

The Seven Types of Giving

Hi everyone, this is Nancy. Today is Jan. 29th, 2022. How are you doing. When we talk about giving, most likely we will think about giving something like money, food, clothes. Today, I would like to share with you seven other kinds of giving which is nothing to do with the above three things. Giving is a cause and the effect is obtaining. Everything we do will come back to ourselves. Now let's look at these seven types of giving and their effects. This talk is taken from Sajyuktaratna-pitaka-sūtra.

1. Benign Eye Giving

Always look at parents, teachers, bhikkhus and cultivators with benign eyes, not harsh or malicious or indifferent eyes, and this is Eye Giving. If we do this, after this life, we will obtain clean and clear eyes. By doing this, we accumulate merits and virtues to open our third eyes when it's time for us to become a Buddha.

2. Peaceful and Joyful Face Giving

Always treat parents, teachers, bhikkhus and cultivators kindly. Don't throw a depressed or frowning face to them, and this is Peaceful and Joyful Face Giving. If we do this, after this life, we will obtain appearance with dignity, and we accumulate merits and virtues to have a golden body when it's time for us to become a Buddha.

3. Gentle Speech Giving

To parents, teachers, bhikkhus and cultivators, we talk gently and nicely, not in a vicious way, and this is Gentle Speech Giving. After this life, we will be capable of speak clearly and quickly. And also, what we say will be easily believed and accepted by others. By doing this, we accumulate merits and virtues to be equipped with four kinds of eloquence in the future and they are righteous defense, legal defense, rhetorical defense, and answering defense.

4. Respectful Body Giving

To parents, teachers, bhikkhus and cultivators, we stand up to welcome them and pay homage to them, and this is Respectful Body Giving. By doing this, after this life, we will have an upright and tall figure. And when it is time to become a Buddha, we will be as tall as the Nikoda tree and our top cannot be seen by the sentient beings.

5. Gentle and Kind Heart Giving

If one is able to do the above four kinds of giving without a gentle and kind heart, they cannot be counted as giving. A warm and gentle heart, with deep respect and willingness to give, is truly giving, and this is Heart Giving. After this life, we will be omniscient, not ignorant or crazy. By doing this, we accumulate merits and virtues to be able to show all kinds of wisdom when we become a Buddha.

6. Seat Giving

Set up seats for parents, teachers, bhikkhus and cultivators, and give our own seats to them when necessary, and this is called Seat Giving. After this life, we will often get seven jeweled seats. By doing this, in the future, when we become a Buddha, we will obtain the Lion Roaring Seat where we preach.

7. Dwelling Giving

Offer our own house or rooms to parents, teachers, bhikkhus and cultivators, and this is Dwelling Giving. In the future, this giving will conjure palace to us. And by doing this, when it is time for us to become a Buddha, we will not be short of places to meditate and enter samadhi.

Amitabha! This is today's Dharma share. All we do are seeds and they grow and return to ourselves. The universe is amazing, and the cosmic law is profound Thank you everyone for staying to the end. I will see you next time. Bye.