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SHORT TEACHING FROM VARIOUS MATERIAL

- We are always receiving divine blessings from Kami-sama.
- Knowing faith in the brain and understanding faith in the heart are different.
- Miraculous divine blessings are result of practicing Faith. Receiving blessings is not the purpose of practicing faith.
- Faith is like showing your respect to your parents. It should be unconditional.

RELATIONSHIP

Relationships with others are very important for us. When I have good relationships with people around me, I am happy. When I have bad relationships with people around me, I am unhappy.

If I have a good relationship with my wife, I can be happy even when I don't have enough money. If I have a good relationship with my family, I can be happy even when I am sick. If I have good relationships with my friends, I can still be happy even when I have problems.

We think we must get rid of problems so we can be happy. However, we can still be happy even when we are experiencing hardships. If I have everything I want, such as money, health, talents, and status, I can still be unhappy if my relationships with my family, wife and friends are bad.

Likewise, the relationship we have with Kami-sama is also very important for us. We live in the universe and Kami-sama is the Divine Parent of the Universe. I could say we exist within Kami-sama and Kami-sama exists within each one of us. We cannot live without Kami-sama and Kami-sama's blessings, support, and guidance. Kami-sama provides us with air, food, and water, which we cannot live without. By being aware of Kami-sama's importance in our existence, we must establish and maintain a strong relationship between Kami-sama and ourselves.

Konko Founder, *Ikigami Konko Daijin*, first tried to avoid *Konjin*. People believed *Konjin* was a very evil and fearful deity. Although *Konko Daijin* avoided *Konjin*, he continued to encounter misfortunes. He tried instead to get close to *Konjin* and not avoid or run away. At last, *Konko Daijin* realized that *Konjin* was not an evil

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JANUARY SCHEDULE

1 st	9:00a.m.	New Year's Day Service
8 th	9:00a.m.	Sunday Service
15 th	9:00a.m.	Monthly Service for the Founder & Successive Spiritual Leaders & Shintokai Meeting, Birthday Sunday
22 nd	9:00a.m.	Sunday Service —Family Sunday
29 th	9:00a.m.	Monthly Service for our Parent Kami and our Ancestors

deity; *Konjin* is the Divine Parent of the Universe and the source of our life. *Konjin* is *Tenchi Kane No Kami* who wants to save people, make them happy, and teach all people the “Way of the Universe” because they are all *Kami*’s beloved children.

If each of us has a good relationship with *Kami-sama*, which is the same as having a good relationship with our parents, we can live a secure and meaningful life.

Sometime we need to wait and rest, but we cannot run away from problems. We just need to face our problems with Faith. Problems could turn into blessings and everything will be resolved as long as we develop and maintain a strong relationship with *Kami-sama*. In the same way, *Konko Daijin* was able to find *Tenchi Kane No Kami* (blessings) by getting close to *Konjin* (problems).

I should be a good listener, humble, kind, and accept everything as true messages from *Kami-sama*. I want to have a meaningful and happy life that makes *Kami-sama*, my ancestors, and people around me happy. Therefore, I practice Faith.

Sometime we need to wait and rest, but we cannot run away from problems.

TEACHING FROM KONKOKYO “KYOTEN”

Konko-sama imparted, "In the early morning of New Year's Day, you should go and pray to Tenchi Kane No Kami-sama for the entire new year. Attend the service on the last day of the month. Pray to have the irreverences committed in that month taken away. July thirteen is called 'Purification Day,' and December thirty-one is called the 'Grand Purification Day.'

On the last day of the year, finish the day's work earlier than usual to put your heart at ease. Give thanks for that entire year and pray to clear away all the irreverences you have committed thus far."

[Konkokoyo Koyoten Gorikai]: Teaching of Konko Daijin, Saito, Sojiro # 21, Page 120, Konkokyo Honbu 1987]



New Year's Day

FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

Note: All church services will be held on Sunday, unless specified.

5 th	9:00a.m.	Sunday Service & One for the Goyo
12 th	10:00a.m.	Monthly Service for the Founder and Successive Spiritual Leaders & New Year's Pot Luck Party
19 th	9:00a.m.	Monthly Service for our Parent Kami and our Ancestors & Board of Directors' Meeting
26 th	9:00a.m.	Sunday Service — Family Sunday



TEACHING OF REV. MASAYUKI KODAMA

We are faced with many problems. We may meet a person with evil thoughts. We may become ill. We may face financial difficulties. We may meet some catastrophe. We may become victim of a war.

Amidst these problems we are trying to live a life of creating a person with a pure heart, of trying to make a healthier person, and trying to obtain sufficient money and material things. With love and sincerity, we are trying to overcome the many problems and turning them into better things or circumstances.

If we devote ourselves with a singleness of purpose into trying to improve things, then we are able to prevent hindrances and not become a burden. On the contrary, we may be able to become grateful for everything.

Translated by Mr. Norman Kobayashi

Sincerity is the embodiment of *Shinjin*, or religious way of life. When this sincerity becomes deep, strong, and broad, it becomes *Oya Gokoro* or parental love. Without sincerity you can not understand parental love. Without understanding parental love you can not understand God's Love.

God bestows everything upon us from His deep desire for us to receive His blessings and to make us virtuous. With this desire God has tried to permeate upon our every thought and prevail upon our every action so that we will prosper and find salvation. Without sincerity in our hearts we can not comprehend this love.

Without this sincerity and understanding of God's Love for us, we can merely understand our own actions. Then the blessings gradually decrease because we rely upon our own power and thinking and believe that we are responsible for everything. This is like believing that we do not need God's blessings hence the gradual decrease in blessings.

Translated by Mr. Norman Kobayashi



Rev. Masayuki Kodama's Family Tomb Memorial from Japan

The blessings gradually decrease because we rely upon our own power and thinking and believe that we are responsible for everything.



Konko Missions in Hawaii website

<http://konkomissionshawaii.org/>

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**WE ARE ALL BELOVED CHILDREN
ALLOWED TO LIVE IN THE DIVINE VIRTUE**

FAMILY SUNDAY CALLIGRAPHY (SHUJI) CLASS

Date: Sunday, January 22, 2011

Time: 10:00 a.m. (after Sunday Service)

Everyone is welcome!

We will try calligraphy for Family Sunday on January 22, 2011 after Sunday Service.

Rev. Yomisu Oya will lead the class and prepare everything we need, such as ink and brush. This will be the first calligraphy for the New Year called *Kakizome*. We hope to develop concentration and polish our heart through calligraphy. Please join us and have fun together!

Mission Statement:

The Konko Missions in Hawaii addresses the spiritual needs of the people of Hawaii by promoting the Konko faith through a better understanding of the life and teachings of Konko Daijin, and through the practice of Toritsugi (Divine-Mediation).

Konko Faith was initiated by Bunji Akazawa, later called *Ikigami Konko Daijin*, 1st Principal Toritsugi Mediator. He started to worship *Konjin*, considered an evil deity in his era, but later realized that *Konjin* was *Tenchi Kane No Kami*, the Divine Parent of the Universe. Accepting the "Way of the Universe" by *Tenchi Kane No Kami* as the Konko Faith, the religious organization of Konkogyo was named. We understand the Konko Faith through *Ikigami Konko Daijin's* life and teachings, and Toritsugi Mediation with Toritsugi Mediators. *Ikigami Konko Daijin* devoted himself to Toritsugi Mediation after receiving the "Divine Call" to him and his family on November 15, 1859. Thus it is the day Konkogyo was established. There are now over 1500 churches and propagation halls in Japan, North America, Hawaii, Brazil, Paraguay, and Korea. Also, Konkogyo International Center has held Konkogyo gatherings in various areas such as in England, Germany, and Australia.

