

Experiences in Las Vegas Distributing True Father's Autobiography

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July 4, 2011

Editor's Note: This post originally was written by Jack and Jeanie Young as report for True parents for Rev. Berg's report



When we first received the direction to distribute True Father's autobiography, no specific date of completion or place of distribution was specified. But in late April, we heard True Father ("TF") wanted 120,000 books distributed specifically in Las Vegas, and that he would like this to be completed by July. I had already distributed 430 books door-to-door near our home in Pittsburg, CA, but I felt a great urgency to assist with the distribution goal in Las Vegas. We knew this was a significant condition TF needed to change the spiritual climate of Las Vegas, which in itself is a condition to affect the moral and spiritual culture in America. The victory would somehow be connected to Korea and the rest of the world. Nothing was more important!

One challenge was that we could only distribute books which had been purchased. I informed Pastor Kevin Thompson that I would like to help anyone who needed assistance in delivering books they purchased. He got the word out and found about a dozen families in the Bay Area who bought cases of books that I could deliver on their behalf in Vegas.

I had many insights and spiritual lessons in Las Vegas. It soon became clear that the outcome depends on one's attitude and mind set. I felt my first purpose was to represent TF as best as I could in the few minutes I spoke with a person. We had to distribute a great number of books, but, whenever possible, we also had to collect people's contact information to be informed of future events.. In a sense, we were witnessing, but condensed into a moment. Whether they took the book or not, we needed to leave an impression of sincerity that would stay with them long after our brief encounter. If they didn't take the book, I wanted them to at least feel they had met a nice person and would consider taking a book from the next person they met.

I focused on approaching people with sincerity. I had a sincere desire that people learn about TF, and that we complete this condition victoriously. But beyond that, TF explained in a hoon dok hai that he wrote the autobiography to comfort God's heart. Although we failed to get enough members over the years, he told God not to worry, that he would summarize his life's work and teachings in that one book and educate the people that way. So I centered on TF's sincerity.

Last year TF gave a speech at the Flamingo during which he demonstrated "chi"—the spiritual power in words and objects. He had members come forward and test the strength in their arm normally, and then while holding the Bible, a DP book, a picture of Jesus, or a word like True Parents. The energy which was demonstrated instantaneously when they held an object or written word of high spiritual energy was undeniable! TF explained that this was the power of "chi." I was keenly aware of the incredible chi that is held within TF's autobiography and that a miracle lies within it.

I found that when I spoke TF's name, the spirit world became very involved. I felt I was flanked by many ancestors and members of my spiritual tribe, and how much we are inspiring the spirit world as we give the book out using TF's name. I had good intuition about which people to speak to, whether to turn right or left in a lot, and what words to use with certain people. We were attracting the power of the good spirit world, those who wished to participate in the work with us.

I worked mostly in parking lots and to people at gas stations. Sometimes I blitzed Starbucks or McDonald's where people were eating. I worked a few days at the Spanish market where we had permission. One day Maryanne Irwin and I distributed 17 cases between the two of us. It was very exciting and a rewarding experience to meet so many wonderful families.

Some memorable experiences were:

An African-American man, humbly dressed, was sitting on a street curb. I sat down next to him and said, "Good day, sir. I'm giving out a free book today, the autobiography of Rev. Moon who lives here in Las Vegas. Would you like to have a Spanish copy or an English copy? He replied that he'd like it in English. I thanked him for receiving it, and walked away. I watched him from a distance, and saw him stand up. To my surprise, he crossed the street, pulled out his keys, opened the door to his Lexus, and drove away. We can't judge people by their appearance;

At a gas station, I approached a man who was filling up his car. He said no, he didn't want a book. I explained more about TF and he rejected the book twice more. Finally, he agreed to take it. I thanked him for receiving it. He sat in the car and read the first few pages while waiting for someone who had gone into a nearby shop. Minutes later, he flagged me over to his car. He said he loved the book, thanked me for giving it to him, and wanted more copies;

Once I approached a mother and her son in his mid-twenties. He said, "I don't want a book. You won't believe what religion I am." I said, "Go ahead and tell me! I'm a stranger. It doesn't matter." He said, "I'm an atheist." His mother looked ashamed and turned away. Knowing that the book has incredible power and is truly a gift from God, I said, "That's okay! No problem! Here's your book!" He received it and got into the car. He read some of it in the car, and moments later he got out, came to find me, shook my hand, and gave me a donation for the book. He said he liked it and would definitely read it. His mother's countenance had changed

entirely. She looked happy and proud. It seemed like the book was already working its magic and helping to heal their relationship!

If a person said no, that they didn't want the book, I checked myself. Did I explain that correctly? Was I pleasant? Did I approach them with courtesy and good energy? Could I have handled the situation differently?

Sometimes if a person said no, I just said, "Please," knowing how important it was. Many times, the people would take the book;

On one particularly warm evening, I was working in the Walmart parking lot at 9:00 p.m. when two very special customers drove in—Hyung Jin Nim and Yeon Ah Nim! It was so exciting to see them! Yeon Ah Nim took a picture of us, and the next morning I shared it with the rest of the distribution team. The love and encouragement Hyung Jin Nim and Yeon Ah Nim extended to us infused our whole community with joy!

It was wonderful to see members rally to purchase books, help in the warehouse, assist with distribution and in many other ways to fulfill True Father's desire to complete this condition. I was particularly inspired by Bill Bechtel! With faith, he moved a mountain of books from the warehouse, loading vans, driving people to area, and keeping them supplied with books all over the city. He subsidized my trips, helping with gas money and expenses to make the trips possible.

Our Japanese brothers and sisters set the tremendous foundation of distributing the first 50,000 books, but our American members carried on in like manner. I was proud of them. Brothers and sisters traveled from far and near, working tirelessly in temperatures exceeding 100 degrees most days. There was a great sense of team spirit and unity in our common desire to fulfill this condition together for True Parents. We were well-cared for and well-directed under the leadership of Rev. Staffan Berg and his wonderful team. It was a privilege to be able to participate. With the tremendous support described above, I was able to make four trips to Las Vegas, for a total of 19 days, and estimate that I delivered 4,100 books there.

I was so happy to learn that our goal of 120,000 books has now been reached!!! I am truly grateful and offer sincere thanks to Heavenly Father, our True Parents, Rev. Berg, and all who participated in this important condition.

-Jack Young