

My Experiences with True Mother at True Parents' Birthday Celebrations

Young-ho Yoon

February 2018

Excerpt of the closing remarks to the 2018 Cheon Il Guk Leaders' Assembly.



Over the past three days, thank you for your complete dedication to this workshop. As Mrs. McDevitt mentioned, I received the testimonies of the sub-regional leaders from Japan, throughout Korea and throughout America and this morning I gave a report to True Mother. The title of Rev. Dunkley's testimony is "The Greatest Secret of Heaven is True Mother." He shared his heart and thoughts about True Mother, that Mother is not just the Mother we've been hearing about but she's the kind of Mother that Heaven could not do anything other than to support in order to bring about the desired direction of the providence.

I would like to share a personal anecdote with you. In December 2015, True Mother asked me to prepare for True Parents' Birthday celebration. There are many important events; there are the eight major holy days, but Mother said that the most important event would be the celebration of True Parents' Birthday, because it is the day when the God's only son and God's only daughter were born on earth for the first time, after six thousand years. All of humanity should celebrate this day.

This was the first message, and the second most important day in our whole life is that of the day of True Parents' Holy Wedding. That is the day when True Parents met and appeared before humanity as the True Parents and completed restoration as the True Parents. True Mother said that we need to have a great Holy Wedding celebration. It had been years since True Parents had celebrated their Holy Wedding. That was when True Father had celebrated the Era after the Coming of Heaven. On that day, True Mother gave a great blessing, which was the Four Holy Items of Cheon Il Guk. This was a day of celebration of forgiveness and unity.

When I heard this, I remembered what Mother had said, for example about the Holy Birthday Song. I do not know if you remember this, it says all five colors of people around the world should celebrate together.

She gave the directive but she did not like the music. She asked us. David Eaton tried. Many people tried, but Mother did not like the melody. Mother wrote the song; she wrote the lyrics herself. [See the January 2016 issue of *True Peace*, p. 12 for the lyrics.] Mother told us we should change the Birthday Song to this and when Mother appears onstage, the song should be played. Even the cake-cutting song was different, so Mother gave us directives about every step of the process of the celebrations. One of the biggest misconceptions is that we give the reports and Mother decides, but if you spend one day with True Mother, you will realize how detailed Mother is. Mother is the most detailed leader I have ever met. During True Parents' Birthday celebration, Mother decides every single detail of the celebration.

We long to share our hearts with her

Mother was on the third floor and after an hour and a half, the sun was setting and the rays were shining next to True Mother. I was next to Mother. At that time, what Mother said was that if I go to the spirit

world, even after I go to the spirit world, you should celebrate True Parents' Birthday in this way....

Because she said, "If I go to the spirit world, we should celebrate True Parents' birthday in this way." This was Mother's message. One day, I was just sitting down and then I was on my knees. I said, "I hope you do not speak about going to the spirit world. I want you to be here as long as possible, because when we have a victory, the first person we want to report it to is you. True Mother, when we have something good to share, the first person we want to share it with is you. We hope you can be happy; you can receive many such reports. The firm realization of Cheon Il Guk should be accomplished while you are here."

After that, I cannot forget what Mother said. I was crying and Mother asked, "What time is it? It's 5:35 am. Today, I have spent such a fruitful day.... I meet Mother about 5:30 am and if the lights are on, it means Mother is already awake. Mrs. McDevitt attends Mother closer, but we know that Mother is awake from early morning. When Mother gave directions about True Parents' Birthday celebration it lasted from 5 pm until the next day at 5 am. We were there for more than twelve hours.

Yesterday, for example, I went to bed at 2 am and woke up at 5 am, but Mother lives each day as if it were a thousand years. I sometimes wonder how Mother can live that way. But on that day, Mother was summarizing everything, one by one, and what she said was "Today, I lived my day fruitfully."

High priests of the providence

I am sharing this with you because during the opening ceremony, I said that you are all the high priests of the providence, the high priests who can risk their lives for the providence, just like the national leader of Burundi and Rev. Song In-myung. He mentioned and I reported that this is what Mother said, Regarding dying, when we look at the Divine Principle, when we go from the sovereignty of Satan to the sovereignty of God and are resurrected we escape death. When there is no concept of the self as with Mother and Father. She used a Buddhist term meaning "complete emptiness." Before Mother met Father Heaven prepared Mother in a state of complete emptiness of self. So Mother developed herself.

In the Bible, we read, "Blessed are the meek at heart for the kingdom shall be theirs." I wondered, if you are meek at heart or if you are poor in heart, how can you be blessed? For example, Mother mentioned that she loves this song that says if you let go of all greed, the flower of happiness blossoms in your heart. The reason that the heart is so important is that when we have no concept of self or personal opinion we can be victorious. It's not just a moment of emptiness. When I felt -- I want to call this "mindfulness" -- and the fullness of Mother's life with Heavenly Parent. Mother is every moment in complete unity and fullness with Heavenly Parent.

When I saw Mother preparing for the holy Birthday, that's when I was truly touched. Because she has lived seventy-five years of her life, it is a dedication, or jeonseong. Even though I am relatively young, I was able to feel this. Even today, we reviewed the musical.... In this musical is True Father's entire life. Yankee Stadium is Father. Washington Monument is in because it is Father. Even Danbury was a victory because outside the gate, True Mother was there. We showed the work of True Mother through Danbury. This is what Mrs. McDevitt mentioned, When Father came out of Danbury, the first thing they, Father and Mother, did was host a special ceremony to be welcomed as the True Parents of Humanity. They are completely united in mind and body.