

SUPPORT THOSE WHO BRING GUESTS TO MEETINGS

In order to propagate Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism, it is vital that the leaders support the sponsors who bring guests to the meetings. We should very naturally engage the guests in dialogue, answer any questions they have, and begin to establish a relationship with them. Some will not be interested at this time. Others, however, will want to know more about our practice or will want to begin practicing. The following is intended as a checklist for leaders to remind us if we are placing a priority on helping the sponsors take care of their guests.

Everything, of course, begins with prayer — wholehearted prayer for the members' happiness, good health and prosperity; and that the members, as a result of their own growth, are very naturally introducing others to this practice. Also, we can pray that the meeting itself will convey the greatness of this Buddhism and inspire all of the guests to want to try this practice or at least to further explore it.

After the meeting, have a warm one-on-one dialogue with the guests. If they are amenable, schedule a time to visit them with their sponsor. Periodically follow up to see how you can help the sponsor with their guest.

Once the guest has decided to begin practicing, ensure that he/she:

- is learning gongyo.
- is regularly doing gongyo and chanting daimoku.
- is subscribing to the publications.
- has an altar set up.
- is connected to his/her group and district leaders.
- is attending discussion meetings.
- is attending new members' gatherings.
- is studying to deepen his/her understanding of Buddhism so he/she can share it confidently with others.
- is inspired to go for his/her hopes and dreams.
- is getting his/her questions answered.
- is getting sufficient personal attention so that he/she develops self-motivated faith.

After individuals receive the Gohonzon, regular follow-up is crucial to help them develop a strong foundation in faith. We must continuously encourage and inspire every person how to utilize this practice to uncover his/her maximum potential.

Title: Support Those Who Bring Guests To Meetings

Subject: World Tribune 07/09/99 n.3250 p.9 WT990709p09

Author:

Keywords: Bring Discussion Encouragement Guests Guidance Meetings Propagation Support Those