

English Corner: Suggested Article of Discussion

1. Article 10-4: Be Kind to Your Family

I bumped into (偶然碰撞) a stranger (陌生人) as he passed by (经过). “Oh, excuse me, please (请原谅我)!” I said. He said, “Please excuse me too, I wasn’t even watching for (注意到) you.” We were very polite (有礼貌), this stranger and I. We went on our way and we said goodbye. But when we got home a different story was told.

Later that day, when I was cooking the evening meal, my daughter stood beside me very close (紧贴). When I turned (转身), I nearly knocked her down (把她打倒). “Move out of my way (别挡我路).” I said with a frown (皱眉头). She walked away and her little heart was broken (伤心). I didn’t realize how harshly (刺耳) I’d spoken.

While I lay awake (躺下醒着), that evening, in bed, God’s still small voice (神的微小声音) came to me and said, “While dealing with a stranger, you use common courtesy (礼貌), but the children you love, you seem to hurt (苦待). Go look on the kitchen floor (厨房地上), you’ll find some flowers there by the floor. Those are the flowers she brought for you. She stood quietly not to spoil (破坏) the surprise (意外), and you never saw the tears in her eyes.”

By that time, I felt very small (卑微), and now my tears (眼泪) began to fall. I quietly went and knelt (跪) by her bed (床). “Wake up (醒过来), little girl, wake up,” I said, “are these the flowers you picked for me?” She smiled, “I found them out by the tree. I picked them because they’re pretty like you. I knew you’d like them, especially the blue ones.” I said, “Daughter, I’m sorry (抱数) for the way (态度) I acted today. I shouldn’t have yelled (大叫) at you that way.” She said, “Oh, Mom, that’s okay (没事). I love you anyway.” I said, “Daughter, I love you too, and I do like those flowers, especially the blue ones.”

Are you aware (注意到吗?) that if we die tomorrow? The job that we are working for could easily replace us in a matter of days. But the family we left behind will feel the loss for the rest of their lives. And come to think of it, we pour ourselves more into work than to our family – an unwise (不智) investment (投资) indeed (的确的).

2. Discussion:

1. What happened in this story to the author?
2. Compare the habits in our public behavior and our private family behavior.
3. What is the lesson the mother learned?

3. Remember Seven Phrases a Week:

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| 407. I have something to tell you. | 我有事要告诉你。 |
| 408. I smelled a smell of cooking. | 我闻到做饭的味道。 |
| 409. I want to see the film again. | 我真想再看一遍这影片。 |
| 410. I've got too much work to do. | 我要做的事太多了。 |
| 411. Let's go for a walk, shall we? | 咱们出去走走，好吗? |
| 412. Please let me check the bill. | 请让我核对一下帐单。 |

4. Proverbs:

1. Let us love one another, for love comes of God and knows God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. (1 John 4:7)
2. God is love, whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. (1 John 4:16)
3. We love because God first love us. (1 John 4:19)