

Shinji

To achieve a life filled with meaning and purpose, shinja must strive to learn the teachings with family members, and create a family where the kokoro of members come together and stay in rapport with the principles.

Family members are those who walk the kokoro no michi together and inherit the elements as their jittai.

This truth should be deeply understood and the teachings learned together as a family.

As this is practiced, the kokoro (unmei-jittai) of family members will gradually come together and good elements will remain in the kokoro no michi.

This is the family that flourishes and nurtures human beings.

Be aware of what is missing now (the present) where many people suffer, consumed by the changes, unable to move with the flow of society.

Unable to sense the changes of the times, infatuated with only what lies in front of them, the kokoro that goes against the principles in the belief that knowledge is absolute is what creates the rift.

To live each day within the flow of the times, learn the teachings and sense the changes in society through the principles.

This effort fosters human beings who live and move with the power (unmei) of the times.

This is the kokoro of human beings (life) that experiences meaning and purpose.

Summary of the *Shinji*

To live a life of meaning and purpose, we must live and adapt to the changes in the environment. Changes cannot be suppressed by human strength. For example, the seasons change whether we want them to or not. Thus, it's important to keep in mind that when we live and move with the flow of the times, our lives gain meaning and purpose.

Meaning and purpose are felt when we are recognized, praised, and thanked by others in a variety of human relationships, but where this is experienced the most often is in the family. The source of life's meaning and purpose is found in our relationships within the family. Thus, it's vital to learn the teachings as a family and strive to create a family where the *kokoro* comes together.

When we are in touch with the teachings, we're able to live as we should as a father, a mother, as children, and grandparents within the family. When changes occur in the environment, we're able to live and move with the flow of these changes. When the season changes, the family comes together in mutual support and lives a way of life that adapts to the season.

The family can even be described as a collective of different *unmei* that walks its *kokoro no michi* together. For better or for worse, they inherit a *jittai*. And because traits are inherited, we strive to leave behind good elements that stem from good relationships. When we blame, criticize, and repudiate family members, we leave behind negative elements and we're unable to adapt to the changes in our environment.

Understand this truth and learn the teachings as a family. Empathy is created when the teachings are learned as a family; and when they are practiced, the family's *kokoro* comes together and leaves behind good elements in their *kokoro no michi*. This is a family that flourishes and fosters human beings who are useful in society.

Many people, unable to adapt to the changes of an era, are lost and suffer in today's society. What is missing is the correct relationship with their family members. Thus, they are consumed by the changes because the basics are missing.

If we're unable to read the changes of an era, if we give in to our immediate desires, if we believe that knowledge is absolute, we will go off the path. Learn the teachings, and perceive the changes occurring in society through the principles in order to live and move with the flow of the times. This effort creates a way of life that comes together with the *unmei* of the times.