

English Corner: Suggested Article of Discussion

1. Article 11-5: A Heartfelt Apology

It's never easy to admit (承认) you are in the wrong (错了). We all need to know the art of apologizing (道歉). Look back with honesty and think how often you've judged impulsively (冲动), said unkind things, or pushed yourself ahead at the expense of (牺牲) a friend. Then count on the occasions when you indicated clearly and truly that you were sorry. A bit frightening (可怕), isn't it? Frightening because some deep wisdom (智慧) in us knows that when even a small wrong has been committed (犯了), some mysterious moral feeling (感觉,良心) is disturbed (不安), and it stays out of balance until fault is acknowledge (承认) and regret expressed.

I remember a doctor friend, telling me about a man who came to him with a variety of symptoms (症状): headaches, insomnia (失眠), and stomach trouble. No physical cause could be found. Finally the doctor said to the man: "Unless you tell me what's worrying you, I can't help you." After some hesitation (犹豫) the man confessed (承错) that, as executor (执行人) of his father's will (遗嘱), he had been cheating (欺骗) his brother, who lived abroad (海外), of his father's inheritance (遗产). Then and there (立刻), the wise old doctor made the man write to his brother asking forgiveness (原谅) and enclosing a check as the first step in restoring (恢复) their good relationship. He then went with him to the mailbox in the corridor (走廊). As the letter disappeared, the man burst into tears. "Thank you", he said, "I think I'm cured." And he was.

A heartfelt (诚心的) apology (道歉) can not only heal a damaged relationship but also make it stronger. If you can think of someone who deserves (配得到) an apology from you, someone you have wronged (错怪), judged (判断) too harshly (严厉) or just neglected (疏忽), do something right now.

2. Discussion:

1. What is the problem addressed in this article?
2. What goes "out of balance" and how is it remedied (治疗)?
3. How does this point of view compare with modern psychology?

3. Remember Seven Phrases a Week:

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| 456. His talk covered many subjects. | 他的报告涉及很多课题。 |
| 457. I afraid that he drinks too much. | 我担心他喝太多了。 |
| 458. I have a hair cut every month. | 我每个月都理发。 |
| 459. I would like to have a part-time job | 我想有一份兼职。 |
| 460. I'm sorry to have bothered you. | 对不起，打扰你了。 |
| 461. It is not so easy as you think. | 这事没有你想象的那么简单。 |
| 462. Keep your temper under control. | 不要发脾气。 |

4. Proverbs:

1. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited (自大) (Romans 12:16)
2. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. (Romans 12:17)