

Tenrikyo

newsletter



85th America Spiritual Development Course

This year, six student attended the English Class for the 85th America Spiritual Development Course, which was held at the Mission Headquarters from June 15 to July 12. We would like to thank the instructors and kitchen staff that helped throughout the course.

Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters in America

www.tenrikyoamericacanada.org

July 2025

“A Work in Progress” by Bishop Fukaya

- *The Desk Next to You* -

On the 12th of this month, we were able to successfully conclude the 85th Spiritual Development Course in America. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who worked as instructors and those who helped with the kitchen duties in preparing the meals.

The Children’s Pilgrimage to Jiba will begin at Church Headquarters at the end of this month. Also, on the 16th of next month, our Boys & Girls Association Service Convention will be held at Mission Headquarters. Both are important events for the spiritual growth of our children. We hope that as many young members as possible will be able to participate.

Also on August 30th and 31st, we will be holding a study seminar on the Tenrikyo sacred scriptures. This is a study seminar with an instructor invited from Japan. It is difficult to hold study sessions like this every year, and the transportation costs of the participants will be subsidized, so I sincerely hope that you will not miss this valuable

opportunity.

In recent years, I have heard that there are some companies where employees are not assigned their own “personal desk” when joining a new company. This means that there are companies where employees can work from any workstation desk within the department to which they belong. However, there are still many cases in which employees in administrative departments are assigned individual desks.

This may be my old impression, but even as of today, I think there are many workplaces in which multiple desks are assigned to a group of employees to form an “island.” In other words, there are other employees’ desks

(continued on page 14)

Coming Up

- * **August Monthly Service Sermon (8/17)**
- **Rev. Hamilton Niwa (English)**
- * **Children’s Pilgrimage**
@ **Church Headquarters 7/24 - 7/30**
- * **2025 BGA Service Convention (8/16)**
@ **Mission HQ**

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COVER DESIGN: Jun Nakagawa

VOLUME LIX (59)

July, 2025

published by: **TENRIKYO MISSION HEADQUARTERS IN AMERICA**

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June Monthly Service Prayer

June 15, 2025

Before You, God the Parent, Tenri-O-no-Mikoto, who is enshrined in this altar, I, Hiroshi Alexander Fukaya, Bishop of Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters in America, speak with reverence.

Dear God the Parent, You created human beings and this world from Your deep intention to see us lead the Joyous Life and to share in it. Upon the arrival of the promised time, You appeared in this world and revealed the path for single-hearted salvation. For this, we are truly grateful.

In gratitude for our daily blessings, we have been making efforts to help others be saved, while seeking Your parental love in the various circumstances that we have been shown in the world today.

As this fine day is our June monthly service, from now, receiving the truth of Jiba, we, service performers, will unite our minds and spiritedly perform the seated service and Teodori service dance.

Before You, Yoboku and followers have gathered to express their gratitude for Your daily blessings and to ask for Your continued providence. In witnessing our spirited singing, we ask that You, God the Parent, become spirited as well.

Yesterday, the Young Men's Association of America was able to hold its annual convention successfully. Thank You so much. Please guide their members to unite their minds and make further progress in their spiritual growth, to become Yoboku who contribute to the work of world salvation.

Also, from today through July 12th, we shall hold our 85th Spiritual Development Course. I ask that You nurture the participants so that they may settle the teachings in their hearts and become Yoboku who take part in world salvation.

Furthermore, from the 20th to the 22nd of this month, the Boys and Girls Association will hold its camping event. I ask that You guide them to safely undertake this activity.

Reaffirming our mission as Yoboku, we pledge to strive each day spiritedly to further our spiritual growth as we head towards the 140th Anniversary of Oyasama and to aim for the realization of the Joyous Life world, in which all people mutually help one another.

Dear God the Parent, please accept our sincerity, guide us where our efforts may be lacking, and bless us to be able to, even one day sooner, see a world transformed into one without conflict. In unison with the whole congregation, I humbly pray that You bless us so.

June Monthly Service Sermon

by Rev. Kyoko Watanabe

~As Guided by God the Parent and Oyasama~

Today, I have been honored with the responsibility of delivering the monthly service sermon. Though my words may not be sufficient, I will do my best. I apologize for my inadequate speech, but I ask for your kind attention for a little while.

The last time I gave a monthly service sermon was exactly four years ago, during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. My sermon was recorded at the Mission Headquarters and broadcasted over the internet. I am deeply grateful to be able to speak in front of everyone today. Some of what I will share may overlap with what I spoke about previously, but I ask for your understanding.

Time flies, and this August marks 11 years since I became the fourth head minister of Gardena Church. It was during the second year of the “Three Years, One Thousand Days” leading up to the 130th Anniversary of Oyasama when I raised my hand to be the head minister of a church that had been without one for some time. Looking back, I cannot say I accomplished anything great, but supported by our followers, I have managed to fulfill my role. It is thanks to

the devoted followers who protected and maintained the church during the five and a half years without a head minister that I am now able to be here and serve.

At first, I thought it was my own decision to come to Gardena Church as the head minister. But on further reflection, I came to realize that everything was prepared for me—that my path was led here entirely by God the Parent and Oyasama. Today, I would like to share a few reasons why I feel that way.

Though I am still not good at English conversation, I have liked English since I was a child. When I was in high school, my father, who was a head minister at the time, suggested, “Why don’t you go study English at Gardena Church, which is our subordinate church?” I was kind of looking forward to it, but for reasons unknown, the plan was dropped during the time of Gardena’s first head minister, Mr. Tadashi Muranaka. At that time, I never imagined I would one day serve as the head minister of that very church. My father, who told me about Gardena Church, visited the church during the term of the second head minister.

About 30 years later, in 2002, I accompanied my older brother, who practiced judo, on a visit to the 40th Anniversary of Tenri Judo in America. I stayed at the



Rev. Watanabe, head minister of Gardena Church

Mission Headquarters of America for about a week and had the opportunity to worship at Gardena Church, where I met the third head minister and their family. Even then, I had no idea I would return 12 years later as the next head minister.

Later, when “Instruction Three” was issued prior to the 130th Anniversary of Oyasama, I was troubled by personal issues rooted in my causality. I consulted the head minister of my home church—my nephew—who suggested, “Why not either attend the three-month Spiritual Development Course or help watch over Gardena Church, which still lacks a head minister, even if it’s just for three months?” After consideration, I chose to attend the Spiritual Development Course again for the second time.

The blessings at Oyasato were truly profound. For three months, I was able to spend my days peacefully, as if nothing had

ever troubled me. However, once I returned home, my causality resurfaced. Even when I went out to do missionary work, I couldn’t smile and came back home promptly feeling gloomy. I struggled to come to terms with my causality and to accept it with joy.

I knew I couldn’t go on like that. I felt I needed to fulfill a greater role in God’s work. At that time, my younger brother, who lived in Los Angeles, emailed me stating, “The grand church head minister is visiting Gardena Church for a missionary tour following the issuance of Instruction Three. Wouldn’t it be great if you could succeed in the minister role, Kyoko?”

It was like being struck by lightning (though I’ve never actually been struck before). I thought, “I would gladly go if I can be of any service for the troubled followers and as a way to transform my causality and repay my blessings.” I immediately called my grand church head minister.

The head minister was surprised, but delighted by my sudden offer and he promptly contacted the Overseas Department. Thanks to the smooth arrangements, and with the great support of Bishop Hiroshi Fukaya, I received permission from Oyasama and was appointed head minister in 2014.

As stated in the Divine Directions,

Without difficulty, the mind cannot be settled.

(January 13, 1887)

Truly, as those words say, it was because of my troubles that I was able to settle my mind.

I found out that my younger brother, who gave me the push to be head minister, was inspired in his youth by Western music that I often listened to in high school and this made him want to move to America. He moved to Los Angeles in his twenties and has lived there for over 40 years. He now attends the monthly services at Gardena Church every month and is a big support for me. I believe that God sent my brother to America ahead of me to call me over when the time was right.

Also, one follower, who has been with the church since the time of the first head minister, was originally a follower of my home church. She was dearly loved by my mother. When she got married and moved to America, my mother told her, "If you're going to America, go to Gardena Church." This person also arrived in America before me and waited for me. She still remains connected to Gardena Church today. Hearing her stories reminiscing about my late parents makes me feel a mysterious bond. It feels as though my father and mother paved the way for me to walk this path more easily.

When I think about all of this, I truly believe that me being here is entirely due to the guidance of God the Parent and Oyasama. But when was it decided that I would come here? It remains a mystery.

In Anecdotes of Oyasama, Story 36,



"Firm Resolution", it says:

"When it is the divine will to use a person in God's service, God will draw that person to this Residence by any means... Persons who are destined to be used as instruments in God's service will be drawn to this Residence even by means of physical pain... I must draw you even by means of giving you suffering..."

I believe I am one of those who was drawn in by the deep intention of God the Parent and Oyasama. There must be meaning in being drawn in like this.

Not only I, but I believe all of you here today have also received such divine guidance and are fulfilling important roles in America and Canada.

Though I was born and raised in a church, I had avoided marrying into a church family, thinking it would be too difficult. I never imagined I would voluntarily accept the role of head minister. There must have been deep causality from God the Parent. Being a fifth-generation follower, I am

sure my causality is deep. However, I also feel I have received great virtue from my ancestors and I feel truly grateful.

When I became a head minister, I saw it as an opportunity to contribute to “world salvation” as a Yoboku in America. I desired and prayed to bring even one person to Jiba while I was here and two years ago, that wish came true.

A woman I had been praying for happened to return to Japan at the same time as I did. I invited her, and she came all the way from Tokyo to Jiba. I guided her to the Oyasama’s Sanctuary, where I administered the Sazuke. I was overwhelmed with gratitude and tears overflowed. She was also deeply moved, and we shared that joy. She later told this story to her sister in Norway, who became very interested and looked up “Tenrikyo” online. I was again overfilled with gratitude to think the seed planted at Jiba reached Norway and all of this is due to the guidance of God the Parent and Oyasama.

On another occasion, an acquaintance of mine returned to Japan and said she would be traveling alone from Tokyo to Shimane Prefecture. I mentioned to her, “In that case, since you will be passing Tenri, please stop by and come visit Jiba.” She accepted my invitation and actually came on her own. Though I couldn’t guide her myself, I was very happy she visited and genuinely paid her respects to the shrine. Surely, God the Parent and Oyasama were waiting for her

return and were delighted more than me. I realized how important even a single word of sprinkling the fragrance can be.

I have made many mistakes along the way, and though I may fall short, I have received countless blessings and continue on this path every day. However, age is catching up with me. Healthcare and insurance issues in the U.S. are making it challenging to continue fulfilling my role as head minister. Still, I believe I have an important role left to fulfill. Until the 140th Anniversary of Oyasama, I pray to be kept healthy so I can faithfully serve my duties as head minister.

How much of my causality I have cleared away is unclear, but I have no worries now. The weight of these 11 years gives me confidence.

In the remaining seven months until the 140th Anniversary of Oyasama, I hope to serve faithfully so that the ever-living Oyasama may be at ease and filled with joy. I wish to welcome the Anniversary full of joy and gratitude. Thank you very much for listening to the end.

Thank you so much for your kind attention.

(translation by Y. Nakagawa)

BGA Camp

The Boys and Girls Association held their summer camp from June 20 ~ 22 at Malibu Creek State Park.

45 people participated, of which 16 were BGA members, along with 29 staff who helped support the summer camp.



TYMANA Convention

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On June 14, TYMANA held their annual convention. Following the convention, association members engaged in hinokishin around the Mission HQ, painting benches, and in the evening, members attended a baseball game featuring Shohei Ohtani.



Shuyokai

Some pictures from the 85th America Spiritual Development Course, held at the Mission Headquarters for the first time in three years!





1) JULY MONTHLY SERVICE (7/20)

Officiant: Bishop Assistants: Junjiro Nakatomi, Takahiko Hayashi

Attendants: Robert Shimizu, Steven Yukimoto Director: Tomoyoshi Tanaka

Offerings Officiant: Paul Tomizawa Sermon: Kay Morishita (E)

2) CHURCH & FELLOWSHIP AFFAIRS

- California Church: Church Head Minister Appointment, Request for Special Service

Divine Sanction (Scheduled): July 26, 2025 Successor: Taichi Tony Onishi

Enshrinement Service: August 31, 2025

- Illinois Church: Church Head Minister Appointment, Request for Special Service

Divine Sanction (Scheduled): July 26, 2025 Successor: Hiroaki Takagaki

Enshrinement Service: October 4, 2025

3) 85TH AMERICA SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT COURSE (SHUYOKAI)

The 85th Spiritual Development Course at the Mission Headquarters was held from June 15 (Sun) to July 12 (Sat). This year, six students completed the English class. We would like to thank the instructors and kitchen staff that helped throughout the course.

4) TENRIKYO LANGUAGE INSTITUTE (TLI) APPLICATION

We would like to communicate a few major updates to the TLI application for the Japanese Language Department in 2026.

- Eligibility: 1. Those who completed formal education for a minimum of 12 years.

2. Those who have passed N5 in the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (or equivalent).

When applying for the Japanese Language Department, Japanese ability of N5 in the Japanese-Language Proficiency (or equivalent) is required when submitting the application.

- For those who have not passed N5, applicants will be given study materials from the Japanese Language Department in May of the application year, in order to prepare for skill certification test, to be taken by the end of August. Depending on the results of this skill certification test, should TLI certify that the applicant's proficiency is equivalent to that of N5, the application will be accepted, and accommodations should be made so that the application process itself will not be hindered.

Regarding application distribution:

- As of April 25, downloadable application forms are available on the TLI website.

Website: https://kaigai.tenrikyo.or.jp/tli/top/?page_id=1021

- The website also contains details regarding the study requirements for the skill certification test, which can be found below.

Website: https://kaigai.tenrikyo.or.jp/tli/top/?page_id=1079

5) LAY MINISTER PREPARATORY COURSE / HEAD MINISTER QUALIFICATION COURSE

Please contact the Mission Headquarters by the end of July if you are interested in attending the Lay Minister Preparatory Course (beginning from August 27), or by the end of August if you are interested in attending the Head Minister Qualification Course (beginning from September 27).

Each course needs at least 5 applicants in order to hold an English class. If this requirement is not met, then students will be provided simultaneous interpretation or "pull-out instruction."

6) REPORT FOR RETURNEES OF THE 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF OYASAMA

News and Announcements (cont'd.)

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The Mission Headquarters has created a 140th Anniversary of Oyasama Returnees Report. If you are planning to return, please submit this form by October 1. You may also access this report via Google Form by using the following QR Code.

7) 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF OYASAMA "SPECIAL EXHIBITION"

From this fall, a 140th Anniversary of Oyasama commemorative exhibition centered around mementos related to Oyasama will be opened

- Dates: Oct. 25 & 26, Nov. 8, 9, 15, 16, 22~26, 29, 30, Dec. 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 25 & 26

Exhibit opens at 1PM on the 26th of each month; morning only on Oct. 25

Dates for 2026 will be announced in the future

- Time: 10AM ~ 3 PM

- Place: South Right Wing 2 of the Oyasato-yakata building-complex

- Please refer to the Tenrikyo website (Japanese only): <https://www.tenrikyo.org/se140/>

8) 2026 LAY MINISTER PREPARATORY COURSE / HEAD MINISTER QUALIFICATION COURSE DATE CHANGE

Application Submission Date: January 23 & 24 (as usual)

Dates: Lay Minister Preparatory Course [Normally] Jan. 27 ~ Feb. 10 [Updated] Feb. 1 ~ 15

Head Minister Qualification Course [Normally] Jan. 27 ~ Feb. 16 [Updated] Feb. 1 ~ 21

9) RECEPTION PARTY FOLLOWING THE 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF OYASAMA CELEBRATION

- Eligibility: All church head ministers*, excluding directly supervised church (DSC) head ministers *As of reception party date

- Date & Time: Jan. 28 ~ Feb. 1, 2026, from 12 PM ~ 1:30 PM *Attend once on one of the listed dates

- If you require language interpretation, plan to attend on Jan. 28

- If you do not require interpretation and are assigned a date, you may attend on a day other than Jan 28

- Invitations are scheduled to be distributed to DSC representatives on Aug. 25

10) REGARDING BESSEKI LECTURES DURING THE MONTHS OF JANUARY AND APRIL, 2026

As the amount of expected Besseki Lecture attendees is anticipated to greatly increase during these months before and after the 140th Anniversary of Oyasama, the days when live lectures are offered will be determined in advance. You may view this schedule by visiting the Church Headquarters homepage, as well as via the Overseas Department homepage. The QR Codes for both pages can be found below:

Church HQ Calendar



Overseas Department Calendar



COMMITTEE & ASSOCIATION REPORTS**Construction Committee**

- East Hall roof was repaired, fascia painted green, and new rain gutters were installed.

Missionary Committee

- We will begin monthly service duty at the Mission Headquarters for church, fellowship, and mission center heads, starting from this month. The duty calendar up to September is as follows
 July: Robert Yuge, Hiroko Okazaki August: Takahiko Hayashi, Ray Tadokoro September:
 Junjiro Nakatomi, Koji Uesugi

Nurturing & Educational Development Committee

* Oyasato Seminar Sub-committee

- We raised \$715 of support from our bake sale in June. We will use these funds for future activities.

- Leading up to the pre-seminar, Hiroko Okazaki, Amy Morishita, and Youichi Nakagawa met the staff of the Myodo GC follower's dormitory via Zoom, where they discussed the circumstances and rules for holding the pre-seminar.

Public Relations Committee

- We have incorporated an ongoing section in the Ichiretsu/Newsletter to highlight everyone's efforts and activities leading up to the 140th anniversary of Oyasama. Therefore, we would like to request churches, fellowships, districts, and individuals to submit your activity reports & pictures to us (Kawakami: kamishuyo@hotmail.com or Hayashi: takhayashi@gmail.com).

- The Mission HQ Homepage has been updated with new content, including monthly service sermons, "SoulFire" reflection videos, "Stories Inspired by Oyasama," and most recently, the book "Joyousness Day After Day" written by the Thrid Shinbashira can now be enjoyed as an audiobook. Please visit our homepage to view these contents, and let those around you know as well. Also, the domain name has been changed from Tenrikyo.com to TenrikyoAmericaCanada.org .

Translation Committee

- We held an SDM Core Committee meeting from June 30 ~ July 3, where we finalized the first nine verses of Song 9.

Future Path

- We are hosting a seminar on the Tenrikyo sacred scriptures during the weekend of August 30-31, 2025 at the Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters in America. The sacred scriptures include the Ofudesaki, Mikagura-Uta, and Osashizu. Additional program information can be found on the Mission Headquarters website via the QR Code. The registration deadline has been extended until August 1.

- If you have any questions, please contact us via email Tenrikyoprograms@gmail.com or by phone at (323) 261-3379.

News and Announcements (cont'd.)

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Women's Association

- Nurture Ourselves to Become Foundations of the Path Seminar September 20 (Sat) from 1 PM
Venue: Mission HQ
Eligibility: Members of ages 16 ~ 49
Content: Lecture regarding the "Eight Dusts of the Mind," Group Talk
Lecturer: Japanese: Bishop English: Rev. Toshikiyo Yukimoto

Boys & Girls Association

- The BGA Camp was held from June 20 (Fri) ~ June 22 (Sun). 45 people participated. 16 BGA members (7 boys, 9 girls), and 29 staff (19 men, 10 women).
 - The Children's Pilgrimage to Jiba General Group and the BGA International Hinokishin Corps will be held from July 24~30.
 - The 2025 BGA Service Convention will be held on August 16 (Sat). Following the Mission Headquarters July monthly service, we will hold service practice in the Sanctuary and in the BGA Room from 1:15 PM, so please join us.
 - Please send an email to moto1884@icloud.com if there are any new BGA members, newborn or new to the North America congregation.
- Let's share stories about Oyasama with BGA members! Visit your churches as a family and engage in hinokishin together.

TYMANA

- The 99th TYMA Convention will be held in the Inner Courtyard of Church Headquarters on October 25 (Sat), from 1 PM. TYMANA is offering subsidies for any members that would like to attend. If you are interested, please email TYMANA (seinenkainorthamerica@gmail.com).
- Please send your ideas and suggestions for future activities to this email (seinenkainorthamerica@gmail.com).



Special Guest Speakers

Dr. Ikuo Higashibaba and Rev. Takahiko Hayashi

August 30-31, 2025

Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters, Los Angeles

For further information:

website: TenrikyoAmericaCanada.org

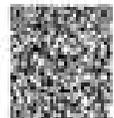
email: Tenrikyoprograms@gmail.com

phone: (323) 261-3379

Information packet



Online application form
Due July 1, 2025



Gagaku Sleepover

A gagaku sleepover was held at the Mission Headquarters on June 12~13.

Although some of the students have already performed during the Spring Memorial Service, participants practiced towards the goal of performing for the Mission HQ monthly services in the future.





TENRIKYO
THE RELIGION OF PEACE

WE'RE ONLINE!

www.TenrikyoAmericaCanada.org

Stay Updated! Scan the QR code with your camera phone.



携帯のカメラでQRコードをスキャンして、アメリカ伝道所ウェブサイトの最新情報をチェックしてください!

CALENDAR



tenrikyoamericacanda.org/events-calendar

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NEWSLETTERS



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SERMONS



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OYASAMA-INSPIRED STORIES



tenrikyoamericacanda.org/stories-inspired-by-oyasama

on either side or in front of your desk, as well as on both sides of your desk. For example, if you have a desk on either side of your desk, one desk in front of your desk, and a desk on both sides of the desk in front of you, this would form a six-desk “island.”

With this type of “island” image in mind, I would often tell the young men (Seinen) and women (Joshi-seinen) live-in volunteers who have been newly assigned to Mission Headquarters the following:

When you first start a new job, you may find yourself just doing all you can to complete your assigned tasks. For new company employees, their desks essentially become their entire world. You don't know what kind of work the person sitting next to you is doing, you may not be aware nor have any interest in what they are doing. I think this state of mind is due to a lack of mental capacity and it probably cannot be helped.

However, you should not stay in that state of mind forever. It is important that you eventually become able to understand what kind of work your colleagues on either side of you are doing. I really hope you can do that in the near future. The next step is then to be able to understand what your colleague sitting in front of you is doing, as well as what the other people on either side of them are doing.

In other words, I would want you to be

the kind of person who can see what your colleagues on this “6-person island” are doing. I also hope that you can spiritually grow and work collaboratively with each other.

I use analogies like this to convey the importance of paying attention to your surroundings, fostering cooperation, and being able to work together.

Of course, it is important to know not only what is happening on your own “island,” but also check to see what is happening on the other “islands,” what is happening on the whole office floor, what the department you belong to is aiming for, and by extension, what the company as a whole is working on and what goals it is aiming for. We believe that it is important not only to know, but also to work together toward the same goal and work as a team member of the company to help achieve that goal.

Although the Mission Headquarters of America is not a company, we are all working towards the “Joyous Life” just like our fellow followers, so things like this are important.

It is also important to know how to be able to work together by understanding what is being done as an organization by the people on either side of you and your “island” as a whole. However at the same time, it is also important to expand your “desk,” that is, to increase your capacity.

Increasing the size of your “desk” here

does not mean physically extending or increasing your desk space, but rather it means increasing your capacity to handle more tasks.

You can think of increasing this capacity in the same way as increasing the memory of your computer. Increasing your computer's memory will allow you to handle more tasks at once without any trouble. It basically is the same concept.

When you're a new employee, if you're assigned one task, you may find yourself overwhelmed and unable to take on other tasks. However, as you gain experience, you will be able to handle multiple tasks at the same time. This can be said to be the "state where your desk has become larger." In other words, a person developing more peace of mind has become more spiritually mature than before.

In order to become a person with great capacity and potential, it is necessary to accumulate as much experience as possible.

First of all, properly do the work that has been assigned to you. The more you complete the tasks given to you, the more knowledge you will acquire. If you do this, you will have more peace of mind, and you will be able to acquire the ability to pay attention not only to your own "desk," but also able to work with the "desks" around you. In addition, you will be able to take on other tasks at the same time. If you can do that, you will be able to be entrusted with even bigger tasks and

responsibilities. Therefore, it is important to expand the capacity of your "desk" so that you can handle various tasks at the same time.

If you give up and say, "I can't do it," you will no longer be able to see the "desks" around you or increase the capacity of your own "desk." If you think, "I can't do it," then you will stop growing. Per the teachings, this can be expressed as when your "spiritual growth stops."

If you can turn your attention to the "desks" around you other than yourself, then you will be able to pay more attention to your surroundings. Also, if you can expand your capacity, you will be able to reach out to more people at once. I think this will ultimately lead to developing a spacious mind. In the Divine Directions, it states:

If you go through it with a spacious mind, you will become spacious. If you go through it with a narrow mind, you will become narrow. How do you expect children to mature if you as a parent are angry? Everyone, all of you need to act as a parent. It is the role of a parent to find satisfaction in life and to bring others along with you. Everyone is to find satisfaction, and say, "this is the Jiba of Origin, this is the Home of the Parent," and return with this mind of satisfaction. Discuss about any and all matters and convince others to find satisfaction.

Osashizu, July 7, 1899

As mentioned, I think it is essential to have a spacious mind when nurturing people. In order to be able to achieve, “Everyone finding satisfaction, and saying, ‘this is the Jiba of Origin, this is the Home of the Parent,’ and returning with this mind of satisfaction,” we need to have a spacious mind and a deep heart that can accept whatever comes our way. If we can do so, I think that we can bring satisfaction to others. If we can have such a mindset, people who are seeking salvation will come to have a sense of relief at the very least.

I have heard that when a child sits on a parent’s lap and is pampered, it is because the child wants to have a safe place to be.

In the same way, when we do salvation work, if we have a big, warm heart that attracts others and makes them feel at ease, then the people who are asking for help should also feel at ease. If we do salvation work with an open, deep, and warm heart that can help stabilize those who have become unstable due to some illness or trouble, then the person asking for help will be able to trust us with a peace of mind.

I believe that Oyasama has a broad, deep, and warm heart that accepts any situation. I believe that is why our pioneers went to see Oyasama. In other works, they probably went to Oyasama because they wanted to feel safe in the warm embrace of Oyasama. Our

predecessors returned to Jiba in order to meet with Oyasama and talk about whatever had weighed on their minds. However, there were many episodes of when they were granted an audience with Oyasama, all their anxieties and concerns would just completely vanish.

I feel that having a mind like that of Oyasama is the first step towards helping others to be saved. First of all, isn’t it important to be able to provide a deep sense of security and peace of mind to those who seek to be saved?

To achieve this, I think it is important for us to make daily efforts to have a mind that can see all around our “desks,” with a broad and deep mind that has great capacity and potential.

(translation by T. Osawa)

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TOWARD THE JOYOUS LIFE

TENRIKYO came into existence on October 26, 1838, when God the Parent, Tenri-O-no-Mikoto, became revealed through Oyasama, Miki Nakayama, to save all humankind. God the Parent is God of Origin and God of Truth who created this world and has nurtured and protected us ever since.



God the Parent created human beings so that by seeing us lead the Joyous Life, God could share in our joy. Leading the Joyous Life is, therefore, the purpose of our existence. Since God is our Parent, we are all God's children; thus, we should realize that we are all brothers and sisters.

“With human beings : the body is a thing lent by God, a thing borrowed. The mind alone is yours.”
Osashizu : June 1, 1889

We are taught that we borrow our bodies from God the Parent and only our minds truly belong to us; further, through the proper use of our minds, we will be able to lead the Joyous Life.