

## **Our Mission**

From a teaching given at the Kansai Head Temple on May 17, 1965, following a *Daijo* spiritual elevation sitting,

I understand there are those at today's *Daijo* spiritual elevation sitting who traveled on the first train of the morning from [the city of] Kanazawa<sup>1</sup> to attend. Personally I had hoped that every single

one of you could have known the joy of elevating to *Daijo* today, but the buddha realm views all things with an uncompromising gaze and today we see the direct result of each practitioner's devotion to individual practice and the concrete steps he or she has taken in walking [the Shinnyo Path].

Walking the path of *Daijo*, the "greater vehicle," requires cumulative effort and the will to guide as many people as possible in the process. Along the way you may encounter those who are troubled or ill. When you do, talk openly about what you have learned in your sesshin meditations, both structured and unstructured, and provide solace to those in need. I believe this to be the mission of everyone here.

I myself practice in the same way as I urge all of you to do. [As we walk our Path], I would like to invite everyone to join me in renewed efforts in the Three Practices.

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  A distance of approximately 150 miles (240 kilometers); a journey that would take more than three hours each way by train even today.