

~From the Archives of Teachings by Venerable Gyatrul Rinpoche~

## SEEING OUR OWN SITUATION CLEARLY

*Venerable Gyatrul Rinpoche gave this teaching as his parting advice  
at the end of his visit to Osel Nyingpo dharma center in Ojai, California, January 2010.*

### Part 17

#### Conclusion: No Reason for Either Despair or Arrogance

We have to start this process by each looking at our own mindstreams.

Do you have faults? What are they?

If you have faults, do you need to eliminate or enhance them?

To practice properly and effectively, you don't need to be a brilliant scholar. You do need honesty. You do need trust. You do need faith.

As you examine your situation for yourself, you might find that to practice the dharma is in one way very difficult, and in one way not difficult. It is not difficult because the qualities you are trying to cultivate, you already have.

Knowing the qualities of the Buddha's enlightened body, speech, mind, and activities, how can you get them? Who has them? Do you need to buy them from someone, or mine them out of the earth, or cheat someone to get them? No. You won't get them out of the earth, or from the top of a crag. You can't find them that way.

Is it hopeless then? Are those qualities denied us forever?

No! Each of you already has those qualities. You are already the richest. You already have the greatest hope. All sentient beings have these qualities.

You are all like brother and sister, so support each other and help bring one another's qualities to blossom. Because of your connection, if the wisdom of one of you increases then it benefits all.

If others recognize that quality, they should rejoice. We should notice our own faults and others' qualities, and not point the finger at others' faults and make much of our own

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qualities. Instead, look with clear and honest eyes and see what you can see. Where you see your faults, you can eliminate them. Where you see your qualities, rejoice and work to maintain and improve them. There is no reason for either despair or arrogance.

And so, thank you all for a wonderful visit. Please practice. Study. Try. Help each other.

Tashi Delek!

