

Apr. 12, 1943

Rev. Ai Chi Sai  
5757 Woodlawn Ave. City.

My dear Reverend:

I meant to write you and thank you for your most kind letter you wrote me upon my election to the seat of an elder.

I do not know and doubt very much that I am worthy of such a position, because, though it means a great honor, it also brings upon my shoulders a great responsibilities. I cannot help but feel it and I rather wished that it had not happened.

Upon returning home that Sunday, my wife and I prayed that I may be strengthened and be given the wisdom so necessary in discharging my duties. I do know that I am so very inexperienced in the ways of a church and I shall require much advices and guidance in those matters from you and other elders and members.

However, now that God revealed His Will there is nothing I can do but accept it with humility and thanks.

Pray help me my dear Reverend and command me to do the things I can in my ability and power.

I thank God for the service of yesterday and thank you and Dixie Ishida for making it possible. I am afraid I took so much of the time and talked  
(over)

of the things inconsequential and unimportant. More ~~than~~ than that, I am extremely afraid, <sup>that</sup> I might have said the wrong things. If I did I hope God will forgive me.

But I was so glad to <sup>see</sup> so many young people. I could see from the platform so many eager, attentive faces, as if they hunger for a ray of light. And I do believe they do hunger for a guidance. If it is the case, then the responsibility of our church becomes truly great.

Just to pray for one's own well being or enrichment of faith is not enough. We have got to think of these many young men and women.

Many of them have, for the first time, left their parents and are here among the strangers. It is hard enough even in the normal time but in these times, I am sure they find it so very difficult. It seems it is the duty of the Church and also ours to look after them. It is such a joyful thing to see you and Mrs. Sai devote so much of your attention in that direction. I pray that God grant you the power and wisdom in carrying out your plans.

There is something that worries me, regarding the atmosphere of the church.

I do not know whether it is my unnecessary imagination due to over anxiety and I hope it is groundless but somehow I seem to sense it. I don't know what it is but something unhealthy.

I would very much like to talk to you in private some time in the future.

Perhaps you can clarify it for me. It is in no great hurry. We are having our house cleaned for the spring and for about a week it is in no condition to receive guests. But as soon as

we get it straightened we would like to have you and Mrs. Sai to come over for a simple supper and discussion.

And in the meantime our kindest wishes to you and may God be with you always.

Cordially  
Harry K. Shigeta