

# LOVIN LIFE @WestRock

## Family News

Andrew Compton  
July 1, 2012

Motto for 2012 (3<sup>rd</sup> year of the Heavenly Calendar):

***Era of the Victory, Liberation, and Completion of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind***

July 1, 2012

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### Weekly Greeting

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Happy 30 year Blessing Anniversary to the 8,000 couples! (please check out In Jin Nim's sermon – I felt like it was her gift to all of us!)

And Happy Birthday America!

Now that summer has begun, and Sunday school has concluded, I would like to strongly encourage everyone to attend the LLM Service in Manhattan each Sunday. It is a great opportunity to help our youth (as well as us) get connected more deeply with the spirit of Lovin' Life and to contribute to it. We will continue to show the broadcast at Belvedere, but unless you have a special situation – please do your best to attend in the city.

I apologize for not getting the Newsletter out last week. My only excuse is that it was an extra busy week, but also a good week.

I had the blessing to teach the DP to a group of 7 of Justin Okamoto's contacts whom he brought to the White House and then up to Camp Sunrise. (you might like to look at the last newsletter – it had his testimony from his experience at Cheonpyeong) It was very inspiring to see one of our 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation reaching out to their group of friends – to have the confidence to share the teachings of our True Parents with them.

In addition this past week we held a 2-Day DP Study seminar for our high school youth. 18 participated. I want to give special thanks to Nocynthia and Authia Shibuya and Miles Garwood who gave their time and support and Dr Walsh who gave a great presentation on Kook Jin Nim's Strong Korea speech. Instead of lectures, the youth gathered in groups of 3 and read sections of the DP together, discussed it, and then come together with everyone to share what they had learned. Here is a reflection from one participant:

*This was my first Divine Principle seminar. It will always stay with me in my heart, memory, and spirit forever. I truly grew spiritually and I truly hope I can take this experience and finally read the Divine Principle from the start to the end. Thank you Rev Compton and Mrs Compton and Dr Walsh. I hope we can do this again.*

Finally, True Parents are going to conduct a special OSDP in Korea, July 16 – 25. And, I was told that True Father is planning to conduct Q&A sessions. True Parents are especially expecting women to attend – as they will be initiating the Women's UN. True Father is expecting 130 to come from America – so please consider seriously if you can attend.

Let's make it a great week!

God Bless you  
Andrew Compton

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Sermon (I am putting 2 sermons – since I missed last week)  
Sermon Rev In Jin Moon, July 1, 2012

1. Good morning brothers and sisters! How is everyone this morning? Congratulations to all the blessed couples that are celebrating their 30th anniversary!
2. It's amazing how quickly the years have gone, isn't it? We feel young at heart and yet we look at the date and we realize 30 years has gone by and all these strange people that we call our children now embellish and entertain our lives and we realize, this whole work of building an ideal family, the dream that we had of building an ideal family, is truly something that has taken us on a very, very intriguing and interesting journey. Has it not?
3. Our True Parents, they really want to celebrate this day with all of you and they send you their greetings from Las Vegas. It's really all of you and the Blessed Central Families who have really protected our True Parents over the years, through the years in the wilderness and many years of persecution and misunderstanding. But surely the first-generation stood by our True Parents and really protected our True Parents, like a good solid defense, so that they could continue their mission and go about the work of the Providence. And it is really because you were there, not just as brothers and sisters, not just as men and women, but you were really there as children of God, really loving your parents, not just your Heavenly Parents but our True Parents throughout the years – that has really allowed our community to grow as a worldwide movement. And all the foundation that has been laid over the last 40 and 50 years is really the firm shoulders that the second generation and third generation now stand on. It's because of your sacrifice, your dedication, and your persistence over the years that really has us well-positioned to be extremely prosperous and to lead extremely fulfilled and satisfying lives.
4. When I think about how important this day is, and in this Unification Church, Blessing is such an important, should I say, mark of our lives – in that we come to this movement as young men and women but through the grace of God and because God has given us his representative in the form of True Parents, really a true man and a woman, perfected Adam and Eve who come to share this gift of the Blessing with all of humanity, by allowing us to change our lineage from the Satanic to that of a heavenly lineage, is really something that is incredibly blessed, beautiful, and profound.
5. In a way, through the blessing we enter through the portal of something that has never been done before in the history of mankind. Jesus came 2000 years ago, in a way his mission was cut short because he was crucified on the cross. He never had the chance to meet that beautiful wife with whom he could build a wonderful family and stand in the position as the True Parents 2000 years ago. And Jesus Christ would have been quite famous for the very thing our True Parents are famous for, the mass weddings. In a way, 2000 years ago, had the people been prepared to receive the Messiah and really understand that his mission was not to die but that his mission was to find a beautiful wife and create a beautiful family and thereby encourage all of humanity, despite the barriers, despite the differences, despite the great divide that separates God's children – to really compel all of us to live as one family under God. This would've taken place 2000 years ago.
6. But fast-forward to the modern-day era and all of us are so privileged and blessed to be living in the time of our True Parents when they are going about the world and going about their business spreading this breaking news, that this is the time when we must realize that we are all children of God. And, instead of realizing that we have the power to destroy our world 100 times over, we have the technology to do so, but this is the time when, centered and united with our True Parents, we can be well poised to usher in the new millennium of peace and love – and all that we have been waiting for if we realize that the purpose of our lives is not to just celebrate ourselves, but to celebrate each other as that one family under God.
7. And that's why the whole concept of the blessing is incredibly important. Because, most people when they get married, it's really about me and my spouse, it's about my man and my woman. But here, the blessing is about honoring God, it's about honoring humanity, celebrating our humanity – and it's about honoring each other as husband and wife and celebrating each other as husband and wife.
8. Just as, in the Jewish tradition, you have the right of passage when the young man and a young woman celebrate bar mitzvah or bas mitzvah, and they become in essence a young woman and a young man instead of a young child. The blessing kind of allows us to go through another portal, or another rite of passage if you will, allowing us to become a part of this wonderful thing called a universal family. And therefore, this is not a day when we just honor each other as that spouse, that husband and wife that has lasted for 30 years, but this is really an opportunity to celebrate with humanity, with our Heavenly Parent up in heaven, with our True Parents that really brought us this gift – and to remind ourselves that we have pledged ourselves to each other and to our humanity and to God all at the same time. And that we realize, that because we've been afforded this incredible gift of a blessing, that we are going to be the kind of people working on ourselves, building ideal families, and truly leaving something

it when we first arrived. In a way we want to leave the world better and well poised for that world of peace that we have been talking about.

9. Whenever I think about blessing and whenever I think about different anniversaries that arise in the context of my own immediate family, the True Family, I am often reminded, my father reminds me, “You know In Jin you are quite a peculiar child.” That, I knew already. But he said, “You know you were very peculiar.”
10. We grew up on the second floor of a church. So, we woke up to singing, we fell asleep to singing, we woke up to prayer, we fell asleep to prayer. But one of the most exciting things for all of us as children was witnessing these beautiful young man and woman all dressed up, men in suits and women in these white robes and dresses with a veil – all going into the assembly room of the church to get blessed.
11. I was only three or four years old but I wanted to attend the Blessing. I wanted to go in. And so I demanded that my nanny buy me a white dress. And so I took what ever material I could find that was on the floor from the different sisters who were preparing their wedding gowns and their veils – and I stuck it all together. I don't remember what it looked like but it must have looked quite funny. So different scraps of veil, which I believe I tied with a rubber band, I wanted to make that my wedding veil and wedding gown.
12. I asked my parents, “I really want to attend this Blessing.” My father just looked at me and said, “you have a bit of waiting to do.” But I didn't want to wait. I was three or four but I wanted to attend this Blessing, I wanted to be there. I didn't know who my husband was so I enlisted the help of my younger brother. I said, “You're going to the Blessing with me. You're my husband. So get dressed.” My poor younger brother and I, even though my father said you cannot go, we were determined to enter. So, as the people progressed into the assembly room we thought that we could follow at the tail end of it and nobody would notice. My parents were already in the room waiting for the couples to come in. And so we stood on the sidelines waiting for everyone to pass through. And different couples looked over at us thinking, “Oh how sweet, how cute – they are dressing up for us.” Not realize that we fully intended to attend.
13. They passed us by and I told my younger brother, “Get in position. Get ready.” We didn't know how to stand, he didn't know how to stand. I didn't have any clip to stick the veil in my hair so I remember holding onto my veil like this (demonstrates) and I said, “Let's go!” So, after the last couple went into the assembly hall I dragged my brother, while holding onto my veil, off we tried to go in. But of course, the people at the door said, “you can't go in.” I asked why not. But they didn't really have an answer for me. They said, “You're too young!” And I said, “Why can't I go?” And they asked me if my father gave me permission. And I said no, “but I still want to go!” And they slowly closed the door. And I thought, they closed the door on me but they are not going to get rid of me. So I said to my brother, “we've got to cry. We've got to cry really loud. No mercy, we've got to let it rip.”
14. The couples were inside the assembly hall, and we wanted to be let in. So these two pitiful children stood outside crying our eyes out. And my younger brother did a really good job of it. And so people came and said, “You can't make noise. This is a very profound hour.” I said, “I want to go. I want to go in. Let me in!” They said no, and I let out a few more screams until they finally dragged me away. Later, my father called me into the room and he said, “what were you doing up there?” And I said, “they didn't let me in and I wanted to go in, but then they closed the door on me so I had to cry. And I had to be heard, so I had to cry extra loudly.” My father just laughed out loud and he said to me, he said to me something I will never forget, “you know, Blessing is a beautiful thing. But the Blessing is just the beginning, it's not an end.” Because you kind of think that when you go to the wedding you're gearing up for this beautiful event, and once the ceremony is done it's over. Right? Or at least that's what I thought. But my father said, “The blessing is the beginning. It's not easy you know. So you have a lot of years to work on yourself. So, stop crying.”
15. So that day I was terribly, terribly disappointed. But when I look back on my married life I was thinking, “geez, my father knew a thing or two.” Because it is incredibly difficult. And, when we came and we joined and we wanted to build ideal families and we prayed to God, “please give me this opportunity to build an ideal family.” Well, our Heavenly Father gave us just that. He gave us an I-deal family.
16. And I always say, God delivers exactly what we asked for. And we have to do our part in making sure we specify or give a little more details – with 30 years worth of wisdom. But 30 years ago we got what we had asked for. In a way, when we are asking for ideal families we are really asking God to give me a family that I can true rub against – where I am going to be put in a situation to ‘deal’ with, I deal with all the different issues that arise when we attempt to build this thing called an ideal family.
17. I was talking with one of my friends and I said, “This Sunday is really, really kind of special because it's the 30th anniversary of 8000 couples.” My friend said, “oh my goodness, 30 years!” And he said, “You know what they say about 30 years of marriage.” And I asked what do they say? He said, “those people who have lasted 30

- decade is a lot of kamikaze soldiers, like World War II, and the third decade is kind of like going through the Cold War. So people who have survived 30 years of marriage have survived all three world wars.” And you guys are still going strong!
18. And I said, “That’s kind of interesting. I've never heard that one before. The one I heard is from the movie Forest Gump, “life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're going to get.”” In the Unification Church marriage is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're going to get.
  19. And for those of us who didn't know what we were going to get or what we got, it's been 30 years of quite a journey and quite an experience and I'm sure that many of us have garnered wisdom throughout the years. And even though maybe our hair is slightly grayer, maybe our waistline has expanded a little bit more, even though we might be a little more tired than what we were 30 years ago – nevertheless the incredible thing about our community is that we are still young at heart.
  20. I don't know how many times people, who have met brothers and sisters and Blessed Couples in our community, they said to me, “oh my God! That guy is really 60? He looks 40!” Because we are young at heart, because we are infused with the Divine Spirit, because we are plugged in to this heavenly circuitry – we tend to look much younger than a lot of people out in the world. Because, regardless of how difficult life might be, we see it as a challenge, we see it as an opportunity to learn something from it, to grow and really discover something we've never really noticed or realized about ourselves. So in a way, as difficult as life might be we still have this incredible hope, this incredible feeling of inspiration – which lends itself to all of you looking much younger than you really are. In a way, God has, not only kept you externally beautiful, but internally beautiful throughout the years – throughout the last 30 years.
  21. And I know that, as somebody who came from a different country, to realize the beauty of this country America – truly this is like the melting pot of all different races, all different traditions, all different cultures. I was so intrigued and inspired to see people other than just Asians or just black hair – curly hair, blonde hair, red hair, black skin, olive skin, white skin, red skin – it was such a beautiful thing to see.
  22. Even as I was growing up in Korea, my father and mother have always talked about being part of a universal family. But I never really saw it, but coming here when I was eight years old it just hit me like a big tsunami, “oh my goodness! So this is what my parents were talking about all those years when I was growing up in Korea. This is what it means to look and feel like one family under God.”
  23. When I realized how beautiful all of you guys were, bright eyed and bushy tailed – straight out of high school or straight out of college, so infused with this spirit to change the world, to be that agent of change, not wanting to be changed by the world but wanting to basically be the one to say, “I am going to be the agent of change that is going to usher in something beautiful,” there was incredible excitement, an incredible amount of hope. We were looking forward to all the different things that we'd accomplish. And we thought that in a way, the next step of getting blessed would be just like that too, full of hope and full of intrigue and full of mystery.
  24. But when we have been married and raising a family for the last 30 years we realize that there is a bit of work to be done. And when we asked for ideal families God really gave us different issues to work through, when it concerns our spouses, when it concerns our in-laws, when it concerns our children.
  25. When I think about our movement and how I would really like to see it blossom in the near future – one way I like to think about it is – the first generation was really about finding God. You guys joined the church in order to find God. You guys went through a process of conversion experience where you experienced something divine, like a spiritual energy or a spark that changed your life forever. And you decided, “I am going to commit myself to God. I'm going to commit myself to the Providence and I am going to commit myself to building this thing called an ideal family.”
  26. Well, then we start having families and children and we realized that if you look at the second generation... and if you look at the first generation it was all about finding God and you did find God in this movement, but for the second generation, for all of us who were born in the movement – we never had to go through the process of the conversion experience. We never had to be put in the situation where we actually had an opportunity to own our faith. For those of us who have not gone through the process – the second generation is really about trying to figure out who we are – finding ourselves in the context of this movement and in the context of a family where our parents actually went through a process of a conversion experience and decided to connect. In the second generation it's not so much committing, but it's realizing what kind of tradition we come from and it's realizing that we are God's eternal sons and daughters and that we have been given this blessed life, and it's really up to us to use our life as that precious opportunity to create something beautiful by living a life of gratitude.
  27. In a way, each generation has its own struggle. And as a member of the second generation, what I would really like to see going forward, when I think about the third

generations coming after to really be about finding happiness. Having happiness, having fulfillment in our lives. And instead of the first generation, who went through a process of finding God, and the second generation who went through a process of finding ourselves in the context of this thing called this movement, the third-generation really needs to be about finding happiness. How do we substantiate happiness in our lives?

28. When I think about that as a mother and as somebody who has children of my own, when I think about what I would like for them in the future. Well, I would very much love for them to go to the blessing. I would very much want them to be inspired by the dream or the romance of finding that special someone. So, in preparation of finding that someone, really going through a process of working on yourself in preparation to meet that beautiful someone – and coming to a place where they can commit themselves to this other person, not like the way the first generation or many of the second generation did, like opening up a box of chocolates not really knowing what we're going to get, but taking an active participation in the process of the blessing with the help of the parents and the help of True Parents, so that the future generations have a chance to own their faith, to own their commitment, to own their blessing.
29. So, people going to the blessing are not going with question marks on top of their heads, but with a clear sense of purpose and determination and commitment to say, “Blessing is something incredibly beautiful that I waited my whole life for. This was my dream. And now that I've found my eternal partner I'm going to create something beautiful.” Knowing that the other partner is fully cognizant and in agreement with my understanding of the blessing which is, once you commit, then you try your best. And you don't take each other for granted. You don't abuse each other because you think you guys are eternal partners and there is no place that our spouse can go. Provided that it is a healthy relationship and a thriving relationship and a respectful relationship, then that commitment needs to be honored with loyalty, respect, and love. This is what I want for my children. And I think all of us as parents want that for our children.
30. One of the great things about being part of a movement that has 40 or 50 years of history is that we can learn a lot from our victories. But we can also learn a lot from our mistakes and from our failures. And, going forward, we can utilize the wisdom garnered through the years to make sure that the future of our movement, or the future blessed candidates, are better prepared and are more well equipped than the one when we started our family life.
31. I often like to say, the first generation found God, but we really didn't know how to make that ideal family. Nobody gave us a manual on how to raise these perfect kids, these sinless kids. In a way, the first generation kind of had to wait for the second generation to grow up. Those that were born and raised in the movement that had experienced the learning curve of our parents, to really kind of work together to create a great manual or an educational curriculum so that we understand where our parents came from and our parents understand where we came from – and so the victories we celebrated will continue to be celebrated, but mistakes and failures that we ourselves as parents or we ourselves as children do not repeat over and over and over again.
32. This is a really important time. Whenever we are faced with our anniversary, to not just celebrate, but to also take into account how we did as human beings and really learn from each other so that we can better prepare for the future.
33. And, when I think about a blessed life I often like to refer back to Genesis 33:10. This is a story about Jacob and Esau and everyone knows the story of Jacob and you saw how Jacob stole the birthright with the help of his mother and Esau was really really angry. He wanted to kill Jacob. “How dare you take my birthright! How dare you scheme and supplant my rightful birthright.” And so you have this older brother who is out to kill this younger brother, and I'm sure he is exploring all his options. Which way is the best to kill or best to deal with this silly younger brother of mine who took my birthright. And I'm sure he saw spent many, many years doing so.
34. But the reason why I like Genesis 33:10 is that it contains one of the most inspiring statements that a younger brother can make towards an older brother. After years of living their separate lives they come to this reunion scene. And we all know the story, Jacob sent all his prosperous gifts forward first, his servants with his children first, his two wives Rachel and Leah first with their children – and even as he approaches Esau bows 7 times to truly show his humility and humbleness and his love for his older brother.
35. And you can imagine what Jacob must have been thinking, “Oh my goodness, this is the final reunion and it's got to go well or I'm not going to be standing in this real world much longer. Here comes Esau with 400 of his friends and buddies and his family – and what is going to happen to me?” But one of the things that Jacob says to Esau is something that inspires me because, again, this is really an example of positive thinking. And, here at Lovin' Life (LLM) I often like to talk about how we are eternal sons and daughters of God. We are divine sons and daughters of God. We are that prepared son and daughter inspired and empowered to do incredible things. So much

sinners. We are awful creatures. We are from the satanic lineage. We are not worthy to lift our heads before our Lord – in dignity and knowing that we belong to our God, our Heavenly Parent. In a way the life of religion has been really quite miserable. But here at LLM we are following our True Parents tradition in emphasizing the fact that we are inspired children of God. We are the divine children of God. We are like the lightbulb that is plugged into that heavenly source of light which allows us to glow our magnificent light with the rest of the world.

36. In a way, instead of feeling the weight of sin and being worthless and horrible miserable creatures, we have a chance to find our own dignity and our self-worth and become that great human being. In a way, the message that our True Parents bring is incredibly positive and in a way it gives us an incredible amount of hope because all throughout the years our True Parents are saying – you need to be better than me. You need to be a better parent than me. You need to be a better father and a better mother than me. In a way, you can be great. You can be that Nobel Prize winner. You can be that gold medalist at the Olympics, you can be the best lawyer in the state of New York. You can be whatever you want to be as long as you can decide on what your passion is, commit, dedicate, become that empowered person, be a great person and contribute back to your society. You can be an awesome agent of change.
37. The story of Jacob and Esau is extremely positively reinforcing to me. Because, the words that Jacob utters to Esau is he says, “truly when I look into your face” – it says, “if ... I have seen the face of God.” Basically what he is saying is, “when I look at you brother I see the face of God.” In a way, it's an incredibly affirming, positive, reinforcing message.
38. Here is this older brother who he thinks is going to kill him, but what he says in that crucial moment, when the two brothers are finally locked arm in arm and finally face-to-face he says, to a brother who can so easily kill him on the spot, he says, “brother when I see your face, I see the face of God.”
39. In a way Jacob is doing a couple of things here with that line. Jacob is proactively giving a positive message to his brother. He is saying, “Esau, you are like God. You are God's son. You are that divine being. If you are like God and you are God's son, are you going to kill me?” In a way Jacob is proactively reaffirming everything that Esau is, as that beautiful elder brother. In a way, Jacob is reminding Esau at this really dangerous and profound moment when the two brothers unite, “Esau, you are that beautiful face of God. You are God as far as I'm concerned.”
40. And Jacob does something else that is incredibly important. When you say to somebody, “When I gaze into your face I see the face of God,” it's probably one of the most beautiful compliments that we can give to each other. Is it not? It's incredibly beautiful. And it's interesting to note in what he says, the compliment is not convoluted. It doesn't have an addendum attached to it. It's a very clean complement.
41. And what I mean by a clean complement is, sometimes in the context of a family life, we find ourselves wanting to better each other. And sometimes it might be two siblings, it might be a husband and wife, and we might say to each other, or it might be between parent and child. It might be a parent saying to a child – “you know you are pretty awesome when you're doing that, when you play the piano.” That's a wonderful complement. But, what I mean by a clean complement is, many times we as parents when we are talking to our children, do not stop there. “You are really awesome when you play the piano. You are really awesome when you play the piano if only you would practice a little bit more.” We as parents, we have done that many times, haven't we? In a way it is not a clean complement. What we are doing is we are adding an addendum to our offering or our complement to somebody.
42. Jacob is not saying when I look into your face I see the face of God – only when you are smiling at me. He doesn't say that. He says, “when I look into your face I see the face of God.” Period. It's very clean. It's without any motivation. It's without any screwdriver that you want to turn in just to make a point. It's an offering, a complement, a beautiful offering. And that's what really inspires me about what Jacob said to Esau.
43. And another thing that I realized when I read this part in the Bible – and I kind of say to myself, it's really a loving thing to say. Many times words are incredibly powerful. And I often like to say words are vehicles of emotion in that words can build, and words can destroy. Words can build up our children's self confidence in themselves, their awareness of who they are as that divine son and daughter of God. Our words as parents can truly empower them and uplift them and build them. But our words also have the power to destroy them, to discourage them, to belittle them – out of our own frustration. Perhaps out of our own misunderstanding in how to best deal with the situation at hand, or to best deal with the issue that we are dealing with, thinking that whenever an issue arises we as the parents look at our children, saying, “that issue is you! It's you!” Not realizing that many times it's us. The issues arise because there are two people involved and we need to work things out.
44. When you read this part of the Bible, you realize that Jacob is being very proactive

And I have often thought, “You know what? That is the key to building a beautiful family. That is really the key to building an ideal family.” Because we as human beings and we, in terms of our responsible day to day affairs that we have to deal with – so many things happen, or what I like to say, “Life happens.” Things that are unexpected arise. Things we did not anticipate happen. Things that we didn't want, smack us in the face and we are left wondering what the heck happened?

45. But we realize that building an ideal family is really an opportunity for us to practice positive, positive thinking, and not just thinking but positive reinforcement in that the words become that vehicle of emotion – to not destroy, but to build and empower. And through our actions really encourage people to be the best, encourage our children, encourage our spouse, encourage our siblings to be the best that we possibly can.
46. So just as Jacob, kind of stunned Esau with this incredible positive message, which must have hit Esau really hard. You know, he was looking at his brother as somebody he wanted to kill and murder for taking away his birthright. But the younger brother is being proactively positive. He is being clean with his compliments. He's being extremely loving in his words, lifting his older brother, really honoring him as that older brother that he wants to dedicate everything that he owns to.
47. And he puts Esau in a situation where he finds himself being reminded by the positiveness of Jacob that, “yes! I may want to kill my brother! But yes! I am that loving older brother. I am that divine son of God. I am that child of God. In a way, my face is like my father's, because I am the son.” In a way it reminds Esau to his true potential as that beautiful elder brother. But it also, in a way, creates a healthy dissidence in his mind with what he wanted to do, with what he is dealing with in terms of being face to face with the younger brother – being hit by this positive love bomb. In a way he wants to kill Jacob, but the positivity, or the power of positive reinforcement is so great it allows him to tap into his own divinity and his own dignity as that good older brother. And so the only thing he can really do is to decide to embrace and not to kill.
48. When we reaffirm and when we reinforce each other positively it's really giving the other person an opportunity to choose what kind of a response or what kind of a person they want to be. When we give an offering of a true compliment without any baggage, in that it is clean, what we really want the other person to do is to be reminded of the true worth and the true dignity of the person that they are – so that they choose to do the right thing. In a way, even though Jacob is the younger brother, he becomes a catalyst to help his older brother Esau do the right thing and embrace his younger brother in this beautiful reunion. And that's the power of positivity and that's the power of words or language.
49. When I think about how do we build a culture of heart? How do we build a loving environment where we don't become a church that condemns, but we become a church that builds up, that empowers. We don't become a church that discriminates who's better, who's purer, who prays harder, who fasts more. But, we become a church to say, “Wow! That brother, that sister is better than me! Wow! That family is truly a family of God!”
50. I was brought to this part of the Bible and the story of Jacob and Esau because, as a senior pastor I received lots of e-mails from many brothers and sisters and one e-mail that I received was from a young man. This young man, growing up as a second-generation, he's had a long journey in terms of finding himself. His difficulty has been his relationship with his mother. He always had this incredible fear growing up of disappointing God, disappointing True Parents, disappointing his parents, and in particular disappointing his mother. But you know, life happens. He didn't take up with the best group of friends and he kind of went the round about way. He admitted to me, freely, that he must have caused a great deal of concern and suffering to his mother. But after a couple of years of service, he came back home, and he was so happy to see his mother. And they had a long conversation and he said, “Mom, I'm really, really sorry for all those years that I was so immature. I realize that I now have a passion, I know what I want to do with my life. And, I just really hope that you can trust me, and you can kind of give me this chance to really make it up to you. And I really want to hear you say that I didn't disappoint you.” He kind of described what happened. And this was his mother's attempt at really wanting to be real with her son – and she said, “yes all those years have been extremely difficult. You were a rebellious child. You were a difficult child. And yes, you disappointed me.” And this young man, who had the fear of disappointing God, True Parents, and his mother his whole life was suddenly hit with his mother, after a long confessional talk, that yes, she was disappointed. In a way it was his mother's attempt at being real, but I think his mother did not realize what an incredible weight she had with those words, in telling her son, “Yes, you know, you disappointed me.”
51. In a way, I think many times in the context of a family, we as parents, and we are all guilty here, we as parents, we don't realize how incredibly painful or difficult or burdensome our words can be. In a way a lot of parents that come to me, because they

about their child in particular, certain things kind of pop up that I noticed. Most of the parents when they are dealing with a difficult child, they will say things like, “He is such a headache. He just can never do anything right. He just really, really pushes us to the limit. He is so rebellious. He is such a bad child.”

52. And this is what they say to me, not realizing that this has been the kind of language that has been spoken in that family for over 17, 18 years. In a way we want to raise positive, inspired, empowered children, not realizing many times we create at home, where the language is far from being that inspired and positive reinforcement to our children – we don't realize that many times we are the ones that have created a language, or perhaps created almost the belief system in the kids that, “Yes I am bad. I can never do anything right. I am rebellious.” So simply what a child decides to do is take it, or accept the language the parents are using on the child and say, “Okay I will run with it, and do that even more.”
53. In a way, even though the mother was disappointed in the child, if she thought about how incredibly powerful her words were, her words are, and words continue to be, she might have chosen her words a little better. Instead of saying, “you've disappointed me.” She might have wanted to say, “you know, life is difficult for me and for you. And building an ideal family is a very, very difficult thing to do. But you never disappointed me in that I've always believed in you, I always trusted in your true potential, in your true capability. And what you've gone through is just a process that you needed to grow out of in order to become a much richer and a much deeper person.”
54. In a way, this is an example of taking, sometimes what we want to say to each other in the family, but reminding ourselves of Jacob's wisdom in using the power of positivity and the power of affirmation and the power of reinforcing what is good. Because, what we speak builds up the emotions in our children as they adapt to it. They take it to heart, whether we like it or not. And we don't realize that the language we use when we perhaps call them, when we perhaps are frustrated with them, when we perhaps are just exasperated – because actually the lesson taught, makes them difficult children or helps them to continue the difficult process. So, in a way this is a reminder to kind of take part and think about what we are actually saying.
55. I received another e-mail. This was a wife, really at her wits end. She was so consumed with her self righteousness that she felt compelled to basically launder the dirty laundry publicly about her husband. And she basically threw out to the public arena everything that the husband has done wrong. Usually in a situation like that, when you are trashing your spouse publicly, you have to realize that you and me, we as wives, and I wanted to bring this up because I am a woman, and many times we as women, we have an incredible power to build or to destroy with our words. And you know, not all of us have ideal husbands and not all of us have ideal wives. And in the context of a larger community like ours it's never a good thing to be so self-righteous, so selfish about what we want out of life that we are willing to destroy another human being, in a way condemning another human being in the public arena. This is not what an ideal family is all about.
56. We all have our shortcomings. We all have our strengths and weaknesses. But our community is really about celebrating our strengths and working on our weakness. And so instead of trashing the husband publicly, we have to realize we have children. And when we attack or trash our spouse publicly, we are teaching our children that half of them are evil. Half of them are bad. Half of them need to be trashed publicly. In a way, we are teaching our children to condemn half of what comes from the father or from the mother. If we really love our children, and we're really building a better future for our world – regardless of how difficult a husband and wife relationship might be we cannot go around trashing each other, fighting and lashing out at each other around the kitchen sink. We cannot scream at our spouse within the earshot of our children. We cannot publicly condemn and destroy the dignity of our spouse publicly.
57. And the interesting thing about people who tend to do this is that usually the person complaining is the one with the problem. This person in particular, when I found out her story, I realized that she was trashing her husband so badly for being such a bad person – when, at the end of the day, she was the one guilty with all the problems that she was accusing her husband of.
58. I always thought it was quite funny how, you know here at the headquarters my brothers and I in Korea, Japan, and America we are all involved in this faith breaking issue in which 4300 of our Japanese brothers and sisters have been abducted and held hostage against their will in Japan, simply for wanting to be Unificationists. Of course the extreme situation of that is Mr. Goto who was abducted by his own family with the help of de-programmers and was held captive as a hostage for 12 years and five months. It's just unbelievable what is being done in Japan. But what is taking place in Japan is the fact that these de-programmers are kind of victimizing the parents to think that the children are brainwashed zombies, no longer capable of making adult



the parents pay, in the situation of Mr. Goto's family \$1.5 million, to re-brainwash his child to leave the Unification Faith, to leave the church.

59. In a way the parents are being victimized by the de-programmers. They are saying awful things about our church. Many times they miss understand what we talk about when we are saying that the Blessing is the portal through which the blood lineage is changed from the Satanic to God's lineage.
60. Many times people have misunderstood that – to think, you know, when I had some Korean PhD friends they said, “We heard that you swap spouses in your church. We heard that you have this thing called the change of blood. You swap spouses in your church? And you drink blood?” I said, “No we do not.” And they said, “We heard that your church is a sex cult. Rev. Moon has sex with everybody.” And I said, “No, that is not the case.”
61. These are the type of information that the deep programmers used on that parents and on the children. And what they are doing is basically, they're saying we are a church that wants to be pure that wants to preserve our sexual purity for the sake of that eternal partner, for the grand Hollywood romance that we are preparing ourselves for. But, de-programmers turn that story around and say that this is a corrupt sexual cult.
62. But the funny thing is – when my friends, who are creating a documentary about the faith breaking issue, we went to Japan and we did research on these Christian ministers who work in the programming of our brothers and sisters away from our faith – we realize that here are the ministers who are accusing our True Parents of being a sex cult leader and taking away our members, while at the same time, they are brainwashing our sisters to leave the church and become their girlfriends. You realize that the person who is throwing the garbage is the one that is guilty of the garbage.
63. You realize that the people who tend to accuse and persecute and tear down people publicly – why would any good person do that? Why would anyone decent try to do that? Life is tough enough as is. The only thing that we really should think about is how do we support and how do we nurture, how do we empower each other? But usually the people that want to create garbage to throw at another person publicly, is usually the one guilty of the crime. And you see that time and time again.
64. If we are going to have a beautiful community where the culture is a culture of heart, not a culture of judgment, condemnation, disappointment, and discouragement – then we really need to take stock of how we are doing as parents, as children, as brothers and sisters, as citizens of this community, of the faithful, and think about how we are going to be better positioned and better prepared for the future.
65. And then there is another case of a family that really is a wonderful family, I feel. But this family is so wonderful and they are so infused with the spirit, but many times we don't realize that we think so highly of ourselves that we don't realize that we are discriminating our own happiness our own success vis-à-vis the others in the movement. We don't realize that we are saying, “Oh, my family is so awesome – much better than yours. My family doesn't have your problems.”
66. In the context of 30 years of marriage some of us have remained intact as a Blessed couple. Some of us are single parents now. Some of us have failed in our initial blessing and have gone on to be re-blessed. In a way the picture is a very different picture than when we first walked down the aisle. In a way, life happened, and we had to grow, and we had to deal with all the issues that hit us along the way – in terms of our own life of faith, in terms of our own effort at trying to build families – in a way, our family is no longer all the same. It is not homogeneous. Every family is different. Every family has their unique problems that they need to overcome. Every family has their own unique issues that they need to work out.
67. So going forward on this day, when realize our purpose in life is to create the culture of heart, we have to ask ourselves, “are we really going to be a community that spends time distinguishing who is better than the other? Whether the intact couples are better than this single parents, or the intact couple who fight like cats and dogs and scream at each other is really better than the single parent who is trying her best, or his best, to raise decent kids? Or whether that single parent is better than somebody who's Blessing didn't work out and had to try again?”
68. We have to sit back and realize that everybody, every human being is that unique and eternal and beautiful child of God. And just like every seed you plant has its own cycle as to what we need to do in order to produce the best crop or harvests, likewise – each person is like that precious seed. And God is waiting to reap the harvest of our true potential. But just because our cycle is slightly different than the other, we should not be the kind of community where we are discouraging each other by saying, “oh, my family is going faster than yours. My family is much better than yours, much purer than yours, more intact than yours.”
69. In a way every family is precious. And despite the differences what unites us all is that common vision, or that common dream that we all had when we first walked down the aisle. Regardless of what our situations may be or what our particular issues may be, we are still committed, we are still trying to best – and that's what we need to affirm.

the positive re-acclamation and reinforcement will create a new language of positivity that will continue to nurture our children, that will continue to comfort our children, that will continue to empower them to be the best that they can possibly be.

70. And I don't know about you but my dream is to really raise that generation of peace. At lots of young people are trying to find out what they want to be. Are they going to be generation X? Are they going to be Y? Are they going to be Z? Are they going to be the millennials, show me the money? What I would like to see is to see this generation of peace, young, inspired, powered, young people wanting to connect with their humanity, wanting to connect with where they are coming from, their Heavenly Parent. They want to contribute to the good of society by developing their passions so that they can give back their own touch, unique touch, back to the world. And really become the kind of people that inherits the true love of God in wanting to build ideal families.
71. The generation of peace are going to be that bunch of young people that understand they come from a common parent, that they are eternal sons and daughters of God, that here we want to live a life of altruism, living for the sake of others. Here we want to live a life practicing compassion, not condemnation, not discouragement, not discrimination – but a life of compassion, in really working on ourselves so that we not only become internally excellent but we become the embodiment of everything that is good, internally excellent in our life of faith but also externally excellent in whatever we decide to do.
72. It doesn't matter what the world might think of what a Unificationist is as long as they say, “they might be a Unificationist, but oh my God, that's the best violinist I've ever heard! Oh my God, I hear he is a Unificationist, but he is the best darn Poli-sci teacher I have ever met. You know, that child might be a Unificationist, and I've heard a lot of stories about the Unification Church, but all my God! She won the gold medal for our country, the United States of America. And here, the guy running to be the next president is a Unificationist. What an incredible man! What an incredible family! What an incredible vision!”
73. If we are excellent internally we need to be excellent externally as well, because what we are needs to come out and be expressed like the light within needs to be shared with the rest of the world. And that's what being an agent of change is all about. You guys have run your course of really being there for our True Parents, protecting our True Parents. And this second generation and the generations coming there after must receive the baton of the good work and the foundation building that our first generation has done and be grateful for the basement foundation that was laid.
74. But now it is time to build the house, a beautiful house. And you know our end goal is not just to build the house, but our end goal is to learn how to live properly in that house. We need to know and learn and substantiate everything that God wanted. God didn't just want us to build a basement. God didn't just want us to build buildings forever. He wants us to build a beautiful house, be the master of that house, own it, make it yours, and live with a grateful heart, live with a sense of purpose, live with a goal in mind, and live in knowing that we belong to an awesome, awesome movement and community!
75. So brothers and sisters, I always say that we have been touched by the moon. And you know, Rev. Moon our True Father and Mrs. Moon our True Mother are a beautiful example of that incredible couple that are their best partners, best friends, their best supporters, their best positive reinforcers.
76. So as we go forward and look forward to the next anniversary, let us really think about, not just talking about a culture of heart, but actually building that culture of heart starting with our language, reminding ourselves the power of positive reinforcement and affirmation – as we saw in the magic that took place when Jacob and Esau were finally reunited. It's that power of love. It's that power of proactively wanting positive energy to be shared. It's that positive desire to give someone a clean offering, a clean complement that can really uplift and build and encourage all of us. Because, brothers and sisters, life is tough enough as it is, isn't it? We don't need to make it any tougher on each other.
77. So be proud Unificationists. Be proud thirty-year anniversary brothers and sisters. You are beautiful! You are young at heart! You've done an incredible thing of walking the walk with our True Parents! And now let's do our best to walk the walk with our children so that our children can be that generation of peace, can really claim the next millennium as their own by bringing in the world of peace.
78. God bless! Thank you

Sermon, June 24, 2012 Rev In Jin Moon

1. Good morning brothers and sisters. How is everyone this morning? I bring you greetings from our True Parents in Korea. I had the great fortune to spend Day of All Things with them. You know whenever I see True Father and True Mother you

really makes me realize how incredibly lucky I am to be living at this time with True Parents, who are really the Second Coming and who have come as representatives of our Heavenly Parent up in Heaven, to really share the breaking news with us and share in the gift of this wonderful thing called the Blessing, through which we can change our lineage from Satan's to God's lineage.

2. As I was looking at this man while we were having the events I realized that you know, he is 90 some years old and he is just that ever consistent, never changing, unique, eternal son of God. And you know, he gazes upon all of his children with great love and great affection and certainly we've come to (we meaning my brothers and sisters) experience a lot more parental love in his later years than when he was a young robust man, because he was always so busy with mission work and so busy in terms of pushing forward the Providence at hand.
3. And you know, sometimes he's quite cute. He will say things that I wish I could've heard maybe 30 years ago, but now it's being said and now it's being shared. And I realized that life is really a journey. The life we have with our parents, the life that we have with our family is really a journey, in that you never know what lies around the corner and you never know when you're going to hear those beautiful words and you never know when you're going to have that experience that you've been waiting for, but I find myself sharing those lovely and you know surprising moments with my father and mother and I am so grateful to have them in my life. I think we all feel so grateful to have them in our lives.
4. And, of course you know, my father cannot finish an event without a song. So, when he's calling different people up to sing, it kind of gets a little bit daunting, because you're sitting in the front row and Father keeps on looking at you and he's calling out different people to sing, but he keeps on looking at you. And it's early in the morning, you really don't feel like singing, but nevertheless, after asking different leaders to sing, he asked my younger brother to get up and sing. So, I thought I was off the hook. But when Lovey got up to sing, he looked around, Lovey, and said YOU. And so I was called forward and I was in no mood to sing. Lovey helped me a great deal to sing a rendition of some of my father's favorites.
5. You know, I thought to myself, you know music is everywhere; in our lives and in our church. I don't know if some of you have visited the old home where I grew up. It was basically a church, it was the second floor of a church where me and my brothers grew up. And we basically woke up to singing and praying and we fell asleep to singing and praying. And now I find myself in the presence of my father and mother and they are always singing and they are always praying.
6. And so, this music ministry or Lovin' Life is incredibly important to me because here we delight and we experience and we share in the universal language and it becomes a conduit through which we can experience God's love for us and we can experience our own divinity and feel incredibly inspired and empowered to do something about our lives.
7. And so, as I bid my farewell to my father, you know, I found him seated on this little, tiny chair in front of this little pond down by the training center at Cheong Pyeong. And he had five fishing poles out on this tiny little pond and he was manning these five fishing poles. So, I came to say goodbye and Father said "sit, sit" and so I sat behind him. And he wanted to catch a fish. And so Father had quite a few grandchildren around him and some people who were taking care of him and Lovey and my husband. Father was saying "shush, be quiet" and so all of us we kind of sat there quietly, waiting. But then Mother said "you know, Father why don't you say goodbye to your daughter because she really needs to get going." Because once my father gets sitting, when Father gets fishing there is really no end. I think my mom was a little bit afraid that I might miss some of the meetings that I had back in Seoul. And so my mother said "Father, please get up and let's wave goodbye to our daughter and let's get her on her way."
8. You know, Cheong Pyeong is on a hill and so the roads are really quite winding. But in this fishing area they created for my father, he doesn't like to take a car because he likes to kind of feel the nature, feel the wind in his hair, so to speak. So he rides the golf cart down these winding roads. And so when he said goodbye he got into his golf cart and he said "Oh, have a good trip; where are you going? So I said, well father, I'm going to Seoul" and Father said "Seoul, Seoul". And you know, Seoul is the capital of Korea. It kind of sounds like 'soul' in English, does it not? But when you say 'Seoul-Hada', when you make it into an active verb, it means "I'm sad", so Father was saying, Seoul Hadamika, Seoul Hada, that means "You're going to Seoul, but somehow I feel sad." I said "yes, Father but I will see you shortly because you're coming back to Las Vegas." And then Father says ... (in Korean) which means "That's right, that's right, that's right" and then Mother said "shall we go, shall we go?"
9. So, the person seated next to Father stepped on the gas and he kind of stopped the guy and said "Wait" and he looked at me and he kind of broke into a kind of song

started singing “you’re beautiful”. I don't know what melody he was singing, but he was singing and he was waving and he was saying “you’re beautiful, you’re beautiful”

10. And then he kicked the guy to step on the pedal, so the guy hit the pedal and off they went. And I saw my father disappear into the distance into the mountains of Cheong Pyeong. And he was singing (in Korean)... “You’re beautiful, everything is beautiful” And then he kind of launched into one of his favorite Korean songs. So my vision of my father, as I bid farewell and as I said goodbye, is this cute little old man seated with his wife in a golf cart disappearing into the mountain and I said “Wow, I wonder what people would say if I told them, there goes the Messiah, there goes True Parents” and I realized that, you know, God works in mysterious ways.
11. And that vision of an old man and his wife riding off into the sunset in a golf cart might not be the likely vision of what the Messiah would be like, what True Parents would be like. And perhaps, just like the way the Israelites were expecting the Son of God to come with a band of Angels, with trumpets blaring everywhere, the Son of God descending from the heavens all majestic, all grand and loud and big! But that is not the way Jesus Christ came 2000 years ago; he came very humbly in a natural way you know, in a barn somewhere, full of dung and not the most holiest of places, but that's how he came.
12. And so I realized that we as people, as children of God have lots of expectations about different things in life and certainly you know, maybe lots of people's ideas of what a Messiah should be or what True Parents should be, might not quite fit with what was given to us. You know, perhaps they wouldn't ever expect a man from North Korea. Perhaps they expected a white man, perhaps they expected a white man with blue eyes and blond hair like Hollywood led us to believe. But here comes our True Parents, quite different from what we expected but nonetheless they continue to intrigue us, to inspire us, sometimes mystify us and sometimes leave us dumbfounded. But nevertheless, they are who they are and they have come to share with us the breaking news.
13. So when I thought about our own expectations, of our own visions of what something should be, but many times in reality it is not so and many times reality you know, sometimes plays tricks on us and makes us feel ungrateful or makes us feel unloved and unappreciated, or lost, but nevertheless it's really God's way of reminding us that He and She does work in mysterious ways and it's really an opportunity for us, you know, to not keep our own expectations on things, not always demand things of life and demand things of our Heavenly Parent, but kind of sit back and relax, remain open and sensitive to the voices that are speaking to us in many, many different ways.
14. And this reminds me of a passage in the Bible in First Kings, Chapter 19, verses 11 to 12. The Bible says that the Lord was not found in the powerful winds, not found in this incredibly fearful earthquake, He was not found in this all-consuming blazing fire, but First Kings says God was found in a still small voice.
15. In a way many times what I wanted, when I was going through my adolescence and I was wrestling with my own identity, finding my own identity, of wanting to figure out who I wanted to be; whether I wanted to believe this thing called the Divine principle; whether I wanted to believe in who my parents were. You know. I, like anybody else, went through a lot of searching and lots of praying and lots of crying. But at the same time, I was always hoping to hear the words of God. I said to God “if you exist, I want to see you, I want to hear you, I want to smell you. You know, I want to feel you. I want to know you, so answer me! This is kind of my passion that I had many times. Life is difficult and you just want God to say something; you just want to hear God and that all powerful consuming voice up from the heavens, saying “this is what I want you to do.” I wanted somebody to tell me, you know, that everything was going to be all right; I wanted somebody to tell me this is what you should do with your life. I wanted someone to say I am here; I exist and therefore you can believe in me. Because you know that I'm here.
16. I wanted some kind of a sign. And I don't know how many times I yelled out in my prayers “I want to see you, I want to hear you!”
17. But you know, there was this one occasion in my life when I was really, really struggling with different things that were put before me and, you know, the temptations are always there and opportunities are always there. And I wanted God to appear to me and tell me, “don't do it. or just believe in me. or just do this little bit longer and I will have a solution for you.” I wanted God to kind of fix my problem; I wanted God to give me the strength, you know, to do the right thing. I wanted God to be there for me, hold my hand. I was really kind of searching and I was really struggling. I was at wits end and I was really kind of asking myself “is life really worth it, because what I see before me and around me is quite miserable” and I couldn't get a sense that there was hope around the corner and I

give me a sign, just give me a sign, just let me know that you are there, let me know that I can feel you, that I can hear you. I just want to see you.” And I was kind of saying these things over and over again in my struggles.

18. You know, there was a time when I was so desperate I refused to come out of my room. I didn't want to come out until I got some kind of an answer. And something really interesting happened to me, you know. I was waiting to kind of have this vision or revelation; I was waiting for God to appear before me on a cloud, looking like the picture of that big burly grandmother that was almost a Santa Claus figure and I wanted Him to just come and embrace me. And I wanted him to tell me everything is all right, you know; “that I love you, that you're going to do many, many great things.” I wanted this commanding presence of a voice and I wanted to hear certain commandments from him telling me exactly what to do, telling me exactly how to solve my problem.
19. And I was waiting and I was waiting desperately and desperately. I waited for many, many days but then I didn't hear anything. I didn't see the Santa Claus figure come down from the clouds with this all-consuming voice to tell me that everything was going to be all right. And so I remember coming out of my room just really, really despondent and terribly hungry, because I had not eaten, because I wanted to find God, I wanted to feel, wanted to see and hear God and I was just so beaten, so crushed. And I was saying to myself, I guess God does not care for me to hear the commanding voice telling me that everything is going to be all right. And He didn't come. But because I was so hungry, so hungry I walked down to the kitchen and started to fix something for myself.
20. Then my younger brother came into the kitchen and he had this kind of tiny radio that he carried around, and a certain song was playing. And in the beginning I wasn't really listening to it. When my brother said Hi, I just simply ignored him because I was so angry that God did not appear in front of me. But he kind of set that radio down on the table in the island of the kitchen where we were sitting many times and ate a plate full of food. I sat down totally devastated, totally crashed; I started to hear this song that was playing and at first, I was like, I just wanted to get rid of any sound; I just wanted to turn it off and I was almost on the brink of telling my brother to turn the darn thing off, but then the song kind of got to the chorus and it was “How deep is your love” by the Bee Gees. And this song kind of hit off on the chorus saying “how deep is your love, how deep is your love?”
21. At that moment I realized, “oh my God, here I am – I wanted to hear God loud and clear. I was kind of expecting this mystical manifestation to appear and to occur in front of my eyes; I was expecting something big, something majestic, something all-consuming. But I realized God spoke to me in a very gentle and very small voice of the Bee Gees... you don't expect God to sound like that; you don't expect God to be coming through a radio being sung by the Bee Gees, the three brothers. You're kind of expecting like a band of angels, like a Mormon Tabernacle choir set to some kind of a band or something and you're expecting something loud and big. But he had this radio on really, small, small volume – “how deep is your love, how deep is your love?”
22. And I was thinking “is this the way God is talking to me? but it just kept on singing and every once in a while (she imitates the music). And I said, “this is not God, it can't possibly be God, because it's the Bee Gees.” But guess what, in my devastation, in my moment of utter obliteration and destruction, God spoke to me in that still small voice. And instead of, you know, giving me these commandments like, “In Jin Nim I will solve your problems.” Like the 10 Commandments that he gave to Moses, I wanted my 10 Commandments that is going to solve all my problems. But instead of giving me this powerful commanding commandments, He gave me the Bee Gees. And instead of a commandment, he gave me a question. He asked me “how deep is your love?” Meaning, what is your capacity to love, what is your capacity, or the depth, or the width, or the magnitude through which you will journey on through life and experience this thing called love in its multifaceted ways.
23. Many times when we think of love we think it's like this one thing, all lovely, all beautiful. But you realize that love can be experienced in many different ways: sometimes love can be experienced in the most bizarre situations or in the most ugly situations or sometimes in the most holiest ways or sometimes in the most jubilant ways and sometimes in the saddest of ways. You realize that love is multifaceted and that's why it intrigues us and it compels us to learn more and more about it each day and each moment of our lives.
24. And I realized that God was speaking to me, not giving me an answer, but He was asking me the question “how deep is your love, how deep is your love, is your love?” So instead of a band of angels I got two brothers, “how deep is your love, how deep is your love?” And they were asking me this question, that really

that I profess to love? Do I really care about the people that mean something to me? Or if I do, how do I express this love?

25. So I realized in that moment, just like the way the Bible says “ it's not the earthquakes or the wind or the fire that is going to reveal to us the power and the magnitude and the majesty of God, but sometimes it's in the small quiet voice and sometimes it's in a way that we least expect it. I did not expect to meet God through the Bee Gees. But in that moment of my life when I was utterly desperate, utterly searching, really in need of some kind of a sign, I got a sign from God. I got the voice of God in the most unexpected of ways. And I realized that that's kind of the beauty of life. God continues to mystify us and be mysterious, but nevertheless finds ways of letting us know that He and She loves us, cares about us, and wants the best for us.
26. I realize that not only was God experienced for me, for the first time, not through a set of commandments, through this majestic big picture, but through the small still voice of a song that was coming out of my younger brother's radio. I realized that many times when we least expect it, that's when God reveals Him or Herself to us. So, in a way, when God asked me ‘how deep is your love?’ he was asking me this question in the context of my all-consuming expectation of what I wanted God to do, but I also realized that God many times has touched me, continues to touch me and will, in the future, touch me in ways that sometimes I least expect.
27. And so, you know, I realize that sometimes, you know, music has been such an incredible important part of my life. And so when I was thinking about the sermon topic, I realized that “wow!” at these crucial moments of my life God has spoken to me through songs. It is quite incredible. You know, that in my first desperate attempt to see God, to feel God, to hear God, and out comes the Bee Gees. And out comes this question “how deep is your love?”
28. And the next time in my life when I was really kind of struggling, because it just felt like my whole world was coming to an end... you know, when I experienced God with the Bee Gees I was single' ...but you know, in the throes of my marriage, the next level of my life – everybody knows that building an ideal family is not automatic, it's not a natural process. A great deal of effort needs to go into it. And certainly I am no different, so in dealing with all the things that I had to deal with, I was just ready to give up again. And (I was) not really looking forward to the next sunrise. Really, really down. I just felt incredibly down and I remember when I first heard Chris Cornell sing this song. I was like, ”wow! that's exactly what I feel, like you know right now I'm in the throes of feeling like I'm down all the time. I can't possibly shake this burden; shake this responsibility it's just crushing me. You know, I feel like “I'm just down, there's just no up anywhere. How am I going to get through another day?”” And again I was praying and I was talking to God saying “you know, I just wish, I just wish I could find the strength to go on. I just wish that there was something that I could cling on to. And you know this song came on and it just kind of hit me, it just got me, and I just couldn't stop crying.
29. I was thinking, “oh my God, I've often felt that if God was a musician and if God was a musician he'd probably be viewed to be the world's best, the universe's best, the cosmos' best blues singer or player.” Because you know you sing the blues because you've suffered, your life is miserable and lots of difficulty has hit you and smacked you in the face. But you have the strength to sing about it and by singing about it your kind of sharing with everybody what you've been going through. But in singing about it you're, in a way, saying, “but I've got to go on. I'm going to make it through with my buddies in the band here. Or I'm going to make it through because this song makes me feel so good, I'm going to sing me another blues.”
30. And so, I felt like if God was given a musician's chair he'd probably be like the greatest blues singer. And He'd probably be singing about how He lost his children, how He lost his son and daughter and, all those years of waiting, all His years of suffering, trying to really prepare a way for the son of God to appear. And then again having to wait another 2000 years before enough preparation could be made to really invite the Second Coming or the Messiah, to really take on the mission of being the victorious son and daughter of God.
31. God has been singing the blues for an awful long time. I am sure many times Jesus Christ sang the blues. We never know what music was playing in his head when he was being crucified on the cross. But, when I have those visions, the kind of music that I hear when I see, like the movie of Jesus Christ's crucifixion, when he was dying on the cross alone, with no disciples anywhere in sight. You know, I often ask myself, if one disciple stood by his side and said, “crucify me instead.” What would've happened? How would Jesus Christ have felt? But not one volunteered to take Jesus' place. They all disappeared. They all ran away. And Jesus was left to die on the cross alone.

- first realized the magnitude of the mission at hand, how many times must he have cried the blues, because – the people did not understand him, or people did not realize who he was and what he came to do?
33. And I've often felt kind of like, this Chris Cornell song – “When I'm Down.” Because, sometimes in the context of this community where our goal is to build ideal families, you realize that there is so much suffering, and so much pain, and so much misery going on. You sometimes have to wonder, is there really going to be a tomorrow, is there really going to be an opportunity for me to finally accomplish what I would like to accomplish? I've often found myself singing the blues too.
34. When I heard this song, again God spoke to me in the still small voice, in the small voice of a song, but it was God nonetheless. And it was a message that I needed to hear. Because the song goes on, “I only love you when I'm down, but I am down all the time.”
35. At that moment in my life, I felt like there was nothing but down. But in a way God was telling me, whether you are down or feeling like floating in this perpetual sea of downness, I'm still going to be there. Even when you're feeling like you're in this universe, feeling down, I'm still a part of your universe because I'm your parent. And guess what, I love you. You think I only love you when I'm down, but I really love you all the time, because I am down all the time.
36. In a way God is taking the unexpected. I expect God to tell me that he loves me and show me in the ways that I expect what a loving gesture is supposed to be. Perhaps He loves me when I'm feeling jubilant, when I'm feeling really great about myself. But, in this least expected, or unexpected way, God was saying – kind of playing word tricks on me. God was saying I love you all the time.
37. John Lennon wrote a song a while back and one of the lyrics says, “life is what happens when you're making other plans.” Many times our life is kind of like that. We are constantly making plans for our children, constantly making plans for our family – and there are all these wonderful things that we would like to accomplish. But then life happens. You know, things go wrong. Our children are led astray. Our children fall down and nick their knees. Things that are unexpected fall by the wayside and we are left wondering, “where is God?”
38. But I realize that in the depth of my despair, God again was telling me through song, “look, I am there.” And the real question you need to ask yourself, instead of being crushed by the sheer weight of life as it happens, what are you going to do about it? In other words, how are you going to love? To kind of take yourself out of this misery, to kind of pull yourself up by the bootstraps – be your own agent of change. That's the message that God sent to me. “You feel like life has kept you down and you are down all the time. But, you need to know that I love you nonetheless and I've always loved you.”
39. But the real question is, what are you going to do about it? And so I realized in hindsight that sometimes God pushes us to our limit. Sometimes God kind of forces us, or compels us, to experience what we really don't like to experience. Because through that experience comes a new found understanding of how to bend to love somebody.
40. As weird as it sounds, the founder of the TV program, “America's Most Wanted,” - he became the spokesperson for this program, “America's Most Wanted,” Because he suffered the brutal death of his child. And, instead of being devastated, instead of being destroyed, instead of being obliterated by life as it happens, while we are making other plans – I am sure he had plans for this child to go on to a fantastic school, perhaps be a fantastic musician, perhaps be a fantastic professor or artists. I'm sure he had other plans. But his child was murdered, and he really had to ask himself the question, “I'm really down and I'm not feeling the love. But am I going to be crushed or am I going to be my own agent of change and create something beautiful out of my suffering? Perhaps because I have suffered this incredible, brutal murder of my child – maybe I can help other people in similar situations.” And so one man's misery has turned into a life giving hope for a lot of parents in similar situations.
41. So I realize that that moment, as long as I could find the strength in myself, and I realize whenever I wanted God to solve something for me, to fix something, He or She always pushes back with a question, that makes me think about how I can be that contributing factor to make things better. Perhaps I suffered with what I've suffered, I've dealt with what I've dealt with, because in the experience of going through those throes of pain and suffering, perhaps it puts me in a better situation to help other people.
42. I never realized that, in the course of my life, I never really had dreams of being a senior pastor or be put in the situation to help a lot of people. But I find myself tapping in to all those times when I've suffered, when I felt like I just couldn't go on anymore, when I felt totally helpless. But somehow God has helped me along the way so that I can last long enough to help other people who might be in similar

43. Again, I realize, you know, God doesn't come riding on this brilliant white horse like a prince and just sweeps me off my feet. God really expects me to deal with my problems, with my life. But at the same time letting me know in many many different ways, in those still small voices that He and She are there always, and helping me and guiding me.
44. And I realize that when, "how deep is your love?" was sung by the Bee Gees, for me, because I came from a Korean background and learned English – words are incredibly fascinating for me. I like to look at the words, turn it around, sometimes reverse the letters, some time use the word or the letters as an acronym. So, when I saw the word Bee Gees, that was a time I was really suffering and doubting God. The song was being played, "how deep is your love" sung by Bee Gees (Be G (God)) it was a reminder to me to continue to believe in God – believe in God.
45. And when Chris Cornell was singing, "I only love you when I'm down" for me Chris Cornell was a nice reminder – center your core, no matter where you're going, center and be true to your core.
46. The next song, "in the name of love" that helped me a great deal in terms of dealing with some of the things I had to deal with, was sung by U-2. So in a way God was saying to me, "believe in God" "center your core" then "U 2" can experience the kingdom of heaven by building this ideal family, or one family under God.
47. And, "in the name of love," that song was another level in my life. Now it wasn't just marriage it was kids! As a mother we want to create an incredibly wonderful environment for the kids. And, I want the best for my kids. I look at my kids like a precious diamond, like a precious diamond uncovered deep beneath the Earth's surface. So when you first take out a chunk of diamond it is encrusted with a lot of other things. In order for you to reveal the brilliance of the diamond it has to go through a process of being cleaned, of being cut, of being polished. It's a long process. So you realize that a child, in coming to their own, in coming to realize the real true value, the divine value, it's going to take some time – no matter how quickly you want it to happen. Every child has its own time, just like the way when you want to plant corn, you plant corn in the spring. But no matter how much you want to eat it in the spring, you wait for the harvest in the fall. Everything has that time and every person is different, in that every person has a different time or a cycle on which they realize who they are. And they realize that, "I am that incredible diamond and it's my duty to share my brilliant light with the rest of the world, and not just keep it for myself."
48. In one of the things that I was struggling with my children, was how do I really teach, or how do I educate my kids to really want to have this thing called the Blessing. You know, to really want to dedicate themselves to this one spouse, eternal spouse. It's so beautiful. And how do I get them to prepare and wait for something good? There is just so much temptation all around, so much static in the air saying, "why wait? Experiment! Enjoy yourself! Go through different processes and sooner or later if you want the Blessing, then go to the Blessing." A lot of people are saying a lot of things. Some kids might be good and some kids might be saying, "the Blessing, why is that important? Maybe it's not so important. We just take whatever we can at the moment."
49. As a mother you want your child to have the best in life. Meaning, I know that the most important thing when you ask somebody, "What is the most important thing for you?" It boils down to one thing most of the time in conversations – is that person's desire to love and to be loved. Everybody wants to love and to be loved. Everybody wants to experience true love. Everybody wants to be appreciated, respected, adored, loved. And, nobody wants to be hurt, nobody wants to suffer the pain of people not treating you in the best way when it comes to the subject of love. And I certainly don't want my children to have numerous relationships and go through the throes of different things that a lot of young people – just throw themselves to. I don't want my kids to throw themselves to the wind. I want them to wait and prepare themselves for that special someone so that something precious is shared on that first night that they are together. I want my kids to have that.
50. When I thought about how do I inspire my child to want that, I realized one thing in the course of my growing up in the movement. And that is, in order to love somebody you really need to have the courage to love. Life is so difficult for young people, because your friends are telling you, "do this, do that, do drugs, have sex, have numerous relationships, love doesn't matter." Magazines are telling you that, friends are telling you that, sometimes people in your family are telling you that. In a way, it's difficult to love. You realize if you want to accomplish or really create an ideal family are finally substantiate something beautiful at hand – you really have to be courageous enough to say, "no, I'm not going to throw my life to the wind, because I want something better. Yes you are telling me all these things – let's go do this let's go do that. But I need to be courageous enough to



remain steadfast in my desire and in my dream, to accomplish what I want to accomplish.”

51. In a way it takes tremendous courage to withstand all the temptations and all the wind and all the earthquake and fire that's going on that wants to consume you, that wants to burn you, that wants to wreak havoc on you.
52. I realize as a parent, I think a lot of parents in the audience, when we have kids we kind of make the same mistake that took place in the Garden of Eden. When I think about the fall and when I think about Adam and Eve going astray – you know God gave them a fearful commandment. God told them, “if you eat of the fruit of the tree you will die.” That's like telling your kids, “if you have sex you are going to have cancer.” That's pretty scary. God wanted to scare them. And many times we as parents want to scare our kids into obedience.
53. But guess what? Trying to scare our kids into obedience doesn't work. Telling them all the things they cannot do, because all these horrible things will happen to them, is not inspiring. In fact when I look at my own life I realize, when I truly ask myself the honest question, “why did I wait for the Blessing? Why did I want to wait? It's not that there wasn't opportunity. Of course there is opportunity. It's not that there wasn't temptation. Of course there is temptation.”
54. But it's not the fear of getting in trouble that kept me away. It's not the fear of going to hell. When you're an adolescent you think hell is kind of cool. You think life is really bad, so hell, maybe I should try it out. You want to test the extreme frontier. And for a law to religious minded community settings like ours, hell is that extreme frontier that adolescents will test, time and time again. Fear is not going to protect our kids. The fear of hell, everlasting fire burning, is not going to scare our kids. It certainly did not scare me. I thought, “I'm living in hell so it can't be that much worse.” And I'm sure a lot of young people feel that way.
55. But what really inspired me, what really kept me empowered in the courage to love is this dream that I had. If I were to really honestly ask myself, “yeah, I could do those things, I could do everything that everyone else does, but if I wanted to ask myself what is the most important thing that I want in my life – I honestly have to say, the most important thing in my life is really to be loved and to love. And to have a beautiful family.” I wanted, “it's a wonderful life” kind of a family. I wanted a family where everyone is happy to see each other at Thanksgiving, at Christmas. And I wanted a family where my parents would be there, because they were never there, they were so busy. I wanted an intimate setting, a nice quiet setting filled with small and lovely voices. That's what I wanted.
56. It's the dream of wanting something. It's the vision of what I wanted to accomplish in my life that kept me waiting and kept me hopeful that kept me wanting to prepare for that big day and not a fear of being condemned to hell. Then I realized that, just like Adam and Eve, they were not consumed by fear of dying. In fact, fear didn't really hold water to the kind of thing are the kind of promise that Lucifer portrayed or painted for Eve. He said to her, “you will be as powerful as God, you'll be as knowledgeable as God, you'll be omniscient, omnipotent.” It's this dream or vision of being like God that gave Eve the courage to do what she should not have done. In a way, it's the act of being inspired that caused Eve to follow Lucifer. And he inspired her in the wrong way.
57. So, if fear of dying did not deter Eve from falling and Adam from falling, what makes us as parents think that it's going to work with our kids?
58. Here at LLM I encourage the parents, I encourage the family, do not give your kids a list of things that they cannot do. Because the list is really long. But give them a dream, give them a vision of what they can be, of what they can have, of what they accomplish in the name of love – living a life of sacrifice, living the life for the sake of others, in a way, preparing your life for the sake of the other who is going to be your eternal partner for the rest of your life. Geez, that's kind of romantic isn't it? Everybody wants a great romance. Well, Heavenly Father has given it to us, so how about it?
59. I realize that even with my own children, the minute I gave them a list of things they cannot do, the next thing I know they've done them. And they will do them. So, I've had to take a different approach – not surround them with fear and all the horrible things that will happen in their lives, but I've decided to paint a vision, or paint a picture of all that they can have in their life, if they learn to wait and if they learn to develop this courage to love. Because, it's hard. It's hard to stand up for what you believe in and to fight for what you want out of life.
60. And so again, when I was confronted with my own maternal duties and how to deal with my kids, how to raise my kids, this song came into my mind and into my heart – and again it reminded me that God is in all the small things that sometimes we don't listen to, because we haven't trained ourselves to be open and sensitive.
61. My younger sister, she's an equestrian sportswoman. Because she was so into riding we all grew up riding horses. And one of the things you realize about horses

way you pressure your feet into the horse, in the different directions you want to go. So there are a lot of command centers on the horse that are operating at the same time.

62. But the finest horses, the horses that do extremely well, that have this incredible unity with the rider – they have what we call the reining ear. What the rider means by that is, yes the horse is given the command to go left to go right to go fast or slow or to stop – with the bit and the bridle, because the hand of the rider is controlling the bit and the bridle. At the same time the horse that is trained and highly adept at doing things with the rider in a uniform fashion so that they become almost like one body – they utilize the “reining ear.” What that means is that one ear of the horse is always tuned in to the master’s voice or the trainer’s voice. So even though a lot of noise is taking place, a lot of directions and commands are taking place – external commands through the bit and bridle and through the legs telling the horse of what it should do – the horse leaves one ear open constantly to listen to the master’s voice. And many times the direction from the master is told in a very very small still voice. Many times it's just a sound (she made a clicking sound) and it tells the horse – do this or do that. The master trainer and the horse have their own little language. And it's the reining ear that is always on, that is always open and is always sensitive to the master’s trainer’s voice – that tells the horse exactly what to do. So even if the bridle says one thing or the bit might say one thing or the leg might say something, if the reining ear is saying slow down a little bit more or wait or be cautious – then the horse adjusts whatever it's doing to that voice.
63. I realize that in the course of our lives, lots of external pressures – try to conform us, trying to pressure us into doing many different things, there are a lot of different command centers everywhere – but I think we as God's children, we as His and Her divine sons and daughters, must, just like a horse, keep that reining ear open – and that we keep our hearts open and sensitive to the voice, many times a very small voice that translates, or that Heavenly Father or Heavenly Mother wants to share with all of us.
64. In the course of my life God spoke to me in many many different ways, but one of the ways that He and She spoke to me was through these three songs, in these three different episodes or phases in my life. And so I realize again my own preconceptions, my own expectations might not be exactly sound – and that sometimes it's the least expected or the least anticipated or sometimes it's in the most quiet of ways that God lets us know that we are loved and that we are cared for and that God wants us to do our best, wants us to really be that agent of change to usher in the next millennium.
65. As I saw my father, kind of disappear into the distance, singing one of his favorite Korean songs – again it was a song set to my ears and God spoke to me, “isn't this a beautiful picture? This is so unlike what you envisioned a Messiah to be, right?” That's what God said to me.
66. And again I felt this incredible warmth, incredible love, and incredible energy to take me back home and to continue doing what I do each and every day. And I realized that just as the Bible said, it's not the wind, it's not the earthquake, it's not the fire. In other words don't look for the big stuff, for the superficiality of life, for the loud stuff, for the things that cause you to tremble. But really look deep within and keep our reining ears open, because when we do we realize that the master trainer, or the Master guide, or our master Heavenly Parent is always speaking to us, always guiding this, and always loving us.
67. So brothers and sisters in that way keep your reining ear open to our True Parents love because they are here guiding us, leading us, and wanting the best for us as Gods eternal sons and daughters.
68. There is a lot of static in the air all the time. A lot of people saying a lot of silly things, but keep that reining ear open. Keep your heart open and sensitive to God's serious ways. And you will realize, if we do, that God is speaking to us all the time.
69. God bless and have a great week! Thank you.

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## **Light Thought for the Day**

### ***How to Train a Cat (as a cat owner I could relate)***

**Our young daughter had adopted a stray cat. To my distress, he began to use the back of our new sofa as a scratching post. "Don't worry," my husband reassured me. "I'll have him trained in no time."**

**I watched for several days as my husband patiently "trained" our new pet. Whenever the cat scratched, my husband deposited him outdoors to teach him a lesson.**

**The cat learned quickly. For the next 16 years, whenever he wanted to go outside, he scratched the back of the sofa.**

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#### Providential News

- **True Parents'** are in Las Vegas
  - True Parents are planning to initiate a **Women's UN** and a major OSDP in Korea in which True Father will conduct Q&A. (July 16 – 25)
  - 243 Days until Foundation Day; 13<sup>th</sup> Day of the First Month of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the Heavenly Calendar (which will be Feb 22 on the solar calendar)
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#### Quote for the Week

“There are better things ahead than any we leave behind.” -C.S. Lewis

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#### WestRock Council

Chairperson – Matthew Strater  
Vice-Chair – Rob Kitchens  
Secretary – Grace Selover  
Treasurer – Danso Sawamukai

#### Committee Assignments (so far):

Youth and Education – Toby Gullery  
Care Team – Mary Hida  
Finance – Danso Sawamukai  
Outreach – Tokiko Stewart  
Small Groups – Jim Stinard  
Sunday Service – Rob Kitchens  
24+ – Danso Sawamukai and Grace Selover

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 19, 7:30 pm at the White House.

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#### Announcements (from the Sunday Bulletin)

**WestRock Announcements**  
(WR Web Site: [www.westrockfamily.com](http://www.westrockfamily.com))

#### **Outreach**

- **Prayer for Peace:** July 10, @ 11 am. If you would like to attend, please contact Julia Okamoto
- **UN WFWP Event, Tuesday July 3.**

#### **Community**

- **July 4 LLM Celebration:** 5 – 8 pm ballroom social and food at the Manhattan Center – followed by fireworks observed from the New Yorker Hotel. (especially for our youth, but all are welcome!)
- **Award Sunday:** July 8 we will be recognizing those members who received the special award from international HQ
- **8000 Couples 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** there will be a celebration program at the Manhattan Center beginning at 3:00 pm
- **Summer Launch:** Begins July 8. If you would like to start a summer small group or promote an ongoing small group please contact Rev Compton
- **Day camp at Camp Sunrise :** Day camp begins July 2 and concludes Aug 3. To register – see

- **Drop off & pick-up times for the Day Camp**, starting this Monday, July 2nd. - In Westchester there will be 2 vans picking up children at Belvedere from 7:45 AM. They will return the children to Belvedere at 5:00 PM. As the drivers adjust to the schedule the times might change a little, and they will tell the parents directly if that will be the case.

**Prayer Requests**

- **WestRock Prayer Team:** All members are invited to join our Sunday (8:00 to 8:20 AM) prayer by conference call

Phone Number: 712-432-1699, Access Code: 736416#

- Please continue to pray for **Kiladi Mutala's children**; Rose – 17, Roger – 14, Christina – 7, Gloria – 5, that they can all come out of foster care.

**Runiko Isaksen** is at home. Her ankle is in the process of healing. Let's continue to pray for her to heal quickly. **LOVIN LIFE MINISTRIES LEARNING CENTER**

For information on the schedule at the Lovin Life Learning Center, please call them at 212-997-0125 to find out details for all activities – including Ballroom Dancing, Junction, Korean Movie Night, etc.

**Next Ahn Shi II: Thursday, June 28, 2012**

**MAKE IT A GREAT WEEK!**