

Becoming A Brilliant Star **Family Development**

(Ch 8)

The supreme good is like water,
which nourishes all things without trying to.
It is content with the low places that people
d disdain.

Thus it is like the Tao.

In dwelling, live close to the ground.

In thinking, keep to the simple.

In conflict, be fair and generous.

In governing, don't try to control.

In work, do what you enjoy.

In family life, be completely present.

When you are content to be simply yourself
and don't compare or compete,
everybody will respect you.

(Ch 10)

Can you coax your mind from its wandering
and keep to the original oneness?

Can you let your body become
supple as a newborn child's?

Can you cleanse your inner vision
until you see nothing but the light?

Can you love people and lead them
without imposing your will?

Can you deal with the most vital matters
by letting events take their course?

Can you step back from you own mind
and thus understand all things?

Giving birth and nourishing,
having without possessing,
acting with no expectations,
leading and not trying to control:
this is the supreme virtue.

(from Ch 22)

If you want to become whole,
let yourself be partial.

If you want to become straight,
let yourself be crooked.

If you want to become full,
let yourself be empty.

If you want to be reborn,
let yourself die.

If you want to be given everything,
give everything up.

(From Ch 42)

All things have their backs to the female
and stand facing the male.

When male and female combine,
all things achieve harmony.

(Ch 54)

Whoever is planted in the Tao
will not be rooted up.

Whoever embraces the Tao
will not slip away.

Her name will be held in honor
from generation to generation.

Let the Tao be present in your life
and you will become genuine.

Let it be present in your family
and your family will flourish.

Let it be present in your country
and your country will be an example
to all countries in the world.

Let it be present in the universe
and the universe will sing.

How do I know this is true?
By looking inside myself.

Compiled by: B. Matthews, July 1999

Source: Lao-Tzu. (1995). Tao Te Ching (Trans. by S. Mitchell). Available online:
[<http://rhino.harvard.edu/elwin/pJoy/toatechingNoFrame.html>]

URL: <http://chiron.valdosta.edu/whuitt/religion/taoism/06family.pdf>