

English Corner: Suggested Article of Discussion

1. Article 5-1: True Love (真爱)

Introduction:

It isn't easy to define what "true love" is. However, two thousand years ago, a person named Paul, whose life was completely changed when he had experienced the sacrificial (牺牲的) love of God, wrote this great article on "true love" from his own experience.

What our society needs the most is unselfish love: love for our country, for our neighbors, for our family and for our ourselves. We should rebuild our society to live harmoniously (和谐社会) based on true love.

The Article:

I may be able to speak all the languages of human beings and even of angels, but if I have no love, my speech is no more than a noisy gong (锣) or a clanging (发叮当声) bell. I may have the gift of inspired (激动) preaching (讲道); I may have all knowledge and understand all secrets; I may have all the faith (信心) needed to move mountains-but if I have no love, I am nothing. I may give away everything I have, and even give up my body to be burned; but if I have no love, this does me no good.

Love is patient (忍耐) and kind (仁慈); it is not jealous (妒忌) or conceited (自大) or proud (自夸); love is not ill-mannered (张狂) or selfish (自私) or irritable (易怒); love does not keep a record of wrongs (不计算人的恶); love is not happy with evil (欢喜不义), but is happy with the truth (真理). Love never gives up; and its faith, hope, and patience never fail.

Love is eternal (爱是永不止息). There are inspired (激励) messages, but they are temporary; there are gifts of speaking in strange tongues (方言), but they will cease (停止); there is knowledge, but it will pass away (过去). For our gifts of

knowledge and of inspired messages are only partial (局限); but when what is perfect (完全者, 神) comes, then what is partial will disappear.

When I was a child, my speech, feelings, and thinking were all those of a child; now that I am an adult, I have no more use for childish ways. What we see now is like a dim image (模糊不清) in a mirror (镜子); then we shall see face-to-face. What I know now is only partial; then it will be complete-as complete as God's knowledge of me. Meanwhile these three remain (永在): faith, hope, and love (信, 望, 爱); and the greatest of these is love.

2. Discussion:

1. List some of the abilities people are proud of that do not measure up to the greatest.
2. List the characteristics of love.
3. Do you agree or disagree with Paul? Why?

3. Remember Seven Phrases a Week:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| 176. We are good friends. | 我们是好朋友。 |
| 177. What's your trouble? | 你哪儿不舒服? |
| 178. You did fairly well! | 你干得相当不错 1 |
| 179. Clothes make the man. | 人要衣装。 |
| 180. Did you miss the bus? | 你错过公共汽车了? |
| 181. Don't lose your head. | 不要惊慌失措。 |
| 182. He can't take a joke. | 他开不得玩笑。 |