



## SGI-USA Men's Division Suggested Study Material for May 2020

In May 2020, the Men's Division is studying excerpts from *The New Human Revolution* Volumes 16 found in May "Living Buddhism" published by SGI-USA. This page is intended for leaders. The NHR Vol 16 chapter and/or LB pg # is indicated as available. All quotes from 18-35 May LB.

"Shin'ichi continued" "One of the things I decided in my youth was that, having resolved to dedicate my life to kosen-rufu, I would never complain about it, no matter what. Constructive ideas are important, but griping and grumbling don't lead anywhere... In addition, complaining is like advertising that we are pitiful, weak and powerless, and it demeans our value and character.

"Grumbling also discourages those around us, dampening their enthusiasm and their energy to advance. It therefore erases our benefit and good fortune. The Daishonin says that when difficulties arise, 'The wise will rejoice while the foolish will retreat.' ("The Three Obstacles and Four Devils." WND vol 1, pg 637) Let's face everything that comes to us with composure and take vigorous and courageous action."

(May LB, pp 24-25)

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"I assure you, if you persevere with faith until the very end, you will definitely become happy. Some people, when they experience a series of unfortunate events, decide that they are unlucky and powerless, and they extinguish the flame of hope in their hearts. But such an attitude itself is a source of misery... Please open the 'eye' of faith, the 'eye' of the heart, and live out your life vigorously and positively. If you can do that, you will bring hope and courage to countless others. Please become a beacon to many, many people."

"Through awakening to our mission for kosen-rufu, we realize that we are Bodhisattvas of the Earth. We also confirm that we possess the life condition of the Buddha, which guarantees that we can achieve absolute happiness. In other words, by realizing our mission for kosen-rufu, we are able to recognize the incredible happiness we possess inside."

(May LB, pg 26)

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"When one person finally stands up in faith, those who rejoice the most and receive the greatest benefit are the person's friends, the people who have cared, chanted and done everything to support that person."

(May LB, pg 27)

### **Possible Questions for Discussion:**

1. How can we pray as leaders when we feel complaint or grumbling seeping in to our mind of faith?
2. Please discuss your sense of mission in light of current circumstances.
3. Who has an experience fighting for one person to stand up in faith? Please discuss the role your friends and co-leaders played in this effort.
4. What does it mean to "chant for someone?"