

TODAY'S

WORLD

MAY 2001



The blessing of religious leaders
Cheong Pyeong: seeing the reality

On a mission in Lebanon
Japanese grandmother finds 21 spiritual children-in Korea!

Message from the Publisher

Reverend Hwang Sun-jo



The Day of Pentecost and Our Mission

Rev. Hwang's sermon from May 20, 2001, at the Headquarters Church in Chungpa-dong, Seoul

THE Old Testament records God's providential history centering entirely on the nation of Israel. Among the thirty-nine books of the Old Testament, only one book, that of Jonah, actually talks about how God's grace can reach not only the Jews but the gentiles as well. Other than that, the entire Old Testament is based on Jewish superiority, and sees history through the viewpoint of that people.

The Jewish people went through tremendous suffering. Their one and only hope was the Messiah. In the midst of suffering, they earnestly believed that when the Messiah came, he would save the Jewish people and destroy all the rest of the world. With such a fervently nationalistic view of the Messiah, they waited for Jesus. They thought that when Jesus came, heaven would break apart with thunder and lightning. However, Jesus was born in humble circumstances near the coast of Galilee. They simply could not believe Jesus was the One.

After recognizing that Jesus' words were totally different from what they had expected the Jewish leaders ended up in despair. How could *he* be the one? Inevitably, they all fell into disbelief.

The expectations of the twelve disciples

However, those who followed Jesus were full of seemingly endless hope. Most of Jesus' followers were Galilee natives. Galilee was the most troubled area in Samaria.

There were three different sects within Judaism. There were the Sadducees and Pharisees, who were closely tied with political power. And the Essenes that did not want anything to do with those who were in power and led extreme, ascetic lives praying and fasting in the wilderness. John the Baptist was of that tradition. They continuously fought in their own way against Rome and the political power supporting it.

The Sadducees and Pharisees mainly worked in the southern land of Judah around Jerusalem. The Essenes and other patriots usually stayed in the dry land of Samaria. Galilee was one of the well-known areas of Samaria. It was a land full of pain and hopelessness. Those who lived there were mostly outcasts from the mainstream political and religious traditions.

The Mosaic Law was the law of the land at that time, but it was only kept by those who could afford to keep it. It was almost impossible for people like farmers and fishermen to keep some of the laws, like those pertaining to the Sabbath and cleansing. So, the land of Galilee was filled with those who were looked down upon as sinners by the Jewish leaders in power at that time.

Right there, in that wilderness, one man started speaking about the Kingdom of God. When Jesus met Peter [and Peter's brother, Andrew], he told the uneducated fisherman, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Peter was probably one of the social outcasts who did not keep the Mosaic Law. At that time, fishermen could never keep the law regarding cleansing. They had to sell their fish every day in order to survive; they probably could not keep the Sabbath either.

To such a humble man, the exhortation to become a fisher of men must have been like an experience of thunder and lightning—an awakening. Even *he* could be a righteous man giving light to the world. So he threw away his fishing net, something his life had depended upon, and followed Jesus.

Most of the followers of Jesus had backgrounds just like Peter's. Above all his other important teachings, Jesus taught them to love their enemies and not to judge others. Jesus healed lepers; and a hemophiliac who had suffered for thirty-eight years was healed with one word from Jesus. Those demon-possessed were freed from their demons. A woman who had bled for twelve years stopped bleeding just by touching Jesus' cloak. There were also other miracles. The

miracle of feeding the five thousand with five loaves and two fish. Witnessing those miracles, people were full of expectation and hope.

All the hope turned into despair at the time of the crucifixion, however. Just before he entered Jerusalem and faced his crucifixion, Jesus stayed one night in Lazarus' house. Who was Lazarus? He was a beggar.

Lazarus' younger sister was Mary Magdalene, a former prostitute. In such a humble house, he spent the night. There were only twelve disciples with him at that time. Once, so many people had followed Jesus, but in those final days, he was left with only a very small circle of people. In the



A new graduate school for studies in True Parents, opened May 12th in Korea

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Father and Mother look over a building that is to be dedicated as a new headquarters in Uruguay, South America

Religious leaders receive the blessing from True Parents



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Let Us Accomplish Our Mission in Our Lifetime

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Participants Share Their Experience

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Inauguration of the Continental Headquarters of the Federation for Cosmic Peace and Unification

Serving the Nation, Serving the World (Finding the Ambassadors of Peace)

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Cover Photo: Father and Mother greet the assembled participants and well-wishers at the Holy Blessing for religious leaders at New York's Hilton Hotel, May 27, 2001

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The Coronation Ceremony of God's Kingship Completes the Victory of Heaven and Earth

REVEREND SUN MYUNG MOON
MAY 15, 2001

RAYBURN BUILDING, CAPITOL HILL, WASHINGTON, DC



God and True Parents could not be liberated before the new millennium. Now that the Parents of Heaven and Earth and their children have been liberated, there is nothing to fear. Even if you are imprisoned, you should not be afraid. People are eager to build the heavenly world, preferably while they are still young. How wonderful that would be!

We are reaching the position where we can hold the cosmos in our hands as its master. There is no reason to hesitate or worry in any situation.

Do you know how to achieve perfection as an individual? Do you know this can be done through mind-body unity? At the time of the fall, Satan's blood lineage was linked to the flesh, so physical desire and the power of fallen love was stronger than the conscience. This was the problem. Under no circumstances should we allow ourselves to be controlled by physical desire.

From now on, we must live by certain firm principles. The first is that we must not stain our blood lineage, even to the point of dying. The second is that we must not violate the human rights of others. Sometimes this may happen even in personnel decisions. Whether female or male, black or white, everyone is equal. One must not discriminate or violate human rights. People in leadership positions must not take personnel actions based on their personal biases.

Those who practice true love, honoring human rights correctly and living for the sake of others, must be considered the mainstream. Living for the sake of others was God's starting point in the creation of heaven and earth. Any act that weakens or destroys this mainstream is not to be tolerated, because it violates the second most serious principle.

The third principle is not to steal public money. Don't use



RESPECTED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY SINCERE GRATITUDE TO THE MANY PROMINENT GUESTS, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WHO ARE PARTICIPATING IN THIS MEANINGFUL EVENT TODAY. I AM PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL TO HAVE THIS MEANINGFUL OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK IN THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL, WHICH REPRESENTS THE WORLD AS A TEMPLE OF THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO CONGRATULATE ALL THOSE WHO HAVE RECEIVED AWARDS TODAY FOR THEIR DEDICATION AS CHAMPIONS OF FAITH-BASED SERVICE ACTIVITIES IN COMMUNITIES AROUND THE UNITED STATES, AGAIN REPRESENTING THE WORLD.

Here in the Capitol on February 2nd of last year, we presented the American Century Award to individuals who had shown themselves to be models for the new century in the areas of freedom, faith, and family. We presented these awards to commemorate the founding of the Federation of Cosmic Peace and Unification.

It is even more meaningful that this year we are presenting awards to people recognized in their communities as being the most exemplary role models based on their faith-based activities. We are presenting these awards to commemorate the first anniversary of the founding of the federation....

Now, I would like to share with you the points that require our particular attention in our lives after the Coronation Ceremony for God's Kingship. Until now, the most serious problem has been that of lineage. This is the most important. Societies and governments, even schools, cannot deal with this problem. There are many nations in the world, but nowhere is God's love, life, and lineage protected. Satan dominates the whole world. Therefore, the solution can only be found in God and True Parents.



public money to fulfill selfish desires. These are the three principles. Seventy percent of those in jail are there because they violated one or more of these three principles. If you are imprisoned, you will see this is true. Many people are there for violating human rights, staining the lineage, or other sexual problems. Also, there are the problems arising from abuse of power and money. Money, knowledge, and power have been misused to oppose God's principles.

Starting today, people should consider the blessed lineage to be connected to God's lineage, receiving His true love and true life. This lineage must not be stained again by practices immersed in the customs of the fallen world. Can you protect your lineage? Whether you are married or still single, you must commit yourself today to maintain the purity of your lineage.

Article One in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Heaven is that we must not defile the lineage but must protect its purity eternally. Article Two is that we must not violate the human rights of others. Article Three is that we must not misuse public funds.

These are absolutely necessary if we are to maintain Heaven's kingship and stand before Heaven as a people, parents, wife and children, and brothers and sisters. You cannot neglect your older brother. You cannot neglect your younger brother even if he is handicapped. You cannot neglect your relatives. In the world, these relationships are often not respected.

People who have studied a lot and completed college tend to look down on those who only completed high school. This, too, violates human rights.

The destruction of the environment is a problem as serious as misusing public property. Those who live like this will not be successful in their lives no matter how hard they may try.

The whole world dislikes those who do not repay their debts. Society frowns on this kind of behavior, and will even punish those kinds of people.

Then in what kind of environment should we live and what relationships should we maintain while keeping these principles? The answer is simple. There are also three kinds of relationships: the parent-child relationship, the husband-wife relationship, and the brother-sister relationship. This last one refers to brothers and sisters in the position of children to the parents; it means a relationship among children of the same parents. This is why one's family has a mother and father. And from that couple come sons and daughters.

Just as we are related to brothers and sisters through our parents, we are also connected to many other relatives through our parents. That is why the parent-child relationship, the husband-wife relationship, and relationships among children are key. When these relationships become interconnected, we automatically have brothers and sisters.

To maintain these key relationships, you should be models for each other. You should be models in front of your mother and father, your spouse, and your children. This will lead you to live a virtuous life. Being a model in the family will lead you to being a model in the nation and in the Kingdom of Heaven.

The family will be recognized in which three generations—grandparents, parents, and children—all live by this model and form the ideal of the four position foundation.

Therefore, a person who initiates and takes responsibility to bring reconciliation or otherwise positively influences a relationship among siblings or between children for which all sides share responsibility will never be excluded in the heavenly world.

From now on, as long as you keep these principles, you will certainly become members of the heavenly royal family. Wherever you may go, you will form families of freedom, unification, and liberation.

That is why I am including these principles in the motto for the third millennium: we must lead the way in maintaining the purity of lineage, respecting human rights, and protecting public assets. And we must be models in relationships between parents and children, husbands and wives, and among children.

When everyone in the community says, "Let's follow that person," and "We want to be like that person. We want to be her neighbor," then that person will certainly become a citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven, and be remembered in the heavenly world. I myself am following this way.

Today, I am offering you the three key principles that I declared during the Coronation Ceremony of God's Kingship. These are guidelines that we must keep as human beings and as principled persons. They do not go against the principles of your families or this nation.

In the Completed Testament Age, we must understand about the spirit world. Please study hard about the spirit world and receive the blessing centering on God so that you may form families of true lineage, and prepare for your eternal life by living for the sake of others.

Now all people must work hard to receive heavenly fortune, which surpasses all limited human ability.

Those who, in front of the living God, with a humble attitude, become filial children, patriots, saints, and divine sons and daughters of God and bring honor to the true lineage of Heaven will be blessed to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Let us stand together in the age of God's kingship to establish a world of the culture of heart transcending national boundaries.

May God bless you and your families.

Thank you very much.◆

Photo below: A final prayer is led by Pastor T. L. Barrett



Let Us Accomplish Our Mission in Our Lifetime

REVEREND SUN MYUNG MOON

APRIL 18, 2001

EAST GARDEN, NEW YORK

Translated from the original Korean transcript of Father's words to assembled leaders at the victory celebration for the fifty-state speaking tour of the United States, at East Garden.

What is this place? What are we here for? [To celebrate your victory!] Who has accomplished this victory? [You have.] But you have to understand that my heart is too burdened to enjoy my victory. When people work very hard on something, naturally their position rises and it is very easy for them to forget the ground they are standing on. Let me warn you: People do not fail or make fatal mistakes when they are being persecuted from outside. People fail when they rise up high and forget their original foundation. Do you understand? You have to always remember and keep your own foundation, no matter what. That should be the conclusion of this entire meeting today.

It is nice to have blessings, excitement and so forth. But if you are too excited to remember your foundation and to stand on your own feet, then it will be the end of you. Do you understand? I believe that I have done all that I can do for the United States. I have crossed through the pass. I have fulfilled my responsibility for America. I have completed God's Coronation Ceremony. I also have finished educating leaders of American society, especially national religious and political leaders. I am not just referring to what I have done on this occasion but in previous times as well. In order to harvest the results of all I had invested, I began the speaking tour of all fifty states. You have no idea how hard God had to work to prepare all that. I know that our members also did a lot, but you worked in your limited surroundings. The spiritual world went beyond boundaries, even national ones, to make this a success.

Centering on the United States, with support from several other nations, we have been able to successfully complete this speaking tour. But you should not forget the fact that in the spiritual world thousands of people, regardless of nationality, helped the Unification Church. Do you realize that? That is why we need to remember that we owe much to all the people in the spiritual world, and therefore we should make a new determination to pay back our debts. Do you understand? [Yes.] Moreover, the national messiahs here, the executive members of the Unification Church organization and missionaries from abroad all worked on the front line.

However, our effort shouldn't lose energy simply because these events have come to an end. The question is how we define this age, looking back at the past thousands of years of history. You need to clearly understand how long and tedious a history God had to endure and that we are on the verge of bringing about settlement. This is the beginning.

You have to understand that the Unification Church has not been able to go beyond national boundaries and the worldwide boundary. I know this very well. Do you? How long has the course of humanity's salvation taken? Six thousand years? No. Millions of years. You have to remember this. For all those years, God alone has had to endure everything

in order to recover that lost family of Adam's. No one knew. Opposing God's providence, Satan destroyed humanity, pulling people apart, paralyzing their spirits and in the end making them vegetables. What did Satan make out of humanity? [Vegetables.] Satan has destroyed humanity.

Even God cannot recover problematic areas of this abandoned world. What should our Unification Church do about it? As a True Parent, how shall I fix the satanic environments in the spiritual world and the physical world that have inherited Satan's blood lineage? That has been the major question I have been asking myself. I came as the True Father, as the one responsible for this world. Because of me, things should be different from previously when, throughout history, God had to work alone. Since Adam failed in his generation, I had the task of accomplishing my mission in my own generation. Can you imagine what I was up against? You have no idea. As a man who understood the providence so well and who stood as the representative for God's will, I knew beyond a doubt. But I do not want to talk about this right now. I do not want to talk about it. Because I clearly knew that no matter how miserable a position I was in, God was always in a more pitiful position... I always feel, before God, that I am an undutiful son who, out of shame, cannot even raise his head before his Parents. Because I know so well how shameful humanity has been in front of God, I do not dare to talk about how hard things have been for me. Do you understand?

Jesus lost his body on earth....His body was lost. Likewise, many Christian leaders' bodies were sacrificed on earth. Without a foundation for his physical body, Jesus went to the spiritual world and had to endure years and years of bloody, sweat-drenched effort to prepare for the Christian culture to win victory.

The United States can be the United States today because God has made a foundation for the nation. The success of the United States cannot be attributed only to its people. God's foundation was supposed to emerge after World War II....

Without unity between Cain and Abel, there is no place for their mother. That is why without the unity between Catholicism and Protestantism, the Holy Spirit cannot help humanity. So if even one line in the Bible had said that the Second Coming would come as a man with a physical body, all the saints and sages and God would not have suffered as much. It is just so sad that the historical figures on God's side did not know how serious their positions were and did not reveal God's providence more accurately....

Catholicism and Protestantism have been divided and so have all the religions that fought against one another. The Second Coming must solve these problems of division and struggle. Christianity has opposed me and made things more difficult, but I cannot abandon Christianity, since I know their background and I know that I am the one to bring Christians to the right point....

From the Principle viewpoint, we do not need the Chris-

tian churches. We did not need the Holy Spirit Association.

We could have initiated this movement without mentioning one word about God when the Soviet Union existed. If, rather than "Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity," we could have used the name "Family Federation" from that time, it would have made our work a lot easier, I know. However, due to the failures of the first and the second Israels—that is, the failures of the Old Testament and the New Testament Ages—I could not immediately initiate the Completed Testament Age. So I had to do it the way I did, knowing that it would block our movement and give people more reasons to persecute us in so many ways. It was inevitable. It was our destined course....

Even if one fails on the family level, if one then wins on the national level, one can naturally have success on the family level. That is how things work. The Second Coming has to restore the failures of the first Israel and of the second Israel. Otherwise, humanity cannot return to the original world....

The Second Advent must take responsibility for the providence, clear up the past and find the right path for humanity to return to God. The entire earthly foundation to bring unity between the spiritual world and the physical world was completed after World War II. But soon I had to face the fact that all the victorious foundations made by the heavenly side—unity with the United Kingdom as the Eve nation, with the United States as the eldest son nation, and with France as the archangel nation—were completely lost because of Christian opposition toward me. I was devastated and lost.

The Koreans who led the independence movement against Japanese colonialism tried to reestablish the nation of Korea, but Christians had no idea about establishing a nation based on Christianity at that time. They had no sense of direction. Korea as a nation does not matter so much. It matters when it is connected to God's providence. Korean Christians did not even think about establishing a heavenly nation on the Korean peninsula. The Soviets were in Korea only to further their national interests, as were China, America and Japan. They were only concerned about their national interests; it had nothing to do with God's will. That was how and why Christianity sank down in Korea. The problem is that people are always driven by external things; but I was in the position to solve problems from the most internal point of view. Catholics and Protestant Christians opposed me—Christians themselves were divided among so many sects and denominations and the Unification Church lost its direction in the middle of it all. I had no place to stand. So all the foundations made for God's will were entirely destroyed.

The most serious problem was the Ewha scandal. If I had established my foundation centering on the college campuses, I would have easily led the Christians. It would not have been a problem. There were three women opposing me with support from the Korean government. Maria Park, Francesca Rhee and Helen Kim. It was historic. The whole scandal was historic.

So all those foundations made by the heavenly side were

lost and I was driven away. In such a difficult situation, I had to solve all the problems of humanity during my lifetime on earth. Do you understand? Not in the tens of generations after me, but in my lifetime. Since Adam could not succeed in his lifetime, I had to indemnify all of human history and bring victory in my own lifetime. You have no idea how suffocated I felt at that time. Please think about that.

There was nobody I could reach out to for help. There was only God. Even God was not in a position to help me. I had to comfort Him instead. God could not help me. If He had helped me, would Satan have kept quiet? Since I lost the entire Christian foundation because Christians and Jews had not fulfilled their responsibility, I alone had to build the new foundation from the bottom, for forty years...forty years centering on Mother. Our couple had to restore all the mistakes of Adam's family and the four thousand years of the prolonged history of restoration during forty years of our lives....

We had long roads to walk, rivers and oceans to cross. We had incredible obstacles to break through. We had to solve all the problems for ourselves. That is why we needed to set up conditions of indemnity. Representing the entire world, we had to set up the offering table by ourselves and fight against Satan. Satan opposed our offerings; and God could not accept our offerings regardless of His desire. Without God's help, I

alone had to set up the victorious foundation for God to come down to earth and claim His right of ownership. Our church members must understand this point clearly. Unification Church leaders do not understand that we have to sanctify all of history on the altar of the Total Living Offering.

At this time, you need to make the Total Living Offering.... You, rascals! Do you think I set this up as some kind of memorial day title? We are changing the destiny of human history. None of you really understands

its seriousness. So I have set up conditions on your behalf to liberate God. Korea alone is not enough of a condition or foundation. The mission of the third Israel is to build the providential foundation of having embraced and absorbed the United States. That is why I had to come to the United States and build a foundation over the past thirty years or so. Jesus could not digest Rome in his lifetime. He died when he was thirty-four [*sic*]. That is why I had to make the foundation in the United States in thirty-four years.

I had to set up the indemnity condition of having influenced the American Christian churches and even the United Nations. Otherwise, there is no way I could move the spiritual world. I had to clear up not only the physical world but also the spiritual world. You have no idea of the internal reasons for what I do. That is why you can be so lazy. Even after thousands of years, the realm of unity between the spiritual world and the physical world cannot be built without going through the indemnity process.

The reason Mr. Lee Sang-hun went to the spiritual world is that he had the mission to teach about all these points, internally and externally. I sent him there to educate you....

During the entire fifty-state speaking tour, I let Mother



accompany me. One of the top leaders said, "Isn't the schedule too long and tough for you? Couldn't you make it shorter for the sake of your health?" The fact is, once I'd left the people I spoke to in each city, I would never see them again during my lifetime on earth. So I needed to at least set up the condition for them of taking the responsibility of answering all their questions. That way, they cannot accuse me of having left them without giving them the right answers. It was a very serious situation....

The Unification blessed family members cannot just be indebted to me like this. Since I have cleared up everything and broken down the barriers throughout the entire world, you can be independent of me. You will not be persecuted as you were before.

If anyone persecutes you, that very persecution will authorize and qualify you to have owner's rights over the heavenly realm. There will be no more indemnity for you. What matters from now on is how much sweat and blood you pour into saving your own tribe and nation and how fast and hard you work by sacrificing your own family to do so. I have prepared a car for you, paved the roads and taught you how to drive. All you need to do now is to fill up the gas tank and step on the accelerator. Those of you who cannot even do that do not deserve to live in this world. You will only be a hindrance to the providence.

Don't you agree?

When autumn comes, those farmers who have taken good care of their crops cannot wait for the harvest time. But those farmers who wasted their time playing and drinking do not dare to look at their fields. They do not dare to raise their heads. While nature has prepared to offer its fruit for the year, they have not done anything to deserve it. Without preparing any food for themselves, what are they going to do during Chusok and the Lunar New Year in front of their parents and ancestors?

What do you think? You should be ashamed of yourselves if you are indebted to someone. Do you understand?

You ought to follow me even at the risk of your lives. I have come to the point where I could hold God's Coronation Ceremony by having gone through the total indemnification process. I have traversed the passes of hardships and privations. You have no idea what I had gone through to hold the Coronation Ceremony. Who would have known that all my efforts would bear fruit with God's Coronation Ceremony? What matters the most is maintaining purity in the lineage.

Next is the matter of discrimination, men against women and women against men. Did Adam and Eve go to school? Were they supposed to inherit everything through college degrees or through becoming God's sons and daughters? You must know that they could only receive this inheritance through the connection of blood lineage....

We have to finish all of our missions in our lifetimes. You have about ten years left, only ten years. You have to find your own nation. You have to think about it seriously. I alone made it possible for us to hold God's Coronation Ceremony after having gone over all the passes of history. It was really like a dream come true. I could not have done it if I had one

shred of attachment to my own life. My life may conclude as the life of a sinful and undutiful son or as the life of a loyal patriot for God's nation. Either way, I have to harvest the fruit of all my work in my lifetime.

So, you can imagine how busy I must have been. The Unification Church has been going up from 1997. We all have to cross over the pass within three years' time. I have been very busy. You had no idea, right? You may think your daily life will continue to be as it is today. But that will surely not be the case. Do you understand what I am talking about? We have to bear fruit in our own lifetime. We are in the same boat. You have to conclude your life's mission within your own lifetime. By the time I am ninety two—eighty plus twelve is ninety two—so by twelve years from the time I was eighty, I have to finish our work. I cannot be certain that I will still be around in this world until then, but I am hoping so. I have to finish our work while I am still breathing in this world. Do you understand? [Yes.]...

You have to make Heaven remember you at least as a dutiful son or daughter or as a patriot on behalf of all the people of your nation. You should die as a patriot. That is the least you can do. You do not have to reach the level of sainthood. Saints can go beyond national boundaries. That is why they can live together in unity. Do you understand?

You should at least be dutiful children for Heaven; you should create dutiful families for Heaven. You have to be patriotic families for the heavenly nation. It is really the time when all the blessed families must save the heavenly nation at the risk of their lives. That is where you are right now. Will you just think of your house, your land, your wife or your children when your nation is collapsing! Do you understand the urgency?...

God has been searching for the perfected Adam who can complete the three ages;

the Old Testament Age, the New Testament Age and the Completed Testament Age in his own life time. So God has busily worked for six thousand years. And I had to indemnify all of that history in forty years....

The most serious matter is to keep your blood lineage. What is next? To protect human rights. What is next? Not to misuse public money. Have you really respected your lineage as the parents of your children? Do you know what I mean? [Yes.] You rascals! You are like thieves. You should check yourselves. Ask True Mother how I lead my daily life. People who serve God's will cannot live as they feel like. Do you understand? [Yes!] No matter what happens, you must be able to keep your dignity. You cannot do anything to hurt our already suffering God by being swayed by satanic surroundings. You can never do that even if you have to die. How many times have I been humiliated? Do you know? Whites, Asians and Blacks alike humiliated me and put me in prison. But God has been humiliated and insulted more....

Although I knew that I was God's son, I was simply grateful that Satan did not kill me by stabbing me in the heart and bleeding me to death. That is how I thought about the enemy Satan living in the satanic world. Jesus did not understand his



position clearly. Do you know what I mean? [Yes.] He did not know how to liberate individuals and himself. If I had been he, I would have made it so that people could have learned about it from the Bible...

The Bible does not contain some points on the Principle. I have not seen anyone even questioning about them so far. I am taking responsibility to indemnify them once I go to the spirit world. God's present situation is that He is like a prisoner in a prison cell. So whatever we prepare for Him to settle in, no matter how humble it may be, He will be grateful and gladly accept it. That is His situation.

So we need to start building a temple. A temple...All nations should work together as quickly as possible. You have to take up your own responsibility in front of me. It is not only the children of the Second Advent who ought to take responsibility for God's providence. All the 120 nations must make their Total Living Offerings. No matter what happens, you may quit your missionary work to go back to your hometown and bring all your tribal members from Kim tribe or Lee tribe: You should prepare everyone to be able to enter heaven. You will not be able to avoid accusation if you leave out even a single family from your tribe. This is the chance for you to indemnify your past on the national level. You might have needed to walk thousands or tens of thousands miles day and night to retrace the right path after having lost your sense of mission in God's providence of restoration in the past. You cannot pursue a life of comfort. I have never wished for my own happiness. Do you understand what I am saying? [Yes.] You must know this clearly...

From now, those Unification Church members who are in the spiritual world must compete against the saints there. How long have they been waiting for this? How horribly tired they must have felt just patiently waiting! I also wish that I could restore heaven and earth in an instant. But I cannot do as much as I want to. You must liberate your own ancestors. You must save them. Don't you think so? You do not even need to try to convert others except your own ancestors.

So now all the national messiahs must have prepared foundations in their own mission nations. How can you say to me, "I could not do it because something happened in my family."? I told you to catch 160 fish in the Pantanal. Have you done as I told you? This is a very important time. Those of you who participated there for the special four days [of fishing]. If you did not come for the four-day period, something bad could happen to you. You do not know how serious things are. Did you not know that some of the Christian ministers were converted after some serious accidents befell them? Something could happen to some of you, too. You must make good conditions. You will realize how serious our life is after making conditions. Everyone must be the bridges for me. You must be the sacrificial altar. The providence works very mathematically. If any nation is left out there will be consequences. Do you understand?

Total clarification, total indemnification in one generation! We must heal all of history and wipe out all the wrongs.... You must at least be dutiful children of God or loyal patriots

of God in your lifetime. Do you think so or not? [Yes, we must.] Those of you who really think that you must, raise your hands. This is not something I can interfere with. I have fulfilled my responsibility as a parent. You may die, or live to the end, but the most important point is not whether you live or die but whether or not you win. Even if you must die, you must die as patriots for God's nation. Do you understand?...

We have to get everything done in our own lifetimes. That is my destiny. That is why I have no time to rest. If my legs hurt while climbing the mountain of my destiny, then I will have to roll to the destination. Put yourself in my shoes. How serious must the person be who has my responsibility?

Have you listened to the speech I gave at God's Coronation Ceremony? Is there anything that I need to take out? That was an earnest prayer done with all my heart. Day and night. Without creating the right environment, the subject and object cannot have their positions. That is the Principle. We must create the environment first. You will see whether or not Christian ministers support us. If they do not, this country is doomed. We will pack up and go to China and Russia. I can work faster there....

Let us all fulfill our mission in our own lifetime. Fulfill it in our lifetime! [Fulfill it in our lifetime!] Do not rest until you do. You should shorten your meal times. You should be busy with your work. You should not be busy taking care of yourselves. You must always put your mission first and foremost. You must be so busy that you cannot even tell if it is day or night. I sometimes had days that I asked for breakfast at suppertime and for supper at breakfast time. That is the way I have led my life for many years. I have heard people saying that I was crazy. You do not even think about how hard I had to work to reach this point. I knew clearly what to restore through indemnity and paved the road for you. So you will receive no persecution. You do not need to worry about being pulled down



to the bottom of hell. What you need to be concerned about is how high you can go. That should be your only worry. How to be loyal patriots for God and how to be dutiful children for God, and how to be saints who can contribute to the world are the real questions you are facing. Those who oppose you will welcome you in the end....

So, we should complete our work in our own lifetimes! [We should complete our work in our own lifetime!] You must remember that. You must go your destined path. You must establish God's nation on earth. You do not even need me.

Do you know how fearful it is to be in the position of a blessed family? God has been waiting thousands of years for this. Poor Jesus has been patiently waiting for the liberation of God's nation. Think about all the poor souls who were martyred for the four hundred years of the Roman Empire. They have had to bear long tedious years for the day of the liberation of God's kingdom. Without a clear understanding of your serious position, you cannot really push yourself to establish God's nation. If you cannot establish God's nation, you cannot go beyond the historical era. There is no way. Do you understand? [Yes!]◆

[Edited for Today's World]

Holy Blessing of Religious Leaders

We Will Stand in Oneness

PHOTOS: KEN OWENS & SEIL STUDIO



May 27, 2001
Hilton Hotel, New York

True Parents' Benediction

LOVING Heavenly Father, We are truly grateful today, after having established God's kingship, that we could bless those who are truly good examples among Christians and other religious leaders from the fifty states of the United States and the rest of the world, here, at noon, on May 27, 2001, as heaven and earth watch over us.

I sincerely ask You to bless them and help them fulfill their responsibilities on earth by taking their lives into Your own hands from the beginning to the end. Please guide them to be truly faithful in their religious work, to educate their children and their congregations as You wish them to and to be true examples representing parents, churches and nations.

Father, please do remember all the hardships they had to endure to come this far and everything they have invested with their sincere and loyal hearts. They are to be blessed by True Parents before God as representatives of all the different religious spheres. We are truly grateful for Your grace in allowing this day of the blessing that has been made possible by the unified heart of the four saints in the spirit world and the serving hearts of those who follow them.

Father, please bless all those in attendance who have gathered to offer their congratulations, that they can be one mind

and body and that this ceremony can be a blessing of liberation for the families of those in attendance, churches in this nation and all spheres of religion and all humankind.

I deeply pray with all my heart that they will become exemplary families in all corners of the earth who can digest the evil world by taking responsibility as the leaders of the blessing in their own religious communities with Your victorious realm of limitless love as their shields.

Please, Father, I sincerely pray for all those in the world who hear about today's event to absolutely follow these newly blessed people's examples, to understand the true meaning of this event and to know that they cannot be liberated in the spirit world or registered in heaven and that no one can ever inherit the eternal heavenly kingdom without having received the ties of the blessing from True Parents.

Today, at this holy hour, please accept the sixty couples who are being blessed here. Please accept them closely and allow them to be registered as Your children, whom You can be proud of. I sincerely pray that they may receive your blessing in the tradition of the blessing and be Your children who can inherit the supremacy of love.

I pray all this in the name of True Parents before the Parents of Heaven and Earth! Amen! Amen! Amen!◆



Participants Share Their Experience

Archbishop

George Augustus Stallings, Jr.

Archbishop Stallings is founder of the Imani Temple African-American Catholic Congregation, with a ministry extending across the USA and in Africa. Imani is Swahili for "Faith."

MY motivation for entering into the state of marriage, as well as taking unto myself a wife and eventually children, is the direct result of the spiritual influence of Abonim, that Father Moon had upon my life, as a result of the fifty-state, fifty-two-city, We Will Stand 2001 national tour—during which Abonim spoke about the importance of rebuilding the family, restoring the community, renewing the nation and the world. And one particular aspect of Father's teaching was the importance of blood lineage.

Even though he spoke about life, love and lineage, he often asked us on the tour, in every city, "Which one of the three of them is most important: life, love or lineage?" A lot of people said "love." Father would always strongly indicate blood lineage is very important because blood lineage is vertical. Love and life are horizontal. As a result of constantly hearing him teach about the importance of blood lineage, and passing on our life and our legacy to our children and our children's children, it became very much apparent to me that the only way for me to go was to become a married man and to allow that blood lineage to be passed on to other generations, Abonim's teaching on love has been very clear. Also the teachings of Jesus are very clear.

The teachings of Jesus are very clear when it comes to love. Love is color-blind. Love does not know boundaries. Love challenges us to tear down the walls that separate us as races, as ethnic groups, as different cultures. If love is real and if love is true, we have a responsibility to reflect a universal concept. My bride, Sayomi Kamimoto (Stallings now, she's a Stallings now!) will enable that the two of us truly reflect the love of God, the love of True Parents. And that is what is exciting about this opportunity. And I know that the African-American community, especially with my level of prominence in that community, that this, in many ways, will be unprecedented. It will say to the African-American community

that we are secure enough in our own sense of self-identity and self-worth that we can see ourselves as equal, and seeing ourselves as equal, we can then offer our gift to the rest of the world. And so I offer my gift to Sayomi and Sayomi has offered the richness of her gifts to me.

(To Mrs. Stallings) Please give us the background to your decision to make this marriage a success.

People constantly talk about the age gap. But Father, I believe, has many times said that once you go to spirit world, there's no difference in age. That makes sense to me. And if that's what God has planned for me and for him, I'm just grateful, that's all I can say.

Bishop Stallings, how many children do you want?

Now, that seems to be a question under great discussion in the Stallings household, already. I would prefer to match Abonim and Omonim and have twelve or thirteen children. I know they have thirteen, but I would hope that Sayomi and I can reach an agreeable number. She has told me that if I would desire thirteen children that she would do all in her capacity to make that happen. I'm going to hold her to her word! But before we leave, I would like to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to Hananim Aboji and to thank God for working through Champumo-nim—True Parents—to Abonim and Omonim, who in a very real way have accepted my

wife and me as their children. That it is not simply a friendship, but it goes beyond that, it's true love. And as Father and Mother talked about true love, they have clearly demonstrated it, in very convincing ways, to Sayomi and me. We know that not only have we been especially blessed by True Parents in the blessing ceremony, but we know that we have become a part of their family. We are eternally grateful to them for making us so important and so special in their lives and we pledge to them our love, our devotion and our loyalty.

How will you explain your blessing to the Press?

I feel renewed; I feel whole. I am no longer a half-man. As Abonim said, "Any man unmarried is a half-man; any woman unmarried is a half-woman." So now, we are whole; we are one. I feel that what we have done is so right. I'm feeling renewed. We are now rededicated and recommitted to do the work that is required of us to hasten the day when the Kingdom of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, will be manifest right here on earth.

Wherever one finds love, one should be open enough to embrace it. Never limit oneself to finding love solely within one's race or within one's culture, but if one develops global thinking, a universal mind, as we come to realize that this world is nothing but a global village, we are going to come to realize that we will find many different expressions of true love in many different races, creeds and cultures. ♦

From an interview conducted at East Garden





Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo

Born in a farming village in Zambia in 1930, Emmanuel Milingo was ordained as a Catholic priest in 1958, and was Archbishop of Lusaka in his native country until 1983. Despite his fame as an exorcist and spiritual healer his non-conventional approach led to his being asked to step down, and he was moved to the Vatican to serve on the Pontifical Council for Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant Peoples, a post through which his reputation as a man of love only grew.

It has been more than two years since I was first invited to attend the international and interreligious meetings. Slowly, I began to understand the philosophy of life of Reverend Moon. Then afterwards I followed the forty days of studying the Principle. After that, I understood a lot about the value of marriage and the dignity of marriage and it is this that moved me—and the love that is repeated in the writings of Reverend Moon.

How do you feel, having participated in the blessing ceremony?

Well, it's a new life and I've gotten more of what Reverend Moon teaches. I'm now reading one particular book—*God's Will and the World*—which includes what Reverend Moon wrote while in prison and speeches given at different blessings. These two have given me quite a lot of very valid and valuable spiritual principles.

How many children would you like to have?

It's very difficult to say at the moment. I can just say that I trust God's providence. I look at my age. There's always a possibility, so I count on God. Whatever God is going to do, we are disposed to follow that. Whatever we are to do, we will still remain "father and mother" to many other activities.

Was your marriage arranged by Reverend Moon?

I came here without anyone's name. Then I was presented the first day with three ladies from Japan. But myself, I thought, since it is said that the matching depends on Reverend Moon, I

would rather from the outset not take trouble that I make the choice. I'll submit myself to whatever he is going to decide. So, I saw her only Thursday, Friday, yesterday and today. Look, I found it marvelous. Why do I consider it marvelous? I've seen so many fiances and so many engaged couples, but it turns out to be disastrous. But with the matching, I consider her to be a twin soul.

So, I said to her, "I'm 71." She's 43, I said, "It's up to you; I don't want to become a burden."

She said, "No, no, no, I do accept." She accepted and that is that. ♦

These extracts are taken from Archbishop Milingo's words during an interview and a press conference in the U.S.A.

Photos top row (the blessing ceremony): left to right, holy water ceremony, affirmation of the vows, entrance of officiators' attendants, participants during the ceremony, True Parents giving blessing rings; this page below, the Milingos and the Stallings, facing page, Pastor and Mrs. Barrett receive the holy wine the evening before the blessing





Providential Blessing Heralds Pentecost

*Phillip Schanker
Washington, DC*

ON May 27, 2001, in the Cotillion Room of the Hilton Hotel in New York City, Heaven truly fired a "shot heard around the world." On that memorable day, a simple, brief, yet dignified marriage blessing ceremony of some 60 couples was performed, officiated by Reverend and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon in their capacity as True Parents. But Father and Mother Moon have held blessing ceremonies by satellite, linking hundreds of millions, officiating from such marquis locations as Madison Square Garden in New York or Seoul's Olympic Stadium. Why did this humble, small ceremony attract media from around the world, generate front-page news on every continent, and create a more powerful impact upon the planet than any such blessing in history?

First, it was because some 50 of the couples were in fact religious leaders: ministers, imams, and clerics; Pentecostals and Baptists, Lutherans and Muslims, Sufis, and more; spiritual leaders in their own right. But it was the participation of one or two such men of God that shook the world, and provided for many a new and profound understanding of the significance of the blessing of marriage: His Grace Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo of the Roman Catholic Church, and the Most Reverend George Augustus Stallings, Jr., founder and Archbishop of the Imani Temple African-American Catholic Congregation.

These courageous men of God are both known for their willingness to stand up for truth even in the face of great adversity. They were joined on this historic occasion by such pioneers

as Pastor and Mrs. T.L. Barrett of the Life Center Church of God in Christ in Chicago, who were reunited after ten full years of separation, estrangement and divorce. Their "marriage miracle" occurred during the fifty-state We Will Stand! tour and became a model for the healings and miracles that were to touch many families during that tour. Rev. and Mrs. Jesse Edwards of the Pentecostals of Philadelphia, who faced severe criticism for joining hands with all faiths in the We Will Stand tour also reaffirmed their vows. Minister and Mrs. Benjamin Muhammad, director of the Million Man March and the Million Family March, Bishop and Mrs. Dan Johnson, passionate leaders of Heart of Fire Ministries, and key leaders of the American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC) joined in consecrating their marriages in the ceremony entitled, We Will Stand in Oneness!

How this blessing came about

As the We Will Stand tour, which began in the borough of the Bronx in New York City on February 25th, proceeded to fifty-two cities across

America, Father Moon's unswerving message of family and fidelity as essential to the building of God's Kingdom and the restoration of America became crystal clear. He challenged America's faith leaders to take up the mission of restoring the sanctity of sexuality and rebuilding their families and churches as examples. Even as Reverend Moon confronted audiences nationwide with frank discussions of God's presence and work in conjugal love, childbirth and parenting, he firmly but lovingly prodded the faith leaders to set the standard.

Father challenged Archbishop Stallings, whose church allows married priests but who had yet to embrace that path himself, encouraging him to complete himself by finding a wife. Pastor Barrett's testimony of meeting Father Moon well past midnight after the Miami tour event is now famous. Father encouraged him to marry and be an exemplary leader of the family movement. He then learned of Rev. Barrett's desire to be reunited with his wife of twenty-four years, and after deep reflection and prayer predicted a rapid reconciliation which even Pastor Barrett had a hard time believing until it happened ten days later! In each city Father Moon challenged the pastors to be models of fidelity, faith and family.

As the Barretts' wonderful testimony spread throughout the tour, and Archbishop Stallings felt called to complete God's love, life and lineage through marriage and family, the spirit of healing and renewal arose, touching one after another. Additional couples in Pastor Barrett's church followed his example by reconciling. Tour participants began to seek healing for their marriages through prayer. We felt the spiritual power being released through



our unity centered upon fidelity, faith and family, which could even overcome divorce and adultery.

Rev. Stallings was led to his future bride, whom he met just before the tour and was deeply moved by. Throughout the busy tour, others tried to encourage him in one way or the other, or to prevent the budding interest from being a distraction. Meanwhile, the Archbishop offered the relationship to God, confident that if Father Moon was truly anointed by the Lord to bless marriages, that he, too, would see the hand of God in this relationship. Sure enough, despite many potential brides and possibilities, both Father and Mother zeroed in on the very young woman that Rev. Stallings felt God had led him to. Through Father's serious questioning, and Mother's loving preparation, the new couple felt lifted up and embraced by True Parents' love.

As plans proceeded for Archbishop Stallings' wedding, the word spread and others emerged who sought the guidance and support of Father and Mother Moon to bless their marriage. Plans were changed to include 3 couples, then 12. No, let's have 21! How about 36?

Okay, 40! But the number of couples seeking to participate in this international, interracial, and interreligious ceremony continued to mushroom as the wedding day approached.

A providential participant

As the plans for the ceremony developed, there were some who inevitably thought of Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo, who had participated in offering prayers and blessings at previous ceremonies, but who, as a Roman Catholic, had stayed well clear of any idea that he himself would marry. Some who knew him reached out to Rome, but His Grace was nowhere to be found. Suddenly, we found that he was already in New York! And his disposition toward the blessing was dramatically different. We felt the hand of God moving deeply and silently in this situation.

Archbishop Milingo is a devout Roman Catholic, celibate all his life, who prays the rosary for the Holy Father daily, and has a profound awareness of the spiritual world. Each day, when he says mass, at the sacramental moment when Christ enters the

Eucharist, the seventy-one-year-old prelate experiences the Lord's presence and communes with him. Despite the fact that his gift of healing was rejected by church authorities, that he was scandalized, exiled from his diocese, and finally prohibited from virtually any expression of his charisma, he remained faithful to the church and ecclesiastic authority.

His Grace notes that his mission from God, to heal the sick, cast out devils and preach the Kingdom of God,



H. ERISK

is nothing different than Jesus commissioned his apostles to do in Luke 9: 1-2. He correctly points out that a bishop's commission is indeed inherited from the apostles. But he has been castigated, humiliated, and "made a stranger and a fool in the church that I love."

The Archbishop's loyalty is to Jesus and the Blessed Virgin first and foremost. After careful review of the Principle, and reflection upon God's purpose of Creation, His Grace came to see the holiness of sex, and the sanctity of marriage. Where he had once seen sexuality and spirituality in conflict, and thus embraced celibacy as the loftiest spiritual path, he now felt a higher calling to embrace God and reflect his nature through fidelity. In a press conference after the ceremony, he explained how God's nature is completed in the union of man and woman, and how the two become, "flesh of my flesh, and bone of my bone." He compared the presence of God in the union of husband and wife to the mystical presence of God the Father in the trinity, in the union of Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

Despite Archbishop Milingo's

humility, grace, and purity of heart in expressing his choice to marry, this unheard of act by a bishop of the church previously sworn to celibacy has turned the religious world, and the Catholic world in particular, upside down and inside out. E-mails have poured in to his newly established website at www.archbishopmilingo.org. Many have praised his courageous stand, claiming that the church must change in response to the times. Faithful Catholics ask how he could have forsaken his vow, why he did not seek a dispensation to leave the priesthood and then marry, and how he could have gotten mixed up with Reverend Moon.

But most seem to miss the deep message that Archbishop Milingo is conveying through his public act of marriage, or his own sense of stepping up to a higher calling, rather than forsaking a vow for personal fulfillment. The Italian media quotes church authorities that claim he is brainwashed, kidnapped, or somehow controlled. The Archbishop calls such claims "rubbish to discredit me and to avoid the issues I am raising." Meanwhile members of the three orders founded by the Archbishop write of being lost, confused, laughed at and

ashamed. Some send letters placing a curse on those who led the Archbishop astray. Others even prayed that either the Archbishop or Reverend Moon would die before the wedding.

Standing in oneness

Tremendous support has come from various quarters. Archbishop Stallings, whose marriage caused a media frenzy in Washington, D.C., has joined Pastor Barrett and others in support of Archbishop Milingo and his new bride. At a gathering of clergy and a press conference in Chicago, Monsignor Milingo professed his undying Catholic faith, pointed out the significance of the unity of African and African-American religious leaders, and challenged the clergy here to fulfill America's destiny as the second Israel. "We must vindicate the blood of Jesus!" he cried. Invitations from churches all over America are pouring in, seeking the deep teaching and powerful healing ministry of the African cleric.

It is reported that more than 100,000 Catholic clergymen have left their clerical roles in the last 25 years, mostly



can and the Holy Father, seeking to find the way to pursue God's calling and fulfill his gift as a Roman Catholic.

Media frenzy

More than forty media outlets covered the wedding ceremony, and the powerful press conference that followed. The Italian press went wild, as did many in Europe, where Archbishop Milingo has a large and faithful following. The American press was similarly vocal: "Maverick Archbishop Weds in Manhattan,"

"Wedding Highlights Celibacy Issue," noted the headlines. With a cover photo of the "kissing cleric," the New York Post compared the Archbishop's action to others who faced censure for challenging the church to change, such as Martin Luther and Galileo Galilei. Front page articles ran in Brazil, Argentina, Columbia, and across Latin America. African papers followed the story closely. The Korean media was buzzing. Meanwhile, the Archbishop's statement has been translated into many languages.

es. He has been interviewed by CBS's 60 Minutes, Fox network, NBC, ABC, and many international media as well.

As the "Harvest for the Pentecost" revivals continue across America, the ACLC has been energized by the commitment and blessing of so many distinguished religious leaders. When Reverend Moon predicted a Pentecost would sweep the nation fifty days after the tour, no one envisioned such a cosmic and heavenly wedding after forty days, nor the explosion it would create. Just as the Pentecost 2000 years ago heralded a new age centered upon Jesus and the Holy Spirit as True Parents, this new Pentecost ends the era of churches, denominations, and religion, and ushers in the era of the Kingdom of God built upon families, and centered upon the substantial embodiment of the True Parent ideal. And just as 2000 years ago, when 120 gathered as the Pentecost began representing all nations (Acts 1:15), these 60 couples are the starting point. Now we must preach the Kingdom of God to the ends of the earth!♦

Rev. Schanker is the FFWPU Public Affairs Director in North America.

over the celibacy issue. Thousands more are secretly married, even as sexual scandals, lawsuits and rumors have plagued the clergymen who remain. Archbishop Milingo has said he seeks to bring honesty and healing to the sins within the church, and restore the dignity and calling of those who have been shunned due to marriage. More and more of these "ex-priests," as they are called, have reached out to connect with the Archbishop. Others write encouraging His Grace to ordain married priests. He has so far rebuffed such calls. He has reached out privately to the Vati-



We Will Stand Tour Culminates in Harlem Event

Tuesday May 8, 2001; Canaan Baptist Church, Harlem, New York City

PHOTOS: KEN OWENS & SEIL STUDIO



Bishop Dan Johnson

THE Bible says the miracle was in the hearing. In Ezekiel there was something that happened in the 37th chapter that was incredible! This is what happened: There were a bunch of dried bones in a valley. And the Bible said they were very dry. But Ezekiel heard the word of God. He said, "Speak or prophesy unto the bones and tell these bones to live again." Ezekiel said to the Spirit of God, "I don't know, God, if these bones can live." God said again, "Prophesy to those bones!" And the Bible says, he turned and he went

to the north, the south, the east and the west. And he began to speak the word of God to the bones. If you want to know what Rev. Sun Myung Moon is doing, he's anointed of Jesus to speak to the north, the south, the east and the west and he's prophesying, "Can these bones live again?" Can they live again? My God! Get that in your spirit! If you want to know what is going on, there is a prophet that has risen up in our midst and God is speaking through the prophet. CAN THESE BONES LIVE AGAIN? CAN THESE BONES LIVE AGAIN? CAN THESE BONES LIVE AGAIN?

...The prophet spoke to the bones. And all of a sudden, bone began to come to bone. I believe that there was an Islamic bone that came together with a Pentecostal bone. I believe with all my heart, it was a Baptist bone that came together with a Buddhist bone. I believe that all of a sudden, there was a NOISE. A noise, the Bible said, and a rattling of the bones. And what stood up was an exceedingly, an exceedingly, an exceedingly great army—We will stand! We will stand! We will stand! We will stand! Hallelujah!◆

Archbishop George Stallings, Jr.

YOU know a whole lot of people don't understand the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, but then a lot of people didn't understand the prophets. You know a lot of people do not appreciate the anointing that is upon the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, but when I think about it, a lot of people didn't appreciate the anointing that was upon Moses. A lot of people do not accept the teachings of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon. That's

right, you got it; you guessed it. A lot of people did not accept the teachings of Jesus....This man and his lovely wife, True Parents, Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon are about trying to live for the sake of others. Yet, this man of God was persecuted, he was mocked, he was bruised, he was locked up. He was persecuted, but then I read somewhere in the word of God, "But he was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities and upon him was the chastisement that made



us whole. And by his stripes, we are healed." I don't know what the problem is with America, but I know when a man is anointed of God—when he gives his life for the sake of others.◆

Inauguration of the Continental Headquarters of the Federation for Cosmic Peace and Unification

Steven Boyd

Montevideo, Uruguay

ON May 30th, True Parents inaugurated the Continental Headquarters for the Federation for Cosmic Peace and Unification for Latin America and the Caribbean in Montevideo, Uruguay. The occasion was marked by a ribbon-cutting ceremony in which the president of Uruguay, Dr. Jorge Batlle and first lady, Mrs. Mercedes Menafra de Batlle, were present, together with two former presidents of the country, Dr. Julio Maria Sanguinetti and Dr. Luis Alberto Lacalle.

The building chosen for the headquarters was built by Adolfo Berro, a Uruguayan businessman and politician, who constructed it in the latter part of the nineteenth century. The building is well known for its unique architecture and the beautiful grounds that surround it, so much so that the Uruguayan government declared it a historical monument and part of the country's national heritage. Prior to returning to private hands, for more than a hundred years it was the embassy of Argentina in Uruguay.

More than six hundred guests representing the leadership of Uruguay attended the inauguration ceremony and banquet. They included the Minister of the Interior, the Minister of Education and Culture, the Minister of Tourism and the Minister of Labor. Twenty senators and congressmen and ten ambassadors also attended, along with four governors. In addition, many other important national dignitaries from the public and private sectors were present.

At the opening banquet, held in a tent constructed for the occasion over the tennis court on the property, at True Father's request, the program began with a reading by Rev. Kwak Chung-hwan of a selection of the messages received from Confucius from the spiritual world. The highlight of the evening was the founder's address, given by our True Father. Father gave the speech entitled "God is our King and True Parent," and the full text of the speech True Father delivered in Harlem was distributed to the guests at the conclusion of the evening program.

Throughout the country, expectation was high for the event. The media and the general public expressed gratitude to True Parents for the investment made to restore to the previous grandeur of the building and grounds, the restoration of which was spearheaded by a team of architects led by Mr. Lee Chang-youl. All the major television networks from the capital city of Montevideo were present, along with local newspapers and magazines; and the event was covered favorably.

In guidance given to leaders gathered from all parts of the western hemisphere, Father explained that the new headquarters should become a center for educational activities on a continental level to serve all countries in this part of the world. He said that for many years to come the headquarters should work to unite all the nations of Latin America and the Caribbean centered upon the ideals of Heaven. He further explained that as a second step, a similar headquarters



PHOTOS: COURTESY Y. OGAWA/KOGENSHA, AND S. BOYD



should be established in North America in an effort to unite all nations in the Americas.

During his visit, True Father traveled to Punta del Este, where True Parents have fished for corvina, made important spiritual conditions and directed many other activities. At Punta del Este, True Father offered a deeply moving prayer for the new headquarters and for the work of Heavenly Father and True Parents centered upon the new building. Father's visit was also marked by intimate sharing with Korean leaders and the twelve American church leaders Father invited for the duration of his stay, with whom he spent many hours at morning hoon dok hae and in meetings.

The inauguration of the headquarters also marked the first day of a three-day conference cosponsored by the Inter-religious and International Federation for World Peace and the Cosmic Federation for World Peace and Unification. Held in the Radisson Montevideo Victoria Plaza Hotel from May 30th to

June 1st, the meeting was attended by 68 participants from 24 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Father also directed the twelve American leaders to take part.

This was the second meeting of this kind for the Latin America and Caribbean region, coming soon after a similar seminar in the American city of Miami. It was part of a series of regional conferences held in many locations throughout the world to educate the core leaders of the IIFWP on the words and activities of True Parents through IIFWP and WANGO, under the direction of Rev. Kwak Chung-hwan.

The conference participants said the talks brought to light issues and values that affect all areas of the region.

In the closing session, three guests gave testimonies that spoke highly of their experience in the seminar. They referred particularly to the importance of witnessing True Father's speech at

the inauguration of the continental headquarters building. Many conference participants remarked in their reflections that hearing True Father's speech and seeing him in person was the greatest moment of the conference.

The reflections also revealed that the guests were inspired by Rev. Kwak's opening address, which outlined the ideals and work of IIFWP.

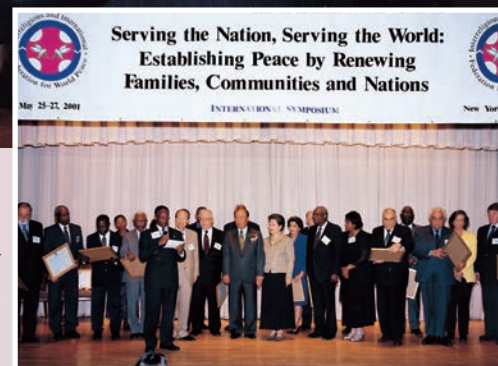
In the concluding session, Rev. Yang Chang-shik, continental director for North America and Rev. Kim Jung-soo, continental director of Latin America and the Caribbean offered words of inspiration to the participants. Following their remarks, Rev. Kim on behalf of our True Parents presented Ambassador for Peace certificates to the participants. Guests returned to their respective countries with renewed vision and commitment to advance the work of IIFWP in their nations. ♦

Steven Boyd is a missionary in Uruguay.



Photos: previous page, the new headquarters building; this page top left, Father writes a special calligraphy in honor of the dedication of the building (June 1st); top right, True Parents with the president and first lady of Uruguay lead the ribbon cutting ceremony; center, True Father delivers his speech with Alejandro de Souza translating into Spanish; left, the cutting of the congratulatory cake.

Serving the Nation, Serving the World



Finding the Ambassadors of Peace

ON the foundation of the Coronation of God's Kingship, Father initiated the Ambassadors for Peace program through the IIFWP. Leaders in a wide range of fields, from every nation, will be appointed as representatives of the IIFWP and our True Parents. Those leaders who are appointed as Ambassadors for Peace will have been trained through IIFWP's International Hoon Dok Seminars, and through a series of follow-up leadership seminars. Ambassadors for Peace are trained in understanding Father's religious vision, and the vision, history and aims of IIFWP. They are working as core leaders in the following areas: religion, politics, media, the academic world and humanitarian service (representing many non-governmental organizations).

The Ambassadors for Peace adhere to the principles of "living for the sake of others" and "going beyond barriers of race, nationality and religion" while seeking to serve the well-being of all people. It is significant that both Father and Mother approved having their signatures reproduced on each of the awards—something we believe to be unprecedented. ♦

Dr. Thomas Walsh, Executive Director of IIFWP

AMBASSADOR FOR PEACE

The Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace

Consistent with its mission to establish world peace, the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace designates as Ambassador for Peace those individuals whose lives exemplify the ideal of living for the sake of others, and who dedicate themselves to practices which promote the founding ideals of the IIFWP: universal moral values, strong family life, interreligious cooperation, international harmony, renewal of the United Nations, a responsible public media, and the establishment of a culture of peace. Transcending racial, national and religious barriers, the Ambassadors for Peace contribute to the fulfillment of the hope of all ages, a unified world of peace wherein the spiritual and material dimensions of life are harmonized.

In the year 2001, declared by the United Nations as the International Year of Volunteers, the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace is proud to hereby recognize as an Ambassador for Peace,...[name].

Looking at the Spiritual Realities

Testimony from a brother who sees the spirit world

Philip Hill
Stanton Fitzwarren, England

The spiritual world has always been a reality for my husband, Philip. In his childhood and adolescence his experiences with spirits were more of a burden and curse as he did not understand why he could see and communicate with spirits, while people around him could not. Even though he encountered numerous spirits Philip could not see any purpose for this "gift."

This changed when he met the Unification Church in Bristol, England in 1975. The Principles explained clearly how spirit world works and its purpose for existence. With a life of indemnity offerings and prayer he learned how to control the evil and destructive spirit world.

When Philip and I attended the forty-day workshop in Cheong Pyeong in August 1996, he was allowed to see and experience angels, spiritual phenomena and very high spirits for the first time in his life.

He knew then that God let him witness this spiritual reality for a purpose. He recorded and started to paint his experiences from 1996 onwards. His desire is to teach through these drawings and to confirm the realities of the spiritual world.

In May of 1999 True Mother visited Slovenia, where we are the Abel national messiah couple, in the course of her world speaking tour. Philip had the opportunity to show some of his drawings to True Mother. She told him to use these drawings to teach people about Cheong Pyeong and the spirit world.

Only when I was diagnosed with cancer

of the uterus this year, and Philip went with me to see Daemo nim in Cheong Pyeong, was the project to use this drawings revived. Daemo nim saw the drawings and her comment was that they were 85 percent accurate. She liked the pictures and wanted to keep them to show people. The drawings have been shown by projector in the main hall to emphasize the need for members to work hard during ansu.

Since then Philip and I have been busy traveling to centers and visiting families to give testimony to the uniqueness and spiritual power of Cheong Pyeong. I credit the recent, seemingly miraculous disappearance of my cancer to Daemo nim's help during my time there.

Petra Hill

UNTIL August 1996 when my wife and I went to Cheong Pyeong to attend the national messiah workshop I was able to see and communicate with spirits, which were earthbound and mostly dark. Upon entering the grounds of Cheong Pyeong I felt embraced by the atmosphere of one big Holy Ground. A feeling of peace overcame me.

Within a few days I encountered my first angel. He looked quite different from what I had imagined before. He was tall—they all are—between 7 and 8 feet tall, and his face had the same color as his robe. He looked like a knight and of course he had no wings, but looked rather majestic and authoritative. His robe covered his head and his whole body and as I met more and more

angels I saw that they come in all colors, from orange, yellow, golden, blue, green, purple etc. Some of the angels smiled and other looked more serious, depending on their mission.

One day when I ventured up to the Water of Life, I prayed very hard that my back pain, which I had gotten through going fundraising with heavy pot plants, would be healed. Five angels were standing in front of the fountain. I took some water and one of the angels, a purple colored one, dropped something into my cup. It looked like pieces of bark. I swished it around to mix it and then drank it. I thanked the angel for the medicine. At first I did not feel any different but later during the day when I had to pick something up I realized that my year-long pain in my lower back had gone.

One morning I was walking up to the Tree of Blessing I made a stop to recover my breath and to admire the beautiful scenery. Suddenly I could see long lines of spirits moving along the path towards the Tree of Blessing. At different intervals along the path angels were standing at intervals to mark the way and keep the lines of spirits orderly. These were liberated spirits. Three golden angels are permanently there at the Tree of Blessing. They form a triangle and in the middle of this triangle is a huge golden beam going straight up into heaven. These angels radiate pure energy through their bodies, creating an intensely peaceful atmosphere there.



The line of spirits moving toward the Tree of Blessing



Three golden angels at the Tree of Blessing

PICTURES: COURTESY, PHILIP HILL

During ansu sessions

During the ansu session Daemo nim, either in spirit only or with Hoonmo nim, is continuously ushering spirits to the front of the hall where Heungjin nim is waiting at the doorway to the spirit world. The liberated spirits are asked to sign up for a 100-day workshop.

In the first days at ansu I could see all my good spirits leaving me. All those spirits who had protected and guided me throughout my life, those who helped me to join the church and those who inspired me again and again. They were so happy to leave me and to start their own lives.

And then ansu was rather different and heavy at times. I was singing and clapping hard to liberate spirits who were evil and resentful. My spiritual eyes were so open and I saw evil in its purest form. Through the constant sound of the drum black and grey spirits would look out of someone's body, sometimes only from a part of the person's body, only heads, wondering what the noise was all about. And many, upon seeing the gateway to the spirit world, would then jump out of the body. It looked like a person was literally stepping out of the person performing ansu.

Another time I saw three black slaves, chained together at their necks, jumping out of the body of a white American brother. They stood there for a moment, then, realizing they were free, started to run to the gateway. Why were they chained together? They had

died like this on a slavery transport from Africa.

During an ansu session I observed an angel helping a brother to release spirits. The brother was struggling and he was very tired but he kept on trying. A turquoise-colored angel would

gently tap his back and many spirits could be released.

The freed spirits would see the bright light in front of the hall and rush towards it.

My wife and I were attending an ansu session when Daemo nim appeared in spirit. She moved around the members ushering spirits to leave brothers and sisters. Suddenly she stood in front of my

wife and started to do ansu on her womb and stomach area very gently. Then she did it stronger and stronger. Many spiritual entities were ejected with every stoke, like spores from a puffball. Some entities grew to the size of a person as angels were guiding them through the front hall. Other entities would look like tar or black oil and stayed in that form but were still making their way to the gateway.

After having experienced such a variety of spiritual phenomena at Cheong Pyeong I wanted to see if this would continue in our lives at home.

Hoon dok hae with ancestors

In April of this year we brought back with us from Cheong Pyeong forty-two blessed couples from our direct lineage. Every morning they are waiting for us in our living room for hoon dok hae. Each couple is taking notes and they are always so eager to listen and

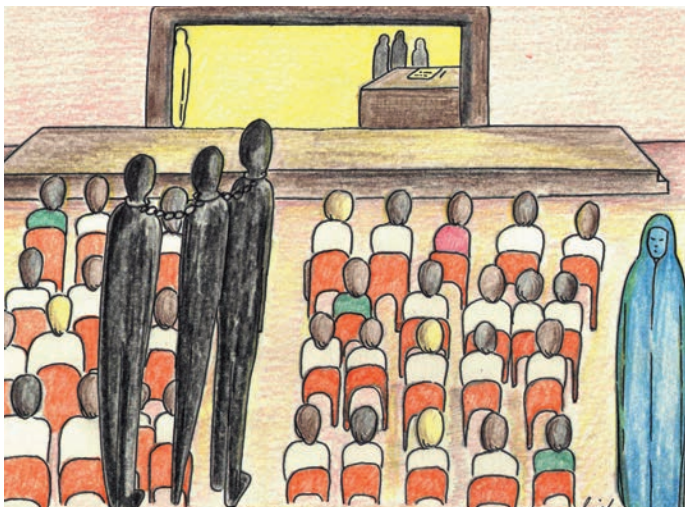
learn. Occasionally when I was reading I would not be able to concentrate, and would lose my line. I would have so many thoughts in my head that I could not shake off. Please understand that even though these spirit couples attended 100-day workshop, received the blessing and then attended 40-day family workshop in Jardim, they are still learning. When on earth they all had their own philosophy to live by and their own experiences. Sometimes during hoon dok hae they discuss with each other—sometimes quite heatedly—and that is when I get distracted. Usually Petra continues to read. She reads loud, with authority in her voice, and within a few minutes the spirit couples stop discussing and continue to listen.

I concluded from all of this that Cheong Pyeong goes hand in hand with hoon dok hae. Many mornings we receive visitors from the spiritual world who attend hoon dok hae with us. This is the only way they learn truth and unify their thinking. Hoon dok hae is as vital to them as it is for us. We need to unify our mind and body, our couple, our family, our tribe, our nation, and the physical and spiritual world under one truth.◆

Philip and Petra Hill belong to the 6000 Couples Blessing. They have one daughter.

Note regarding the term "absolutely good spirit," used to describe those ancestors who have done both the 100-day and 40-day workshops: Cheong Pyeong clarified that they are spiritually clean and firmly on God's side, and the original sin has been forgiven through the blessing. This does not mean, however, that they have reached perfection.

The drawings below are from among those Philip offered to Daemo nim, which she said were accurate in most details.



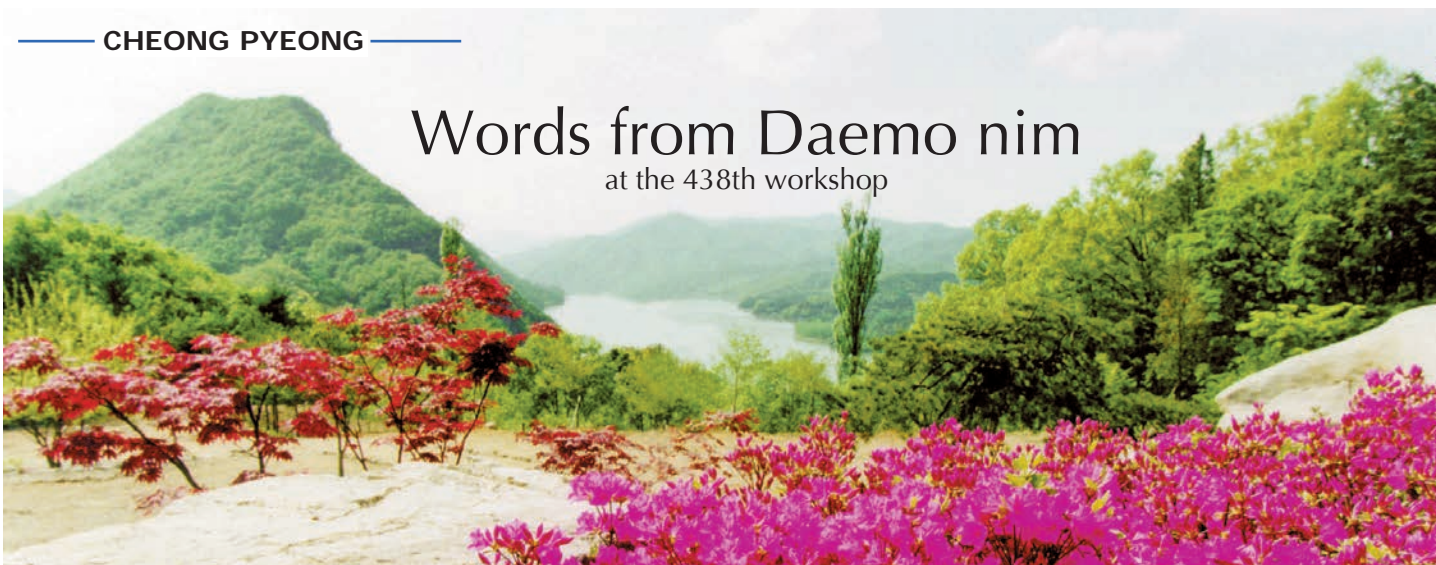
Three men who had died on a slave transport



Daemo nim (in the spirit) releases spirits from Petra

Words from Daemo nim

at the 438th workshop



At our request, Daemo nim sent us the following excerpt from a speech she gave in February to workshop participants.

HELLO. How are you? On January 19, 1995, when the work at Cheong Pyeong began, God sent angels to remove the bad spirits that had invaded people. At the first workshop prayers were offered for three couples and five angels were in attendance. The angels only knew the world of Adam and Eve before they fell; they knew nothing of the world after the fall.

The angels had to be educated so that they could do this work. As the angels only knew about the ideal world of creation, we had to educate them about how inherited sin, collective sin and personal sin came about after the fall, so that they could work to sever the evil spirits.

These days, many angels have been coming down through the works being carried out at Cheong Pyeong. As God's providence develops step by step, and victories are won, God sends more angels who can help at Cheong Pyeong. Each time this occurs, we gather these angels and educate them so they can work to separate spirits from the members.

At the 400th workshop at Cheong Pyeong, more angels than ever came down and helped with the separation of spirits from members' bodies. Originally, angels were created as servants to assist only unfallen people. Education was essential so that they could help human beings after the fall.

At first, the angels could not believe there were people on earth who had received the blessing from God. Because blessed couples received the blessing not on the basis of their perfec-

tion, but during the preparatory stages leading to perfection, they look the same as everyone else.

The angels were unable to believe. So I compared the blessed couples with couples from ordinary society and separated out the sinful spirits from their bodies. Having done so, the blessed members were incomparably more beautiful. Because the original sin has disappeared from blessed couples through their receiving the blessing, they cannot be compared with ordinary couples.

After they saw the blessed couples from whom the spirits had been taken out, the angels declared they would work to sever the spirits. They have helped a lot in the development of the work at Cheong Pyeong.

While people were being reborn at the ongoing workshops, God would say, "After such-and-such a workshop a big blessing will come." And sure enough, after that particular workshop there would be a big event or important grace ceremony. For example, last year God said "There will be a big blessing after the 400th workshop." After the 400th workshop, the Coronation Ceremony for the Kingship of God was held and the new era in the blessing of God's direct dominion was opened.

In this way, God's grace to humankind will expand as, from this point of the 438th workshop, the center of God's providence opens up. The results have already begun to appear. In America (New York) it is now eight o'clock in the evening of February 24th. We have finished the ancestor liberation ceremony for the 29th to the 35th generations and concluded our offering of conditions. At the same time we are concluding the 438th workshop at Cheong

Pyeong, True Parents are starting their speaking tour from the 25th.

In this way, the work at Cheong Pyeong has become the central point of the offering of conditions following in the footsteps of the dispensation centering on God and True Parents. God and True Parents have therefore sent angels to Cheong Pyeong to help us live according to God's will and word. It is a great blessing for us that, centering on this 438th workshop, God has sent all the angels who have come and worked on the earth.

Doctor angels have not yet come, however. They will come after we have finished building the Jeong Shim hospital at Cheong Pyeong. A few days ago, I went to visit someone in an ordinary hospital, and angels came out to greet me in front of the entrance.

There are doctor and nurse angels, and they are receiving training in very good hospitals. Working within the bodies of renowned doctors in the fields of obstetrics, gynecology, internal medicine, surgery and ophthalmology, they are helping with patients' treatment and receiving training. When members become sick and have to go to the hospital, therefore, doctor angels will go to the hospital and they will assist in the treatment. It will look as if it is the person in the flesh doing the operation but in reality it will be the angels who are guiding it.

Increasing Grace

We are living in a truly good world. Through our senses and feelings it is not easy to know our ancestors who went to the spirit world a long time ago. We must know that the ancestors' love is greater as you go back through the generations. A great grandfather's

love is stronger than a grandfather's, and a great, great grandfather's love is stronger than a great grandfather's of same lineage. We cannot compare the love of parents with anything, but a grandfather and grandmother's love is somewhat different. Love within a blood lineage will not change in a thousand or ten thousand years.

We do not know precisely from which generation of anguished ancestors the spirits are who are within us and harassing us have come. Thus, we have to take part in the ancestor liberation ceremony quickly. Removing the evil spirits that harass us is connected with the ancestor liberation ceremony. I have said before that our bodies are full of evil spirits. And in our bloodlines we have ancestors who were thieves, ancestors who killed other people, ancestors with problems of a sexual nature and so forth. Thus our lineages are tangled up like thorny bushes.

Since the time of Adam and Eve there has been no absolute ancestor or ancestor maintaining the proper order. In the current age, crime is diversifying and expanding. Although crimes may differ in form from in the past due to changes in society, criminal behavior is in fact connected with ancestry in a lineage.

There are billions of evil spirits in the spirit world. I have not counted the number of people who lived on earth until now, but there was a world prior to recorded history that we do not know about. Thus we have to know that to live well within the realm of grace we must participate in ancestor liberation ceremonies with enthusiasm.

Some members have liberated only the first seven generations. Liberating from the first to the seventh generation means fourteen people who become absolutely good spirits to help you, but it is too small a number. Many evil spirits are confined in your body like ants'

eggs or sand, and they obstruct you. When you pass away they block your spirit from going freely to the spirit world. You need to know this.

Ancestor liberation ceremonies bring the fortune and help of Heaven. The value of liberating your ancestors is something that cannot be expressed in terms of money. We have to know that heavenly fortune is necessary for the generation of wealth. From the time of the fifth workshop at Cheong Pyeong, couples without children could make conditions to separate evil spirits from themselves and gain the cooperation of ancestors who have become absolutely good spirits.

Many members who came to Cheong Pyeong and made such an effort were able to have babies. With those couples who could not have children, evil spirits were interfering with the sperm or preventing them from moving. Ancestors are therefore cooperating in the separation of spirits and, like a miracle, such couples are giving birth to beautiful babies.

After this, the 438th workshop, it will not be necessary for members to come and see me when they have a problem. Members who attend Cheong Pyeong workshops enthusiastically and separate out the evil spirits will not have problems. If I look at the list of those who want to see me, they are not those who have come and seriously attended the workshop.

Now, if you attend the workshops seriously and liberate your ancestors from the 29th generation to the 35th generation, your ancestors, who have become absolutely good spirits, can liberate you from disease. So, if your head

is hurting, and you attend a Cheong Pyeong workshop and seriously separate out the spirits, without taking medicine or asking me directly, you will not be in pain any longer.

So, from now you must attend the ancestor liberation ceremonies with enthusiasm. Your lineage can become an upstanding one through this ceremony. Yours will become a family to whom God can bring His direct dominion and heavenly fortune.

God wanted to feel only happiness and joy after He created the garden of Eden and humankind. God does not

want unhappy children who live in anguish and grief. Through the ancestor liberation ceremony you can correct the stained blood lineage that came from Adam and Eve, and thus discover the ideal world of Creation.

Throughout this time, good ancestors who have become good spirits have entered and lived in the bodies of members and helped them.

They cooperate with their descendants and help with witnessing. So, if you can save your ancestors up to the 60th generation, making of them absolutely good spirits, a new era of joy can open up.

My dear family members, when you come to Cheong Pyeong, I will work to help you fulfill your hopes. I will pray to God that your wishes can be fulfilled, and make effort to educate the angels so that you can receive amazing grace. I sincerely hope you will attend Cheong Pyeong workshops seriously, pray enthusiastically and enjoy a life of great blessing.◆

[Edited for Today's World]



Construction for Jeong Shim Hospital, on the hill that overlooks the main area of Cheong Pyeong training center, is ongoing



PHOTOS: K. KATO

The Footsteps of a Servant of Servants

How a Japanese grandmother found 21 spiritual children in Korea

Hisae Sato
Taejon, Korea

WHEN I heard there was to be a twenty-one-day workshop at Cheong Pyeong, I was so grateful to participate, thinking, "This will be the final dispensation in my lifetime." My physical condition was very bad; it was life or death for me. True Father said many times, "Will you go to your assigned witnessing area or to hell?" but I couldn't bring it up to my husband right away. After returning, I attended, served and loved him for about a week, and chose a time when his heart was open to tell him about the mobilization. His expression showed he understood, and with tears he saw me off when I left.

To make the necessary funds, I returned to my job as well as went fundraising, which I'd do while praying, "This is True Father's wish, so I'd like to go to Korea. I will put my life on the line, so please guide me." The necessary funds came from my job and what I made going door to door where I'd say to people, "I'm going to Korea to work for North-South unification. I'm asking for your cooperation." people bought. I was able to come without any worries.

Before the workshop, reading every morning with brothers and sisters, I had read the book that Father gave to sisters at the conclusion of their registration workshop four times through. Since being involved in home church activities, I'd always thought that what finally has to be done is to build a church in Korea, and had been telling my family and spiritual children about this.

When my assigned area was decided, I made a determination to love it as if it were my hometown and do my best. Being 67, I will be 70 when my mobilization ends. Thinking this is the last

time that I will be allowed to do God's will in my lifetime, with True Father's permission, I pledged to invest all the strength I have until 70, and started.

While at Cheong Pyeong, Daemo nim scolded us for our level of faith. I learned how much I lacked the perception of how very sinful we are. Being an elder, I felt that at least I should show absolute attendance in Korea as a representative of Japan. We'd heard about the eight stages of restoration many

times, but Daemo nim said this was a position transcending the national standard. I redetermined myself: the struggle to overcome the national level is a tremendous one. Unless I denied myself completely I would not be able to show a heart of attendance in Korea.

In the workshop we were told North-South unification is something that has been fought over in the six thousand years since Cain and Abel. This is a Holy War that will

determine the fate of history. I thus felt grateful that someone impure like me would be allowed to take part in such a historical Holy War. Whatever happened, I would begin as an absolute servant of servants.

Hearing we are the daughters of True Father, if we can be completely victorious, we can become independent of True Parents. I felt I wanted to make True Parents truly happy as a mature daughter, and so I went to my assigned area without any struggle.

After arriving in Taejon on September 29th, I was asked to take charge of all of the city as a mobilized member. I was willing to do whatever they asked me to. With another sister, we started with cleaning. The bathroom and the backyard were not very clean, so we cleaned with all our might for several days. The kitchen sink area needed a

lot of improvement, and we tackled the pots and pans with detergent. After five days, I was by myself, and continued cleaning for thirty days.

Struggle with Korean

Though the regional leader had come, there was no activity for thirty days. With my humanistic thinking I asked him, "What should I do?" He replied, "You've done a lot in Japan, but it's not relevant here. Just do as I say." Before the leader came the brother in charge of general affairs had told me to study Korean by watching TV from morning to night. I tried my best as a 67-year old grandma to study videotapes and TV. The regional leader had a Japanese sister come to teach me twice a week. She had studied Korean on her own, but had become so Korean, I sometimes wondered if she really was Japanese. How wonderful! I should become like that too. Without my knowing the basics, she and the regional leader would ask me to read during the hoon dok hae. I was in a panic, perspiring as I read: "*ha, na, nim, a, bo, ji*"—syllable by syllable, so slowly. They would make me read a lot and would not let me go. For days and more days, for two hours from 6 to 8 in the morning, I felt I was in hell. I didn't want to ever see the Korean language again. But my original mind told me that without learning it, we won't go to heaven, or we won't be admitted as children of True Parents—so I felt I must absolutely overcome. With tears, I practiced where we would read next, three times a day. Battling with fallen nature constantly—*How can you do this at sixty-seven? You'll forget as soon as you learn it*—I finally became able to read Korean like a child. I also began to understand most of what the regional leader would say. I answered "alassumnida" [I understand] to everything he said, convinced that the way for Japanese women to go was not to resist the leader.

Praying for the flyers

From the end of October, we began to pass out flyers in a three-day campaign. A campaign to me was something we did together; however, I learned that the Korean way was up to



the individual. I bought a map, and then a bicycle, then made name cards. I made a goal to bring twenty-one spiritual children for the January 27th blessing. Members advised me in many ways on such things as where to tape the flyers, but I felt I had to discover my own pace and way. I was so happy to start and hung flyers for around three hours on every lamppost, every little door and wall.

After I returned, a call came for me. I answered but couldn't understand what the man was saying. The regional leader's wife then spoke for me, and the man came to the church right away. I was amazed at how quickly a response had come. The regional leader's wife spoke to him and the following day he came for dinner. I didn't know what was going on, so just greeted him and then the regional leader's wife said, "Mrs. Sato, this is your spiritual son." I was so surprised. He turned out to be a twenty-six year old counselor working at a hospital. He had been attracted to the flyer that said "True Family, True Marriage." The man was a Christian had always wanted a true marriage, so he called.

No matter how I looked at it, this could not be my doing. Being arrogant, I usually think, "I did this." But I could not feel this way. I felt God working. God works through the flyers, I thought. Whenever I cut the flyers, I prayed that these pieces of paper would connect someone to eternal life.

The path to overcome

The regional leader is very smart and there aren't so many who work as hard as he does. He always holds *hoon dok* hae from early morning. Because he follows True Father's words faithfully he is strict with the members at times, but he does things in a very Principled way.

The members say the regional leader's wife is an outstanding speaker. If she answers the phone, she tactfully gets the caller's telephone number and address and invites them over right away. The members are very impressed by the way she speaks, which is always vertical. As the central figure is absolutely dedicated to her task to find many candidates, the guests who visit are caught up in the excitement and separated from evil.

Whenever a 'Japanese' thought came to mind, I strove to erase it: "This is Satan. It's fallen nature!" I always tried to think, "You're in Korea. Can't you follow the Korean way? You were originally not even worthy to come here.

You could come only because Father forgave you." Then my original mind would totally agree, and after that my struggles would disappear. When I quickly converted my heart in this way, no struggles would come. I felt, "Korea is a truly good place. A spiritual place."

Because of my age, I cannot walk for hours or my legs and back start to hurt. Then I would remember True Father, who would order his aching legs to move. So I did the same as I went around taping the flyers, "Legs, legs, you must walk. Don't think of the pain. You're still younger than Father's, so there's no reason you can't."

When I tape up the flyers from corner to corner and wish, "Paper, paper, don't blow away! I want you to hang on until someone interested in the truth picks you up. That will lead them to eternal life. You have the best job." The ones I taped up never came off. The tape would still be there even if the flyer was gone, so I would just replace it with a new one on the spot.

I stuck them on the marble walls of underpasses and on waiting room walls at bus terminals. One guest who came a few days after picking up a flyer asked if I had been on the bridge. When I had arrived at the bridge, there weren't any flyers on the handrail, so I papered it with flyers. The flyers fluttered in the wind so much that it attracted this person's attention, who, after one thing had led to another, signed up for the matching.

Father spoke the truth

When the guests visited, the regional leader's wife explained everything using photos and a notebook she'd prepared. This was a spiritual battle, and the forms would be filled in by only those guests who agreed with the explanation that the families created through the blessing are to be families of love, true families that will not go through divorce. Those who stumbled over the idea of it being from the Unification church did not sign up, but the majority of guests did.

We have suits ready in three sizes—large, medium and small—with shirts and ties, even shoes, so candidates could have their photos taken immediately, and they were developed that day. I was so inspired and would exclaim, "Wow! This is great! Korean people are great!" Then the regional leader would ask, "Really?" And I would say, "Really! You and your wife are really wonderful! Korean people are the best!" The regional leader liked this

and it deepened our unity.

Many of the guests wanted Japanese spouses, but there weren't enough. Then members from Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan began to come, and the matching started. It seemed the Korean people did not like those from Central Asia and Russia at first. But after being matched to them, they began to feel they were the spouse of their dreams. God was really working and I thought how true what Father had said at the twenty-one day workshop was about how if we just go to your assigned area, we would find success there. His words were true and right.

After being matched, the two candidates became like husband and wife right away. They held hands and it was difficult to pull them apart. I discovered that although the members from Central Asia may not understand God's words very well, they believe in True Father and follow him, calling him "Aboji." I felt again, this was the key. In Japan we had to persuade the candidate many times and he would attend at least three workshops. And we only recommended him for the blessing if he'd reached a certain standard. This was Korea, however. None of that mattered. I would often say to myself, "Land of the Lord, Korea, Land of the Lord, Korea." I truly felt that both the spirit world and witnessing in the "Land of the Lord" were different.

The sisters also called the matches they'd met the day before "my husband." A member from Kyrgyzstan was staying at our church and around 11 p.m., if she heard a knock, she would jump to the window saying "my husband is here!" I would beg her to go to sleep, but they would stay up until 2 a.m. singing and chatting.

People started coming every day. I was taping four hundred flyers up a day and 12 guests came in 15 days. Everything was made clear in the beginning, that after forty days you could start a family, so the candidates were all people with jobs, preparing an apartment for their marriage. The men were all so deep in heart I thought they were already our members. In the beginning, the guests were all men.

Then in October, about twenty women came. Some were of very high standard, women doctors and lawyers. They had their pride, but received the matching. My spiritual child was among them.

You just need tennis shoes

My calculation was that one guest

came for every six hundred flyers put up, on average. It's okay if you don't speak Korean. Rather than say unnecessary things, it is best to just push, without saying much. All you need are your tennis shoes.

It is so difficult to find a spiritual child in Japan. But here in Korea, I had ten spiritual children in half a month. I wrote, "First come, first served. The town is small. If you don't come, I will do your area. The spiritual children will all be mine. If you're busy, come for just a couple of weeks," and faxed this to Japan every day. As a result, ten wives came to Korea.

The regional leader was very happy. The flyers all had individual names printed on them, and I think it may be more interesting for those who read them to find a Japanese name on them. The members asked the mobilized wives to let them know when they were coming and how long they were staying. They then ordered the flyers, calculating at six hundred per day. If there was spare time, we would cut the flyers for them, which took at least four hours for six hundred.

Ten members could put up six thousand flyers. You could not go out without a map. We worked in pairs without missing a single building. As it says in the Bible, the houses with the blood of the lamb on their doors were saved, so we covered every house saying, "I bring you fortune as a child of God," so that the spiritual world could not accuse us by saying, "We couldn't receive the blessing because you skipped our place!" In this way, I felt that the streets were being purified.

The ten of us together walked around twenty kilometers a day. In the end, wherever we went, we saw paper fluttering about with "Marriage" written on it. Sometimes one telephone pole had three flyers on it. I advised that just one would be enough, and that it should be taped just above eye level. We did the roads after the cleaners came to peel off all flyers!

We did apartments, high and low. I went past the security guards with a smile. The probability of finding blessing candidates in apartments was not very high—about one per thousand residents—but you could hang about two to three hundred flyers in an hour. Our heart was that the flyer belonged to God and that any family would be purified by seeing one; they would eventually join as previously married couples.

A video center!

As members heard the results that were coming, lady elders of the Korean church and Japanese wives living here started moving. In less than a month, over a hundred guests came. I was determined to bring twenty-one blessing candidates, so I continued to put up flyers.

Just before going back to Japan, I made a prayer list of my guests and it came to twenty. So before going out I prayed, "Father, just one more. By bringing twenty-one, help me to fulfill the witnessing goals that True Father desires so much. This third mobilization is something we children must fulfill, so Father, please use me." The day I was to leave around noon, a call came at seven o'clock in the morning. I wondered what kind of person this guest, who came for lunch, might be. When we were introduced, being so happy, he embraced me. I was surprised, as this would never happen in Japan. "I have to go to Japan for a while, but next time I will bring you a wonderful gift, the blessing, so please study hard." This person kept saying, "I understand, I understand," and would not let go of my hand. I was really moved by the depth of his heart.

Another inspiration was that those who applied would come to Sunday service. There are fewer than eighty members now, but if the two hundred newly blessed people start coming, we'll need a new church.

I was concerned about the education of the new members. But everyone I asked said, "A video center just won't work in Korea. It never has." So I approached the national messiah assigned to our area. I told him I thought it would be a good idea to have a video center for education with Japanese women to take care of it as center mothers. He knew about video centers in Japan and told me to go ahead.

I think people from other parts of Asia such as the Philippines also need to be educated in their own languages. After a meeting with the Japanese wives in the area, I understood that these are the people who can love and give God's words to the guests. With a little support from us, the Japanese wives living in Korea can set up a rotation to take care of the guests.

When Satan's accusation ends, results come

I'd like to emphasize that Japanese thinking will absolutely not work in Korea. If you begin to think, "In Japan I was this way," or "In the past things

were like this," toss out all of that. If the food doesn't suit you or your center is humble or even if you are treated like a slave, follow without complaint. With complete gratitude say "Neh, kamsahamnida" [Yes, thank you]. In order to make up for sins committed by Japanese in the past, those were the two words I use first for everything.

That is why the regional leader could trust me absolutely. The indemnity condition of the first thirty days was very good, and I did not have any personal thoughts during that time. I was an extremely arrogant and strong woman. However, no thought of resistance came during those thirty days, whatever happened, because I had come with real determination.

So I asked myself, "How can you be so calm? Is this real?" The response that came was, "If we don't serve here with tears, like slaves, the rancor for the sins committed by Japanese during Korea's colonization will not be atoned for and resolved." About a month after I came, a Japanese sister told me, "The Korean lady elders are saying they feel embarrassed and sorry. You keep everything so clean, and they feel that's how it should always have been." I don't know if that was the reason, but at that point, I felt the enmity began to dissolve.

My blood pressure rose and I collapsed about three times during this period. Whenever that happened, the lady elders and distinguished guests came asking how I was and bringing me Korean sushi, juice, apples, you name it. If I was caught wiping the sink, they got upset: "Mrs. Sato, you can't do that!"

True Father said, "There are no servants of servants in this world. That is why we must go this way." When I pushed myself in the beginning until I could do no more, conditions for Satan's accusation disappeared, results came and I could become a true friend with Korean people.

This time too, when I was going back, the regional leader brought me a gift. I told him not to—that I should be the one to give *him* a gift, but he gave my husband and me sets of underwear!

I felt that the dispensation for coming to Korea this time was different from the past. I felt that if the Korean people understand that the Japanese members are not what they had thought we were, they would feel affectionate towards us even without our being able to communicate well.

I will be happy if this account of my experiences can be of benefit to you. ♦

The Beginning of the Path to Healing

Tom Pritty
Birmingham, England

IN 1996, after my wife received the national messiah mission for South Africa at Cheong Pyeong, we sought ways to prepare ourselves for this huge challenge. Coincidentally, nearby Birmingham University was offering a relevant course on the social history of Southern Africa, so I enrolled. I learnt a great deal about the history of this region and I was particularly affected by the accounts of the slave trade, the centuries of the very terrible suffering it caused to millions of native Africans and their descendants, and the devastating effect it had on the development of the African continent. I also learnt a lot about the more recent history of South Africa, particularly about Apartheid and its legacy.

I went to Korea in January 1997 to take part in a freezing, crowded forty-day Cheong Pyeong workshop. After a series of powerful lectures and a period of soul searching, on the third day we divided into groups and, one group at a time, we went into Daemo nim's special prayer room to repent for all the sins of our lives. We expressed our sins out loud and sought to meet God in repentance. I had a long list of sins in my mind and it took me some time to articulate them all; I could feel the nearby presence of the Holy Spirit, yet the door to full repentance was only slightly ajar. I couldn't think of any other sins, what more could I do?

I cried out, "Dear God, what more do you want me to repent for?"

The answer rang out clearly in my heart: "Repent for the sins of the white man against the black man—particularly for the slave trade."

I repented for the terrible suffering caused to the African people; for treating our brothers and sisters worse than animals; for the inherited arrogance of the white people. The door of repentance swung wide open; the Holy Spirit descended; the agony of God's heart and the tormented anguish of generations of my African brothers and sisters touched my heart; torrents of tears of repentance poured from my eyes—not my tears but God's tears. I have no idea how long I sobbed and cried, realizing so deeply the tragedy of suffering that God and his precious African children had been through. Our time in the repentance room was finished. As I left the room with the others I was still sobbing intermittently; I felt so close to God and never wanted to leave Him. I wanted to find a black brother or sister and prostrate myself at their feet to say I was sorry, but being afraid it might seem strange, I didn't do it. In the hectic workshop I didn't get the opportunity to share my experience publicly, so I kept it inside, until the right time came.

Back in England I shared the experience at our Sunday Service. The tears of repentance came again; a black sister in our church embraced me and I felt that something in the atmosphere of our church changed at that time.

The following January I was in South Africa and gave the Sunday sermon in our church in Johannesburg.

I shared my experience with the largely black congregation there and the Holy Spirit came down again with great power. I sobbed and cried in the arms of my African brothers and sisters there and a great cleansing took place in our hearts—mistrust and resentment were washed away and a great feeling of closeness grew **left, South African members—Tom is at back in the light suit; top, Singing with members**



between us.

In 1999, I was invited to a Religious Youth Service project in Northern Ireland [*Today's World* Dec. 1999] with the theme of peace and reconciliation. I attended an interfaith meeting there which was organized by a religious group working for reconciliation in Belfast. At the end of this stimulating meeting it was asked if anyone there had had an experience of repentance and reconciliation. I felt called to share my experience again. A young American Christian minister, Rev. Michael Teague, was there. Unbeknownst to anyone else, he had been struggling and praying about the black and white problem, which was causing him grief. As I shared my experience, the Holy Spirit came down again in a most powerful way. He came to me and we embraced and sobbed together; some others joined our embrace and we hugged each other in a great weeping and cleansing huddle. Mike Teague's prayers were answered and I hope that something in the Belfast air may have been moved at that time also.

I feel that we need such repentance experiences to bring peace and reconciliation to the many parts of the world where healing is desperately needed, to heal the pain of history and prepare the way for peace.

I don't know why God has blessed me with this kind of experience but I hope that, by sharing it, others may be moved and a few of the huge barriers and prejudices that separate us from each other might dissolve through the power of the Holy Spirit. ♦

Thomas and Friederike Pritty were blessed in the 6000 Couples Blessing.



COURTESY, T. PRITTY

Climbing the Hills of Lebanon

by Thomas Schellen
Beirut



...what man of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? (Matthew 7:9)

An account of an obstinate Unificationist's experiences in national messiah shoes.

ONE of the countless fascinating facets of True Father's personality is his authenticity as a speaker. While he brings his message in a myriad of ways, he repeats and illuminates key points from angles that appeal to people of all backgrounds and every conscience. At the same time, True Father stands out as a 100 percent genuine speaker. Most of the speech givers of this world—and I have heard or read the words of quite a few in my work—fall far short of this standard.

Authenticity is one of the personal values I hold dear. From early teenage years onward I have aimed at shaping my life to be a genuine experience. A very ordinary individual in most respects, I cannot pretend that my life experience even remotely has the universal reach that True Father's has. But for what it is worth, I want to offer the readers of *Today's World* my family's story, of now over four years of life in the shoes of a Cain-nation national messiah to Lebanon.

Accepting the course

When I attended the national messiah providence forty-day preparation workshop in Cheong Pyeong in the summer of 1996, I arrived with no expectation of accepting such a mission,

for reasons too varied and dull to dwell on here. After entering the Cheong Pyeong process, I found the national messiah providence to be God's call addressed to me. My qualification to receive this call was minimal in comparison to its requirements and responsibilities. Being German and from the 6000 couple blessing essentially put me in the pool of those eligible, where so very few candidates for the 184 Cain national messiah positions were gathered.

Of the Cheong Pyeong experience, three strong memories especially stay with me. During one evening reflection session late in the workshop, the phrase "King of Kings" took on a new meaning for me in context of the national messiah providence. It dawned on me that for True Parents to be welcomed as the Kings of Kings, it takes kings to receive them. One translation of messiah being king, I concluded the workshop with the understanding that a key purpose of this providence lies in establishing the foundation for True Parents to be welcomed as King of Kings on the national and world levels.

The second memory ingrained in me were the priorities of husband-wife unity and unity within national messiah groups, which Daemo nim admonished us to maintain as our foremost objectives and operational principles.

The third impression stemmed

from the beginning of the workshop. The incredibly painful experiences of one unknown, overlooked, and even ostracized sister, showed me how we will never be able to comprehend to what degree suffering, investment, and sacrifice have built the foundation we are standing upon. Whatever our role or temporal achievement, we can never even guess what divine work of tears preceded ours and whose investment made it possible for us to harvest what we do.

Moving to Lebanon

The stirrings that raced through my heart when I heard "Lebanon" called out as my family's destiny in the country "lottery," I can only compare to my feelings at the time of our matching.

After the workshop, my resolve, in which my wife and children supported me tremendously, was that we would shortly pack up and move to Lebanon. The internal thrust to assume our responsibility would hardly increase with the passing of time, and I was certain that in our case circumstances would not become more favorable later.

Leaving Germany in February of 1997, we were welcomed in Beirut to stay at the home of the Lebanese—American blessed family of Larry and Marie-Therese Bond, one of two blessed core families living in Lebanon at that

time. During a few months of orientation, we could explore the country, visit some historic sites, meet people and learn how to get around. One of the first things to realize was that the country was safe, that walking around in any corner of Beirut at any hour of day or night was less of a risk than a ride on the New York subway.

In terms of crime, I saw that pushing a shopping cart through a Frankfurt supermarket exposes one to greater danger of being targeted by pickpockets than counting through a wad of \$100 bills in the middle of Beirut's main shopping street, Rue Hamra. (Not that I had any wads of hundreds to count, but the money changers in their open, street-side cubicles did.)

Taken by the journalist-snatching image of Lebanese political extremists in the late eighties, my bigger concerns were over those many bearded men who every day would drive around the Beirut neighborhoods with loudspeaker-equipped cars, shouting slogans with such insistence and intensity that I figured they had to be political activists. These worries were cured quickly and abruptly as I soon learned that none of these so very serious looking men was propagating anything more threatening than *batiche* (watermelon), potatoes, tomatoes, fish, or bread.

During this time, we moved on to stay with the Japanese missionaries, three of whom were doing missionary and social work out of a four-room flat closer to the Beirut shopping districts. This period also saw the end of what little financial means my wife and I had arrived with, and I began to fund-raise shop-to-shop with metal etchings, which the national leader, Adel Jamati, graciously provided.

Getting work as a journalist

To go beyond this romantic but unstable situation, I extended my feelers to look for work in journalism, visiting Lebanon's two English-language newspapers and introducing myself. The reception was friendly, but not enthusiastic. I was one of numerous foreigners in Beirut who passed by these offices with hopes of making some money by writing, in addition to the many Lebanese looking for a chance to write in an English-language publication.

My own background in writing and journalism, while real, was not a mark of fame here. How should I present German brochures on the blessing and the life of the Reverend Sun Myung Moon as references for a job in an English-language daily newspaper?

Most of my recent writing experience then had been within the movement, and spanned delving into ideology, reporting on messianic events and promoting inter-religious dialogue. None of these rate as priorities in small political daily newspapers in the Middle East.

When a divine agency in June of 1997 provided for my first job as a journalist in Lebanon, it was a full-fledged surprise, and a miracle to boot. It was the Day of All True Things. After our holy day pledge in the morning, I read a speech to our small community of three Japanese sisters and my family. As I read, some sentences jumped out at me. "God is not unreasonable," Father said. "If you need a job or house

or other means to be able to do your missionary work, you can ask for it." So I did. I said, "Yes God, I do want to work for you in Lebanon and I would do so better if I had a job."

Later in the morning, we were driving to take a look at a conference room in a hotel where we wanted to hold a seminar introducing the pre-blessing. I got two messages that day. The first informed me that Lebanon had been selected as one of forty countries for the initial World Newspaper Project implementation stage and that I was invited to *The Washington Times* anniversary and Western Literature Conference in Washington, to learn of this project as representative of Lebanon.

The second call came from an acquaintance of our movement, Professor Ramez Maluf, who had once edited the *Middle East Times*. I had never met him. He had heard of my being in Lebanon, he said, and

asked me to come by the *Beirut Times* office, one of the two English papers in town, where he was editorial advisor.

They needed me as business writer. I became a business writer. Seminars on risk management and Basle inter-bank standards, World Trade Organization accession negotiations for Lebanon, a new shopping mall in the Verdun district of Beirut, an agriculture trade fair in the town of Zahle in the Bekaa valley, a chicken farming operation to replace hashish farming in the same region, the growth of courier companies and the woes of manufacturers of ceramic tiles—such and more became



Ancient Roman architecture against a backdrop of a local community; A majestic cedar tree, symbol of Lebanon, stands beside a historic church

my topics, and indeed, my interests.

Having entered this job in a spiritual manner, I felt that this was how I could operate in Lebanon. I approached my work with the attitude that we should always strive to do our best and become the best at whatever our task. My work quality was noticed; my salary grew.

Then the paper went from being ostensibly healthy one day to folding the next in February of 1998, having failed to pay our salaries and leaving me with hardly enough cash to buy food for two days. Younger colleagues loaned or donated enough money so that my family could get by until I could secure a project to write a brochure advertising a computer fair. This took us through one month, and then I was recommended for another job as editor for Hazar Media, a publisher of two trade magazines. I learned things about the natural stone industry in Palestine, stone quarrying potential in Uganda, and international trade in marble and granite. For the magazine *Search*, a publication promoting Arab manufactured goods, I wrote about companies in Lebanon, and also visited Jeddah and Dubai.

After editing these magazines for a year, circumstances and intuition both told me it was time for another change. By then, people in the business news media in Lebanon had begun to approach me with requests, rather than my going hunting for a job. Following a few months in the summer and autumn of 1999 of focusing on bringing participants to the new IIFWP international *hoon dok hae* conferences and freelancing for income, I returned to daily business journalism, joining the staff of the now one and only English-language daily in the country, *The Daily Star*.

For over a year-and-a-half with that paper, I wrote on a whole range of business activities but with time, focused on aspects of the new economy, the Internet and information technology. In that realm, some consider me the best source on what is happening in Lebanon and an important channel to get their message across to the public.

The German airline, Lufthansa, once invited me to a tourism fair in Frankfurt and the PR agencies for large information technology firms sent me invitations to events in Amman, Cairo, and Dubai. On the providential journalism track, the World Media Association twice made use of me as a lecturer, at the Convention of World Leaders for True Father's

birthday in 2000 and at the Tokyo World Media Conference in 2001.

Why be a journalist?

From the beginning of my journalist work in Lebanon, I have made no secret of my faith, of being a follower of Reverend Moon, and my commitment to the Family Federation, IIFWP, WMA and whatever other organizations there were.

Young Lebanese colleagues often responded very respectfully when learning of my commitment to religious and spiritual values. Upon some, this information exerted a direct positive influence. Western colleagues—often religiously handicapped and a mixed lot overall—were not as easily impressed, but on the whole, were also very respectful and even appreciative of my Unificationist orientation, which we discussed every now and then.

As a journalist, I have met and interviewed government officials, consul-

got here by a heavenly lottery.

All in all, I consider my work my primary tool to contributing to this society. I never was an eager proselytizer, and can use this to my advantage here. The Middle Eastern environment is not exactly suited to evangelization drives. Protestant missionaries, for example, when arriving in Beirut in the early 1990s, found themselves a tiny minority surrounded by what they considered heathens—Maronite Catholics, Greek Orthodox adherents, Syriac Catholics, Sunni Muslims, Druze, Shia Muslims. In short, while the Middle East needs many things and is desperate for divine guidance and True Parents' tradition, in my view the last thing it needs is another religion.

A true society has to be structured in a principled manner, from one end to the other. Economic development, in line with the mandates of universally shared values, interdependence and mutual prosperity—three core principles

for a godly society—is extremely desirable. My work as business journalist has opened my eyes to many aspects of this task. It has taught me a lot and led me to reconsider many views I had held for a long time, views which I had mostly formed before joining the Unification Church.

Family development

My wife, Hermine, does the better half of our work. As head of our religious community, I conduct Sunday services, read *hoon dok hae* materials and talk to VIPs.

But it is my wife who studies the Divine Principle and True Father's words with our friends, drives our involvement in special providential projects, maintains the internal relationship with most contacts, and watches over our life of prayer and reporting.

When I go to town, I run into people who know me from a press conference or an interview. She is greeted on the street by students whom she had given holy candy and had sign True Love pledges. Incidentally, my wife is also an avid reader and a leading judge of my journalistic writing.

Living in Lebanon has challenged us, and our children, in mind and heart, with times of sadness and moments of intense internal pain. Once last summer, having no sister or brother to work with for a few months, my wife was stabbed by a sensation of being totally alone, of no soul in heaven noticing that we are here. In that moment, with a rush, she



Son Sergej, wife Hermine and daughter Natascha in Beirut

tants, scholars, and many industry leaders. Quite often, the people I talk to ask me how I came to live in Lebanon. After all, this is a country from which scores of people are longing to emigrate, and Germany is often looked upon as some kind of paradise destination.

My interviews frequently end up taking twice as long as those conducted by my colleagues. This is partly because my German thoroughness leads me to ask many questions, but also because I often explain to my interviewees why I am here and what my family is doing. Depending on the level of communication, this could mean telling them that Lebanon is a great country and describing its many good points: highlighting its respect for religion and appreciation of the family, praising its culture and friendliness. It could mean describing our work for peace, family values, and blessings through our NGOs, and sometimes even going on to say that I

felt True Father's presence, assuring her that this was not so. Another persistent encouragement and comfort for my wife rose from experiencing time and again the reality of Daemo nim's support. Whenever we need help, Daemo nim had said at the conclusion of the Cheong Pyeong workshop, we could call upon her. Throughout these four years, answers and strength came to my wife when she turned to Daemo nim in instances of inner turmoil.

Our children have experienced phases of loneliness and felt homesick for Europe. Internally, there is no church community or HARP group they could be part of, and the nearest workshop center offering activities for blessed children is probably located in Italy.

Providing the external aspects of education to our children is a financial drain, but going to school in Beirut brings substantial benefits for our children. The Lebanese education system, while backwards in some methods and on teaching critical thinking, is achievement-oriented. The schools produce many tri-lingual graduates who find it easy to succeed in colleges in France, Canada or the United States. On some important questions, Lebanese private schools are miles ahead of their European counterparts. Sex education is fundamentally reserved to the place where it belongs, the home, and drugs or alcohol are not an issue in the schoolyard. Pokemon and Hollywood are as present in Lebanon as anywhere, but local censorship rules lead to excision of explicit nudity from imported films shown here on television.

The Internet and other means of communication are fully available, with all their good and evil aspects, but they are easier to control in this cultural environment where the family is the primary institution, followed by the priest or sheikh. Family and religious communities exert far more influence over an individual's development here than peer groups and state.

Good times or bad

As Lebanon is part of the Middle East, we have learned how close the original Muslim spirit is to aspects of the principled world that Christianity has been weak in addressing. The support of the Prophet Mohammed and many saints is no theory here. In a manner that can teach much to Westerners, the families are the central institution of daily life.

There are shortages of water and electricity in Lebanon, partly caused by mismanagement and partly forced upon the country from outside or by overall conditions. When I return home from work on a hot and humid August evening, I don't need to turn on the tap to check whether there is enough water to shower and wash the sweat off my body: walking up the stairs to our flat, I just listen for the sound of water running in our neighbor's garden. In a gentle insanity, a little fountain there is fed from the municipal water network that supplies fresh water to the homes for 12 hours out of every 48 hours during the summer months.

We have adjusted to the water rationing that lasts from July until December, when torrential winter rains sweep the streets. It was with special pain that we witnessed and experienced the conflict between the children of Abraham and its effect on living circumstances. We heard reports



The Schellens with Lebanese friends

of torture, oppression, and murder, answered by hatred and vengeful acts. Traumatized by the civil war years, many Lebanese suffer from depression, alcohol-abuse and anxiety that can be triggered by small incidents.

The failure to reach a regional peace under the 1993 Oslo accord has severely impeded economic development in Lebanon. In non-political terms, the brothers Isaac and Ishmael need rescuing. Their descendants on both sides of the present-day Arab-Israeli struggle have accumulated guilt and resentments that they will not be able to resolve without help from the outside.

Internal help and investment with the heart of spiritual parents is a great need and concern.

Over the past four years, the number of core Unificationists in the region has shrunk, as most Japanese missionaries returned to the Far East. Since the last core Lebanese couple departed from

Beirut on July 1, 1999, my family has supplied the only constant missionary presence of our movement in the country. Sometimes I think that the main reason why we received blessings and support in so many forms was that we are the only vessel around.

What could we achieve?

Living in Lebanon, and praying for Lebanese to receive the heart of True Parents, the blessings of the providence, and for substantial peace to embrace the Middle East has been important to us. Our victories have been few, if one goes beyond calling survival in a national messiah country a success.

In all respects, our life in Lebanon has been possible because of tremendous angelic and spiritual assistance, which often also extended to my work life. In a small way, we were able to tap into the grand vision and total providential control of True Parents by sending a number of Lebanese dignitaries to hoon dok hae conferences and international events.

For True Parents' 80th birthday celebration in 2000, we conveyed a short letter of congratulation from then Lebanese prime minister, Selim al-Hoss, who had once attended a Summit Council for World Peace conference. Lebanon also offered a small gift and plaque to True Parents on that occasion, and again on the occasion of the Coronation Ceremony for the Kingship of God.

Doing the Pure Love campaign in Lebanon was deeply rewarding from the positive responses, especially from students and young people who received this true love message with great appreciation. The pre-blessing and pure love campaigns also provided a deep inspiration to each member of our family, with many stories of guidance, spiritual help, and seeing how suspicion changed into support even on the part of security officials.

In December of 2000, our network of graduates from international hoon dok hae events and a grant from IIFWP made it possible to hold an International Education Program conference in Lebanon for some two hundred local VIPs and NGO activists. Working as co-hosts with two local NGOs, and relying on teamwork with core friends of IIFWP, it was possible for two out of the three women members of the Lebanese Parliament to accept invitations as speakers, along with several highly respected civic leaders and religious

dignitaries representing the two Muslim denominations, the Druze faith, the Greek Orthodox Church and Protestantism. Held under the patronage of the new prime minister of Lebanon, Rafik Hariri, the event was opened by a minister of state, Bsharra Merhej, reading the prime minister's message.

Some opposition to the conference evaporated during the preparations. After the conference, United Nations representatives stationed in Beirut told my wife that from the event they felt for the first time encouraged to consider organizing a conference with a peace topic in Lebanon—something they saw IIFWP prove the country was ready to accept.

In this region, where the last major providential conference in an Arab country had taken place in the early 90s, this conference on "Building a Culture of Peace" brought a momentum of hope for further development. In some Arab countries today, national messiahs still have to work in a very secretive and hidden manner, much more so than in Lebanon.

Personal evaluation

In March, I had the chance to attend the first New Leadership Paradigm workshop with Hyun-jin nim in Canada, as a representative of the Middle East region. The workshop afforded me a great chance to review my priorities and assert for myself that my *hyung-sang* professional life had not taken precedence over the *sung-sang* calling.

Part of my inability to be a successful and moneymaking journalist earlier was my not trying wholeheartedly. In a mix of reluctance to involve myself in the mundane world and a feeling that it was not the time and place for me to do so, I did not invest my full determination, effort and desire into the journalistic

activity I knew I could do best.

The move to the country given us as a providential responsibility and the manner of being offered my first job here in response to a quiet three-second prayer liberated me from that reluctance and helped me to scale a deep-rooted personal barrier against doing my best in the world.

Outlook

Lebanon and the Lebanese have many qualities that I feel more comfortable with than with corresponding traits in European societies. My family and I have benefited internally and externally from moving to Lebanon, and, bold as this may sound, we feel the Lebanese to be our children whom we deeply care for.

My wife, together with a core student contact and his friends, is working on a project to create a student newspaper in Beirut, beginning with some of the smaller universities. Her aim is to create a publication by students for students, with a healthy dose of value orientation.

Raising our study contacts to becoming the backbone for a future chapter of the Family Federation, and developing a core group for an IIFWP chapter are other priorities, along with pursuing the goals for the Pentecost period.

Just as I could never have imagined

more closely—than the liturgies of the later European-faced denominations do.

The Unification Church first established a presence in the country in 1969 when French missionary Remy Blanchard came to Beirut and started witnessing here. In the spring of 1975, however, Remy was expelled from the country, and a few weeks later the civil war erupted, which was to last in several phases until 1990. Members moved to France, Australia and the United States or had to survive in isolation. National leader, Adel Jamati, joined in 1985 by his New Zealand wife, Pauline, walked a hard and lonely course in the war-torn country.◆



The December IIFWP International Education Program conference in Beirut: Thomas is seated with (left to right) Sheikh Masri of the Druze faith, Sayyed Mohammed Al Amin of the Shia Muslim faith, Father Weber of the Greek Orthodox Church

celebrating our 20th matching anniversary with my wife in Beirut romance, I have no way of predicting what the next day will ask of us, whether we will achieve our mission goals during this Pentecost period, or whether I will personally succeed in the new magazine project I am about to take on. But I firmly believe that the future of this region will be great.

Our horizons have widened, culturally, professionally, and spiritually. When preparing for our local International Education Program seminar last December, my wife—who in 1996 returned from Cheong Pyeong with regrets of having seen no spirits whatsoever—had a vision of several saints, among whom she recognized Saint Rita, watching over Lebanon. With many dreams, spiritual experiences and an improvement of our external circumstances over our life in Germany, my wife considers our Lebanon experience a testimony to the words "seek ye first the kingdom of God, and all those things shall be added unto you."

Berlin, the city where God grabbed me, became my first spiritual Jerusalem, an image of a city waiting for freedom that kept me going when times were rough. The Wall is now gone. To free the city which is called Al Qods in Arabic means to me that we must liberate the children of Ishmael and Isaac. We must create a space where Jews, Christians and Muslims can meet True Parents, entering freely through the twelve gates of the city.◆

[Edited for Today's World]

A little about Lebanon

Lebanon is part of the region where Christianity gained its first foothold on earth. Jesus indeed walked the lands between his home in Galilee and the Phoenician cities of Tyre and Sidon, which are the Lebanese cities of Sour and Saida of today.

The religious culture of worship as it was practiced in the first centuries after Christ is perhaps preserved most originally in this region. Forms of worship among Middle Eastern Christians and Muslims have more in common with the ancient prayer and service rites of the early church—and also resemble each other

end, Jesus died on the cross, between two thieves. At the time of his crucifixion, his disciples watched him from a distance. Many others watched his death, too. The disciples might have expected some kind of miracle thinking, "Our Lord is the Messiah, how could he die with those robbers? It cannot be."

However, no miracle occurred and Jesus simply died on the cross after sorrowfully crying out, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" The disciples all thought it was the end of everything. They scattered in despair.

The meaning of Pentecost

After the crucifixion, Peter went back home to the coast of Galilee thinking, "I must have been out of my mind for these three years with Jesus. Now I need to get back to my senses and get on with my life." The community of those who followed Jesus was crushed after the crucifixion.

Three days had passed. Peter had already gone back to fishing to make a living. That day, he could not catch a single fish. Someone shouted at him. "Did you catch any fish today?" "No, not really," he replied. "Then why don't you cast your net over here?" He did what the stranger had said. This time, he could not even haul in his net it had so many fish in it. The Bible says he had netted a hundred and fifty-three fish. In awe, Peter looked more closely at the stranger. And there sat the resurrected Jesus.

When Jesus died on the cross, Peter had to witness his beloved teacher dying helplessly. He was driven into despair thinking, "It has all ended in vain. I followed him for three years like a crazy person...." How thrilled must he have been to meet the Jesus risen from the dead!

After that, Jesus appeared in numerous places. After encountering the resurrected Jesus, all his disciples came together again for forty days.

After forty days, Jesus ascended to heaven. You can read about it in the book of Acts 1:1-5:

"In the first book, O Theoph'ilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while

staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, 'You heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'"

In other words, it was time for them to wait. After the forty days of his work on earth after the resurrection, he said, "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

"And when he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up.... This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath-day's journey." (Acts 1:11-12)

Here we read, "a Sabbath day's journey." The Sabbath day's walk shows how strict the Sabbath law was. According to the law, one was restricted to walking less than a 1000 steps on the Sabbath day. It is okay to walk 999 steps, but one more step than that is strictly forbidden by the law.

Once again from the Bible we read of the day of Pentecost:

"In those days Peter stood up among the brethren (the company of persons was in all about a hundred and twenty), and said, "Brethren, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David.... And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." (Acts 1:15, 16 and 2:4)

After the day of the Pentecost, Peter changed. "But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them,... 'these men are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day.'" (Acts 2:14)

Peter is saying this completely intoxicated by the Holy Spirit around nine in the morning. Before, he was not a confident man, but now intoxicated with



Father and Mother pray before the May 1 anniversary celebration for the founding of HSA-UWC in 1954

KEN OWENS/NFP

the Holy Spirit, he could not be silent about his faith, so he started to speak out loudly. However, people must have thought him strange or crazy. He had to tell them that he was drunk not with alcohol but with the Holy Spirit.

The current providential era

After Jesus' resurrection, the disciples gathered and were worried about whether the Holy Spirit would really descend as the Lord had promised. However, the day of the Pentecost came and all the disciples were possessed by the Holy Spirit and had astonishing spiritual experiences. From that day on, their witnessing activities began and Christianity was born.

Two thousand years have passed since the day of Pentecost, the descent of the Holy Spirit. We are now waiting for the day of New Pentecost. Father finished his speaking tour, begun on February 25th, on April 17th. Father emphasized that "When the day of the Pentecost comes, a new providence will begin and we should start to actualize the original world of Creation, a new community." What we need to do in our life of faith is to prepare for that day.

The Pentecost occurred during what had, since before the coming of Christ, been an important traditional Jewish time of celebration every year. This, the most important seasonal occasion in the Jewish tradition, was Passover.

Passover is just like Liberation Day (Aug. 15th) in Korea. It celebrates their liberation from Egypt. At Passover, they gathered together in the main temple in Jerusalem to celebrate and to give thanks to God.

Beginning from the day of the Pass-

over, and for forty-nine days after that, there was a period of collecting the first fruits and then, on the fiftieth day, of offering them. It was a harvest festival, a day to express thanks for the harvest of the year. However, in Christianity, fifty days after the resurrection of Christ, the day of the Holy Spirit's descending became the day of the Pentecost.

After the fifty-state speaking tour in the U.S., True Parents set the day of Pentecost as the fiftieth day from the end of the tour. What should we do? Now is the time for us to prepare for the amazing historical providence of the day of Pentecost.

At this important time, we should determine the direction of our life of faith. As we are harvesting the providential fruit, as Father has told us to, we should seriously think about what we are leaving behind for future generations. History can be a very good teacher. God has worked through history and important prophecies have been received throughout history. History shows us the onward progress of the work of God on earth through times of hope as well as of despair.

The Israelites endured a dark period of four hundred years in Egypt and then were liberated into an era of daylight. However, later on, they kneeled before the god Baal, and this resulted in captivity in Babylon for four hundred years—another dark period in their history. Their only hope was the coming of the Messiah. When the Messiah came for them, some of them received the light, but most of the Jewish people remained in darkness. Even those who'd been brought into the daylight through Jesus' ministry lost all hope after his death on the cross. They fell into the deepest darkness.

Three days after his death, Jesus was resurrected, bringing daylight to his disciples again. But after Jesus' ascension to heaven, they were again fraught with anxiety and worry. It was not until the descent of the Holy Spirit that they found they could live in daylight without the direct presence of Jesus.

We are no different. Whether we look at our individual life of faith or the entire community's religious course,

history is indeed restoration through indemnity. A period of indemnity is clearly reminiscent of the night and a period of restoration suggests the daytime. As night has followed day repeatedly, periods of indemnity and of restoration have come and gone up until the present day. But we have now reached the point where the night can no longer continue. Of course, everyone is different. And everyone is accountable for how he conducts his own life of faith. Therefore, everyone is at a different stage of providential development. It may very well be that most of us will still have to go through periods of both night and day.

Thanks to True Parents' victorious achievements, we have reached the final stage in the history of restoration through indemnity. From now on, the time of the light will go on forever.

Spiritually speaking, history has

to God eternally. The only true way we can render devoted service to True Parents is to become true children.

Recently, I heard Mr. Kim Young-ook, a well-known scholar who has repopularized the Korean annals [1,893 books comprising reports made between 1392 and 1863 by objective, professional historiographers as a record of events and society in their time], talking about Confucius on television. One day, a disciple asked Confucius, "What should I do to express my filial piety?" Confucius responded, "You must keep healthy. There is nothing else you need to do." It is not what we as children give or offer to our parents that makes our parents happy but that we grow up healthy and become good people of integrity. That is the biggest joy for our parents. True Parents' love is not so very different from that. We may think that what is important is how much we give True Parents externally, but

True Parents' sincere wish is for us to be true, heavenly children.

What should we leave behind after we go to the spirit world?" Father gave us four directions: The first you will find on page 59 of Blessed Family and Ideal Kingdom, Korean version, in the speech "What We Should Do in Our Lifetime":

"The legacy we can leave behind for eternity is how we actually lived our lives. If we live only for ourselves, it cannot be a legacy. But if we live for

the world, God's will and heaven, only then do we have something worthwhile to leave behind as our legacy. You must try every minute of every single day of your life to connect to God's will in order to be able to leave a meaningful legacy from your life. No matter how great a difficult obstructs your path, you should be able to make a strategy to overcome it and to recapture the highest hill. So you should be concerned not about the present but the future with earnest hope. You should have a big enough heart to be curious about the outcome after all tribulations pass. When the outcome is shockingly more impressive and fruitful than the tribulations we have to go through, we win."

I agree that living for others is a legacy that will remain for eternity. The memory of everything we've experi-



reached the point of eternal liberation. Having concluded the time of praying in the name of Jesus, then in the name of True Parents, we now are in the time of praying in our name as a member of a central blessed family (*chukbok joongshim kajong*). We will not go back to the time of praying in the name of Jesus or True Parents.

What should we leave behind?

How should we be living our life of faith at this time? We must think of what we will have left behind when we are gone. Father has told us not to pray for him any more; he is willing to risk his life for victory in God's providence, so it doesn't matter to him if we pray for his life or not. He told us to pray for ourselves rather than for him. He wants us to be able to leave something really valuable behind and to stay loyal

enced fades away, but the love we give remains forever in others' hearts. What others remember of us is what really matters in the end. We cannot fairly judge our own lives, but others can. What others say about us really defines whether or not our lives have been meaningful and valuable. What we do solely for ourselves is never remembered by others. What we do for others has real eternal value as True Father has said.

True Father has taught us how to go up the hill, taught us to live for the future. When we are in the middle of hardships, if we decide just to dwell in them, the suffering cannot end. We should think of what is to come after we go through the struggles. We should think of how restored we will be after going through the indemnity period. In other words, we should be able to overcome the present reality with hope. If we overcome our difficulties with this kind of future-based point of view, we will be able to leave an eternal legacy behind. That is Father's basic teaching for us.

Leaving a legacy

Father's second direction, which appears on page 61, is:

"We should have something to leave behind even at this moment. We should really practice the way of filial piety and of a loyal patriot centering on God's love. We should be the subjective center that everyone automatically wants to assimilate into. Those who have a big enough heart to embrace everyone will never perish. If we pray in a locked cell for God and for the world, we can have a one on one encounter with God. There are numerous people in this world, but you can meet God one on one when you sincerely pray representing all the people. We should try to make such a meeting possible. You cannot stay ordinary and be remembered in history. Those who can disregard their own lives for the sake of God's will and the world are the only ones who will remain to the end. Even if they perish, they will be the very last ones to perish."

One-on-one, heart-to-heart relationships between God and people and among individuals are the only things that last forever. Brothers and sisters,

what is a heart-to-heart relationship? The opposite of a heart-to-heart relationship could be called an "institutional relationship." Heart-to-heart relationships go beyond any institutional boundaries. Institutional relationships are based on calculating mutual interests. Heart-to-heart relationships do not change under any circumstances since they are based eternally on God. In the Bible, we can see that the relationship between Jesus and his disciples was more like an institutional relationship. It was a relationship based on the institution of a teacher and his disciples. However, Jesus' relationship with Mary Magdalene was a heart-to-heart relationship. That is the only lasting relationship.

We are bound by a variety of relationships—our relationship to brothers and sisters in the church, our relationship to the secular world, our relationship to our tribes and so forth. We need

and the world will be engrafted into the heart of so many throughout history. So your suffering will be historic suffering. And the stories you leave behind will be the truest examples to follow."

The suffering we endure for the sake of the world is something of eternal value that we leave behind. That is all that lasts. The suffering we endure for ourselves cannot be remembered in history. The suffering we endure for the sake of our people and the world has incredible value.

Finally, Father concludes on page 63:

"Even if you have to suffer, if you really invest all of yourself, you will never perish. You won't be accused in the spirit world and can live happily there. You can surely build a victorious worldwide foundation. So do not be afraid at all and do not hesitate. Be strong and brave."

When you are strong and brave,

True Father tells us, you live a life that has eternal value, you do not perish—you leave a legacy.

This is the message Father gave the members at the headquarters church right before he left Korea, in the 1970s. True Father's parting message to us when he left for America thirty years ago was that we ought to have something of eternal value to leave behind. Father has now harvested the victorious fruit of the providence in America and will be coming back to this country with the heavenly fortune of the Pentecost.

For the last thirty years we have been investing in this country with the view that it would be the chosen nation. Now is the time to settle accounts. We need to check how much effort we have poured into putting into practice what True Parents have taught us and into leaving a legacy of value.

If we have not built up heart-to-heart relationships, never really practiced living for others, never really endured suffering for the world or ever really been strong and brave for God's will, we must make a new start right this minute. We must live honorably.

When True Father asks, "How well have you lived?" We need to be able to answer with pride.◆

[Edited for Today's World]



One of a series of outdoor meetings in Korea held to explain True Parents' 50-state speaking tour victory in America

to look at the quality of our relationships. Do we have actual heart-to-heart give and take with brothers and sisters in the church? Do we meet just because we happen to be in the same religious community? Do we really have family-like ties to one another? True Parents have taught us that the only lasting and valuable relationship is the heart-to-heart relationship.

This is Father's third direction to us, found on page 62:

"If you live only for yourself, there is inevitably a hopeless ending. But if you live for your people and the world, there is always hope. If you live for your people and the world, you may lose in the present, but you will be remembered in history by the people and the world you risked your life for. The suffering you had to go through for the people



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