because the life here on earth is really to reach maturity for our eternal life in spirit world, the rewards are even greater there.

Get Rid of Your Pretensions

In terms of your fulfilment of your personal responsibility, you should seek to become true parents, true teachers and true owners in your own right. However, arrogance and self-righteousness block people from accepting and seeking the truth. I see that as a big problem.

I am very comfortable with who I am. I don't need to prove anything to anyone. For most people who are full of pretensions, are self-centered, full of themselves, self-righteous or insecure, when something challenging happens, they are devastated. They care about what other people think about them. Challenges don't devastate me. They come with the territory. We're swimming upstream, going against the grain. The most important is your relationship with God, and to stay true to that. That's where true strength comes from. Then everything will come full circle.