



## The way to please God

The cardinal attitude that an individual with true faith should have is seeking "to do what is pleasing to God". How can a person please God? Before going into this subject, however, we first need to be aware of the mission of our spiritual group. The mission deals with the approach of the end of the world – the last judgment of which Jesus spoke and the end of Buddhism that Sakyamuni predicted.

God and other divine spirits have shown great mercy in helping as many people as possible safely pass through the great transitional period. How is God going to make this happen? Surely, human beings will be used for this purpose, and God assigned the mission of assisting humanity during this critical time to me.

Since this gigantic mission is unprecedented, I cannot but think that it is too big for me, just an ordinary, regular person. However, it is none other than the wondrous God that has assigned this task to me, and I have no choice but to accept this assignment. Initially, I was apprehensive, and I resisted; but I had no choice. God uses me freely, and I am only God's instrument.

I was in ecstasy at times, but at other times I felt I was thrust into a bottomless pit. Each time this happened, however, I was impressed with the way God dealt with me, which was so amazing and delicate that I somehow felt extremely happy and grateful. I experienced the most exquisite joy of life, one beyond description. I cannot but feel that nobody else in the world has had such an experience.

So, to return to my original question, how can a person please God? It is most important for an individual with true faith to live in accord with God's Will, asking within what

behaviour would best do so. To be in accord with God's Will, we need to avoid doing things that displease God, but rather, do what pleases God most. Common sense tells us that what displeases God is living contrary to Divine law by engaging in such behaviours as lying, hurting and causing others to suffer, and harming society. Many people today think only of their own interests and do not care about the fate of others, with their behaviour then based on such a selfish way of thinking. This is the worst thing a person can do. You cannot be in, accord with God's Will living in this way.

It is very simple to know whether or not you are living in accord with God's will. There are some people who complain about the condition of their health, about their financial difficulties or business troubles. They also complain that they cannot gain the trust of others, or attract people to themselves. They then add that they cannot understand why they must suffer so much when they have faith in God and are doing their best to serve God and humanity.

The reason they are suffering is that something in their way of living or thinking is not in harmony with God's Will. If God is pleased with the way a individual is living, everything he or she does will go smoothly and many people will be drawn to that person – who will then be blessed with material and financial abundance. Thus, their world will become a very happy place.

Attaining such happiness comes from having true faith. If an individual is making an effort to live in accord with his or her faith and yet has not attained happiness, that person must realize the cause lies within.

Meishu-Sama, May 25th, 1949



## New Year Message



Message by Kyoshu-sama  
(Fourth Spiritual Leader, Yoichi Okada)  
New Year Message, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

love, receive it with your whole being, and share that love with many other people.

Meishu-sama said that God is Light.

In 1935, at the birth of Sekai Kyusei Kyo, he told us in his lecture entitled "The Construction of the World of Great Divine Light", that the "great light," the "spiritual sunlight," would appear.

He also said, "The person who listens to this message and opens the door obediently will be the first one to receive the light and be saved," and taught us to "Just open the window of our heart."

Before we were born on earth, we initially existed in heaven where Great Divine Light shines, and we were serving in the work of heaven together with Meishu-sama.

This light still exists at the center of your consciousness and illuminates all the hidden places in your heart: the good parts, the evil parts and the dark parts like your fears, anxieties and anger.

You sense all of these feelings because God graciously wishes to forgive, purify and welcome them into the world of light.

Whenever and wherever you go, the light is with Meishu-sama and shines inside of you.

In order to be used in God's work, now is the time for you to return to the heaven that is your original source; open the window of your heart wide, receive Meishu-sama at the center of your consciousness and share the light of heaven as the light of salvation with many people by bringing them back to heaven from where the light emanates.

Within this year, the reconstruction of the Crystal Hall in Atami Zuiun-kyo and the renovation

With a deep sense of awe, I acknowledge that the one and only God, who is eternal life, is giving life to everything He has created.

God is the parent of our life, and according to His will, Meishu-sama was newly born as a Messiah, a true child of God. I express my gratitude to God that He continuously nurtures our spiritual and physical bodies so that we who are connected with Messiah Meishu-sama can also be born anew. With this gratitude in mind, I would like to offer my New Year greeting to everyone. Happy New Year.

It has been 10 months since the big earthquake and natural disaster in Northeast Japan. While the restorations are proceeding, there are many people who are still facing difficulties or anxiety.

In addition to the floods in Thailand, natural disasters have occurred in many other places on earth as well.

In those situations, our members with faith in Meishu-sama have never lost their feelings of gratitude, helping and encouraging each other while striving to move forward positively. I am deeply moved that their presence is giving peace of mind to the people surrounding them, and that they have become the light of hope for them.

Meishu-sama is always with you, protecting and supporting you.

The one who knows you best is Meishu-sama who dwells at the center of your heart, healing and encouraging you.

I hope that you believe in his boundless

work including a tearoom addition to Shun-ju-an in Kyoto Heian-kyo will be completed.

Meishu-sama prepared these Sacred Grounds on this earth, wishing that people from all over the world could gather and direct their heart toward God and toward the invisible and genuine Sacred Grounds at heaven, existing within us.

I feel that Meishu-sama is very happy to see that you are giving service with a sincere heart in order to respond to his wish, and also, as a result of your sincere efforts, the Sacred Grounds are maintained beautifully and new construction is proceeding.

Let us continue to serve in God's work of the construction of the Sacred Grounds so that Meishu-sama's joy could become our joy and that

it can be shared with many other people.

Meishu-sama taught us that a human being is a "temple of God." We have a temple within us where God could live.

Now, at the beginning of the year, let us thank God that we, as a "temple of God," could welcome God within us in the name of Meishu-sama, and hope that we could be of service to God's work of salvation, which aims to welcome back all to His heaven.

To conclude, I pray in the name of Meishu-sama that the light and blessing of God may be shared with all human beings and all things through you.

Thank you very much.



## Faith Testimonial

London Johrei Centre

Monthly Thanksgiving Service - 3rd March 2012



Luana Berbert Vargas

My name is Luana Berbert Vargas, I am 27 years old and I have a dedication shift once a week at the London Johrei Centre. Today I would like to share with you my faith testimonial which took place last month. This testimonial shows the importance of taking care of our ancestors through the Sorei-Saishi. It also shows the true existence of our ancestors, as well as how closely connected to us they are. It reveals how many times we do not perceive the messages from the spiritual world, even though we may have heard about it many times before and may have had similar experiences in the past. I sincerely hope that this testimonial can bring you a deeper understanding about the invisible spiritual world and about our intimate connection with our ancestors.

By the end of November last year, I have started to feel an acute pain in my stomach. For 2 days, I had not eaten anything and, as a consequence, I lost 5 kilos in just one week. Besides, I was feeling a strong fear inside of me, and I was thinking that I would pass away to the spiritual world. So, I prayed to Meishu-Sama and I thought that if the end of my mission in this world was coming, I

would accept it as God's Will. After 4 days feeling such a strong stomach pain, I went to the Johrei Centre to do my weekly dedication and I reported to the Minister what was happening to me. Then I received Johrei from him, and once again I started to eat normally.

However, at that time I had not realised that the cause of my purification was on the spiritual side. As I was going through stressful times, I thought that I had created something very bad inside my stomach. So, I ended up feeling fear, anger and blamed myself for having had so much stress. In fact, I could not believe that what caused my pain was in the spiritual world.

In the following 2 weeks after having received Johrei from the Minister, I carried on receiving and giving lots of Johrei and also improved my food habits. I was feeling quite well until mid-February, when once again the strong stomach ache returned, but much worse this time. When eating, it seemed like the food was burning everything inside me, and the pain intensifying in my bowel. I could not have sweet nor salty food, and I my feelings were miserable one more time. I

thought again that the strong anxiety I was feeling produced the pain.

I went to the Johrei Centre and looked to the Minister for guidance again, who was in the Sorei-Saishi's room. I told him I was feeling much fear, and asked him to have a look at my Sorei-Saishi, as I had a service to request. As I talked to him, I was feeling an unbearable pain, which made me think that I really had a serious illness. I also thought that maybe I put too much salt on my food, which could have contributed to worsen the pain. Once again, I was losing all motivation to live, and was not able to perceive that what I was feeling was a clear message from the spiritual world.

As I talked to the Minister, I could see on the computer's screen that my Sorei-Saishi information was appearing in it. So I remembered my cousin who passed away last year at the age of 33. He was too much overweight, and died as a result of a stomach infection in the middle of an operation for stomach reduction. But I completely forgot to include his name in my Sorei-Saishi's list.

After reporting it to the Minister, he stared at me very seriously and asked me how I could not believe that my cousin's pain was manifesting through my stomach ache. Then I immediately called my mother to confirm my cousin's date of death and how old he was at the time of passing, as I needed this information in order to include his spirit in my Sorei-Saishi's list.

Amazingly, the most impressive fact happened as soon as I finished talking to the Minister about my cousin: the excruciating pain I was feeling inside my stomach for many days stopped all of a sudden. I told him that I simply could not believe how such intense pain could disappear so fast. Shortly after that, the Minister and I went to the Altar to say a prayer and give thanks to God and Meishu-Sama for the blessing I have just received, and I expressed my gratitude by making a special donation. Then, I received Johrei keeping the Sonen that my cousin was also receiving the Divine Light together with me, and I sincerely apologised for having ignored him for such a long time.

Coming back home, I realised that I still had doubts regarding the miracle I have received. So,

I decided to eat 3 tangerines – which were quite sour – as for many weeks I was not able to eat sour food. To my surprise, I did not feel any pain at all, and since then I can eat all kinds of food normally. Now I do not have any doubts anymore!

Through this experience, I realised how materialistic I am, and I believe that we human beings are all like this. Today my faith has been renewed, and I strongly believe that the cause of all physical things lies in the spiritual world. I have learned that we need to surrender everything that we feel inside of us to Meishu-Sama. I also learned that our ancestors whose names are in the Sorei-Saishi list need to be well cared for.

Now I understand what Meishu-Sama teaches us regarding the cause of disease, poverty and conflict, that is, now I know without a shred of doubt that the cause of the 3 great miseries of humanity lies in the suffering of our ancestors.

I would like to thank God and Meishu-Sama for the permission and privilege to serve in the Divine Work of salvation of humanity through Johrei, and also for the permission to be a member of this church.

Thank you very much indeed!



## Faith Testimonial

London Johrei Centre  
Monthly Thanksgiving Service - 7th April 2012



Carmen Hughes

My name is Carmen Hughes. I received my Ohikari at the London Johrei Centre on the 23rd December 2009.

For the past 12 months I had been suffering from irregular periods. However, since last 29th December, I started to suffer from haemorrhaging daily. As a consequence, I had to see a doctor who told me that I had to take daily medication. Against my will, I ended up taking 2 tablets a day in order to stop the bleeding (although the doctor had given me a prescription of 6 tablets a day). I even tried not to take anything at all for a day, but the result was terrible, as I barely managed to walk and the pain became unbearable because of such a loss of blood.

As a result of this suffering, my faith in Meishu-Sama and in Johrei was quite lost. I started to think that there was no point in doing my dedication anymore, because I was going once a week to give service at the Johrei Centre, practising donations regularly with gratitude and joy, and giving Johrei to many people. So, I thought that my dedication

was becoming pointless.

Besides, on the Saturday before the trip to Porto for the dedication at the land of the future European Johrei headquarters, my brand new expensive mobile phone was stolen!

For me, this became only the 'tip of the iceberg' of my purification because in the previous weeks I had been suffering from small material losses. This sequence of small purifications, together with the main purification (daily bleeding) led me to start seriously questioning the Teachings of Meishu-Sama about the Law of Purification. I thought that if I carried on intensifying my dedication, my problems and sufferings would become more and more severe. So, I decided not to go to Porto that weekend and to leave this religion for good.

However, as I did not manage to transfer the air ticket to someone else (it was too expensive to do it), I changed my mind and decided to go for the last time. I must confess that I went to Porto feeling utterly resentful! I have always loved

Portugal, but this time I hated it.

On the first day of our dedication (Saturday 17th March), I spent the whole morning wandering aimlessly around the grounds. I was feeling completely lost, very sad and asking God for an answer to my sufferings (but I did not want to ask anything to Meishu-Sama, because I felt as if we were quarrelling over the subject of purification)!

Then, just after lunch, one of the UK members of our group (Ms. Moon) asked me to give her Johrei. She told me that my ancestors were on their way to manifest their presence. As soon as I raised my hand to give her Johrei, she opened her eyes and said the following words to me: "You are the only one! You need to save us! We are lost!" After hearing such a clear message from my ancestors I burst into tears. In fact, what my ancestors were feeling were the same emotions that I was feeling.

From then on, my feelings started to change, bit by bit. On Sunday (18th March), towards the end of our dedication I was feeling much better. In addition to this miracle, there were many other blessings which contributed to my improvement. In my opinion, the biggest blessing of all was the love and care with which my host family in Porto received me for 3 days. Thanks to God and the Messiah Meishu-Sama, I had the permission to be hosted by a lady who is a Johrei member of 26 years. In the past she had suffered from a physical purification similar to mine! However in her case it had been much more severe. I now recognise that everything was carefully prepared by the Spiritual World and our ancestors.

On Monday (19th March), after having returned home from Porto, I realised that the bleeding from which I was suffering since the 29th December last year had completely stopped! Thanks to God and Meishu-Sama!

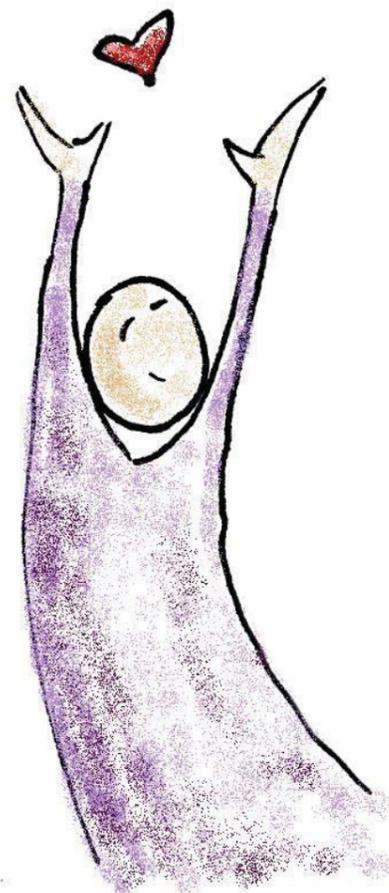
Through these miracles, I was allowed to remember that the Supreme God is always there for us, and never abandons us. Indeed, my feelings

towards Meishu-Sama were completely renewed, and I have no doubts anymore. Now I am feeling an immense happiness. I am also telling other people about the blessings I have received, with much love and gratitude, as I am sure that my faith was fully renewed. I am once again giving Johrei to others intensely after having stopped for a week.

In order to express my gratitude to God and Meishu-Sama for so many miracles, I made a Donation of Gratitude. Now, more than ever, I carry on doing my dedication with firm conviction, and I wish to grow and improve in every way, day by day.

Thank you Supreme God and Messiah Meishu-Sama for all the learning and blessings received. Thank you my ancestors for the messages that were sent to me, so that I could be once again awakened to my mission.

Thank you very much indeed!



Future Activities - 2012

- Ikebana Sangetsu Classes: Every 4th Saturday of the month (please call us for more info).
- Pilgrimage to Porto (future headquarters of Johrei in Europe) 15th & 16th Set (Sat & Sun)
- Pilgrimage to Brazil's Sacred Grounds (Ancestors Memorial Service: Nov 2012)

Programme - London Johrei Centre - July 2012

Activity	Day - date	Time
General Cleaning Dedication - Preparation for Special Service	Friday - 06/07/2012	All day long
Monthly Thanksgiving Service - All Welcome!	Saturday - 07/07/2012	6pm
South London Home Johrei Service	Sunday - 22/07/2012	1pm
General Cleaning Dedication - Preparation for Ancestors Prayer	Friday - 27/07/2012	All day long
Ikebana Sangetsu Class	Saturday - 28/07/2012	1pm
Prayer for Salvation of the Ancestors & Ohikari Presentation Service	Saturday - 28/07/2012	6pm

Other important information

London Johrei Centre - Regular opening hours: Monday - Friday 9am - 9:00pm  
Saturdays 9am - 8:30pm

For Johrei Assistance (outside the London Johrei Centre) please contact:

- Mr Flavio Costa (East London) - 07904 640931
- Lucia Murphy (South London) - 07966910482 / 02086701728
- For emergencies or outside London area:
- Min. Eduardo - 07791045662 / Min. Erico - 07771722369



JOHREI CENTRES IN EUROPE

**UNITED KINGDOM**   
**Izunome Kyodan United Kingdom**  
 Min. Eduardo de Souza  
 Min. Erico Tavares  
 465b Hornsey Road, Hornsey Rise  
 N19 4DR London - UK  
 Tel.: +44 20 72811532

**FRANCE**   
**Association Johrei**  
 Min. Nazih Bahury Gerude  
 Tel.: +33-1-5320-9930

**IRELAND**   
**Home Johrei Dublin**  
 Mr. & Mrs. Joaquim Artero  
 Hill 16, apartment 5 - 28/29  
 Gardiner Street Middle  
 Dublin 1 - Ireland  
 Tel.: +00-353-14306404

**SPAIN**   
**Asociación Johrei de España**  
 Min. Leonardo Borrelli  
 Min. Fernando Chagas Alambert  
 Calle Viladomat 198, Entresuelo  
 3ª - 08029 - Barcelona  
 Tel.: +34 687-286-825

**PORTUGAL**   
**Igreja Messianica Mundial de Portugal**  
 Min. Luciano Vita da Silva  
 Rua Gomes Freire, 143 A/D  
 CP.: 1150-176, Lisboa - Portugal  
 Tel.: +351-21-315-6576

**ITALY**   
**Associazione Messianica d'Italia**  
 Min. Carlos Eduardo Luciw  
 Viale Jonio, 317 - Rome  
 Tel.: +39-347-484-3725

**GREECE**   
**Politiskos kallitexnikos Syllogos Mokiti Okada**  
 Min. Evangelos Kreatsoulas  
 Omiru 25 - Irakleio TK  
 1421, Athens - Greece  
 Tel.: +30-2-102799103

**GERMANY**   
**Johrei Centre Frankfurt**  
 Min. Marcos Thome de Moura  
 Musikantenweg 20  
 60316 Frankfurt/main - Germany  
 Tel.: +49-69-3899-6923