

TODAY'S

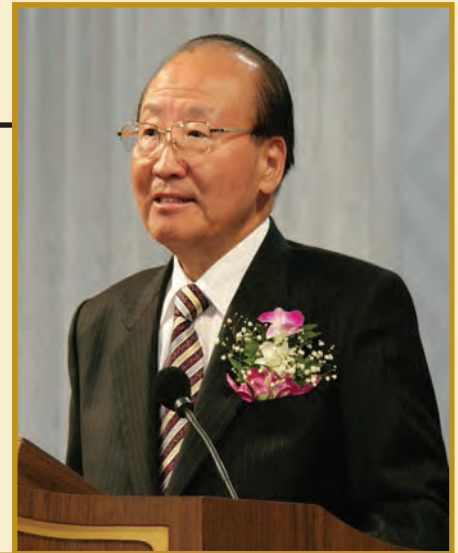
WORLD

NOVEMBER 2006



Why God and True Parents Forgive Our Sins

At the second New Beginning Workshop,
on November 12, 2006



Today we will take part in the Holy Wine Ceremony. This Holy Wine Ceremony is for Cheon Il Guk blessed families to make a fresh start. We were not originally meant to go through the Holy Wine Ceremony many times. What we have already received through the grace of the blessing is a precious gift. Once we fulfill the purpose of the blessing and complete the mission of blessed families, never again will the Holy Wine Ceremony be needed. It was not meant to be a grace that God and True Parents would bestow twice or many times to this person and that. For fallen man, the blessing is the highest, most precious, profound and eternal grace. As we know through the Principle, due to the Fall, humankind lost God's true love and became devoid of true life, not worth even a handful of sand. Being ignorant of the precious life and love from Heaven is enough to qualify us as worthless; we fell and became miserable beings that had lost God's true love, true life and true lineage. We were forced to pass Satan's false love to our lineal descendants instead of God's true love and true life. The blessing allows fallen man to inherit true life and true lineage and be transferred from being under Satan's dead dominion to being under God's live dominion. There is no greater grace or more valuable blessing than that.

If Heaven could freely give the blessing and easily bestow it on anyone, why was it given only after the long historical course of restoration and True Parents' arrival? The prophets and martyrs before us laid the foundation to bring the grace of the blessing to earth, and, on the foundation of the endeavors made during the providence of restoration, True Parents had to go through an unspeakable course as an offering to bring Satan to complete submission and ultimately bring about the grace of the blessing. Because the Fall turned us into false children, Satan's children, from the satanic lineage, Satan will not let us go.

Our reversion to being God's children cannot be achieved without establishing the conditions for that. That is why True Parents have gone through many hardships to bless us, though they do not talk about the difficult situations they went through before becoming True Parents. In any family, parents express all the difficulties involved in becoming parents to their children. Children don't need to know how their parents became their parents. The circumstances that made them parents should be something they keep to themselves. We may say "True Parents, True Parents," gaze at them and hear them speak, but we do not know everything about their internal circumstances. Because they are true, loving parents, they do not wish to speak about such things in detail to their children. We must be aware of this distressing situation.

As you are well aware, God is the source of true love. God's relationship with each person is a parent-child relationship. God's ideal is not solitary joy; it is joy shared with His children, who make up all humanity. No matter how wonderful the ideal—Cheon Il Guk—may be, God does not wish to be alone when it is realized! True Parents do not wish to be the only people in Cheon Il Guk. They wish to actualize Cheon Il Guk with the children whom they have blessed, with their actual children on the Abel side and Cain side. That is why, in order to allow us to fulfill that ideal, Cheon Il Guk, they were unable to punish us for our innumerable offenses. Time and again, they made us aware of our mistakes, gave us new life while personally experiencing heartache, so that they might enter and live in the kingdom of heaven with their children.

People are rendered without value the minute they forget True Parents' tremendous true love. Consequently, receiving the blessing in this world is, in effect, confirming one's purpose for existing. According to the eternal, public, universal law—the principles underpinning true love and heaven—without receiving the blessing there is no meaning to our existence. The blessing represents the highest, most precious grace of inheriting true love, true life, and true lineage and becoming

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Cover Photo: True Father at Pledge Service on True Children's Day; he is holding the speech he read later that day. *Above:* True Parents enjoying a beautiful, clear day outside Cheon Jeong Peace Palace on November 26 *Back Cover:* One of two trees flanking the steps to the Cheon Jeong Peace Palace; Father named them Pine Tree 1 and 2; This is Pine Tree 2.

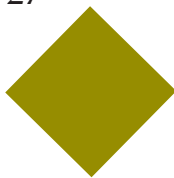
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*True
Father
Ancients
His
Emissaries*

*Father's Speech to 120
Ambassadors for Peace at
Cheon Jeong Peace Palace on
October 27*



These words these ministers representing the United States can proclaimed on behalf of the world are not proclaimed for the purpose of establishing the national sovereignty of one small nation through the opinion of individuals. You must understand that those words should be realized on the earth, which is connected with God, the original subject, centering on the heavenly principle, and that they indicate the process to be implemented which would enable the fulfillment of the internal goal; you must follow those words and make them your own in order to understand me. You must know that you can solidify them as your own. I know what is written here. Furthermore, there is no denying that I have accumulated a record of achievements of being able to put this into practice in the world.

Aju¹ [아주], what is this word "aju"? "Amen" is vague. "Aju" means that I am the owner of this universe. It implies that a person can now live as a human being.¹ We can form our families in this universe, in which people can live as owners, attend God the Father and be happy as a son. But we lost that which could have been realized. Where is individual salvation? Did Jesus come to bring salvation to individuals? That concept should be completely done away with. Even if it isn't, the time has come when it will disappear on its own. Such a time will come—even if one were to sit down and do nothing. I have pursued and initiated projects throughout my entire life, without losing my life, and the achievements accumulated through my practices and actions have visible for all to see.

The era has come through which people of all nations in the world can come together in harmony and come together as one in search of the ideal, the homeland. Therefore, a cosmic era will come, no matter how hard someone may try to deny that fact. The spirits—the ancestors who have gone to the spiritual world—are not dead but alive. They were all fallen on earth during the era before the arrival of heaven. Yet, in the time after the coming of heaven, how

¹ From an FFWPU International official memo: "Aju" means living in the kingdom of heaven. In other words, my home, in which I serve and attend God, is my inner house. That house is where I live at its center in attendance to God, and it is the place where the representative owner lives; ultimately, for human beings, it is the house in their hometown, and, for Heaven, it is the cornerstone of the homeland.

I am the owner of the era of the realm of the heart of the fourth Adam, representing the whole and the best of all things. I must become the owner that perfects heaven and earth. The Chinese character *ju* (住), meaning to reside, consists of the Chinese characters *in* (人), meaning person, and *ju* (主), meaning lord, and is used in the word *keoju* (居住), meaning residence. Therefore, *aju* literally means "I reside." (我住)

You must use "Aju" at the end of your prayers as an expression of your resolution and pledge to stand in the position representing the owner who has perfected heaven and earth, and live in attendance to Heaven. With our pledge, Aju, we should find our house, establish our family, our clan, our people, our nation and our world.



A few among the many at hoondokhwaе the day before the 120 Ambassadors for Peace spoke across Korea, (front row, right to left) Pastor Robert Upton, Archbishop G.A. Stallings, Pastor T.L. Barrett. Rev. Kwak is reading True Father's message.

long do you think they have waited for God's will? They are all waiting, unable to marry, as single people. How impatiently they have waited for these gates to be opened!

The blessing of 300 billion ancestors has been accomplished. That is only one-third of the total. The spirits in the spirit world will descend and block you and ask, "Hey you! Do you know which generation of ancestor I am? If you aren't going the right way, they will obstruct your path and take you away, by law. That kind of fearful era has arrived. Shouldn't it be that way? Do you think that God Himself would have caused the Fall, which has caused suffering for millions of years and which created a divide that has existed for millions of years between the world of hell and the era of heaven? How great His suffering was from the sorrow of seeing this—such a world of sorrow! There is no such thing as conflict within the realm of God's heart.

The Christian denominations today and religions as a whole are in conflict; denominations are in conflict, and families are in conflict. Is there any problem that the American society is not suffering from? All the religions, sects and families are in conflict. In the United States, they have their ruling and opposition parties! All of this should be thrown out. As you go on this tour, you must understand that this speech did not come about in a simple manner. The final conclusive achievements of Heaven's endeavors paved the way by extracting the blood, bone marrow and essence of millions of religious people; where will this go? I cannot take responsibility for this. Why do you need the True Parents?

Why do you need the True Parents? Why do you need the savior? Why do you need the redeemer?

Why do you need the Messiah? Why was the second coming of the Lord needed? Wouldn't it be enough with just the True Parent? Yet, because there was no true parent, Western people did not know about true love, true life and about the true lineage. European people do not know how important the bloodline is!

How can understand this? None of your nations, tribes or families can resolve this! There isn't an answer anywhere

else. Only from me and only centered on God's ideal of love. Centered on that, I proclaim this. [Father holds up the speech booklet.] This is the only answer.

There is nothing else. Forget about useless talk; I suffered in the United States for thirty-four years. Does anyone think I am his enemy? I was criticized and slandered for thirty-four years. It would be crazy to think that it was by human effort that you followed me and are going out to 120 nations. I was born as a son of a farmer in Korea, a pitiable nation. I was alone; my mother and father were against me; my parents were against me; the religion which I believed in was against me; the nation was against me; countless religions, nations and sovereignties were against me. When I went to the heavenly nation everyone—hell, Satan and even God opposed me. Why? Since Adam and Eve fell in the Garden of Eden, going down to the same level is needed in restoring the Fall. The conclusion reached was that salvation could not be completed without having all human beings become perfect, restored and liberated. That is why I followed this path of death for the sake of perfection even if it meant dying a hundred or even a thousand times. Do you know how many hills I climbed over? Did Jesus leave behind even one word indicating that he had accomplished his wish?

You believe in Jesus, but what is it that you believe in? Do you believe in his portrait? What were his lifetime achievements? Didn't he stay in the public eye only a little more than two years and eight months? He was hounded by the people of Israel and died through a traitor's betrayal. I have carried on until now in that same position. I am now almost eighty-eight years old. There are many people here who young enough to be my son or even grandchild. Why would I go to the trouble of doing all this? What would happen if I were not here? I've taught you about the hills that can be overcome, yet people have fallen before their own people. The path to the spirit world would be blocked from them even if they wished to go there. So if I were to fall from grace in front of my children, in front of my own people, before I had reached ninety years old, my path to the spirit world would be blocked even



Rev. Alain LeRoy of the Berkeley, California, Family Church, was among the religious leaders in Seoul. He said, "Father was truly beaming, seeing the ministers. Those of us who understood the heart behind this and the history of our church felt 'Wow, we are achieving something here. Father's heart is comforted; God's heart is comforted.'"

if I wanted to go there. I have to finish everything by the first day of the first month of the thirteenth year within the twelve year course by January 2013, which is when I pass the ninety-year mark. I have to get rid of all religions and return everything that was desecrated and taken away by Satan. The True Parent must restore all this from the false parent.

Why did God drive them away? What for? If you don't believe what I'm saying, let me ask you this: When Adam and Eve were driven out of the Garden of Eden, did they have children who were driven out with them? Or did they have children after they were driven out of the Garden? What happened? You are all descendants of fallen children. You are the offspring of burglars and thieves. Can you deny this? You had thought that people in the Unification Church were fools and idiots. For your information, I am someone who studied the sciences. I know about your lives of faith and your philosophies. Though others were not aware of the fact, I went to prison of my own volition. I had to put things in order from the lowest point, which meant in prison. I had to do that from the prison level. Then I had to bring order to the denominations. I had to bring order to nations. God cannot exist in conflict-ridden places. Eternal peace must be established. Nobody can deny this fact. If I were to say that it was God who caused the conflict between your mind and body, what would you say? No? What would your reply be? Wouldn't you say that I was out of my mind? In which way would you contradict me?

If that's the case, why does the mind and body struggle so? Ask yourself. Don't even pastors have mind-body struggles? Well? Ask yourself—ask yourself with confidence. Is there anyone who thinks he has solved that conflict? Is there anyone among Christians? Among the Jews? What about Buddha, or Mohammed? People thought this conflict was inborn and natural. That is why Greek philosophy is a philosophy about struggle. And why people like Marx didn't understand man's origin.

No matter how much you formulate theories they do not

lead to a solution.

People have suffered for thousands of years because they haven't clearly understood the Fall and have been unaware of the providence God authorized for resolving the elements of the Fall that have been manifest in history. By the time Korea was liberated in 1945, I had already explained all this, everything. Before Korea was divided into north and south, Christians—like the Soviet Union, China and the U.S.—came to Korea and fought one another. Out of their self-interest, they fell into the Chinese clique, the Japanese clique and the American clique. They fought one another over whose solution would be used but ended up making Korea the mess that it is today. Those scoundrels! Rather than infighting, Christianity should open all its doors, go beyond denomination and sect, to do what in Jesus Christ's name? To create one church, one religion for one purpose! If they had advocated this, the world would not have become what it is now.

I went to the United States and suffered for thirty-four years. I went empty-handed, with only faith in Heaven. If you hear the history of my being received with contempt, do you think you, who all weigh more than 100 kilograms, could come and sit there like lumps of lard? I'm sure all of you lived well while I was dripping blood and tears in prison. This is a fact. Can you deny this? What I am saying is that the Soviet people disbelieved me. The Japanese people disbelieved me. The Chinese people disbelieved me. The American people disbelieved me. The people of every nation disbelieved me. Religions all disbelieved me and took me for an enemy. I am all alone, this person who is being called an enemy. I am determined to live until I am a hundred and twenty, even though I'm tired. My limbs are exhausted. I tell my arms, my legs and feet to go on until the day they no longer touch the earth [because I am bedridden]. That is how I have lived to this day. Such living facts and details from history that cannot be thought of without tears. That is why you are on a path where you cannot die even if you want to or live even if you dream of doing so. If we had had this many people just twen-



ty years ago, how wonderful the world could have been.

Everything must be accomplished by January 6, 2013. The false parent made it this way and left everything in disarray. Darkness descended but has now been dispersed. With the substantial authority to re-create the universe, everything from the True Parents should be returned to Heaven. It is not a kingdom of heaven for individuals that fall under the jurisdiction of Heaven; it is a kingdom of heaven for all of heaven and earth. The land of the Choson Kingdom and the kingship of happiness in the free heaven and earth, in which the bells of the kingdom of heaven can ring, must once more come under the direct control of Heaven. That great task remains to be done. If I leave earth without accomplishing this, a revolution will occur after you go to heaven. Who will prevent us from accomplishing this?

You Americans will be blamed for failing to fulfill this responsibility. Who is responsible for the failure to bear fruit due to the ancestors' mistakes? The ancestors must shoulder the responsibility.

I'm a scary person. I'm actually a frightening person. As a child, there was nothing I couldn't do, whether in sports or studies. I easily do in three years what would take others ten. I'm also an extreme person. Once I set my mind on doing something, even if all my relatives who lived near my mother and father's house said I couldn't, I told them to see if I was lying after they had died, twenty, thirty, fifty or sixty years later. When all of you die, a time will come when people will say the name "True Parents" with pride. I'm asking you if you are going to oppose me even when that time comes. I'm asking if you are going to do such things, which would cause you regret and lamentation in the heavenly world. How miserable that would be. I am someone who loathes such things. God did not order Adam and Eve or anyone else to go to hell.

For the sake of liberation, True Parents have to find children from of the level of parents through all levels of the universe and then they will incinerate hell. Not only Adam's family, but his nation and heaven and earth can be liberated and the realm of liberation can be completed on earth. The people who remain here and their ancestors will without exception wish for those times to be prolonged but that is not

possible. I, too, must go on until that time.

I will go to the heavenly world and lightning will strike. I have taught you that you should go forward with God in front of you. There is nothing that you don't know. Those who insist they didn't know are those who opposed the Unification Church. They will all be taken away to the spirit world and will create a different realm, a different land among the stars, another hell. They will end up creating another hell. If you, blessed men and women, fail to accomplish your responsibility, paradise and hell will be created in the heavenly world. That would put an end to the new world. That is not something to be done in creating a new world.

I am not fond of the American culture. I do not feel particularly close to Americans. I am creating a perfected world in which God is liberated and free in heaven and on earth for the sake of a matchless history and culture bequeathed by God. This is for the sake of realizing God's dream, and for the sake of God's paradise in the real world, for its realization. Aju, okay. You need to understand this.

Well, there is no one here who is against us. Those who will accept what I say raise your hand. Those who will oppose me keep your hands down. You should oppose me. Ask me questions. If you ask ten questions I will give you ten answers; if you ask a hundred I will have to answer. You are here. Are you going to ask me questions? Where are you going to go? There is nowhere you cannot go. That's right! .

I should tell you this; because this is a meeting between brothers and a meeting with the parents after waiting tens of thousands of years and traveling over a long distance, right? Aren't there five skin colors here? We are all brothers. We are all brothers, right?

What made you like this? Was this naturally brought about by yourselves? Who says that white people are better (those polar bears!)? Polar bears at the North Pole have blue eyes because they are white. People from England and the Scandinavian Peninsula think they are the kings of pirates, right? That is nothing to boast about. You have to go quickly now, but before you go, this must be read. I'm sorry. Let's have another round of applause. ♦

The Forty-Seventh True Children's Day



The full title of the November 21st holy day speech, an excerpt of which follows, was "God's Model for Absoluteness, Peace and the Ideal Is the Family and Global Kingdom Upholding Absolute Sexual Morality." Pledge Service, where Father and Mother are pictured above, was held at the Cheongpyeong training center. Father spoke afterward for more than three hours. This speech was given that afternoon at the Korea International Exhibition Center (Kintex), 80 kilometers from Cheongpyeong in the city of Goyang.

Ladies and gentlemen, it was necessary for Adam and Eve to establish a model, peaceful, ideal family. God, the Absolute Being, created human beings as His children in order to instill in them absolute values on the basis of an absolute standard. Thus, human beings must follow the way of that absolute standard in keeping with the demands of the heavenly path. This means we must follow our destined life course in order to attend God, the Absolute Being, as our Parent. In other words, for people to perfect themselves in resemblance of God and obtain the stature of people of character who can be called sons and daughters of the Absolute Being, they must follow the path based on the absolute standard determined by Heaven. The essence of this path is the standard of absolute sexual morality.

The first stage is maintaining absolute sexual morality—in other words a standard of absolute sexual purity—prior to getting married.

After we are born, we go through a process of growth. We pass through infancy and childhood in a very safe and secure environment under our parents' love and protection. We then enter the time of adolescence, which signals the start of a new and dynamic life as we forge relationships on a totally new level with those around us, as well as with all things of creation. This is the moment when we begin to travel the path to becoming an absolute human being—internally, through the perfection of our character, and externally, by reaching adulthood.

Yet, at this time there is an absolute prerequisite that

human beings must uphold no matter who they are; that is maintaining their purity. Sexual purity is based on absolute model of sexual morality for human beings. God gave it to His children as their destined responsibility and duty, to be carried out in order to fulfill the ideal of creation. This heavenly path is thus the way to perfecting an absolute model of sexual morality.

What was the single word, the one and only commandment God gave to Adam and Eve, the first human ancestors, upon their creation? It was the commandment and blessing to maintain an absolute standard of sexual abstinence until Heaven's approval of their marriage. We find this in the Bible passage that indicates that Adam and Eve would surely die on the day they ate of the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil. If they had refrained from eating and observed Heaven's commandment, they would have perfected their character and, as cocreators, stood with God, the Creator, as His equals. Furthermore, they would have taken dominion over the creation and become the lords of the universe enjoying eternal and ideal happiness.

It was God's blessing that He told them to preserve their purity so that they could be married with His Blessing as His true children, become true husband and wife, produce true children and become true parents. This deepens our understanding of this commandment: it was not something separate from absolute sexual morality, which is a principle of God's creation. The profound truth that lay hidden within God's commandment throughout history was this: human beings must inherit and live by a model of sexual morality



Before Father spoke on True Children's Day at Kintex (pictured above) Archbishop Stallings (left inset) was asked to give a report about the activities of the 120 Ambassadors for Peace. His report, given in a stirring, sermonic style, included, "America loves True Parents! Christianity loves True Parents!... Even the Jewish rabbis love Father Moon. So I say to Korea, if you do not love Father Moon, and if you do not lift him up, we will take him back to America and keep him for ourselves!"



that is intrinsic to God's ideal for creation in order to perfect their individuality as God's children, and establish themselves as lords of creation.

Second is the absolute model of sexual morality in the relationship of husband and wife. More precious than life itself, this is the heavenly law of absolute fidelity.

Husband and wife are eternal partners given to each other by Heaven. Through having children, they become the cocreators of true love, true life, and true lineage, and the original source of that which is absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal. This is because it is a heavenly principle that people cannot give birth to children by themselves, even if they live for a thousand years. How can people who preserve their purity before marriage and become bonded together in purity as husband and wife by Heaven deviate from the heavenly way and go astray, following the wrong path? Human beings are different from animals; if they understand God's purpose in creating them as His children, they will realize that wrong path is one of betrayal and defiance to the Creator beyond imagination; it is a path of destruction along which they dig their own graves. Resulting from the human Fall, this path is outside the realm of the ideal of creation.

Ladies and gentlemen, absolute sexual morality is the greatest blessing that Heaven has bestowed on humankind. Without adhering to the standard of absolute sexual morality, the path to the perfection of one's character, to spiritual maturity, is closed. Furthermore, without securing the foundation of absolute sexual morality within a true family through perfected persons, it is impossible for God to establish His

stature as a personal God and incarnate God. In order for God, the Absolute Being, to have direct dominion over our lives and to live and share joy with us, we who were created as His object partners and children must assume the form of a perfected family based on the standard of absolute sexual morality, as God does. Only within the boundaries of a family upholding absolute sexual morality is it possible to create relationships based on an ideal model of sexual ethics for life as it originally should have been. This life includes the three-generational realm of grandparents, parents, children and grandchildren. Please understand clearly that God's eternal life and a human being's eternal life are made possible only on this foundation.

Therefore, if, upholding absolute sexual morality, Adam and Eve had achieved individual perfection—the perfection of their character—in accordance with God's will, and entered into conjugal relations through His Blessing, they would have attained complete oneness with Him. God would have dwelt within their union. Also, their children would have been linked to this holy order of love, enjoying a direct relationship with God as their Parent. In other words, the marriage of the perfected Adam and Eve, based on their absolute sexual morality, would have been God's own marriage. While God is forever God, also Adam and Eve would have become the embodiment of God. They would have become God's body. God would have settled inside their minds and hearts to become the True Parent of humankind in both the spiritual and physical worlds, on the foundation of absolute sexual morality. ♦

An Interview with True Parents' Granddaughter



Kim Hyung-woon, our Korean staff member, called the office Shin-mi nim works in, and just a few hours after Alireza Alhoui, our magazine designer, had the idea of interviewing her, we were sitting across a conference table from True Parents' granddaughter. We gradually realized that she spent so much time with us out of a desire to convey to you, our readers, the significance of the three-generation tour and the greatness of her grandparents.

Lower left: On September 24, 12 members, covering three generations of the True Family, spoke at different locations in Taiwan; Shin-mi nim spoke in Shilli; Lower right: After the event, she spoke to Taiwanese members about the hardship True Mother endures in traveling around the globe to deliver God's message and His love. A Taiwanese member later wrote, "How great our True Mother is! Shin-mi nim wished that we all could understand True Parents' hearts and support their work. The goal is clear for each one of us. Let's march forward!"

When did you get back to Korea?

I think it was on October 18.

Have you had a chance to rest a bit?

No, not at all. I had stayed in Cheon Jeong Peace Palace with my grandparents right after the tour because I wanted to spend more time with them. From there I went to Yeosu and Keomudo¹ with my grandfather for two days of fishing. It was too hot and the boat was constantly rocking, so when I came back to Seoul I became too sick to work. As soon as I went back to work I had such a heavy workload from the long absence that getting some rest has been difficult.

When did you first hear about the tour?

I think it was before the Blessing Ceremony in August. True Grandfather told us that three generations would have to go on a world tour.

What did you feel when you first heard the news?

I was worried because I had just started work at Tongil Group in Seoul a couple of weeks before the start of the tour. We're the parent company, and there was a business tour of all the subsidiary companies that I couldn't miss. It's important to keep current on all of the subsidiary companies of course, because we're managing them. When I explained this to my grandparents, my grandfather said, "Never mind. Just go on the world tour; that's the priority. You have to go." My grandmother was more lenient about balancing the tour and work.

¹ An island that administratively is within the city limits of Yeosu





Shin-mi nim posing with guests and behind the podium delivering her grandfather's speech in Nagoya, Japan, on September 1

We know you lived for a while in Japan. Do you speak Japanese?

Yes, it's my first language. I grew up there, from when I was less than a year old until middle school. It's the longest I've been in one place during my lifetime.

Did you give your speech in Nagoya in Japanese?

In Japan, we gave the speech in Korean. I had wished to do so in Japanese. Actually, True Grandfather initially wanted everyone to speak in Korean everywhere, but in the end we had to speak in English for most of the countries.

Are you comfortable speaking Korean?

Yes. I attended school in Korea. I went to Sun Hwa Middle School, a school which was founded by my grandfather. Afterwards I went to an international high school in Seoul.

Could you tell us about your family?

I have one older brother, Shin-il. My younger sister's name is Shin-sook. Both of them were blessed this time. My father's name is Sung-jin and my mother is Dong-sook. He's the eldest son, but from the first wife.² Because of the Principle, Cain and Abel, he's been through a lot of difficulty. Whenever I see him, I feel sad because he's had such a lonely life.

Did you spend much time with your mother's father, Kim Won-pil?

I am very close to Kim Won-pil Halaboji and Chung Dal-ok Halmoni.³ They're on my mother's side of the family. I've never met anyone so loyal to someone. They've devoted every aspect of their lives to True Grandparents' teaching. We were

² Sung-jin nim was born on April 2, 1946. On May 27, Father went to a neighbor's house to borrow rice. He told the neighbor he would replace the rice the next day. On the way home, he received a revelation from God that he must go to North Korea. He brought the rice home and left immediately for the North. He arrived in Pyongyang on June 6. Six years later, he and his wife and son reunited as refugees in Busan, where Father had pursued his public ministry rather than search for his family. His first wife was unable to accommodate Father's public commitment. The marriage came to a legal conclusion in 1958.

³ Kim Won-pil is True Father's earliest disciple. Chung Dal-ok, who ascended in October 2000, joined in Pyongyang in 1946. They were blessed—5 days after True Parents' Holy Wedding—on April 16, 1960; among 3 couples (representing Adam's, Noah's and Abraham's families) that are counted among the 36 couples. As the couple representing Adam's family, they are considered the first blessed couple. Shin-mi nim's mother, Dong-sook nim, is their eldest daughter.

living together for a few years and have grown very close. True Grandfather sometimes wonders why I enjoy spending time with him so much. I told him I've always loved spending time with older people even if we don't do anything special.

How much time do you spend in Korea usually?

Earlier this year, I received an offer from an investment banker, Morgan Stanley, to work in their Tokyo office. When I was in Tokyo, I heard that because True Grandmother had gone on the 180-nation tour, True Grandfather was all alone. Since I had never gotten to spend much time with him, I came to Korea and within a few weeks we became much closer. Now I'm working for Tongil Group so I live in Korea.

What has kept you so busy in recent years?

After I received my bachelor's degree from Boston University, I worked in investment banking for a few years before going for an MBA. I worked for two MBAs while I was employed full time—part time school, full time working. I had to support myself and pay for school. My schedule was always crammed. I had no weekends off or vacation time.

So, perhaps the tour was not the most intense time of your life.

It was intense! [laughter] It was a different type of intense. Even though my body was physically very tired, it was also the happiest time, because it was the first time I was able to spend some significant time with my grandmother and the other members of my extended family. I felt so happy and honored. At the same time, I realized how difficult her position is. She went on a 120-nation tour, then a 180-nation tour right before traveling to 40 nations with us. I used to imagine that a world tour of a different country every day would be so cool, but it's not what I expected. Our daily schedule consisted of waking up, attending hoondokhwae, packing, getting on a plane and traveling to a whole new country. But even upon arrival, the location of the event would often be around three or five hours away. Right after arriving I would give the speech. And then come back again to eat, sleep, wake up! hoondokhwae... [laughter]

If there had been an extra day off to look around the country, perhaps it would have been more fun. Sometimes I didn't even remember where I was and would have to ask someone.

What was it like representing your grandparents and delivering the speech?

I felt honored to participate in this event with them because I



Shin-mi nim talking to her grandfather at the Cheon Jeong Peace Palace on October 20. They talked about her experiences during the three-generation global speaking tour.

know how difficult their lives have been. I came to understand a little bit, maybe not completely, because I don't know their past—indescribably difficult, right? Giving the speech in front of people wasn't an easy thing to do. This is a very intensive message which my grandfather has devoted his entire life to. Before the world tour, he spent a few hours just for me to explain all the speeches, one by one. So, I felt he trusted me and expected something. I felt responsibility and pressure. I tried to understand all the text with my heart and strove to give the speech in that way.

It's not an easy speech to read even without an audience.

Yes. I didn't have much time to practice because this came up so suddenly and I had to scramble to take care of things at work. Before every speech I always prayed and called for spiritual support. From a young age I used to read 뜻길 [*The Way of God's Will*] and 원리강론 [*Exposition of the Divine Principle*] to my grandmother (on my Mom's side). At that time I could read comfortably, but speaking in front of so many people made me nervous so I prayed, "Please grandma, I want to feel as if I am reading to you."

What kind of response did you receive in different cities?

In some places, there would be more than a thousand people in the audience and I'd feel more enthusiastic, but at another event, there might be only thirty people in one giant hall. Initially I would be disappointed by the turnout but later I realized that if even if one person paid attention to my speech, which is really my grandfather's speech, it could be considered successful. As the tour continued I came to appreciate even one attentive person. I have had a sixth sense since I was little. Sometimes, I don't actually see spirits with my eyes but can visualize a clear picture of them. During one event the room we were in was nearly empty, but I felt that it was spiritually so packed that even the stage seemed crowded. Through a window I sensed that there were also people who were looking in and trying to listen. During a different event, it was very difficult because nobody paid attention. While they were talking amongst themselves, I felt that my mom's side grandma was sitting in the audience. I saw her a few times during the

tour. I knew she was always with me, listening to the speech. Whenever I've had difficulties she's been there for me.

Was the tour the first time you came into much contact with church members?

Yes. I hadn't known, for example, how supportive Japanese members were. There were Japanese missionaries everywhere. I had the opportunity to speak to many church members whenever there was time. I heard many difficult stories that I had never known about. It was a great opportunity for me to see the reality of our members' lives. This tour has been significant in many ways.

We heard from members that they were moved to meet True Family members.

Sometimes members would cry for no other reason when they saw us. I thought to myself, "Grandfather, although you are not here in person they miss you so much and appreciate us as your representative." I was able to reaffirm

myself in the power of the Divine Principle. It was so powerful that people who had never met him in person were following him.

We heard from people arranging your schedule that there were difficulties, missed flights and lost luggage.

Yes. I lost my bag and missed a few flights, but I believed that there could be meaning behind even these things, so I remained optimistic.

When you think of the world tour, what nation comes first to mind?

Although every nation was special, Panama was especially memorable. Just getting into the country was an adventure under a series of very strange circumstances involving passing planes, a bridge that collapsed and inoculation requirements. When I finally arrived I realized that none of the other speakers would be able to come, and I had to be in charge of the main event instead of True Grandmother or my aunt.



Celebrating Shin-mi nim's birthday on October 26 (lunar calendar—11th month 4th day) at the Cheon Jeong Peace Palace are (left to right) Shin-sook nim, Ji-yea nim, Shin-mi nim, Hyung-jin nim and Kook-jin nim

What other sorts of difficulties were there?

There were an assortment of potential problems at most events and I needed to double-check to make sure that everything was okay. Are there working microphones? Who is the MC? Could anyone speak English? At one time in Paraguay, the podium was taller than me! [laughter] How was I supposed to speak from that podium? I had to stand next to it and hold the speech book and the microphone in my hands. In Nicaragua, there was no podium and only one microphone. The translator and I had to pass it back and forth. At several other countries, there was no introduction prepared, and because nobody spoke English, the MC would all of a sudden call out "Shin-mi Moon!" and I would step forward.

How about the time change, was that much of a factor?

Well, it's not as great an amount of change as for instance, going from Asia to America, but there were still some adjustments our bodies had to make for time, weather, and altitude changes. When going from high altitudes to lower many would get sick. I thought I was pretty healthy overall, but I got so sick after the tour I couldn't believe it.

The second tour restored mother-son cooperation. What did your tour restore?

Grandchildren's cooperation. Most of the attendees at the events were non-church members, and I think the fact that not only the children but also the grandchildren were following Grandfather impressed them. The way I feel towards my grandfather—I think I'm his biggest fan. I even take his picture and go crazy! [laughter] Many of those who attended also have grandkids themselves, but they don't enjoy the same sort of support. I heard this comment many times and I think it's true.

He's been on the front line all of his life. It's wonderful if he can enjoy the grandfatherly happiness that others take for granted.

Yes, but he has sometimes scolded me about it. People around him tell me, "He's actually happy about your affections." But when I went to Yeosu right after the world tour, he said, "I've got to give you a lesson." [laughter] "I've never seen a person like you before. You make me shy. You shouldn't do this," he said. I think he meant that I should not express too much affection in front of other people. He sometimes says things rather strongly; if you misunderstand, you can be hurt. But I think I understood, so I said, "Okay. I got it." But when there are no other people around, I do it. [Laughs] I really respect every minute I spend with my grandfather and -mother. Every word and action of theirs has meaning—deep meaning—so it's really an honor to be with them. I think church members don't have a chance to feel this, so I would like to share some experiences if I can.

Is there anything you'd like to say to members around the world?

One thing I would like to mention is that I felt that a lot of church members are still expecting things—maybe spiritual, emotional or material help. They are depending too much on True Grandparents, as if they are always in the child's position. I worked so hard because I always wanted to be a person that



"Whenever I got on the airplane with my grandmother," Shin-mi nim said, "I sat down in that spot [as in the photo] and gave Grandmother a massage. I know she is working very hard, and I really love her." Hyung-jin nim is opposite True Mother; In-sup nim, Sun-jin nim husband, is standing. The photo was taken in Taiwan during their speaking tour. Inset: With her grandmother, seaside in Punta del Este, Uruguay, on September 30

Grandparents need. I want to be helpful to Grandparents and for God. When I meet some of the church members, they are doing their best, but they need to have more of a sense of ownership. I respect Uncle Kook-jin, because he really has a sense of ownership. I had heard before that he worked for Tongil Group, but until I started working there as well, I didn't know how hard he worked—fourteen hour days with no lunch or dinner and just a piece of bread. He just keeps dealing with company reports. Just so dedicated to his work. At different countries on the tour, I told people every day during hoondokhwae that I wanted them to have a sense of ownership, a feeling of personal responsibility and to feel that each day they are improving, becoming useful and needed. My grandparents are elders, but they are still battling it out on the front lines. We need to contemplate more seriously about being able to shoulder the responsibilities. Throughout the world tour, I felt very strongly that I have to focus on God and Grandfather and Grandmother and that's it. I have to be unshakable. I have to adjust myself to them. I was also able to reaffirm my belief in the power of prayer. I had never felt it as strongly as I do now. When I pray, I feel the spiritual world. If you really pray and wish for something, I believe it's going to come true and that's what grandfather said. So I pray for my family and the people around me. Grandfather instructed me to make a lot of conditions and pray.

Now that the tour is over, I may respect Grandmother even more than Grandfather. She may be tougher than him in some way because she's been in Grandfather's shadow. Grandfather has a mission but people don't know Grandmother's efforts and her support for Grandfather so well. Throughout the world tour, the schedule was so intense. She'd just finished the 180-nation tour; they held the Blessing Ceremony and then she went through the forty-nation speaking tour with the three generations. It's unbelievable, and I was sure that God and the spiritual world were protecting her all the time. The True Mother of Heaven and Earth is the perfect title for my grandmother.◆



Enrique Ledesma

Sydney, Australia

After greeting True Mother and entourage at the airport, the national leader, Rev. McNerheney, drove True Mother's car and I sat in the passenger seat as we took True Mother and Kook-jin nim to the hotel. We had a very relaxed and informal discussion in which Kook-jin nim asked many questions about our situation. True Mother was listening and making comments in Korean, and we could sense how Kook-jin nim was intensely curious about our circumstances. With every question and comment he was digging deeper to understand our reality, our heart and feelings. He asked about ambassadors for peace, spoke about how to succeed in business and asked us about our business and financial situations, about how many members we had, how many in our second generation, how many blessed couples. He was so free and direct. He expected the same from us. He did not want spin or diplomatic answers but the truth. I felt it was wonderful to have such a noble son of True Parents so interested in our situation.

True Mother was also asking him to translate some of what we were saying, although she seemed to catch most of it. As I looked back to see True Mother's reaction, she gave us such a warm knowing smile, as if she already knew that and much more!

We arrived at the hotel where the True Family members were greeted by many members. After bows and flower presentations and realizing that we were all so busy to prepare, True Mother sent us all out in a soft voice and said she would rest a little.

Kook-jin nim had about two and a half hours before he would have to board a plane for Melbourne. The plan was that he would join True Mother for lunch and then leave for the airport.

A little while later, I was informed that Kook-jin nim wanted to go out for some fresh air and take a walk and he wanted to go with someone. Since there was no one really available and he didn't want to go with security, logically I was the one to go. I went and knocked on his door.

He said "Yes, I want to go for a brisk walk anywhere." Then he asked, "Do you know this area?" I said, "Yes," which was partly true, and then he looked at me and said "I like to walk kind of fast. Is that okay with you?"

"No worries," I replied.

We left the hotel room. He asked, "So where are we going?" I said "Let's go left past the parliament house (my mind was racing to think where the best route to Sydney Opera House was), and we will head down to the ocean."

"Great! We will get to see the ocean, that's great!" He

walked very fast. People would stop at the red lights, but he was itching to go. I was a little worried because traffic comes from a different direction than in the States. I was starting to break a sweat.

He mentioned about how the trip was so long and difficult on everyone, so the best thing is to get out and get your heart pumping. "Isn't this great? I want to walk fast for an hour straight. So when do we get to the opera house?"

"Just a little further," I said. I could see the water in the distance, and felt hope that we were heading in the right direction. As he walked, he asked if I knew anything about his business in America. Luckily, I knew something because I had read an article about how successful it was. He gave me many statistics about it.

I ignorantly asked him if he had bought the business when the price was good.

"Bought the business? I started it from scratch!" he replied. "Now I can't keep up with demand, that's my problem. So I am about to diversify into lifestyle products. I can't stop! I have to keep going and diversify. I have a great team that supports me. I have to trust their creativity and keep them motivated. People that work for my company are happy people! Unification Church members should be the happiest people, right?" He stopped for a moment and looked at me with eyes that scanned my spirit respectfully but penetratingly.

Untruths and phoniness falter, lies stumble.

Only truth is permitted. I felt so clearly True Father's spirit through those eyes.

Kook-jin nim is full of conviction. He is passionate, knowledgeable, and a very persuasive person, to say the least.

He walked very fast the whole way. Often I had to run to catch up. He would chose stairs wherever he could find them, climbing two or three steps at a time.

All the way he was speaking about things like Starbucks and why competition is good for a company and what the necessary ingredients for success are in our modern world. He said, "We have the best message on earth, but we have not marketed ourselves well. We haven't studied our market well enough. If Starbucks fails to be innovative and creative they will fall behind in no time. They have been successful in branding themselves, but that is not enough. If they don't keep up with their competition, they will not survive. (I felt, maybe that this is the meaning of my experience today—keeping up with Kook-jin nim, keeping up mentally, adjusting myself spiritually to the wave of the future.)



Finally, we arrived at our destination.

"Wow, so this is the Sydney Opera House?"

"We made it, thank God and all the spirit world," I thought. He tried finding a way to have a peek in but you had to join a tour. I was completely soaked with sweat. He was also sweating profusely.

"I like this city. It's unique! Pity though, these tours are like, in and out, you know what I mean? It would be nice to spend some time here."

"So how are you doing?" he asked. "Are you game for some more walking?" Feeling the blisters on my feet (I wore dress shoes) and my aching lumbar, I said "Sure, why not? If you get tired, we could always grab a taxi back for lunch," I offered.... He smiled and kept walking.

"Let's go a different way back that follows the water," Kook-jin nim said.

We found the entrance to the botanical gardens. In the distance he saw a long, I mean a *long* flight of stairs, and he started running towards them. "Come on let's go!" I sucked some air in and went for it. Somehow, this was part of the whole experience. I had to give 100 percent and go beyond any concept or comfort zone.

I received a call on my mobile from my wife working on hospitality and from security asking what Kook-jin nim's plan was for lunch because True Mother was about to eat. I explained that to Kook-jin nim, but he said, "Let's go grab a bite to eat somewhere out here."

"What kind of food would you prefer?" I asked.

He said "I want to eat a real Australian burger. Do you know where we can find such a thing?" I started walking down Martin Place and I saw a place that looked to have good food. I asked the waitress and she said "We have the best burgers right here. Just take a seat."

While we were waiting, Kook-jin nim spoke of his time spent in Korea restructuring Tongil Group, which had been losing money, yet within three years was in profit. This is an amazing accomplishment. He spoke in a rather detailed manner of the root causes of this problem and what he had to do to reverse the hemorrhaging.

He asked me what was the most successful business our movement has in Australia? I told him Mr. Arai's business. And he asked me why I thought it was successful. I answered that, in my opinion, it was due to wise business practices accumulated over years and the fact that he could focus on business for so long. He agreed, but added that another important reason was that it was independent from the church. He said that business and church should grow toward the same goal but separately.

At this point his voice became almost a whisper and the look in his eyes was almost vulnerable. (I felt deeply the miserable position our True Children were in.) He doesn't know me, but he was sharing his heart so that we as members of True Parents' lineage could understand him and his family and sup-

port him. He wanted us to know how he thought and where he was going and his hope that we would unite with him.

Since I am a leader in Oceania, I am sure he was sharing this not for my sake only but that many of us could understand his position.

He asked what I did before coming to Oceania. I replied that I worked as general manager of our newspaper in Ecuador, *Tiempos del Mundo*.

He spoke of how important it is to have an impact in the developed nations. Don't only think of having an impact in small, poor nations. "We have to move the big guns. We need to study Australian character and thinking and not expect them to fit into a program that would be accepted in the smaller, poorer nations. We have to find out where *they* are at and what *they* are interested in and meet them *there*, not expect them to accept what we want to teach them."

Later on, I had a conversation with Kim Young-jun who said the exact same thing. Kim Young-jun and his wife work as the head of the Blessed Family Department in Korea and he works as one of the main assistants for Hyun-jin nim and World Carp. He is a very perceptive person who said that Aus-

tralian are not such overtly religious people, so we have to find away to appeal to their best sensibilities and righteous character. "If you speak about God too much in the beginning, you will lose them. There's no need to. Meet them on *their* turf, where they feel comfortable. Gradually, you can bring them higher and they won't resist you."

Kook-jin nim spoke a lot about a new type of leader that must emerge. In the past, leadership was understood as "you must follow and respect me because I have this position." We lost many of our best people because of this style," he said. (Actually, even though I

offered to carry his jacket he refused to let me. When I offered to pay the meal he insisted on paying.)

I never felt that he expected any special treatment from me or anyone even though he is True Parents' son, a Harvard graduate, the leader of a multi-million dollar company, restructured, single-handedly in three years, a billion dollar company on the verge of bankruptcy). If anyone deserves our total respect, it is Kook-jin nim.

"A leader will only draw the kind of people that will accept the culture he has created. Why aren't people joining us? Not because we don't witness, but because of the culture we have created. That's what has to be looked at first.

What our movement needs is the synergistic leader who knows how to draw out the best in each and every person. We are all limited but when a leader of a business or community is able to tap into the creative synergistic, unlimited power of his team there is no limit to what can be done. This is based on trust and respect for the God-given potential in each person. Businesses that can draw from this reservoir will grow. The same is true for a movement like ours."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27... WALKING WITH A TRUE SON



Above: They ate a satisfying meal after a brisk walk; Facing page: Kook-jin nim in front of the Sydney Opera House

ing the son or daughter of God, our Father.

At the same time, we find our purpose of existence through the blessing. For the first time, a living person can be called a blessed person and leave evidence behind that such a person actually lived. Even before True Parents began to teach their basic principles, people realized on their own that fallen life is meaningless and that they had to be saved.

In the history of restoration, from the Old Testament Age, prophets and some others had a sense of God's will. There are many people in the world who live like animals and don't realize it, who are dead but don't know it, or who are without value but live without recognizing their worthlessness. Among them, there are those who believe that they need to be saved and seek salvation. Countless people listened to the enlightened teachers, prophets and religious leaders, but none of them taught with clarity, or knew what salvation was, or how to receive it.

In my days as a church leader, I met a Christian minister who would always shout a certain question in the revival services he held. He would whip up a storm, asking people to raise their hands if they had conviction in their salvation. He would bellow at the congregation, "How can you believe in Jesus without having the conviction that you are saved?"

I asked the minister, "If you have been saved, wouldn't that mean your son need not be saved?" The minister was stuck. He could not answer the question. Such ministers, theologians and leaders do not know what salvation is. This is because they do not know that humankind is in a fallen state because of a crime committed that involves lineage.

Unificationists are lucky; blessed families are taught that salvation means returning to the stage prior to the Fall. The providence of restoration is a providence of re-creation. We, Unificationists, are so blessed in that, although the world remains ignorant, we know the family is the basic unit wherein salvation occurs.

People do not know that the family must be perfected through the love between parents and children, and between siblings. Because they did not know this, people who longed for salvation abandoned their families, became priests and monks, and sought "the way." Countless people have gone to the mountains but are unable to come back. Why? Because they cannot resolve their problems. Numerous ascetics in India and Nepal go up into the Himalayas. Once they go up, most of them don't come down. There are some who fail and return but others continue on the path of discipline because their problems aren't resolved. They are unable to think about marriage and family, or about their relatives and parents. Yet Unificationists, who are like bumbling shamans compared to such people, are given a ticket guaranteeing their own salvation and the salvation of their family once they join the church, even though they did not set up any conditions and lack any meritorious achievements.

The first stage of salvation is in the family. Do you understand? This is tremendous. We were presented with the ideal family, while those people who suppressed their carnal

desires, cut ties with their family and relatives and spent their entire lives disciplining themselves could not have that ideal. Do you know how valuable the blessing is? There would be no problem if blessed individuals and families were to adhere to the principles of the blessing and live in renewed true love and true life, perfecting such a family. This would have been done with just one Holy Wine Ceremony.

With the advance of God's providence of restoration, we too should advance. Yet, the current situation of the blessed families today, in God and True Parents' eyes, is below the qualifying mark; most unfortunately, we have lived the way we wanted, which was far from the ideal. Please think about this. We are all blessed families here, but how have we led our lives? We eat in the morning, noon and evening; we fight like other people; we try to follow the trends of the times like other people; and we try to live in comfort like the other people. We are like the people in the satanic world. What is special about us? We are bickering amongst ourselves, talking constantly about living in good houses, eating good food, or getting a good position. We create cliques, say bad things about other people, commit all manner of transgressions and live like the people in ordinary society. Are we following the path of the principled way as a person blessed with the greatest, highest, most valuable grace from Heaven? Or are we living just like the people of this world? What distinguishes us from them?

There is nothing that cannot be melted by True Parents' love; there is nothing such love cannot embrace; nothing it cannot digest. That is why True Parents have spread wide their blanket of true love to enwrap the world, the spirit world and even hell. In this way, True Parents have been shouldering all the pain and baggage—because they are *parents*. In front of such love, we should become mature children and fulfill the way of dutiful children to the parents who shower us with love. Yet, our blessed families have been committing offenses; that is our situation.

I apologize for saying all these things at once. I also apologize if I have offended any people here who have lived exemplary lives as a blessed family. In God's eyes, are we up to the mark? Generally, we are not. There are too many conditions and deeds that would completely disqualify us. The blessed

Hyung-jin nim helps his son, Shin-joon nim, in giving candy to those who had come for hoondokhwae at the Peace Palace on November 26





True Parents looking toward Cheongpyeong Lake from the Peace Palace on November 26

members of the first generation go about without any worries, concerning themselves with meaningless things and leading unwholesome lives. Because of this, the second and third generation members are imitating their lifestyles. What should we do about this? That is why, as you know, this is the Holy Wine Ceremony for a *new beginning* for the Cheon Il Guk blessed families.

God and True Parents cannot be at peace if that which cannot be forgiven remains that way. They are distressed in heart as they must go and live in Cheon Il Guk, the ideal of heaven, together with humankind. That is why True Parents have struggled alone, unable to speak of their course, and have spent sleepless nights establishing indemnity conditions and going the path of tribulation to prevent Satan's accusations.

Dae-mo nim and Heung-jin nim have been greatly concerned about these circumstances on our behalf. If we continue to live as we do, there will be nowhere for us to go. Yet, knowing that God and True Parents are not at ease dealing with us in this state, they asked for forgiveness on our behalf. As a result of their devotion, this gathering was initiated to enable us to be pardoned and redeemed. Although it is to different degrees, we are all stained with dirt and fall short of the standard. That is why they have set no limits but are trying to wash away everything at one stroke, bring everything into order at once, and cleanly resolve everything at the same time. Without doing so, God and True Parents will not be free in heart and circumstance to take us with them. This is why Dae-mo nim and Heung-jin nim have earnestly requested many times for a path of forgiveness to be opened up.

Yet, because of our transgressions, and because of the difficult situations of blessed families, there was no means or path for us to be forgiven unconditionally and thus this was not allowed until now. However, after Heung-jin nim and Dae-mo nim's relentless requests, this event was prepared from three years ago, so that we could be forgiven through drinking the holy wine. This fact alone shows how much the spirit world had been making preparations.

However, this is not possible without True Parents' permis-

sion. True Parents are the only ones who can give us true love, true life and the true lineage. That is why, if after we received such precious grace, we later became stained again, an even greater grace would be needed to cleanse us. That kind of grace cannot be given without some condition, can it? True Parents entered the Cheon Jeong Peace Palace; they've bestowed the means of salvation on humanity as a part of their mission as the Messiah, Savior, and Returning Lord.

The blessing allowed humankind, collectively in the position of Cain, to be engrafted and made into God's children, thereby inheriting the essence of true love and true life and the origin of the true lineage. In the capacity of True Parents, which goes beyond that of the Savior, Messiah, and Returning Lord, and as the third Adam, they gave the blessing that the first and second Adam could not bestow in their times. If the couples who were blessed in this way had attained complete oneness with True Parents and created families without blemish or stain with the children they gave birth to, there would have been no problem. Yet, the blessed families have become like Satan's own cousins.

True Parents worked to build Cheon Il Guk, the ideal, on the foundation of the forty-year course in the wilderness, and in the year ushering in a new millennium in the Last Days, they completed all necessary preparations and successfully offered the coronation ceremony for God's kingship on January 13, 2001, where they attended the incorporeal true parent as the king of kings. In 2001, a new future began. With the further development of Cheon Il Guk, the spiritual world—including hell—has been liberated.

Together, those both in heaven and on earth must actualize Cheon Il Guk. God and True Parents will establish the kingdom of heaven and bring with them, regardless of their sorrow, even the worst troublemakers after educating and transforming them into their children. God and True Parents cannot sever ties with such troublesome people nor lock them up in hell; that act itself would cause them pain.

That is because they are the source of true love. On all such foundations of victory, True Parents achieved the entrance ceremony into Cheon Jeong Peace Palace this year. As a result, this, the holiest place on earth, was established. This is the first such occasion in history. In Moses' time, the people carried an ark with them and built the holy temple; one part was partitioned off as the most holy place, which God would occupy when needed. It is the most holy place, where God can reside on earth twenty-four hours a day. This led to Cheon Il Guk being made substantial.

Yet, the citizens of Cheon Il Guk were not prepared. They could not be separated from their worldliness. People had to be restored. Why? The ideal, Cheon Il Guk, is true love. There cannot be two bloodlines. The bloodline must be rectified in the process of creating a world of true love. God could have severed ties with those who disobeyed and made them live in one corner of the earth, and raised His people in another corner of the earth; but that was not possible. If there are two bloodlines, people cannot be made one. In that single world of true love and eternal happiness, there is only one lineage. God and True Parents went through the trouble of allowing us to be blessed though we were foolish, unworthy and consistently sinning. It was not because we were qualified but because of True Parents' meritorious deeds.

In the past, people would come to receive the blessing but soon realized that they had lived only they way they wanted; some went back feeling they were unworthy, even though they

completed the three-year public course, gave birth to spiritual children and completed the twenty-one-day workshop as required of blessing candidates. They did not leave the church but became even more committed and dedicated. They did even more indemnity conditions. That is what those early members were like.

Yet from 1992, the blessing was opened to the world and to all people. Anybody could be invited and blessed by drinking the holy wine. As a result, even those who promoted the blessing to others lost an awareness of its value. They completely lost sight of the blessing's value and its significance. Why, then, did True Father open the blessing to anyone? His truly loving heart could not stand to leave his children in Satan's dead realm for even a minute.

Some people who received the blessing still listen to what Father says; they study the Principle and lead a life of prayer. There are others who do all sorts of things with no regard for the fact that they've been blessed. People must pull themselves together in the Last Days. There is so much difference between living halfway and living a life that reflects the Principle.

There were many things that came to my mind while listening to Hoon-mo nim. When Dae-mo nim and Heung-jin nim went to True Parents to ask for this forgiveness, they took a bundle of sticks with them. They were fully prepared to be beaten these sticks.

They asked Father to open a path to forgive all blessed families. In exchange for that, they asked Father to beat them in place of those families until the sticks broke and Father's bitter disappointment was released. Heung-jin nim and Dae-mo nim asked Hoon-mo nim to go and ask Father for this favor. It is mind-boggling.

We are about to participate in the Holy Wine Ceremony. The four conditions for participating in this¹ are only one-ten millionth of the actual conditions needed. Once you receive grace through this Holy Wine Ceremony, you will be given the amazing, tremendous grace of wiping everything away.

What kind of mindset should we have in receiving this? The blessings, grace and favor God bestows upon us have always been a start and not the end. I have just said something very important: In receiving this blessing, grace and favor, it is not that we are harvesting fruits. We are making a new beginning. After taking part in this Holy Wine Ceremony, we should lead lives focused on this new beginning for us as citizens of Cheon Il Guk, blessed sons and daughters above shame and blemish, which is the exact opposite of how we have lived until now. Without that condition we are not qualified to receive this. Even if we do, it will be in vain. From today, we must resolve



Front row, left to right: Mrs. Won-ju McDevitt, True Mother (with Shin-joon nim) and Hoon-sook nim with staff members of the Little Angels' School and others in Children's Grand Park, Seoul, on October 31

and be firmly determined to become the people of Cheon Il Guk who will take their first steps as those with a totally different mindset and behavior after the Holy Wine Ceremony. What should you be determined to do? To fulfill the duties of blessed families as Heaven desires and as True Parents have taught us.

True Parents gave three conditions to the blessed families on January 13, 2001: Do not infringe upon the heart, do not commit offenses within Cain-Abel relationships, and do not violate the law regarding the relationships of ownership.

Not infringing upon the heart means upholding the great principles of heart centered on lineage. The internal and external meaning of this must be taught; the meaning of purity, pure lineage, pure love and pure virtue must be taught to your children and grandchildren. Even if you were stained or blemished in any way, from now on your mind and body must be different centering on this turning point through this indescribable grace. You must become families of the purest lineage. If you can live like that, Satan will be unable to accuse you, and he will flee from you. Therein lies the essence and source of the blessing.

Practically speaking, we must lead lives of true love, of living for others and of giving unconditionally. We have been taught that true love is not expressed in receiving but in giving. God's wish is for children to be better than their parents. The Heavenly Parent desires His children to become better than He is. God only had two children—Adam and Eve. Blessed couples can have more children than God had! God created His children to become better than He is. How grateful we should be for this! God is the Creator. He made this universe. He bestowed creativity to man, His children. We are different from animals. We conduct scientific research. We invent things. We can do so many things. Each person is a second Creator. What do second Creators do? Isn't God's creation true love? He created through absolute love, absolute faith and absolute obedience. The act of true love makes the Creator. In order to become a second Creator we must give true love. That is what a second Creator does. Giving love does not involve loss. By giving love, you become a second Creator. Do you understand? You must view the problem of lineage and heart in this way. Internally you must maintain your purity. Emphasize that as the most important virtue when raising your children. Preserve the lineage of your household, and to become a second Creator, give true love.

Next, do not commit any offenses within Cain-Abel relationships. Do not repeat the same conflict. In the Abel position there is another Abel that you must serve and attend and there is a Cain who is watching you. You must fulfill the ways of Cain and Abel. Would life be easy if you followed the rules dictated

¹ A one-day fast, a special monetary offering, attending the special workshop and drinking the holy wine



2006 PEACE QUEEN CUP KOREA



National women's squads from Brazil, Italy, Canada, Australia, Denmark, South Korea, the Netherlands and the U.S. competed in the first Peace Queen Cup, October 28–November 4, in 6 South Korean cities *Top*: True Parents, Hyun-jin nim (holding a player's baby), Dr. Kwak and Peace Cup officials with the American team after their 1–0 championship win over Canada; *Lower left*: The American keeper, Hope Solo, stops a header from Canadian Andrea Neil; *Lower Right*: Father gives a brief speech as Korean dignitaries look on

to those in the position of Cain? That is what you must do. You must be a better person today than yesterday, and a better person tomorrow than today. How can you resolve the Cain–Abel conflict? The ideals God had at the time of the Creation were to achieve tranquility, peace and happiness. For any individual to possess peace, he or she must work to resolve conflict. It is shameful and heartbreaking to have conflict, strife and contradictions within the Unification Church, which is supposed to champion the realization of a unified world and God's will. First you must reflect. See whether you have been talking about others, slandering them, and getting together with others to engage in meaningless activities.

The third issue is related to ownership. This is related to the Total Living Offering and tithing three-tenths of your income. You must offer everything to Father and resolve the issue of ownership. You must be aware that the act of claiming something as your own is itself remote from the Principle and wrong. When should we take up this lifestyle?

Heaven is trying to purify us the instant we take the grace of

the holy wine into our bodies. But that alone does not settle all accounts. It is the very beginning of settling all accounts.

What is significant about this is that as True Father has allowed this grace, he stated that there will be no more special amnesty. That is why the first steps you take after drinking the holy wine should be directed toward bringing the grace to glorious fruition in your lives and toward building your family, tribe and people as blessed families. This pertains to you, and also to me. This Holy Wine Ceremony is so precious. We should be infinitely grateful for this ceremony. Please bear in mind that this is not the conclusion, but a beginning; make a completely new start from a different angle. That is why it is called the Cheon Il Guk Holy Wine Ceremony for a New Beginning—a new beginning! This new beginning is such a joyful, inspiring moment, for which we should be grateful. What would happen to us if this had not been allowed? There is no way to express the joy, inspiration and glory of this new start.

We should be forever grateful and sing *Hallelujah* as we take part in the Holy Wine Ceremony. ♦

Let's Stretch Out Our Hands

David Beard

When, on July 21, 2006, True Mother, Hyo-jin nim, Dr. Kwak and others alit from the plane at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia's capital city, its deputy mayor was there to welcome them along with Prince Stefanos Mengesha.

Mother and Hyo-jin nim spoke that afternoon at what Thomas Walsh has described as "perhaps the finest hotel in Africa." It was a weekday afternoon, but fourteen hundred people were on hand and they responded from the heart. One of more than fifty national congressmen in the audience wrote afterward, "After this event, I will give unlimited respect and love to my wife and daughter.... I understand that peace is the most important concern in our world and for UPF. I will be an ambassador for this institution. God bless this federation." An attorney promised to pray for UPF and added, "I truly need and desire to be part of such a mission.... Consider me an active and true volunteer for the fulfillment of the mission, plans and

objectives of UPF. Let me be part of your blessed and holy race towards bringing true world peace."

Two men prayed at the beginning of the event, Hajji Teshale Kero, a Muslim cleric, who with organizational support has been directing the education of Muslims in HIV/AIDS prevention; and Father Kessis Kefyalew, a priest who has written widely in both English and Amharic, the official language of Ethiopia, on family, marriage and the spirituality of women.

Religion in Ethiopia

Both Islam and Christianity are enmeshed in Ethiopian life and history. Islam came to Ethiopia early, during Prophet Mohammed's lifetime, carried by a small number of his companions who faced abuse as Islam was first being introduced in Mecca. The Prophet had advised them to find sanctuary in Abyssinia, as Ethiopia was then known, because "there is a king there who does not oppress anyone." The kingdom they



came to was centered on the northern Ethiopian city of Aksum and included the port of Adulis, in present-day Eritrea.

Aksum itself was a prosperous, cosmopolitan city. An account written in the first century describes the goods carried by trading ships that called on the Aksumite Kingdom from Italy, India, Persia and Greece. Greek became a second language among the wealthy in Aksum and cultural as well as commercial exchanges took place.

Early in the fourth century, two young Syrian brothers, Aedesius and Frumentius, were brought as slaves to the Aksumite king after their ship had been attacked en route to India. The king took a liking to them, and they gained the king's trust. In time, Frumentius reached an age when he felt spiritual thirst. He began bringing together in public Christian services foreign merchants who were temporarily working in Ethiopia. This influenced local people and eventually King Ezana, the son of the king who had raised him, converted and Aksum became a mostly Christian kingdom. In 328, Frumentius was made bishop.

Following Mohammed's death in 632, relations between the Christian



FFWPU-Ethiopia Director Frew testifying in the church center to Ethiopian members

Aksumite Kingdom and Muslim Arabia became increasingly hostile. Skirmishes at sea led in the early eighth century to Arab occupation of islands off the coast of present-day Eritrea. Not long after that, the Aksumite Kingdom lost of the port of Adulis.

The Aksumite Kingdom retained its base in the north, though the city of Aksum was gradually abandoned, becoming a religious center and coronation site for Ethiopian emperors. Ethiopia's international contact diminished, and Islamization among Ethiopians who hitherto had believed in indigenous religions greatly increased. From that point on, Islam and Christianity vied for the heart of Ethiopia.

From the days of Frumentius onward, Ethiopian kings were not only Christian, but through several royal dynasties spanning centuries asserted they were lineal descendents of King Solomon, an ancestor of Jesus Christ. This is all laid out in a book called *Kebrä Negast* (Glory of the Kings) the Ethiopian national saga, which is said to have been discovered by an archbishop in the Church of Saint Sophia. The *Kebrä Negast* records that King Menelik I of Ethiopia is the child of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, whom Ethiopians know as their own Queen Makeda.

In both the Bible and the Koran it is recorded that the Queen of Sheba had gone to visit Solomon. *Kebrä Negast* describes that while there Solomon tricked her into joining him in bed. Afterward, he slept and dreamt of a brilliant sun that hovered over Israel but soon departed to dwell over Ethiopia. As the Queen of Sheba was returning to Ethiopia, he gave her a ring from his finger, telling her that if by chance she was pregnant and gave birth to boy child to send him to Israel when he became a man and that the ring would allow Solomon to recognize him.

This she did, and as Solomon's dream foretold, though he tried, Solomon was unable to convince his son to remain in Israel and to inherit his throne. In consequence of this, he called his nobles and told them to send their first born children to accompany his son, who would become king of Ethiopia. "We shall have two kingdoms. I will rule here with you," he told them, "and our children shall reign there."

And so it transpired that what tradition tells us were the firstborn children of elders of the tribe of Levi departed Israel with the future King Menelek I of Ethiopia. And thus, the seed of Judaism, carried by the Levite attendants, also



Seated left to right: Yun-ah nim, Rev. Ryu Sue-eun, (hidden) city government official, Hyo-jin nim, True Mother, Prince Stefanos Mengesha, Mr. Solomon (Addis Ababa TV), Dr. Kwak Chung-hwan, and Dr. Thomas Walsh

came to be planted in Ethiopia. Three thousand years after Solomon, non-Jewish Ethiopians refer to Ethiopian Jews as *Falasha*, an Amharic term meaning "outsiders," essentially "foreigners." The practices of these people—who refer to themselves as Beta Israel, (House of Israel) and who lived mainly in the Lake Tana area—were described in early days as reflecting pre-Talmudic Judaism, which would fit the time period that they are said to have left Israel.

The Beta Israel were attractive targets for first Ethiopian and later European Christian missionaries. Some Europeans also launched a counter effort. In 1868, a distinguished French Semitic scholar, Joseph Halevy, visited the Beta Israel. He was the first non-Ethiopian Jew they had ever had contact with. Halevy returned to France, where he told stories of the "orphan Jews" to his students at the Collège de France. Years later, in 1904, one of those students, Dr. Jacques Faitlovich, retraced his mentor's steps and presented himself to the Beta Israel, only to discover that when Halevy had made no return visits during those many years, the Beta Israel had come to the firm conclusion that they were the last remaining Jews on earth. Faitlovich had great difficulty convincing them that he was indeed Jewish.

Dr. Faitlovich learned that the Beta Israel had suffered persecution and that there had been a recent wave of conversions to Christianity, some of them forced. He later told an American

reporter, "I feel it is solely from want of proper instruction in their faith that they have been forced to accept Christianity." He set up schools to teach them Hebrew, knowledge of which they had lost, and to bring their faith closer to that of modern Jews. Decades later, during times of crisis in Ethiopia, the Israeli government airlifted most Ethiopian Jews to Israel.

Ethiopian Christianity is also quite unusual. It is said to have a decidedly Hebraic character. Churchgoers there follow dietary practices similar to those laid out in the Old Testament, with some animals determined to be clean and others unclean. Most strikingly, every Christian church in Ethiopia has a model of the Ark of the Covenant, in a room that only the priest is allowed to enter, and it is a common belief among Ethiopians that the original Ark was spirited out of Israel when Menelik I came to Ethiopia with his Israelite attendants. They say it is now in St. Mary of Zion Church in the holy city of Aksum.

Other magnificent royal and religious treasures have survived through tumultuous centuries of warfare and upheaval in Ethiopia. To many believers, the Ark resides in a new home and the spirit of God resides with it.

The last Solomonic ruler, Haile Selassie Rulers of Ethiopia, by necessity, were a curious mixture of warrior chief and religious icon. Coming from the lineage of Solomon did not exempt them from the shenanigans that seem to mark fallen

royal families everywhere.

When Emperor Menelik II died in 1913, his throne was briefly taken by Iyasu V, whose name at birth was Lij Iyasu, meaning "child of Jesus." Ironically, to secure the support of his Muslim subjects, this child of Jesus nominally converted to Islam. His enemies quickly took action; he was excommunicated from the church, deposed as monarch and jailed high in a mountain fortress. He was eighteen at the time. He died in the same fortress cell nineteen years later.

Menelik II's granddaughter was appointed Empress Zauditu, and her cousin, Tafari Makonnen was named regent and next in line to the throne. He held the royal title *Ras*, meaning "the head" in Amharic, thus making him Ras Tafari. When Zauditu died at the age of forty-four, Ras Tafari became emperor.

A number of Ethiopian rulers were well educated and kept aware of foreign events. Menelik II, for example, had had London newspapers read to him and was often written about in foreign newspapers himself. But Ras Tafari, who as emperor was known as Haile Selassie, meaning "the power of the trinity," was the first modern Ethiopian monarch to travel to foreign countries. He had traveled Europe and had visited the United States. His coronation in Addis Ababa was a huge international event that even in 1930 was covered by film crews and newspapers from around the globe.

After an all-night prayer vigil, on a dais to which were chained five adult lions, Ras Tafari was crowned King of Kings, Conquering Lion of Judah, the Elect of God, the Light of the World. Five thousand head of cattle were slaughtered to feed twenty-five thousand guests at a feast of raw meat that lasted days. Months of preparations had included road building and the installation of electric lighting.

The Jamaican Marcus Garvey (1887–1940), who in his time was a spokesman for the black race in America and the Caribbean, is closely associated with the quotation, "Look to Africa for the crowning of a black king, he shall be the redeemer." The coronation convinced Garvey that Haile Selassie was the redeemer he'd been looking for; thus Ras Tafari became the root of Rastafarianism. Emperor Selassie never encouraged their adoration. He sent representatives to convince them they were misguided, but they adored him anyway. He visited Jamaica in 1966. His plane was mobbed and it was some time before he could leave the airport. Though Rastas now



Front from left: Rev. Ryu Sue-eun, Mr. Sintayehu, African Regional President Eiji Tokuno, Dr. Walsh, Mrs. Kaoru Sugita, Mr. Amanuel Babu; Back from left: The father of Miss Africa, Mrs. Mulu Solomon, Mrs. Yuko Berberich, a missionary and former ballet instructor, she is now a student of Ethiopian History; Hayat Ahmed, Miss Africa 2003; Mrs. Yeshiwork, Mrs. Takako Minami, Mrs. Lee and National Messiah Lee Ho-jin and Abdel Moumin Ibrahim, Sudanese National Leader

think of Ethiopia as more a state of mind, Haile Selassie was sympathetic to their desire to live there and granted them land near the town of Shashemene. About a hundred Rasta families live there today.

Five years into Haile Selassie's reign, Fascist Italy attacked and invaded his country. They coveted Ethiopia as a bridge between their colonies of Eritrea and Italian Somalia. Emperor Selassie stayed in the country until 1936 and then went into exile in Bath, England until 1940. Fascist Italy siding with Nazi Germany galvanized the British, whose troops entered Ethiopia in March of 1941. Two months later Haile Selassie returned. Italy was driven out of his country by the following January.

A decade later, it was Haile Selassie who wrote to the United Nations offering Ethiopian troops to assist Korea in her time of need. Ethiopia sent its best. Calling them "dark warriors from Africa who have fought so bravely and so nobly in this war," war correspondent Robert Alden wrote in 1953, "The Ethiopians fight with such skill that many an American has said he would rather be out on patrol with them than any other troops. The men in the unit would rather die in combat than fall into the enemy's hands."

The president of the Ethiopian Korean War Veterans Association, Col.

Emlaelu Wolede, is an ambassador for peace. Mr. Frew, the FFWPU-Ethiopia director, wrote that the colonel was among the Ethiopian pilgrims who participated in the Middle East Peace Initiative in Israel.

Light in the midst of darkness

On December 14, 1960, while Haile Selassie was on an official visit to Brazil, there was a coup d'etat attempt back in Addis Ababa. He rushed back. Rebel troops had taken over the palace. Nobles and government officials had been herded into the basement.

While his paternal grandfather was being murdered in the basement, a small boy of eight was hiding under a bed upstairs. Through his father, the boy descends from Emperor Yohannes IV, and through his mother he descends from Emperor Haile Selassie. The boy beneath the bed, forty-five years later, was the man at the airport, welcoming True Mother to Ethiopia. He had been contacted by several UPF members both in Ethiopia and in the United States. Mr. Frew describes him as a good person who "takes care of orphans and does many humanitarian activities." He is frequently among the important guests at UPF events.

Haile Selassie survived the coup in 1960, but he was not as fortunate in 1974. A 120-member military junta known as

the *Derg* (the Committee), which was initially popular with Ethiopians, coexisted with the emperor for a time as they gradually imprisoned his supporters. The early view was that the *Derg* was sweeping away anachronistic feudalism. Only later was it clear what they were ushering in. In August the emperor's property was confiscated and in September he was arrested. He was held under house arrest and died a year later. Fifteen years after the fact, his servants testified that when his body was found there was a strong scent of ether in the room and pillows covered his face. They believed he had been suffocated. Two months after his arrest, in a single night, fifty-nine ex-government officials were executed. There were several unsuccessful counter coups that ended in death.

From the junta, a single leader, Lieut. Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam, emerged and their Marxist leanings were disclosed. All land was nationalized and key businesses were taken over. Over the next seventeen years, Mengistu Haile Mariam would earn a nickname from his fellow countrymen—they called him the Black Stalin.

Into that tense atmosphere was introduced a Japanese, a Canadian and a German Unification Church missionary in 1975. On February 8 of that year, True Parents had blessed 1,800 couples in Seoul. Four days later, at a meeting led by Father in the Tokyo Church headquarters, many of those who had just been blessed learned they were destined to do mission work in foreign countries. Tomaru Hiroyasu was among them. "It was a special meeting in True Father's presence. All things were done in an atmosphere like a dream," Mr. Tomaru wrote recently. By lottery he was chosen

to go to Ethiopia. He attended a workshop where they made preparations. "Those who knew that they had to go to a war-torn country or a nation of religious hostility studied James Bond-type tactics, believe it or not," he explained.

Mr. Tomaru entered Ethiopia during what he called the "storm" of the communist revolution. He wrote that great luck was required in just getting through airport customs. "While foreigners were rushing home (escaping) to their countries. Ethiopian security officials didn't believe ordinary people like us would come to Ethiopia for tourism." Mr. Tomaru's good fortune continued at the hotel where he was staying. By chance, he met the other missionaries there—Joachim Hill from then West Germany and Katherine Bell Erickson from Canada.

They lived for some months in a suburb of Addis Ababa and then got rooms in an apartment building in the city center. Mr. Tomaru eventually obtained a business visa and helped local textile manufacturers to export their products. His visa had to be renewed once a year, which he described as a thrilling experience. The immigration office was run by the military. "They almost discovered who I was and what I was doing, which was unlike other top-notch Japanese businessmen stationed in Ethiopia."

There were various constraints on the three young people that must have added to the internal tensions they had to live with in their challenging mission. "Upon arrival there, we were introduced to an Ethiopian bank manager who had some relationship with our movement abroad. He had a wife and children. We tried not to hurt him in one way or another by a careless approach. We had

to keep our distance from him and other persons in a similar situation. In a real sense, we could not expose ourselves by saying we'd come to the country based on True Parents' plans. There were only a few exceptions to whom we could actually describe our real intentions."

They were also geographically confined. "I knew very little before arriving in Ethiopia about the 'Forgotten Jews,' who lived in isolation in the mountains. Christian Ethiopia was surrounded and thus isolated by the dominant Muslims in the Horn of Africa. Later, we came to know of the Entebbe-type rescue operations using Israeli Air Force planes. Neither I nor the other missionaries in those days could visit their towns or villages. Nor could we visit Asmara, then the second biggest city in Ethiopia, now the capital of Eritrea. The reason: many years of hand-in-hand combat and endless heavy war between Ethiopians and Eritreans."

Before contacting Mr. Tomaru, who is now the director of the national burial ground for blessed members in Japan, I had heard that the missionaries were not able to spend more than a few months under the dangerous circumstances that existed at that time in Ethiopia. This turned out not to be correct. They were there during the years Ethiopians refer to as the Red Terror, when torture and disappearances were commonplace.

"Our apartment rooms were searched at a gunpoint on suspicion of hiding guns or U.S. dollars," he wrote. "We had to face shooting and killings, often at night, between the government forces and their opponents near our apartment. An Ethiopian youth with whom we had had supper was found dead the very next day near where we lived. We later came to know that he was killed in a nearby shooting we had clearly heard that night. When shooting started and it was close to us, we had to turn off the lights for our safety."

Mengistu Haile Mariam fled Zimbabwe when he was overthrown in May 1991. He has lived in exile in Harare since that time. Mr. Tomaru returned to Japan in 1979 and was soon reassigned by Rev. Kwak to work in Egypt. A year later, he began working as a war correspondent in Israel for both Japanese and American newspapers. Later, he worked in the Tokyo bureau of Newsworld Communications.

Modern times

Rev. Ryu Sue-eun, who was a classmate of African Regional Director Eiji

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27....STRETCH OUT



Mr. James Flynn, Special Adviser to Ethiopia, with UPF Secretary-general Ryu appointing new Ambassadors for Peace

Mending the Marital Fabric



June Saunders



June Saunders is the author, with her husband Alan, of the UPF monograph *The Centrality of Marriage and Family in Creating World Peace*

In modern life, many stressors pull upon our marriages. In addition to the pressures of children, finances, housing, transportation, the headlines, health issues, etcetera, church members face the additional pressures of the providence. With all these stressors (and even good and happy events can be stressors) the fabric of marriage is often pulled to the point where the seams are straining—or even ripping apart.

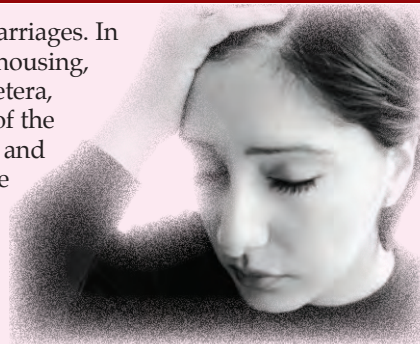
Stephen Covey, author of the influential *7 Habits of Highly Successful Families*, asserts that modern life requires us to make marriage and family life more deliberate than in the past. In less stressful

and demanding times, it was fine to marry, have children, get a place to live and expect things to work out fairly well. As someone from the World War II-era generation put it, “If she were a decent girl, and you were a halfway decent fellow, you had it made.” Now, as Covey reminds us, things aren’t so simple. Even a decent girl and her fellow find themselves in divorce court 50 percent of the time for new marriages—and 70 percent of the time for second marriages. Marriage can no longer be a learn-by-doing proposition. It requires deliberateness and deliberation.

Perhaps marriage by trial and error while “learning on the job” is still sufficient in many parts of the world where the social fabric is not as frayed as it is in developed societies. A support network of relatives, neighbors, community and nation, all steeped in and in agreement about tradition, provides a safety net for a couple and family to make their many adjustments together and bounce back from the inevitable difficulties. Developed societies are different from this, and life as church members is also different from this.

Church members are, in the words of St. Paul, a colony of heaven. They may not feel a sense of community in their surroundings and may not benefit from social support structures present there. Many people are geographically separated from their extended families. Some blessed couples are pioneering cities, states, and whole nations, without another blessed family in sight. Again, to paraphrase Jesus, blessed couples may be in a community, but they are not necessarily of a community. Perhaps they have moved many times through mobilizations. Perhaps they are still renting their homes and feel no particular stake of permanence in the community. Perhaps their values differ widely from those of their neighbors, and it is hard to feel comfortable among those neighbors. Perhaps the international or interracial mix of their family sets them apart from the status quo. Some church members may feel alienated from a community that has persecuted them.

Although ideally church members are to overcome all these circumstances and transform their communities, this does not always happen, and church members find themselves without a community safety net and supportive backdrop for marriage and family life.



In such situations, couples' blessings could benefit from conscious application of studied principles of marital success. These principles may be both religious and psychological.

Reverend Moon has always maintained that religion and science are to unite. Psychology is a science dedicated to the finding of truth. Many marital therapists in the modern era are discovering truths similar to and supportive of our own, and they have methods of putting those truths to work in a marriage.

Harville Hendrix, a well-known psychologist and marital expert, speaks of a "conscious" marriage—a spiritual undertaking of mutual psychological and emotional redemption that takes place through the marital partners' supplying deep parental love to one another. This is not far from our notion of a spouse as a "second messiah." The deepest possible intimacy of mind and heart, won through restorative love, brings the couple into inseparable oneness such that, as one marital commentator put it, "When one cries, the other tastes salt."

Such notions are not far from thoughts of Reverend Moon's, who has said that a blessed couple should be so close that if one goes off to go to the bathroom, the other spouse should miss him or her in the moments of separation.

Maybe we have experienced such a love, where our soul cleaves to the soul of our other. Yet oneness in mind, body and heart—what a blessed marriage is all about—does not just happen. In fact, we need all the help we can get from science as well as religion—from the wisdom of marital therapists, marriage builders and marriage instructors who share a similar vision to ours but who have the psychological and emotional expertise we perhaps lack. Coupled with the power of true love and prayer, we may use some of their techniques and recommendations to work toward oneness and mend any rents in the fabric of marriage.

REPAIR ATTEMPTS

Continuing our metaphor, as the fabric of marriage stretches, frays and sometimes tears under pressure, it is good to take steps to repair the material. One prominent marital theorist, Dr. John Gottman, calls this process making "repair attempts."

Repair attempts are the secret weapon of happy married couples, Dr. Gottman asserts. Repair attempts are so important, Gottman says, that "the success or failure of a couple's repair attempts is one of the primary factors in whether their marriage flourishes or flounders."

Repair attempts usually take place in the context of a quarrel or a moment of tension. They are an expression of the original mind that wishes to unite in *shimjung*—the mind that wishes to restore and repair. Psychologically speaking, a repair attempt is anything that serves to de-escalate anger and tension. When the decibel level is climbing, when the brows are starting to give off steam, when the mouths are going full-speed ahead with mutual accusations, a repair attempt might be as simple as one spouse making a silly face that the other can respond to. Gottman gives the example of a wife stick-

ing out her tongue at her husband in a perfect imitation of their four-year-old child. As the couple laughs in mutual recognition, the tension is defused, the anger is released. They are now in a position to deal with the conflict more constructively, or to simply let it go with a shrug and a joke. (Note: Gottman maintains that most marital arguments are never going to be resolved. A large part of a successful marriage, he says, is learning to honor and respect the underlying differences in the spouses and simply to live with them.)

Not all repair attempts are humorous. Sometimes a husband or wife may say, "I'm getting too upset about this to talk about this reasonably. I think I'll take a walk and cool off. Can we talk about it when I come back?" That is a very effective repair attempt. Gottman suggests that using such phrases as "Please say that more gently," or "I don't feel as if you understand me right now," "I might be wrong here," "I agree with part of what you're saying," or "We are both saying..." tend to bring the couple together as a team. These phrases tend to deescalate conflict and bring more human-heartedness into the fray.

A simple, "I'm sorry" is a repair attempt. "Stop yelling at me" sometimes works too. After a major argument, one blessed husband actually got down on his knees to his wife and begged, "Please forgive me." This dramatic repair attempt brought them back into one another's arms.

Repair attempts reduce stress and give the body chemicals in adrenaline time to recede. They are fulcrums of a successful marriage.

On the other hand, repair attempts may not be effective if the volume of discord and negativity has become quite high. The couple may be too stressed to hear each other's repair attempts. One or both may actively reject any repair attempts. "I'm sorry" simply may not cut it, and humor may be the last thing either spouse wants to hear. In cases like these, Gottman recommends the couple work at listening harder for repair attempts and work at responding to them more charitably.

If emotions have really gotten out of hand, it may be necessary to go off by oneself, to listen to music or do something calming like reading a magazine, and let the negative emotions and adrenaline ebb away. Experts say that it can take up to thirty minutes for the body to calm down after a flood of adrenaline and other stress signals. Continuing a conflict while flooded with defensive body chemicals, deaf to or cynical toward repair attempts, tends to rip the marital fabric apart.

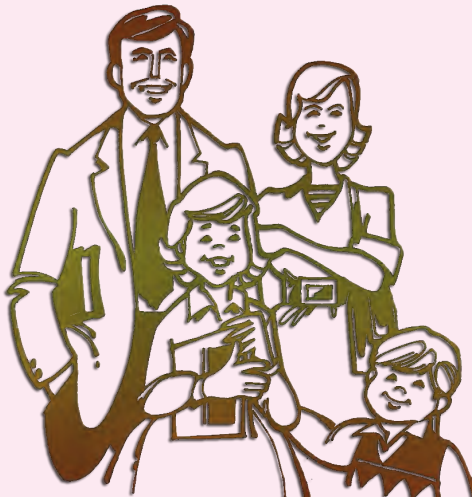
Successful repair attempts can be built into a marriage.

The couple can become conscious of repair attempts, their usage and their power. Repair attempts are extremely effective in mending the marital fabric.

FELLOWSHIP

At the same time, the optimal usage of repair attempts comes on the foundation of basic fellowship existing between the couple. Basic fellowship between husband and wife (some marital therapists call it friendship) is built into the relationship during moments, contrived or otherwise, when pleasurable or constructive activities are going on.

One leader confessed that he and his



wife were quarreling so frequently, they went to Reverend Moon to ask for advice. Reverend Moon said, "Go out to a restaurant and eat together. You can't quarrel in public." It helped the couple. Doing pleasurable or constructive things together in a setting where there can be no fighting allows good feelings to flow—good feelings that are associated with the company of the spouse. A quiet communion steals between the two hearts—a silent comradeship.

Some couples find that watching TV together helps. If the relationship is stressed, it may be hard to interact positively face-to-face, but enjoying a few shows together can be relaxing and entertaining. Once again, the couple begins to associate one another with relaxed and enjoyable times.

Going for walks together can help. The couple may hold hands, even if they don't feel very friendly at first. Something quietly loving steals into the hearts of a couple that makes these gestures.

One couple on the brink of dissolution before they had even begun their family started a small fund they called their "Fun Fund." When enough money had accumulated in their Fun Fund, they spent the money on dates—roller skating, movies and miniature golf. The rule was that they couldn't discuss anything controversial and that they could only have give and take about the activity itself. The goal was simply to have fun together. Soon, the couple was deeply in love, and their quarreling ceased.

In the end, that is what marriage is—companionship, friendship, fellowship. It is a basic sense that you are in this together—friends, not enemies.

Building fellowship into a marriage also means making the most of positive things that happen. Kissing each other hello and goodbye every time one enters or leaves the house is a positive thing. A shared, gusty laugh is something to enjoy to the maximum. A moment of mutual tenderness regarding the children is to be treasured. A good decision made together, or a successfully completed project, is something to celebrate. Taking the time to thank one's spouse for a routine task that is easily taken for granted is helpful, as are finding things to praise and comment favorably upon. All these things build resilience into the marital fabric as it is pushed and pulled by the many stresses and strains of daily life.

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER THAT YE MAY BE HEALED (James 5:16)

Over time, consistently applied, prayer works wonders for strengthening the fabric of marriage. There is an excellent set of books on this by Stormie Omartian, a Christian. She has written *The Power of a Praying Wife*, *The Power of a Praying Husband*, *The Power of a Praying Parent*, and others. One of the strengths of her books is that she provides specific and detailed prayers in each chapter that a spouse can read aloud to God. Each prayer only takes a minute or two to say, yet, said on a daily basis, the prayers gradually lead to more depth and closeness in relationships.

The chapters preceding the prayers are helpful too. They clearly lay out very human and recognizable difficulties

couples face. Omartian pulls no punches. She admits that her quarter-of-a-century marriage to her husband has not been an easy one. She opens *The Power of a Praying Wife* by saying sympathetically to wives that she knows what it means to contemplate desperate measures to escape the pain of a stressed marriage. She knows that it is sometimes hard to pray for someone who is, in the wife's mind, acting as an enemy.

Omartian made the difficult decision to keep going in a miserable marriage. She prayed and prayed for her husband. She told herself, "Shut up and pray," when she wanted to nag him. Slowly, over time, things changed. Situations where all the nagging and fighting in the world hadn't helped began to slowly improve. Her favorite prayer, "Change him, Lord!" became "Change me, Lord," as she began to see her husband, her marriage and her life in a whole new light—the light of God through prayer. These books are highly recommended to jump-start a rich marital prayer life that puts God right where He belongs—at the center of our marriages.

A WORD ABOUT PRIORITIES

This leads to the last point. A well-ordered life means putting God first, your spouse second, children third, work a distant fourth and your house—well.

How many husbands put their work before their wives? The author of this article has frequently had to tell her hard-working husband, "Pay less attention to your e-mail and more attention to your female!" Husbands gain a sense of value from their work. It is all bound up in their identity. Work is solid, definable, unemotional. Wives are not! It is easier, sometimes, to deal with work than to deal with a wife.

Wives, on the other hand, may err on the side of putting the children before the husband. After all, children are helpless when they are young and in constant need for many, many years. They are full of love and innocence. They are adorable, sweet, and they love you back unconditionally (until they are teenagers!). It is all too easy for a wife to invest more in her children than in her spouse, thinking that as a fellow adult the husband should realize that the children need the wife's care, attention, love, time, etcetera, more than he does. Wrong!

In fact, our marriages need to be in good shape in order to give our children what they most need—a good balance of masculine and feminine love. Studies in the social sciences have shown that stable and loving marriages bring all kinds of benefits to children—spiritual, emotional, physical and even academic. One of the best things we can do for our children is to cultivate true love between husband and wife.

What is more, some day the children will grow up to form families of their own. While we all dream of living together among the generations, our spouse is our eternal helpmate, companion and friend. Our children's spouses will be their eternal helpmates, companions and friends too. When the day comes, as it will for all of us, when our children are grown and blessed, we will want to spend time in a marriage that wasn't shredded by neglect over the years the



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23....STRETCH OUT

Tokuno's at the Unification Theological Seminary, was assigned by True Parents in 2005 to support Rev. Tokuno's work in Africa. Rev. Ryu is the secretary-general of UPF in Ethiopia. Mr. Frew credits him with expanding their work well beyond the capital city. "We could move out of Addis and visit nine big cities and give lectures," he said. "We have now 1,036 ambassadors for peace in the country." A number of these ambassadors for peace are very prominent figures. One, Negasso Gidada, is on the UPF Global Peace Council. From 1995 to 2001, he was Ethiopia's president. The presidency in Ethiopia is a largely ceremonial post; power rests with the prime minister, but as president, Gidada used his position to speak out forthrightly to the point that he was expelled from the ruling party and eventually stepped down from his post. He returned briefly to private life before running for election as a parliamentarian. He ran as an independent and is currently the only independent in the 547-member parliament. In office or out, he is a frontline fighter against HIV/AIDS. He has been cited by medical AIDS experts as among the very first African leaders to publicly speak about and work to eradicate this scourge, which his fellow African Kenneth Kaunda called "a soft nuclear bomb on

human life."

Another major ambassador for peace, Kinfe Abraham, is a strong advocate of the Ethiopian government. A recent article in the *Washington Times*, Ethiopia's Actions Defended, was based on an interview done of him while visiting the United States. Prof. Kinfe heads a think tank, the Ethiopian International Institute for Peace and Development. He has broad experience with international African relations, particularly where they involve warring states. A decade ago he was with the government Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As recently as 2003 it was reported that when the prime minister, Meles Zenawi, was at odds with his Foreign Minister, control of the ministry was unofficially placed in Prof. Kinfe's hands.

There are dire political and other challenges confronting Ethiopia. Social unrest over the last elections led to riots that a recent parliamentary report concluded claimed 193 lives. Last year, HIV infected an estimated 353 Ethiopians each day according to their Ministry of Health. A million children have lost a parent to AIDS; an additional quarter million have lost both parents. At time of writing, Ethiopia is edging toward war with neighboring Somalia. Ethiopia is backing one Somali government, while her old foe Eritrea is backing another. Ethiopia also has trouble keep-

ing people living in outlying areas fed. There are periodic cycles of famines following droughts. A European Commission spokesman explained that Ethiopia actually produces enough food for everyone, but infrastructure problems, too few roads, make it difficult for food to reach all areas of the country. Such problems, in any country, often result from the government favoring (with funding) the people in one area over those in another.

These are exactly the kind of people-based problems—disunity among siblings and loss of our value as the sons or daughters of God—that UPF is focused on solving.

The Psalmist wrote, "Let Ethiopia hasten to stretch out her hands to God," but the message of True Parents carries us so much further—to take responsibility, join hands in exchange marriage blessings and establish relationships of true love with everyone around us.

Ethiopian people have a tradition that stretches back to Old Testament Israel. They were the first nation where Christianity and Islam managed to coexist in peace; but that past is only a foundation upon which the future must be built. True Mother and her first son came to reorient the nation, to point Ethiopia to the future and to help guide her to take her place within Cheon Il Guk. ♦

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15....WALKING WITH A TRUE SON

"But," he said, "things are not all bad." Because of the change of culture he has created in our businesses in Korea a new kind of person is now joining. "There is incredible hope!" he added.

After restructuring our businesses he said there will be a total restructuring of our church and its culture, from external to internal.

We finished the burger, and went back to the hotel. On the way back we saw a Starbucks and he said "speaking of Star-

bucks, I would like to have a latte, is that okay, do we still have time?" he asked.

Still soaked in sweat but looking healthy, he said, "Well, I guess I better get ready, huh? Thanks a lot for the walk. It's good to pump the heart isn't it?"

After arriving at the hotel, he showered in five minutes, kissed True Mother and left with Mr. Arai for Melbourne. ♦

Mr. Ledesma is the UPF Secretary-general of Oceania

children were growing up.

Why not learn to enjoy each other's company now, so that we can spend our golden years on a delightful second honeymoon with our spouse, instead of looking at each other over the deserted dinner table and wondering who in the world this stranger is?

Of course, our first priority should be God. Our church's wonderful theologian, Kim Young-oon, once winked at me and told me a secret about her marital choices: "God is a jealous God," she said. God is a jealous God. He wants our hearts first. He wants us to love Him most. That's the only way a marriage can work. Without God as the source of love, forgiveness, hope, grace, healing, insights and perspective, there is simply no way to love and be loved by another highly flawed, mad-

dening, sometimes unattractive person for the rest of life and for eternity. God is the balm of marriage. He is the One who brings us together, the One who helps us see one another in a new light, the One who helps us to change from "Change my spouse, Lord," to "Change me, Lord. Let me take responsibility for my part in any difficulties, even if I am so blinded by my own sinfulness that I think it is all my spouse's fault."

Loving God first means, for one thing, that we are seeking to be like Him in character; we are seeking to resemble Him in heart. We are practicing the virtues He embodies so well—peacemaking, forgiveness, mercy, selflessness. As virtues grow in our hearts through the practice of our faith, we become more loving and lovable, strengthening and repairing the holy fabric of marriage. ♦

From Resolve to Completion: My Tenth Forty-day Fast

Inoguchi Yasuo



In the years since True Parents made Rev. Yu Dae-haeng responsible for the Japanese movement overall, he has been supportive of a number of forty-day fasts that Mr. Inoguchi has done. They are pictured here on the day Mr. Inoguchi publicly responded to True Father's advice and expressed his determination to accomplish his tenth marathon fast.

The first part of what follows is the public declaration Mr. Inoguchi Yasuo made of his intention to do a forty-day fast and prayer condition for the tenth time. Mr. Inoguchi first fasted forty days to protest against True Father being unjustly imprisoned in the United States. His ninth forty-day fast was in support of the inauguration of UPF. It ended on December 19, 2005. The second part is excerpted from a transcript of a meeting held hours before the breaking of the tenth fast, a historic spiritual condition, which was done for such purposes as the protection of True Parents' health, the success of the 3rd world tour, atonement for Japanese wrongdoing and the reunification of the Koreans. This fast spanned September 30–November 8.

On August 21, at the Cheon Jeong Peace Palace, True Father said the following during hoondokhwae, which was also a celebration of the success of the Rally for the Liberation of the Homeland of Cosmic Peace and the Return of Heaven and Earth to God, held the day before:

In the past, among other such things, I have prayed and turned stone into bread, which I ate. When I was hungry, I would pick up a stone and eat it as if it were bread. I would feel that I had eaten bread even though I had eaten a stone. It was actually bread, not stone. That is why I ate it. In that way, I would not become hungry for a week. That is what I experienced. I can do a forty-day fast without difficulty. I heard of someone who has done nine forty-day fasts. He should do one more. If he reaches ten... Did he do it eight times? In Japan? [He did it nine times.] Nine times; he has to do one more. [Yes] If he does it one more time, Eve's gate, which has been closed, will open with a click, click, click. This must be done. Who can do it? If you are not centered on God, you cannot endure a forty-day fast. I have fought all of my battles centered on such principles.

I heard from someone who was there that day that True Father had spoken about my doing a tenth forty-day fast. When True Mother was in Japan in March, she advised me, in a friendly manner, not to do any more forty-day fasts. I thought I had finished doing them, but when I heard that Father had said I should do another one, I took it as my destiny. I immediately decided to begin the tenth fast.

We were asked to do a forty-day fast when True Father was incarcerated in the Danbury Federal Correctional Institution. It was my first and I started it on July 20, 1984. I have continued to do them regularly in obedience to God's voice, which told me, "Don't hang the glorious Lord on the cross." I have done them mainly for the purpose of bringing about True Father's vindication. I have completed nine with absolute faith and the resolve that restoration will occur. True Father, as if timing it to coincide with the twenty-first anniversary of his release from Danbury, spoke about the tenth fast during the victory celebration the following day, which has led me to my resolve to do the tenth fast this year.

I cannot help being inspired by the manifestation of a Principled God who works through exact numbers for indemnity and restoration, such as twenty-one in those twenty-one years, and four hundred (ten times forty). I am amazed at the miraculous coincidences that occur through the True Parents of Heaven and Earth.

After Father went to Danbury, Mr. Kajikuri Gentaro and I started a fasting group that has completed a total of twenty-nine forty-day prayerful fasting conditions, offered by ten people, including four 120-day relay fasts. This will be the thirtieth forty-day fast, for a total of 1,200 days. We also did about twenty twenty-one-day

fasts (I did two of them), which adds up to about four hundred days, yielding a total of 1,600 days.

In this way, all of the providential numbers that are necessary for indemnity, twelve, four (sixteen), twenty-one and forty, are represented. There was a brother who nearly died during these fasts. All of us literally risked our lives with absolute faith. While clinging to the words of the verse, "He that loses his life for my sake shall find it," we overcame the long twenty-one- and forty-day fasts. I feel that this tenth forty-day fast has the significance of completing the work of all of the sincere conditions that were offered before. If this is true, I am extremely hopeful that all of the offerings of the brothers and sisters, who have fought side-by-side until now, will finally come together and bear fruit, establishing a Foundation of Faith, Foundation of Substance, and Foundation for the Messiah, enabling me to begin my tenth forty-day fast with pure joy.

I don't know precisely what Father meant when he said, "If he does it one more time, Eve's gate, which has been closed, will open with a click, clck, click," but if he meant that the gate which has barred Father's entry into Japan since he was sent to Danbury will completely open, his instructing me to "do one more," represents his bestowing on me the deepest grace. I cannot begin to find sufficient gratitude. I am determined to invest myself completely in doing God's will without resting during the fast. I will confront it joyfully, asking for the spiritual support of Heung-jin nim, Jesus and historical saints and sages. I am willing to die if necessary.

At the moment, I work for the History Compilation Department of the national headquarters. I'm studying True Father's life with a focus on his school days at Waseda University. I am also studying the history of Koreans residing in Japan, under the guidance of Mr. Lee Dong-woon, the head of our Korean Reunification Department. I have been learning about atrocities committed during the Japanese occupation of Korea before World War II and the unimaginable suffering of the Korean people. Japan has committed many sins in the past, such as massacring Koreans residing in Japan during the devastating 1923 Kanto Earthquake, kidnapping numerous Koreans and using them for forced labor and the hideous tribulations inflicted on comfort women.¹ Japan, however, has not yet asked for forgiveness, nor has it even shown signs of repentance for these national collective sins. Japan has therefore been accused by the numerous resentful evil spirits who envelope the entire nation like dark clouds. Japan is still treating our True Father—who is the Savior and the glorious Lord at his Second Coming—like a criminal. It will not let him in and continues to persecute the Unification Movement by calling it a cult through the media, lawyers and pastors. As many as four thousand Unificationists have been kidnapped, locked up and pressured toward apostasy by these anti-Unificationists.

¹ This is a euphemistic term for young non-Japanese women who were forced to serve as sex outlets for units of Japanese soldiers during World War II.

Violations of human rights in the form of religious persecution have been taking place that are unheard of in other democratic countries. Japan may seem prosperous, but spiritually, it is probably not an exaggeration to say it is on the verge of total destruction, as were Sodom and Gomorrah in their time. I deeply feel the sinfulness of our nation and our lack of good conditions. I am grateful for True Father's instruction to do one more forty-day fast, even though I am not pure enough to be an offering, I would like to offer myself for Japan, which is on the verge of sinking, and for the salvation of the world. True Parents have said, "The heart of Japan is the root of loyalty and fidelity." I would like to respond with absolute faith and absolute obedience to the grace of the True Parents of Heaven and Earth, who have continued to sacrificially love this enemy nation. I will offer my tenth forty-day fast from September 3 to November 8, under the guidance of President Yu Dae-haeng.



Rev. Yu Dae-haeng (overall president of the Japanese movement), FFWPU President Otsuka Katsumi and Otsuka Taeko, his wife, were among the 138 people at this meeting, which began with the singing of Holy Songs, recitation of the Family Pledge and a representative prayer at 8 PM on November 8. The first speaker provides some background to Mr. Inoguchi and to the fasting experience.



On the 40th day of his 10th 40-day fast, Mr. Inoguchi speaks to friends and supporters

ing, so the fluids wouldn't go down, but came up through the mouth. I threw up with all my might. It was like being seasick; I went through terrible agony for three whole days. You should not think about food; never let your guard down. I heard that Father fasted for forty-three days when he sent Rev. Nishikawa² to Japan, which is why I suggest being prepared to fast for forty-three days.

I've been called the instigator of Inoguchi-san's first fast, but actually, he decided to do it on his own. I had heard that UTS students were to do a forty-day fast at the time of Father's imprisonment. I didn't feel qualified to take part in that condition, but I thought it would be good if at least one person besides them were to fast. I then returned to Japan, where I heard that Inoguchi-san was doing a twenty-one-day fast. Some people thought I should stop him. As I was then president of the *Sekai Nippo* newspaper, people said, "Why

² This is the Japanese name for Choi Bong-choon, the first missionary to Japan, sent in 1958

Mr. Kajikuri Gentaro: Earlier, I advised Mr. Iida to prepare in his heart for a forty-three day fast. In my own experience doing a forty-day fast, with three days left, then Church President Furuta, who had to leave for the U.S. and couldn't be at the breaking of the fast, sent me a box of fruit. I was happy with the gift, but unfortunately, I relaxed my guard when I smelled the apples in the box. My thoughts were immediately expressed through my body—digestive juices were flowing and bile, too. My stomach was still rest-

don't you stop him?" So, I told him, "You should quit your twenty-one-day fast, but how about doing one for forty days?" And so he started on July 20. Since I'd made the suggestion, I resolved to do a forty-day fast myself and had started when after about ten days, my wife found out.

Then the protests began. Rev. Oyamada was against it; my spiritual parent was against it. In looking at some past cases of forty-day fasts, they had concluded that some people became strange afterward. They either died or left the church.

But the more opposition I got, the more determined I became to challenge it. The other day, I gave a talk on the Japan-Korea Tunnel and Highway, and Inoguchi-san was there. He told me later that he was inspired by the talk and that one of the projects Japan must take on from now is the Bering Strait Tunnel. That tunnel and the corresponding highway will require 500 trillion yen to build. According to Inoguchi-san, there is 1,500 trillion yen worth of savings put away in all of Japan. A third of this needs to be collected to build the tunnel. I believe Inoguchi-san's fast was started in part with the goal in mind of making this kind of thing happen.

Mr. Yasuo Inoguchi: Hello, everyone; thank you for taking time to come here today from all over Japan. How painful it must have been for Abraham, who had decided to offer the life of his son Isaac! When I think about that as a parent, I realize that I would never be able to tell my child to do a forty-day fast. My wife says she dislikes fasting even for one day. Nevertheless, Father asked for this to be done. Behind what he said, undoubtedly he has offered more difficult conditions many, many times. How must God have felt in his heart at the time of Jesus? I was able to understand something of Father's heart as he went forward, even after offering Heung-jin nim, and a total of four children. If you entrust everything to God, God will protect you; the spirit world will protect you. This time, too, Heung-jin nim, saying that he would protect me, guided me from the start. Rev. Yu had already reported to Father about it.

Once, Father asked me how many times I had done forty-day fasts. I answered, "Three times, Father." Father roared at me, "Only three times!" Now that I've done ten, I feel there's more to come. I'm prepared to challenge twelve, or even twenty-one. This time, both presidents kindly came for the final day. I don't think that will happen again. I don't want it to be necessary for both to come to support me again. Also, seven other members who have experienced forty-day fasts have come today. Mr. Iida Tesuya, the man who will eventually succeed me in my position in the History Compilation Department, fasted with me this time. Mr. Kajikuri has done this twice. Mr. Fuchimoto, four times. Mr. Machida, once. Mr. Yoshino, twice. Chunja-san, five times. I truly am grateful to everyone today.



Mr. Inoguchi and his wife surrounded by Rev. Yu Dae-haeng (holding the knife) Mrs. Otsuka and FFWPU-Japan President Otsuka Katsumi

Rev. Yu Dae-haeng: Mr. Inoguchi has done six forty-day fasts since I came to Japan. I feel embarrassed, and I have been worried. After he did the last fast, Mother said he should stop now, because he's getting old. When Father delivered the word from Heaven, that Mr. Inoguchi should fast for a tenth time, I debated whether to convey this to him or not. Mr. Inoguchi himself, though, had heard through the Internet what Father said and had already resolved in his heart to do it, so my heart

was lighter.

He has done this fast three times now in the hot summer, July and August. It's twice as hard to fast in hot weather than it is in the autumn, winter or spring. So, I would say this tenth fast is internally equal to his thirteenth.

A member from the seventy-two-couple blessing group, Mr. Yoon Il-Sun, is a spiritually alert church elder. He did a forty-day fast once in July and August, during the peak of summer. Each night, the True Children came spiritually to encourage and comfort him, so that the course seemed quite easy for him. Then, on the thirtieth day, he was told, "We will not visit from now on. You should win the victory on your own strength over the remaining ten days. You should have three members praying for you to accomplish this." So we made a team to pray, but these last ten days turned out to be more difficult than the first thirty days.

The mother of Mr. Kim Do-han, who is in the United States now, was asked to help pray for the success of the fast; she stayed with Mr. Yoon. On the morning of the thirty-eighth day, Mr. Yoon started to crave the pickled eggplant in his refrigerator so much that he felt he could die for them. But the mother was with him so he couldn't eat. When the women stepped out for a minute, Mr. Yoon crawled to the fridge, opened the door, and was just about to put a pickle in his mouth, when the doorbell rang. He suddenly realized what he was doing.

If you look at the records of those who have fasted for forty days in the past, several have failed on the thirty-eighth day. And for that reason, one of the three elders praying for Mr. Yoon came running to his home on the morning of the thirty-eighth day. Had he been thirty seconds later, Mr. Yoon would have eaten the pickle. After Mr. Yoon safely completed the forty days, he spiritually saw historical figures. He tried to call out to Moses, and Jesus. He told Moses, "I was prepared to die when I started this fast. Yet, on the thirty-eighth day, I felt that I just had to eat, even if it meant death. I'm sure you also felt tempted. How did you overcome it?" Moses then bared parts of his body to Mr. Yoon to show him they were full of scars. In order to overcome, he'd had to wound himself with a stone knife to forget the hunger pangs. Moses said to him, "You and I are fellow alumni." But Moses had fasted twice, and Mr. Yoon, only once. So Mr. Yoon asked, "How do I qualify as an

alumnus?" Moses answered, "I fasted twice, but not in the heat. No one has accomplished this during the hot season. You fasted once, but it's the same as having done it twice, so that is why we are fellow alumni."

Ten forty-day fasts has got to be an unprecedented record in history. This has significance in the history of the providence as well. Behind the victory are the hardships that God and True Parents have undergone. I visited Alaska on October 3 and reported to True Parents about this forty-day fast the following morning. Father said something at the time that I haven't announced yet. The fast is not yet complete; there is still some time left, and there shouldn't be any mistakes. So, I won't tell you now. There will be a blessing at the end of the year; it will be a blessing for the individual, as well as for the mother nation. The important thing is that the motivation is not in Inoguchi as an individual, but that Heaven is the motivation. This is what is precious. If you look over the details of his past forty-day fasts, each expresses Heaven's will for that time. At the time of Danbury, you started—at age 34. I heard that you almost died. If you'd been asked to do ten forty-day fasts from the beginning, it would probably have been impossible. With the respective situations in the providence, there was a reason why they were done.

Since I've come to Japan, you've come to me six times, saying, "I must do this. It is a difficult time, so for Heaven's will, I must provide some supplement in this way," which made me happy. Heaven has been the motivation. People ask, "Is he really fasting?" It's beyond human understanding. When we met at the Memorial Service at the Oze Memorial Park [the Unificationist burial ground in Japan], Inoguchi-san said it was his thirty-ninth day. Normally, it would be difficult to even take the two-hour train ride to get there, but he was standing there with a water bottle in his hand.

Some have even gone spiritually strange after doing a forty-day fast. If a person becomes arrogant in his own thinking, Satan invades. When the forty days is almost over, the person fasting might hear that Father fasted for forty-three days and suddenly starts to say that he or she will do forty-three days as well. "I don't think you should." "No, Father has done it, so I will also." Even if the beginning is with Heaven, it can go the opposite way. It can go in the wrong way. Why? The motivation is unsound.

Mr. Inoguchi, his assistant Mr. Iida and well-wishers at the joint conclusion of their forty day fasts. It was Mr. Iida's second.



Mr. Inoguchi's ten forty-day fasts thus far have been done without a change of heart. The motivation is in Heaven, and it is pure. However, after a blessing, an ordeal comes; and after an ordeal, a blessing will come. If we expect a trial period is coming and continue anyway, we will be able to overcome it. If we become arrogant, the ordeal becomes larger. Let's think of this as a time when the members have come to participate and share in the blessing together. There are two hours and twenty minutes left, but we are celebrating the victory.

At this time, we have the opportunity to receive special forgiveness. There have been pardons in the past. "There will be more in the future, won't there?" some people think. There will be no more pardons in the future. These have been granted as we went from the familial level to the tribal level and the tribal level to the national level. But human beings cannot go beyond the national-level era, so if you make a mistake after the era of the national level begins, there is no way left to go forward. In this national-level era, True Parents are granting us the final pardon. It is different from the past. The forgiveness this time is amazing in that the memory of our sins will be erased completely from True Parents' minds. It is like computer data, which can remain forever if it isn't deleted, but if the owner pushes a button, all will be erased.

Early this morning, I saw a vision. There was a place for all blessed families. They were coming together to make offerings, but those wearing black clothes went into the mountains and down into a deep valley. There were those wearing pink clothes also. Signs marked, No. 1 and No. 2 were set up, and everyone was going to their own place.

It's a time for reorganizing as Cheon Il Guk families, as new families of Heaven. We must spread the word to all members about the pardon this time, whether they are resting or opposed to the movement. Let's tell everyone and help each other, so that all can enter and register in heaven, then go forward for the victory of the mother nation with a joyous heart. Things will not be difficult forever. Think of how difficult it has been for Father. Yet he has never viewed things as being difficult. This is an important period in which all blessed families will make a start with a heart like True Father's. I am grateful that this will result in the victory of the mother nation as a whole.◆

The Hill family:
Petra, Philip and Christabel



Interview with Philip Hill, Clairvoyant

I have known Philip Hill for twenty years. He explained to me that as a boy he was able to sense vague spiritual presences and was sometimes caught up in the spirits' emotional states. Meeting the church and recognizing that negative spiritual influences could be subjugated was a great relief to him, but only since first attending a forty-day workshop at Cheongpyeong has there been clarity in what he sees and in his understanding. Philip recently attended the 800th ancestor liberation workshop at the Cheongpyeong training center, where he spoke to me about his spiritual experiences there and with his ancestors at home.

Julian Gray: Could you say something about what you see here at Cheongpyeong?

Philip Hill: I can talk about what I saw during the first two days at this workshop.

Maybe a quarter of the way through the first holy song session, angels started to come into the room and they stood with every single person. There was an angel for each person. So there was a great mass of color. As we were clapping, they were *ansu*-ing the people on the back or on the scalp. In one particular incident I noticed, an angel was *ansu*-ing a person on the head and you could see dark spirits coming out of his head, maybe five or six spirits. They started to become very fearful, almost in a penitent way, and then they came out and wandered off down to the front of the hall. There is an entrance that opens up at the front of the hall.

I can be clapping and a head might come out of the back of the person in front of me—I have seen this happen. It's similar to the movie *Constantine*.¹ They are sometimes quite horrible looking faces, sometimes just normal, with a smirk or a snicker, but very dark, or

black. There was an instance when a head came out and was looking at me, and an angel went by and grabbed the spirit by his neck and pulled him straight out, really strongly!

In the past, I used to see seven or eight angels walking around, but now there is one for each person participating; I don't know if it is the nature of this special workshop, or not. The spirits that came out of people go through that door; they all go down to a landing bay, similar to the Tree of Love, similar to that area. There are angels around them in a big circle to prevent them from wandering out of the area.

All of these are quite dark spirits. Of course, people are made by God, but maybe such people have defiled themselves because they did not know how to live. As these people study the Principle, they will start to reflect on where they were, and why they did what they did, and slowly come back from a life of darkness that has been filled with resentment.

Someone may have been slaughtered by a person and this resentful spirit is now attached to the descendant of the killer. That killer might have killed a lot of people in a war, maybe committed atrocities. Of course, as spirits, all those people that he had killed come back with all that resentment. This resentment was caused by this ancestor. So when we liberate and bless our ancestors, we are actually liberating and blessing people who probably deserve to be in hell! You know, you probably wouldn't want to deal with them at all, because they killed people. So, members are really doing what Father says to do, loving our enemies—even though they are our direct ancestors. If you knew, for example, that your great, great, great grandfather, going many generations back, was the head of a group that slaughtered people with swords,

you might think, "Well, stay there! I am not going to spend my good money on you!" Nevertheless, we donate money to liberate them.

Have you had any direct experiences with those you are liberating?

Among my couple's first twenty-eight generations, one ancestor must have assassinated people. When I was doing the bows in preparation to come here, I felt blood running down my face. I saw a person come into a room where another person was tied up, kneeling down, looking up. And—bang!—with a pistol he shoots straight into the forehead of the person kneeling. I was experiencing all this blood running down, and I could see the hole in his head. That person must have been the one who carried out the assassination, and now that he is in the spirit world,



As you smoke and drink, you weaken your spirit and this attracts negative spirits who try to smoke and drink through you. Those negative spirits absorb your vitality elements.

¹ A 2005 movie about exorcism starring Keanu Reeves

the person he assassinated attacks him.

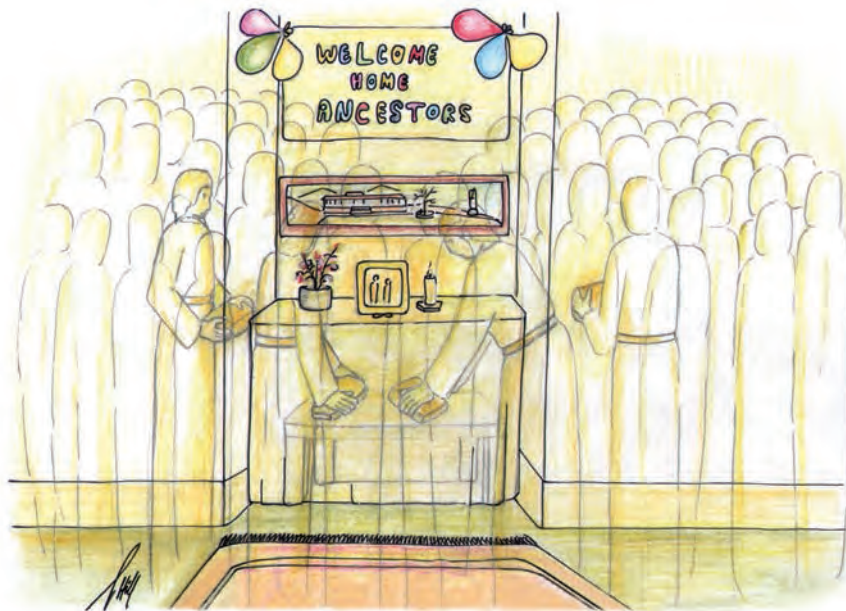
Another example was someone who betrayed people to the authorities. He turned people in to whoever was in charge, and those people were killed. And when that person died, the people who had died because of him are now chasing him—and this was quite a religious person. A door flies open and this gang of people start coming in, and he starts running, as if for his life. There is no rest for this person; he is permanently tormented. These are people I am liberating.

Most of us cannot see these people. Are we still encountering them spiritually?

Some people who aren't spiritually open might suddenly have a lot of feelings, or they start thinking about things that have nothing to do with what they are doing. That is usually because of the spirits around them.

Although you don't necessarily see anything, you might suddenly have negative feelings, or you can't be bothered to do the bows, or you suddenly feel negative and you don't know why.

Spirit people can't change until you allow them to change through you. This is why we need the physical body, so that when they come, they can receive the vitality elements



As we prayed to welcome our blessed ancestors, four clan representatives (my father and mother's side and Petra's) offered a gift and put it onto the altar

through our actions, which raises them up as well—as we get raised up. The beauty of what is happening here at Cheongpyeong is that they are taken away and educated. Our situation is unique because Dae-mo nim is in the spirit world and she is ushering away everything that is coming out of you. It is a completely new lifestyle.

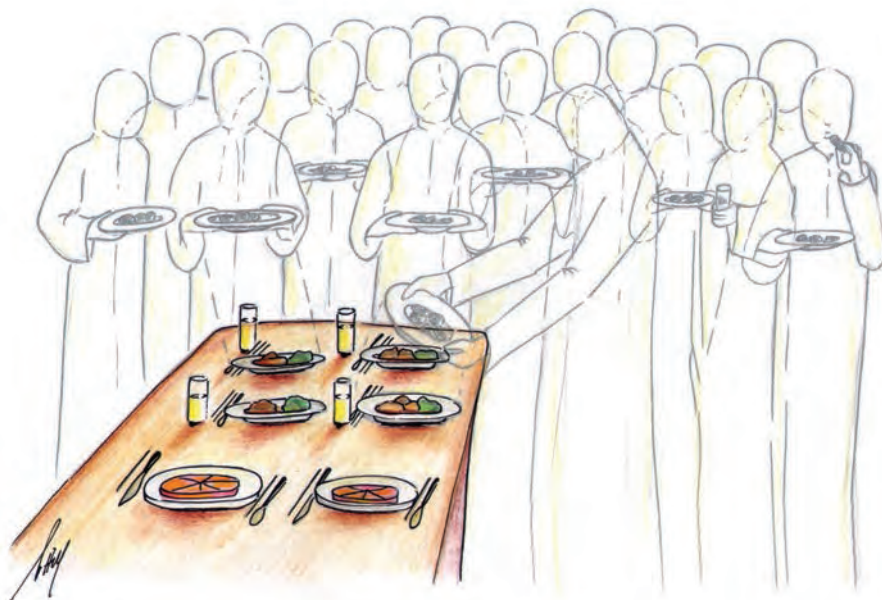
Both Father and Dae-mo nim say that we should call upon our ancestors. Can you say something about welcoming them to your home?

Well, we just make a little banner with the names of the clans, our ancestral groups, and the number of people. We put a plate out for each group. So if there are four sets, for example two German and two English as in my couple's situation, two places set with sauerkraut and sausages for the German side and two with sausage and chips for the English, and maybe a bit of dessert. Then we just welcome them home, welcome them to come into our lives.

You can say the number of people, for example, "There are 430 couples here, welcome to our home. We invite you for a meal; we will just pray first." That's basically it, really. They probably know that you cannot see them. Because you made all the effort and all the conditions, if you trust in the process, you at least know that even though you cannot see it, it is happening.

After you have welcomed them, what then?

You start to get them to do things. If there are certain activities that you are trying to do—in your case, you are trying to produce a publication on time—or anything else that causes you stress, when you pray, you look at them as a team and ask them to do things



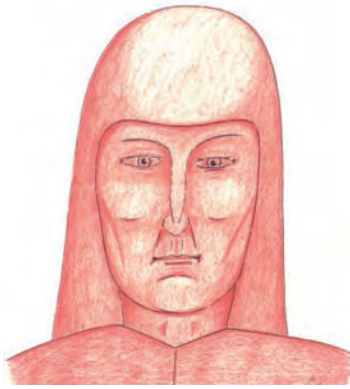
We welcomed our blessed ancestors to our home. We prepared English and German food for them. After thanking God for the food, each ancestor reached out for one of the four plates prepared, one plate for each clan. As one picked up the plate, it became a spiritual plate full of food. From the same four dishes, 392 ancestors took food. All the spirits ate, and then they talked together. When every spirit had finished eating, the physical food on the table had no taste anymore (the essence was removed).

for you. "Can you make sure that these pictures arrive, I need them by Monday." Be very practical, very realistic and you will find that they do come. Everything tends to happen for you. And that is how they can support you.

One way they also support is that they pray for you. Lots of times we feel very flustered and under stress because we tend to do things on our own—we don't know how to bring God into our office, because we are thinking in terms of a big thunderbolt and lightning. So in a realistic way, if you are going to meet someone who is very important and you feel quite nervous about that, you can say, "I am going to see this person and I need to make a deal," or if someone is sent by Father, "I need to look after this leader for a week," and "I need support, please pray that I can keep a clear mind."

You must always know what you want them to do it for, so you need to have a clear idea of what you are aiming to accomplish. If not, they can just sit there because they don't know what you want. It is the same as when we have to report to God; we can't just sit there and think that He knows everything.

When they pray, they generate energy like we do. If there are, say, twenty couples, that is forty people; when there are forty people praying for you, you suddenly feel very calm because your spirit is reinforced forty times. That is how they can support you, so that your life becomes much



The face of an angel

smoother. "Please, would three couples always accompany my child, pray when he takes his exams and help him with the answers!" I did this with my daughter Christabel! We called on the ancestors—"Anybody who knows this topic....!" She gets A's in everything!

My wife Petra's ancestors are quite intellectual—school teachers—we asked them to come in and if they knew anybody academic to just grab them and say, "I don't know where you are from, but you have been liberated and this is how you can help us."

We had situations where we were not doing so much and I've said to them, "Please go off and help another couple," or "Please see what Father is doing," or, as we are national messiahs to Slovenia, "Please go to Slovenia and help the members there. If we need you, we can give you a call." Also, I find when I am seeing spirits on a

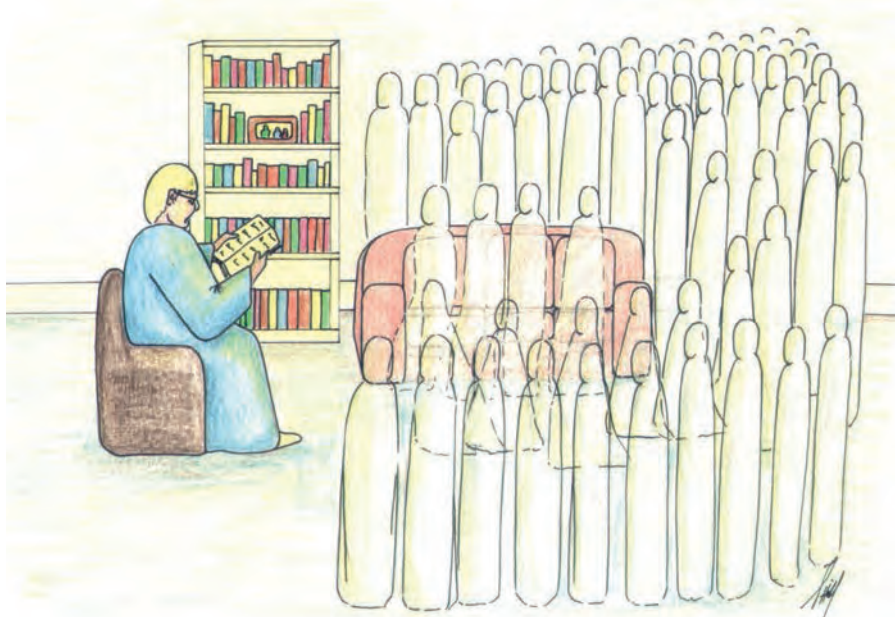
holy day that we sometimes get other people's ancestors coming to us. Their descendants are not doing it, so they join in with us.

The ancestors will just go off if you don't do anything with them. They will just go somewhere else. You can say to them, "If you are not busy now, just have a look and see what is happening in the spirit world and join in with the team! If there is a holy day in Korea or somewhere else or America or Father is having this big festival..." because they also need to be educated; they come straight out of their situation, and they've never really practiced the Principle at all. This is why we do hoondokhwae; when we study, we invite them to all come. You see, when you read, they are actually taking notes or reading with you. If they are not studious people (which I am sure a lot of these ancestors aren't; probably many of them cannot read), they watch and listen to us and think, "Yeah, this all makes a lot of sense." In thinking, "Yeah, all this makes sense," their whole attitude and atmosphere is changing completely. By the end of the one hundred days of education, they have fully caught the gist of who they are, why they were born in the first place and how foolish they were when they were on earth.

Father teaches about Adam and Eve, what happened and why, what our cause is, that our root ancestor is God—who is love—and that we've got love in us. It is all explained, so in the end they realize that love is the center of everything, because that is the True Parent, that is the root ancestor, that is love and the people who bring it are Father and Mother. By listening to all this information they become clear about what they should do, which can happen very quickly, because they've seen where they ended up.

If you are a person who is grumpy and downbeat, you end up with all those who are grumpy and negative! You're attracted to the same area. On earth, you can be grumpy but surrounded by quite nice people, so you think you are okay. It is only when you pass on that you realize that you are not okay at all.

If you are giving a talk about the Principle, you will find the spirit world in front of you; they are listening. You feel this build up of energy around your head when you are trying to break through and then as you manage



During hoondokhwae, I could see our 42 blessed ancestral couples, whom we had recently brought back from Cheongpyeong

somehow to break through, they begin to listen and have good give and take with you. The subject you are talking about is pure, it is not something you made up; you are just repeating it from the Messiah who got it from a pure source. So, the negativity around you cannot stay there; you will clean yourself out and positive things will come and reinforce you. In this way, you become strong and bright as you are teaching the Principle—and you feel fantastic in the end.

Can you say something about helping blessed children?

I have found that if you know what your child would like to be, and you pray for her to really have a good attitude, to really make it to that point, to understand the Principle well... If you want her to be a doctor, or she shows good potential to be an artist, for instance, or to do something for someone else—if she is, for example, good at science, and could be a researcher to save other people... Try to always have a goal that is for the sake of others. You will find that the spirit world will always be able to help much, much more. If you just want her to get rich and buy a nice car so that she is okay in her life, you may have a big problem. She won't get any support.

Visualize the child when you are praying, that is very important, I feel, because if not, it is just a name. If you visualize him or her, the spirit world can see the boy or the girl and you can say, "She is this age now, she needs a lot of protection." Or, "I want her to go to the blessing," which means she can't go to all these parties and so on. "Please protect her because she has a mission," you can say; "I want her to do something for God and that other people can benefit from what she is doing." You always need to give reasons to your ancestors for them to support you. It is the same with anyone, unless there is a reason, you can't be bothered, you know? You can say to them, "This person is going to carry on the legacy of the truth, and we want this idea to germinate and bring God's truth into this world, so your help would really be appreciated.

You leave the majority of this work with them; you really trust them. You can really ask for their help apologetically, with deep emotion. There is benefit for everyone.

Philip experienced the healing touch of an angel on his recent visit to Cheongpyeong. Over many years, he had suffered from unexplained pain in his chest. During two successive sessions, angels stood with him and reached into his lungs with their hands. He felt pain, as if they were wringing out his lungs, but afterward he could breathe freely. To this day, the pain has not reappeared.

You are living with your ancestors....

You have a team here, a team of people who are actually incredibly grateful to you. You've offered a donation. You've worked hard to get money together, and you've done the conditions. You don't have to—it's all a sacrifice, for their sake really. You don't say, "Well, I saved you, now you save me!" But you can say "This is what you can do. You are free now; you could go fishing if you wanted to. In the spirit world you can have a good time, but we would really appreciate it if you could help us from there." If they see you do what you say, and they know also that you saved their lives, they will do everything for you.

Make a really clear plan for a year. We usually make a yearly plan of what we want to see happen for our daughter, and almost as if it's guaranteed, if we pray constantly for it, it always happens, almost on the day. It is amazing!

There is a strong connection within clans, carrying on beyond earthly life....

Because you, your children and the ancestors are a complete clan, when you die, you will be part of it. They will be looking to you, because you are the spearhead, that is, you've lived the Principle the longest. And if you've got

someone on the earth who is living the Principle, you can go back there and you have a base.

Is it easier for us to relate to someone we were close to on earth, such as one's father?

As soon as you say, "Dad," he's there with you. You can say to him, "This is my plan. Can you gather people you know and work like this?" If you have many projects, you can split the team up, for example, "I would like ten people to stay with my family when my wife is not at home; or when she is working, perhaps two couples could stay with her and two or three more with the children." Work like this. Then you are focusing on your whole family all the time and it brings a very united feeling. It is one way of uniting your family together. You will find that your family will be harmonious all the time.

Many people leave things to chance. You are just a few individuals living in a house. But you are not really united. There is no gel between you; it is the ancestors that are the gel.

Do you do this as you go along, or do you have a fixed time to focus on it every day?

This isn't a condition, it is a lifestyle. It has to be a lifestyle, because these spirits are real people. It's not that when we are praying they kind of come, like an energy, even though that's true to an extent. They were people who lived on earth, and they connect to you very much on the basis of love. They know you. They are real people. When you die, you will meet them and be with them. It will be much as it is when you are talking with me. Your father will be there; your mother will be there—your aunts and uncles and cousins. You will just be like one of them. So you've got to build this relationship now. Start with a plan and after a while it becomes so natural. It might take a year, working at it slowly. I think about my ancestors all the time because it is as if they are a part of me. We should make this a part of our lives. It is like when you are watering plants—you can't just give them a great soaking and then leave it for a month or two. It has to be done a little bit at a time. It doesn't have to be done with a big prayer. Once you have the idea of what you are trying to do, you just focus on it. ♦

