



SGI-USA Men's Division
Suggested Study Material for September 2019

In September 2019, the Men's Division is studying excerpts from "*The New Human Revolution*" Volume 9 found in September Living Buddhism. This page is intended for leaders. The NHR Vol 9 chapter is indicated where available. The page number from September LB is indicated for all quotes. These scenes are from April 1, 1964 to December 1964.

"Guidance takes many forms. It's important to carefully and thoroughly explain what it means to have faith in the Daishoin's Buddhism to those who don't understand it... And we should offer praise and encouragement to those who are making great efforts in their practice." (pg. 27 LB, A New Era)

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"You have the Gohonzon! You mustn't be swayed. What good is it to feel sorry for yourself because of your disability? No matter how much you pity yourself, it won't change anything. Everyone has some kind of problem to deal with. There is not one person in the world blessed with everything. To be a Soka Gakkai member is to bravely challenge every situation and circumstance, and become a victor in life. The question is not what will happen to you; it's what you're going to make happen."

"Dedicating your life to your mission is not some kind of idealistic talk. It is isn't an intellectual game. Faith is realizing where you are and triumphing over reality. The light of faith shines in a person who surmounts difficulties.

"Your mission is to become the strongest, brightest and most pure-hearted of all, regardless of your circumstances, and to live a life in which you can declare that you are supremely happy. Shin'ichin continued: "That's right. Don't be defeated. Whatever happens don't let yourself be defeated. Become strong and do your very best."

"Shin'ichi's words were strict but also overflowing with kindness." (pg. 27 LB, Young Phoenixes)

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"Those who have awakened to their mission for the sake of the future are strong. The moment they do so, their latent abilities immediately come to the fore." (pg. 34, LB Young Phoenixes)

Questions:

1. How does one learn to give guidance in faith? How does it differ from advice?
2. The concept of mission can be elusive to some, intimidating to others. Please discuss the evolution of your sense of purpose throughout your practice.