

Because I Wish Happiness for Everyone, I Shall Convey the Divine Principle

Yuka Totsuka
January 2018



Mrs. Yuka Totsuka (center) enjoying tea with members she is close to after doing calligraphy in the Shosha Hall

I have always wanted to build a loving home. I want to become happy, but somehow, I was suffering a series of sorrows. Five years into my marriage, I did not realize I had grown demanding toward my husband. We conversed less and we were growing apart in our relationship. On the one hand, I reckoned that I could not expect much from life, but then again, I also wanted to believe that there must be a way to become happy.

A year and a half ago, I learned the Divine Principle for the first time. Since then, I have learned about true love, about the role of a wife and about how I should serve my husband. Although I had never thought that I was the one to blame, through the *shosha* activity, I learned to

reflect upon myself. I started practicing what I learned, such as thanking and comforting my husband when he came back from work and serving him with love. Gradually, we began to communicate more and go out together. This gave me a firm belief that the Family Federation is the only way for individual and family salvation. Its teachings are 100 percent correct and we cannot become happy without knowing them.

I was born the second of four daughters. When I met and talked with my sisters in August last year, I realized that all of them were having difficulties in marriage and parenting. Since I had firm conviction that things will change through *shosha*, I recommended that they practice *shosha*. All of my sisters started *shosha* with their husbands last September and have practiced it almost every day. In imitation of their parents, their children also practice *shosha* diligently. I kept their writings and offered them at the monthly dedication ceremony on their behalf.

A while later, I wanted to invite my younger sister, who lives in Saitama, to visit but I hesitated to call her because it would take an hour and a half each way by train from Saitama to Takasaki. I found the courage to invite her to a Hyojeong Celebration, supposing it would be easier for her to participate if it was a single-day event. Each church in our Gunma District held a Hyojeong Celebration to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of True Parents' visit to Gunma; these were also one of their efforts to create a foundation for a ten-thousand-person rally in Gunma. The Takasaki Family Church held its Hyojeong Celebration July 16–17 with an opening service, cultural entertainment and a *shosha* dedication ceremony. Many families came and enjoyed the event. My younger sister enjoyed it with her seven family members.

Since I wanted her to learn True Parents' teachings in the future, I first contacted her to say, "How about offering your calligraphic writing at the Shosha Hall?" Since it has been more than ten months since she started practicing *shosha*, she readily agreed to follow my suggestion.

After the dedication ceremony, I went to the *shosha* café with my sister and members I am close to for tea. Usually, my sister is too busy with parenting, work and housework and does not even have the time to complain. However, that day, she opened her heart and told us about her problems at home. This gave me a chance to discover an unknown side of her.

When I said, "They will teach you what you must do to become happy here. Let's study together!" she said willingly, "I will! I will come and study once every week." That was how she decided to take the Divine Principle course.

I shall unite with Rev. Gyeong-seong Nam, the Gunma District leader, so we will be able invite True Mother to Gunma by 2020 and return joy to Heavenly Parent and True Parents.

The article, which originally appeared in World Family includes the Japanese church practice of shosha, writing out a selection from True Parents' teachings.