

## JOY, TIME, ORDER

Work done with a spirit of joy is done well and with ease. When we laboriously undertake something, we do not feel like doing, we make little progress. I do my work in a spirit of play, like a hobby, never laboriously. It is my hope that all our members will adopt such a spirit in their undertakings. It is very advantageous to do so.

Many people see nothing wrong in expending great effort in what they do. They consider it natural, and even feel proud of it. I, too, sometimes overdo without being aware of it until things begin to go wrong, and I say to myself, "I have been trying too hard." Then, I stop and do something else. Too much effort seldom brings good results. The more smoothly and easily we are able to proceed, the greater our efficiency. The same principle applies in giving Johrei. Done in a spirit of joy, the results will be good. The better the results, the more delighted we will be.

Another important factor to consider is time. No project should be undertaken prematurely. If the proper moment is not at hand, we should have the wisdom to perceive it, for no matter how worthy the project, it will not turn out well.

Still another important aspect that affects the outcome of our endeavors is order. We may undertake to carry out a plan thinking we have taken everything into consideration and that the work will proceed smoothly. Contrary to our expectation, we find obstructions.

When we review the matter carefully, we find that we did not proceed in the proper order. As soon as we follow the Law of Order, everything goes smoothly.

Spiritual perception is important because it so greatly affects the outcome of any endeavor. Those who have achieved this insight quickly arrive at the essential nature of things.

Let us consider Johrei. When results are not encouraging, the fault may lie in the attitude with which Johrei is given or received. Perhaps the spirit of prayer is lacking in the one who is giving it. Or, perhaps it is being given to a person whose family is opposed to Johrei. The action of the Light is then lessened, for the unsympathetic attitude of even one person can affect the result. The spiritual cords connecting family members are strong and exert a powerful influence.

After spiritual insight has been attained, when things do not work out well the reason will quickly reflect upon the mirror of the mind. This is an important point often overlooked. God's laws govern things according to circumstances. In every case success depends upon spiritual awareness as well as upon the specific situation.

The best way to cleanse the mirror of the mind and keep it clear is through Johrei and its teachings. Sometimes people find, to their surprise, that when they read the teachings again and again, they discover profound wisdom and receive new inspiration. This is due to the fact that in the beginning, the mirror of the mind is beclouded. As the spiritual body is purified, the deeper meaning of the teachings emerges.