

24 October 2019

Four key words of love

Good morning, teachers and students. About four years ago, I shared with students the four key words of the Bible. Actually, these four words are also four key words of love. As the school theme of this year is “In love we care, In God we cheer. (關懷鼓勵，以愛相繫)”, today, I would like to share with you these four encouraging words one more time. If you really love somebody, you should always say these four words to him or her. These four words are “Yes”, “No”, “Sorry” and “Thanks”.

Simply speaking, try your best to say “Yes” to the truth; say “No” to the evil things; say “Sorry” for the wrong things that you have done and say “Thanks” for the good things that the other people have done for you.

Let me elaborate on these four words in details in the following. Firstly, try to say “Yes” to the truth. From the Bible Gospel of Matthew 5:37 “All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.” (馬太福音 5:37 「你們的話，是，就說是；不是，就說不是。若再多說，就是出於那惡者。」) Boys and girls, try to say “Yes” to good habits, such as going to sleep earlier and waking up earlier. Try to say “Yes” to good self-discipline, so that you will learn to control yourself, and not indulge in computer and internet games. Try to say “Yes” to challenges, so that you will have the courage to face change, and not to confine yourself to your comfort zone. Try to say “Yes” to your parents and teachers, so that you will learn to respect authority.

Secondly, try to say “No” to the bad things, evil things and temptations. Temptation is the desire to do or have something that you know is bad or wrong. There is a famous saying: “I can resist everything except temptations.” In other words, it is extremely difficult to resist temptations, so try your best to resist them and say “No” to them. For instance, try to say “No” to laziness. When you do not want to wake up in the morning, or when you do not want to concentrate on your studies, try to say “no” to it. Try to say “No” to drugs because they are definitely bad for your health. Be brave and say “No” to the bad things, even when your

friends accept them or do them.

Thirdly, try to say **“Sorry”** when you have done something incorrect. Boys and girls, it is not easy to say sorry. Saying sorry to somebody really requires a lot of courage. The famous singer Elton John has a famous song called “Sorry seems to be the hardest word”. Yes, sorry is the hardest word to say. But when you learn to say sorry, you will become a responsible person. When you learn to say sorry, you will become a brave and courageous person. When you learn to say sorry, you will grow up and become mature.

Finally, learn to say **“thanks”** or “thank you” when the others have done something good to you. Boys and girls, try to thank our God for giving us food and drinks. Try to thank our parents for taking care of us. Try to thank our teachers for teaching and supporting us. Try to thank our classmates for encouraging and growing with us. When you learn to say “thanks” to them, I am sure you will become a joyful person.

In conclusion, boys and girls, learn to say “Yes” to the truth; Say “No” to the evil things; Say “Sorry” for the wrong things that you have done; and say “Thanks” for the good things that people have done for you. If you always have these four key words of love with you, you will become a self-disciplined, responsible, brave and joyful person.