

## **True Love**

Hi everyone, this is Nancy. Today is Mar. 6<sup>th</sup>. How are you doing? Today, I am going to share with you a story first.

Once, there was a prince who wanted to follow the Buddha. However, he could not make his decision because there was a girl who loved him very much. One day, he came to the Buddha and asked what he should do. The Buddha asked him if the girl truly loved him. The prince answered, "Yes, her love is genuine. No matter what happens, her love would not change."

The Buddha told him a way to see how much the girl loved him, and the prince agreed. With supernatural power, the Buddha turned the prince also into a girl. The girl saw that the prince was no longer the handsome prince, she left him with tears. Because of what happened, the prince realized that what the girl loved was his body, not his heart. Finally, he put down everything and became a Bhikkhu of the Great Way.

What is true love? More than one time, I heard people saying or indicating, "Yes, Prince Siddhartha was enlightened. However, he left his wife and child behind."

Prince Sidhartha put down his royal family and was enlightened after years of hard practice. He enlightened himself first, and then countless others, including his son, his wife, his mother, his father, and many who were related to him. His love was compassion, and was beyond the worldly love. His love had no boarder and extended to all sentient beings. He was eager to search for ways to relieve people from all the sufferings. For that, he couldn't sleep well or live in peace.

When his father did not allow him to leave the palace, he asked his father to fulfill his four wishes:

- 1. All aging phenomena disappear.
- 2. All sufferings from illness do not exist.
- 3. There is no horror of death.
- 4. There is no destruction in anything.

His father shook his head and said, "How could you say such words. Nobody could fulfill these four wishes."

The kind tried many ways to stop Siddhartha from leaving, but nothing could change Siddhartha's mind. He clearly saw the sufferings of the world and all the short-living worldly pleasures were just like anesthesia. The world was like a burning house. How could people sleep peacefully in it? Where there is a determined mind, there is a way, and so Siddhartha sneaked out.

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The worldly love is a reason of transmigration. It's like a net and difficult to break through. Too many people, including cultivators, are trapped by this net. There is a saying: Even heroes become weak in front of beautiful women.

While true love is a force of liberation. It has no discrimination and has no boarder. True love is Great Compassion. True love has no desire; true love has no ego; true love is unconditional; true love is leading one to return to the self-nature; true love is rescuing one from the burning house; true love is equanimity; true love is awakening; true love is no birth or death any more.

Amitabha! Thank you everyone for being here watching this video. I will see you next time. Bye.

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