

The background features a light gray gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered in the corners. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

Weekly Tao Spiritual Discussion Holy Teachings

Pu-Guang Temple, Plano TX
May 23rd 2020

子張學干祿。

子曰：「

多聞闕疑，慎言其餘，則寡尤。

多見闕殆，慎行其餘，則寡悔。

言寡尤，行寡悔，祿在其中矣。」



Tsze-chang was learning with a view to official emolument.

Confucius:

Hear much and put aside the points of which you stand in doubt, while you speak cautiously at the same time of the others, then you will afford few occasions of blame.

See much and put aside the things which seem perilous, while you are cautious at the same time in executing your actions, then you will have few occasions for repentance.

When one creates few occasions for blame in his words and few occasions for repentance in his conduct, he would be on the way to get emolument.

子張學干祿。

Tsze-chang was learning with a view to official emolument.



Official emolument: Good position with authority and compensation.

Tsze-Chang:

- 48 years junior than Confucius.
- Clean and handsome appearance. Solid family financial background. Wide social network. Strong connection with others with high virtues. High interest in pursuing position related to administrative governmental affairs.



失在有些邪闢，喜歡文過飾非。在《論語·先進》裡孔子又說子張“師也過”，即認為子張性格有些過於張揚，認為他沒有達到中庸之道。

Some character flaws with being a bit wicked and writing to talk about others' flaws to cover own shortcomings. In Confucius Analects, Confucius also said that Tsze-Chang's character is a little too flamboyant, hence he has not reached the virtue in a noble person as described in the Doctrine of the Mean.



A person with virtue seeks and obtains official emolument via the rightful and Tao-centric way via his words and conduct.

Hence, Confucius explained to him that one needs to focus on **self improvement / self reform**, with sufficient **growth and mastery of innate virtues, realization, and self-restraint** to be in consideration of official emolument.





THE BAMBOO TREE

What is the moral of the Bamboo tree story?

From Previous Conversations from Confucius Analects

誠者，天之道也；誠之者，人之道也。誠之者，擇善而固執之者也。

Sincerity is the way of Heaven. Attainment of sincerity is the way of men. **He, who attains sincerity, chooses what is good and firmly holds it.**



Bamboo is viewed as a symbol of traditional Chinese values.

Four Gentlemen: Plum, orchid, bamboo & chrysanthemum.

Three Friends in Winter: Pine, bamboo & plum.

Bamboo:

Deep root → Resoluteness 堅決

Tall, straight stem → Honor 榮譽

Hollow interior → Modesty 謙虛

Clean and spartan exterior → Chastity 貞潔



Five Cardinal Virtues:

Innate Virtues. Foundation and Root in Our Life, e.g. bamboo trees.



Mencius on Five Cardinal Virtues:
Benevolence, righteousness, propriety, wisdom, and trustworthiness are not welded onto me from the outside. They are that which I have always had. These five virtues are inherent in all people.

**Self Improvement / Self Reform
Growth and Mastery of Innate Virtues,
Realization, and Self-Restraint**

Holy Teaching from Confucius Analects

多聞闕疑，慎言其餘，則寡尤。

Hear much and put aside the points of which you stand in doubt, while you speak cautiously at the same time of the others, then you will afford few occasions of blame.

多見闕殆，慎行其餘，則寡悔。

See much and put aside the things which seem perilous, while you are cautious at the same time in executing your actions, then you will have few occasions for repentance.

言寡尤，行寡悔，祿在其中矣。」

When one creates few occasions for blame in his words, and few occasions for repentance in his conduct, he would be on the way to get emolument.





Paraphrase

Listen and observe extensively.

Put aside things which you have found doubtful and inappropriate (after careful deliberation based on true self and holy teachings. Rely on innate wisdom.)

Speak cautiously (with sufficient substance / knowledge inside) and act deliberately with careful planning and execution.

You will commit less missteps (for blame or regrets), with inner gravity based on virtues, knowledge, calm, focus, care, and deliberation. External rewards would come at the appropriate time when you least expect it.

Holy Teaching from Confucius Analects

子曰：「君子求諸己；小人求諸人。」 Confucius: What the virtuous man seeks is in himself. What selfish man seeks is in others.



Virtuous Man

Focus in Life:

Perfect own innate virtues.

Control of Own Well Being:

High with Strong self esteem.

Why?

Cultivation is Self Driven, leading to Self Development

Outcome:

Liberation, freedom, joy, release, awakening

Others

Seek abundance in comfort & possessions.

Low with control surrendered to others.

Decisions by others. Not easily attained by self drive.

Anxious, frustrated, constrained, heavy, worrisome

Holy Teaching from Platform Sutra



何期自性本自清淨!

Who would have thought that the our True Self is intrinsically pure!

何期自性本不生滅!

Who would have thought that our True Self is intrinsically free from becoming or annihilation!

何期自性本自具足!

Who would have thought that our True Self is intrinsically self-sufficient!

何期自性本無動搖!

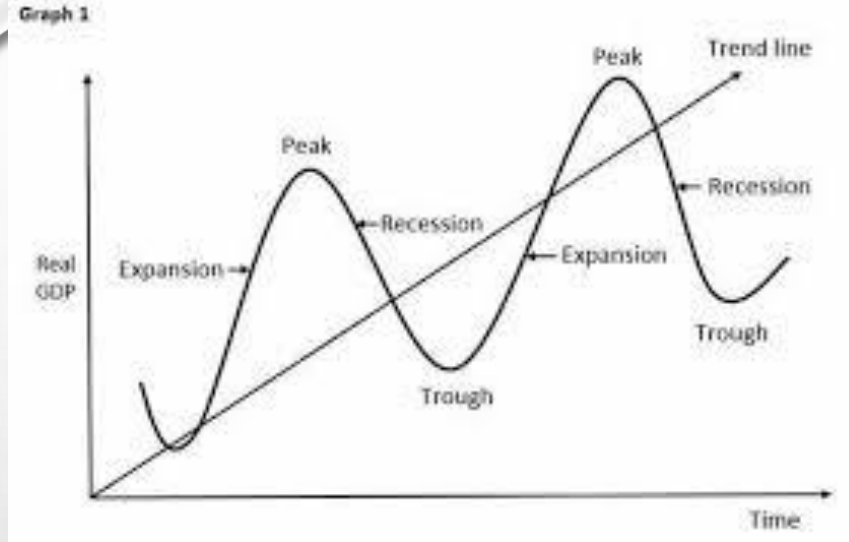
Who would have thought that our True Self is intrinsically free from change!

何期自性能生萬法!

Who would have thought that all things are the manifestation of our True Self!"

Have Faith in Our True Self.

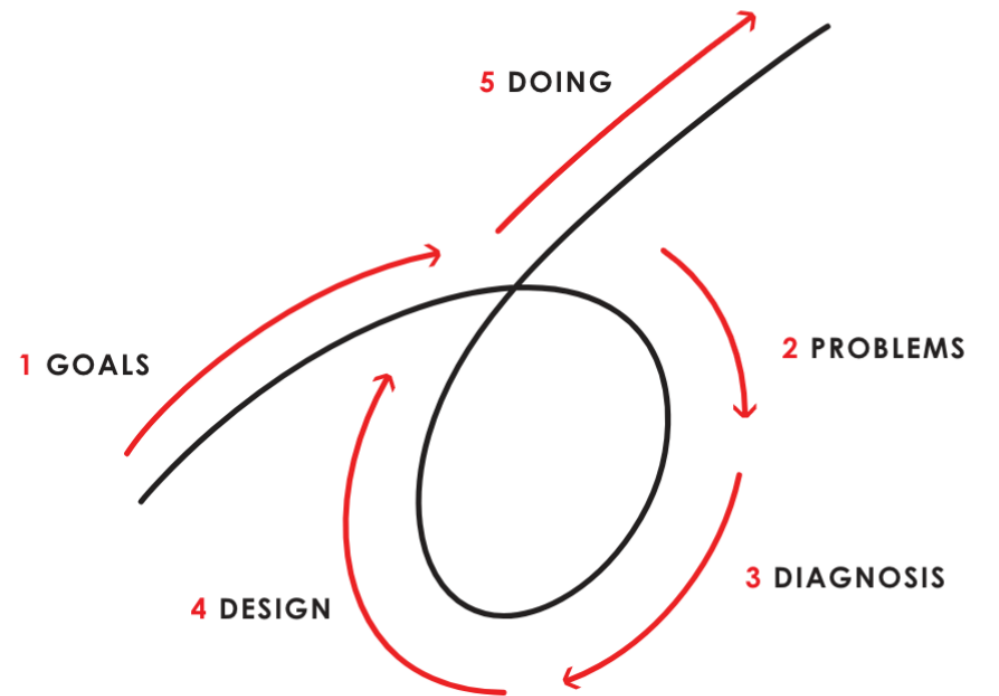
Economic Cycle

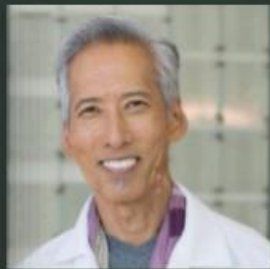


Stock Market



Our Own Lives







RADHIKA ZAVERI

Adjunct Professor

SMU

Asian roots: India

Most careers ebb & flow, situations happen that may be undesired & come at inopportune times. One of the best advice I received (wish I would have received sooner), is that no matter how undesired the situation might seem to

be, *“life is 10% what happens to you & 90% how you react to it.” Attitude is everything in life.*

My greatest moments have been those in adversity. It shaped my values, beliefs & got me results. Consider those yucky moments as detours till you journey towards your destination.

As an Asian-American, perhaps receiving that sort of mentorship & advice was most valuable. I would urge folks to seek that mentorship at all phases of your career.



TOYOTA





BONNIE CLINTON

VP, Indirect Procurement

Toyota

Asian roots: Korea



I was raised with the guidance to be respectful and not challenge a more senior person during conversations.

Upon entering corporate life, I learned that approach was not effective or helpful in navigating my career. So...*Speak up in a respectful way. Express an important point or perspective that adds value.* Don't be intimidated by seniority and don't discount youth.

Also make room for quieter people to participate in the conversation by taking a moment to ask for their thoughts. The results will be better outcomes all around.



SAKINA FOSTER

Partner

Haynes & Boone, LLP

Asian roots: India



TOYOTA



Advice that I wish I heard earlier in my career is “when you make a mistake, give yourself some grace and focus your energy on learning from it and moving on, versus beating yourself up over the mistake.”

I feel that women, especially Asian American women, tend to be very hard on themselves. When I was in law school and early in my career, I internalized every mistake – thinking that it meant I was a failure.

A few years ago, I had the opportunity to join a women’s leadership development program through the Texas Women’s Foundation. Through that group of women and our coach, I was able to start shifting that negative way of thinking which was holding me back.

We all make mistakes because we are human. What is important is the next step you take after making that mistake. Instead of telling myself that my mistake proves that I am not good enough – now when I make a mistake, I reflect on what I did to contribute to the mistake and then focus on positive steps I can take to change those factors next time so that I can learn from the mistake. And then I work on moving on.

It doesn’t mean that I take my mistakes more lightly, but I use my energy in a much more productive way that helps me improve – and be kinder to myself. We can all use more of that!



TRACEY DOI

Chief Financial Officer

Toyota

Asian roots: Japan



Dear Toyota TAASiA Team,

May 2020

In honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, I wanted to share some reflections and inspirations that may be helpful to you on your professional journey. I just celebrated my 20th year with Toyota. Time has certainly flown by! I've been fortunate to be part of the company as we have grown in sales volume, market share and manufacturing footprint in North America. We've overcome major hurdles: the financial crisis in 2008, the massive recall crisis, and the Great East Japan earthquake. As we face this current pandemic crisis, I am confident that we will emerge a stronger, transformed Toyota.

We have made great strides after coming together as One Toyota, operating much more seamlessly as we leverage talent and strengths across the organization. I'm proud that with the wonderful engagement of TAASiA, WIIT, TODOS, AAC, Spectrum, TVA, YP and many other business partnering groups, that we have a much more inclusive culture that celebrates the diverse thinking and experiences of our 47,000 team members.

As you progress through your career, my advice is to **surround yourself with talent**. Seek opportunities where you can learn from engaged leaders that care about your development. In turn, **nurture your team** and invest in a succession plan. The deeper the bench, the easier for you to make a new move. You will naturally grow and flourish through trusted relationships that you build through work, business partnering groups, professional organizations, and volunteering in the community, school and church. Several valued advisors may make up your **personal board of directors** and provide a sounding board with unfiltered advice.

I reached out to dear friends that I deeply respect and admire. I asked them to share advice that they wished they had heard earlier in their career. It's always helpful to gain insight from many different perspectives.

Key Takeaways

Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it. Attitude is everything. Consider those adversities in life as detours in your journey towards your destination.

In Tao: Have faith in Heavenly Mother as life is full of impermanence. Cultivate Tao with focus and diligence to build up mental resiliency, positivity, and mental conditioning.

Surround yourself with talent. Build a personal board of directors.

In Tao: Stay close to temple, study holy teachings, and surround yourself with people with good virtues, who could provide you good virtuous guidance, insights, and advice.

When you make a mistake, give yourself some grace and focus your energy on learning from it and moving on, versus beating yourself up over the mistake.

In Tao: Heavenly Mother is forever merciful, as we are all future Buddhas in training. Be grateful for the opportunity to learn, reflect, repent, and commit to do better in our journey.

Speaking up in a respectful way. Express an important perspective that adds value.

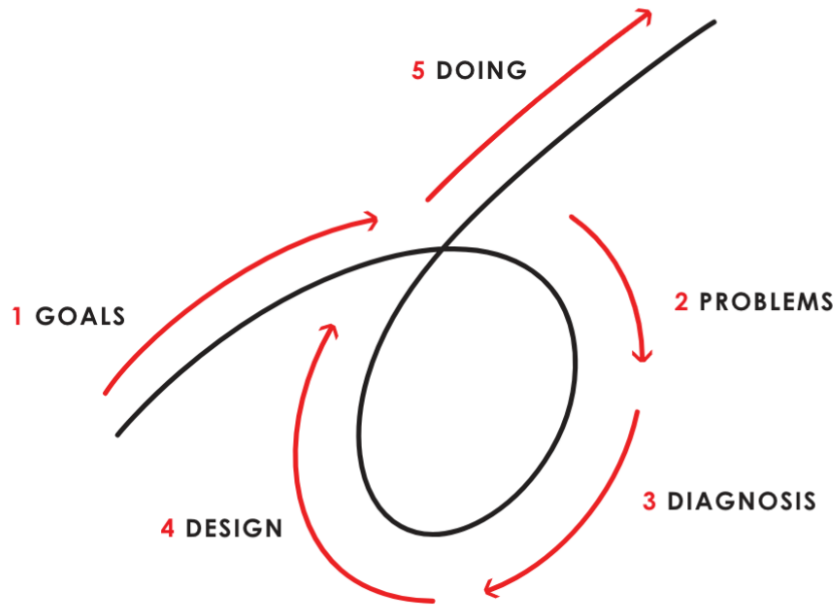
In Tao: Be confident and assertive to advocate for the cause that you believe in and do so in a respectful way in accordance with holy teaching.

HIDDEN CAMERA SOCIAL EXPERIMENT PROVES



MOST PEOPLE ARE SHEEP

What is the moral of the previous video?



Nobody is perfect as life is full of temptations, plus our mind plays tricks on us due to our biological tendency.

Be aware of social norms and social media.

Study scriptures, understand the teaching deeply, and cultivate with our true master as our guide.

Holy Teaching from Confucius Analects



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Confucius: What the virtuous man seeks is in himself. What the man with lesser virtue seeks is in others.



*THE JOURNEY OF TAO CULTIVATION IS OPEN TO ALL.
MAY YOUR JOURNEY BE FILLED WITH PEACE,
WISDOM, COMPASSION, AND HAPPINESS.*