

Let Us Learn from True Mother's Example

Jack Corley
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In her memorial speech on the third anniversary of True Father's Seonghwa, on August 30, at the Peace World Center at Chung Pyung, True Mother asked the question: What do you want to say to True Father? I want to tell him: Father, from now on, you have nothing to worry about. We will fulfill our responsibilities at all cost. Therefore, we hope and pray that you will now be free to go and come as you please, and to comfort God, our Heavenly Parent, who has been lonely until now, in the eternal garden of the original homeland.

All who observed the original Seonghwa memorial for True Father in 2012 will remember how burdened our True Mother looked as she had to face the reality of shouldering the leadership of our worldwide movement without the presence of True Father by her side physically and to respond to the many challenges she was faced with at that time. Yet, at the conclusion of the original Seonghwa ceremonies, True Mother boldly stepped forward and asked us to move on together with her and complete the work begun by True Parents. From that experience, we could understand that True Mother would not allow the grief of Father's passing and the other challenges that she faced to stand in the way of her clear-eyed vision for 2020. Since then, she has amply demonstrated her wise and focused leadership ability. Through the establishment of such programs as the Universal Peace Academy, the Top Gun workshops, the Cranes Club and the Sunhak Peace Prize, True Mother is offering a positive and uplifting way to inspire our youth and affect the world.

In May of this year, our European movement was honored by True Mother's visit to Vienna, Austria, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the beginning of the Unification Church in Europe. Her visit was on the one hand an opportunity to acknowledge the foundation made by the early missionaries in establishing the movement in Europe as well as an opportunity to honor the underground missionaries and the early members in the communist world, who had risked their lives to teach the Divine Principle. Yet, it was a forward-looking visit, through which Mother could warmly embrace the more than four hundred members of our second generation who had gathered to greet her at the inauguration of the European branch of the Cranes Club. Although Mother spoke at the main event in the Austria Center to more than 2,500 members and addressed a gathering at the United Nations in Vienna, her longest speech was devoted to the vibrant second-generation young adults who greeted her in the Hilton hotel at the Cranes Club inauguration. Before traveling on to the United States, True Mother also visited several other European nations in an effort to understand the Judeo-Christian roots of European society.

Inspired by the visit of our True Mother, we here in Europe are determined to learn from the example that she has shown throughout her whole life. True Mother at a very tender age accepted the call of God to be the bride of our True Father and for fifty-two years remained absolutely loyal, going through untold difficulties and winning the victory that allowed for the establishment of the eternal True Parents. She demonstrated the same unwavering faith when faced with the sudden passing of True Father, in her determination to complete the providence of restoration.

At the recent Cheon Il Guk Leaders' Special Assembly 2015, held at Chung Pyung, True Mother related the story of the French saint Joan of Arc, who at the young age of sixteen was called by God to save her country. Similarly, God called both True Father and True Mother at a young age to fulfill a seemingly impossible mission. Starting their course amid the ashes of the Korean War, True Parents faced decades of poverty, unspeakable persecution and betrayal, and the heartbreak of losing several children; yet True Parents' love for our Heavenly Parent and humankind remained unchanged. They paid the price that allowed for the proclamation of the Cheon Il Guk era. Given their example of victory, we have nothing to fear and everything to look forward to. True Mother told us that we too can bring extraordinary results when we have deep faith and unwavering conviction.

With the victorious example of True Parents and on the foundation of the faith of generations of religious people in Europe, we are determined to realize the ideal of Cheon Il Guk in this region.