

Be the First to Bloom

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To Korea's subregion two, the heavenly nation of Gyeongwon



Leaders and members of the heavenly nation of Gyeongwon! Subregional chairman, Hwang-bo Guk, you spoke well. With a joyful heart I will wait for the day you bear the fruits of your work. You have worked hard. I would like to say one more thing:



Subregion five declared they will advance with the spirit of a daffodil. For the heavenly nation of Gyeongwon, it is the magnolia. When spring arrives, the magnolia flower is the first to bloom, even before the leaves come out. I understand that there is a place on Mt. Balwang where you can find many white magnolias. I truly love magnolias. We had big lily magnolia trees in East Garden and in Belvedere.

The New York area has big lily magnolia trees, so when you catch a glimpse of a vista of the area in springtime, it is magnificent. That is why I am trying to have many magnolia trees planted here in Korea as well. The magnolia is a tree that grows quite large. I sincerely pray that the heavenly nation of Gyeongwon will be no less than a daffodil, and grow into a big magnolia. Then, I feel we should probably have a celebration for the stars [referring to successful members]. But before that I would like to sing the "Song of April." Please sing along with me if you know the song. *Under the shade of magnolia blossoms,*

Is where I read Werther's letter.

On a hill covered with clouds,

Is where I play the flute.

Ah! Far away I go to a nameless harbor

Where I look up at the stars. April illuminates the flames of life.

Tis the season of brightly shining dreams.

Tis the season of tearful rainbows.