

TODAY'S

WORLD

天基 2年 (天曆) 4月
MAY 2011





Messages from the Field

Hyung-jin nim's message begins with a translation of his introduction of True Father at the Founders' Tour 2011 opening event, in Incheon, Korea. Several months ago, Father called Hyung-jin nim and Yeon-ah nim and asked them to remain by his side. Since then, Hyung-jin nim has often been away from Seoul and has recorded his sermons in Korean wherever in the world he might be with True Parents. We are pleased to offer you excerpts of some of those sermons and of one hoondokhae message that he gave in English.

It is my distinct honor to introduce our next speaker who will deliver the founder's address for this historic world assembly. This is not an easy task. As you know, the next speaker happens to be my father, the Reverend Sun Myung Moon. I have known him as the most wise and loving father for the past thirty-one years. Together with my mother, he brought me into this world. Not a single day of my life has gone by in which his love and guidance did not nurture, sustain and enlighten me on my own path to a closer relationship with God.

I truly have been blessed with the best father, and the best mother in the world. And I would like to ask you to join me in giving them a great round of applause! At the same time, I have also come to realize very deeply that my parents are not simply my physical parents. They are not simply the parents of their fourteen biological children.

In fact, I confess that only in the past several years did I awaken to a fuller, deeper and more truthful understanding of the spiritual value and significance of my parents, Father and Mother Moon, as the returning Christ and Lord at the Second Advent.

As you know, we recognize my parents as the True Parents, and in this position they stand as spiritual parents to all God's children as Jesus, the Christ, should have done. In other words, their mission and their value extends far beyond our concept of good parents in a conventional family or our concept of great leaders of a world-class peace organization or even our concept of the founder of a religion.

What kind of person is the man who will speak to us tonight? He has been known in various ways throughout his life, as "Master," as "Messiah" and as "True Father." I struggled a long time to try to understand these terms and the true nature and mission of my Father.

We know the concept of the Messiah has had various names and meanings, depending on the language, culture and environment, but the essential meaning is related to the one who fulfills God's original ideal and humankind's desire to once again stand in God's presence in a fully restored position.

God, too, is known by various names, such as Yahweh, Jehovah, Allah, Hananim, the Great Spirit, Ultimate Being, and other names. What is most essential, however, is that God is the parent of humankind. He is the source of true love and compassion and is the incorporeal True Parent who is the spring of goodness. That is why we call God the True Parent of humankind. His providence is aimed at overcoming the effects of the Fall and reestablishing a parent-child relationship with human beings.

God's providence is fulfilled through the coming of the corporeal True Parent, who as the True son and fulfillment of the original purpose of creation can communicate with and respond to God, the incorporeal True Parent, as His true object partner.

True Parents' life course has been one of inheriting God's true love, perfecting that true

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Corrections for the April 2011 issue: Page 17, "Father often talks about right-left, left-right, back and forth." This should read "right-left, above-below, front-back" referring to the three axes. Page 24, The witnessing leaflet was created by members in Wales for use around the UK. We apologize for these errors.

Cover Photo: True Father in Athens on the Founders' Tour 2011 (credit: Edwin Vanoverschelde); **Back Cover:** True Parents with daughters-in-law on the Marmara Sea, off the coast of Turkey; **Above left:** Mr. Jin-hun Yong, World Mission Headquarters education director, giving a detailed talk on True Parents' course to leaders in Europe (right photo) as part of a global initiative

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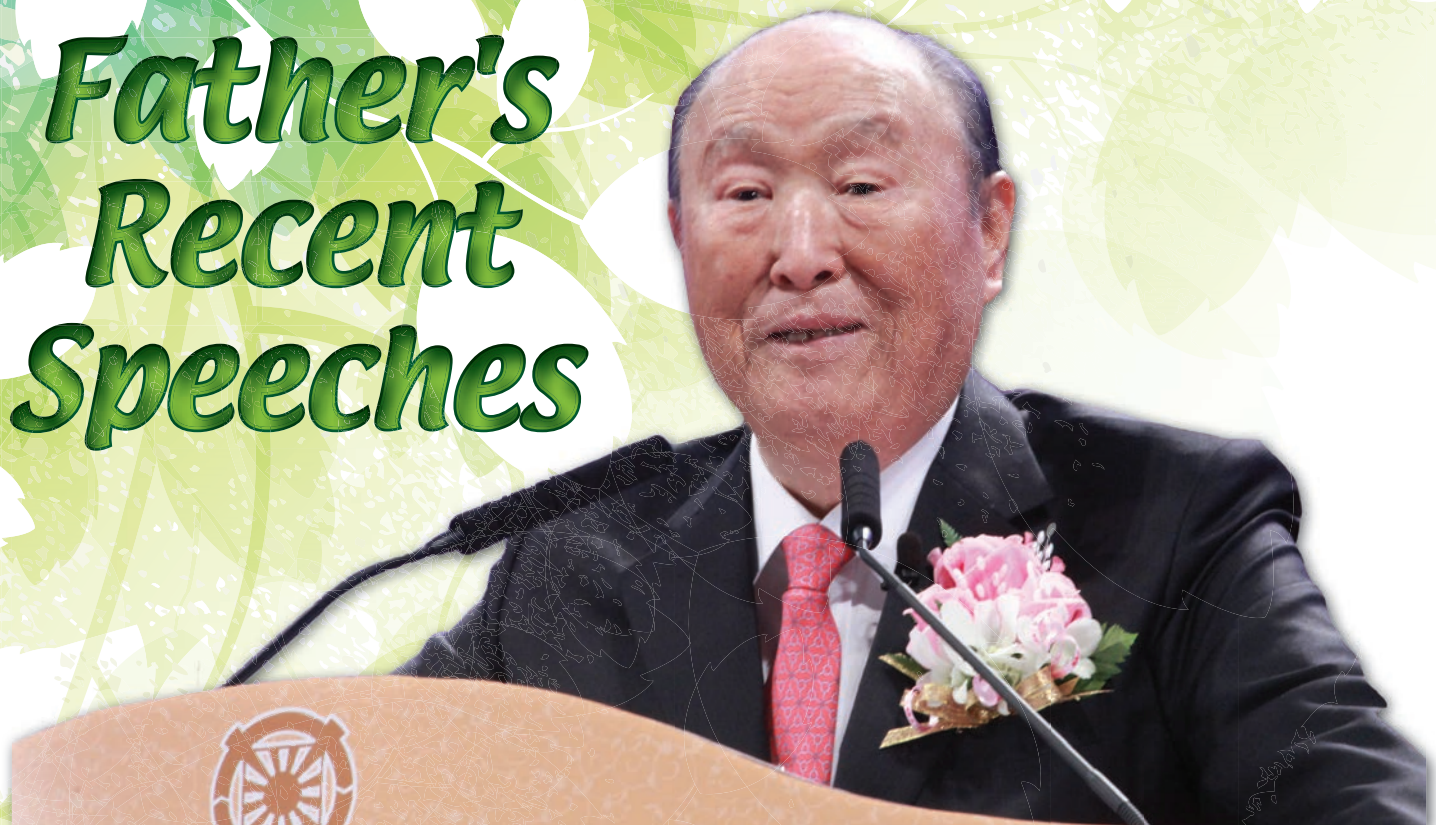
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Back issues of Today's World: Most issues from November 1999 to the present are available. Please enquire also about earlier issues.

Father's Recent Speeches



Below are excerpts from True Father's speech at the opening event of the Founder's Tour, in Incheon, South Korea, on April 24. It begins with Father's comments before the speech began. Father's tour speech is essentially the one he began giving with the Seunghwa Festivals. The beginning is new, however, and appears in its entirety beginning on page 5. Following that are Father's extemporaneous comments during the Incheon speech. The last lines of the written speech before Father began his impromptu comments are in green.

Many people live in the world. Above you are those who have been more successful; below you are those less successful. Further below are people who have perished and vanished in the face of adversities. Among the types of people mentioned, I know that not many people try to understand and discover who they are while analyzing, measuring themselves based on their determination to become a certain type of person.

The person you see standing here began to live an unusual life in his youth. "Is there a God or not?" "Why?" "I did not create the sun; I did not make the stars. When did the mountains, rivers and trees emerge?" I remember the days I spent as a child shouting out these questions.

Though I've lived my life in this way, I could never take pride in living as an exceptional, special representative or as an exemplary figure, or even as someone who just seems ordinary. Among those of you here today may be some who are like me, advanced in age, but coming here with an accepting heart after making the greatest spiritual preparation....

You know God exists. Would you like to become His son? Would you like to become His daughter? Of course, He would also have daughters because both men and women exist. Do you want to become His son or His daughter? If you were to become God's disciple, would you like to become His male or his female disciple? God would then have sons and daughters. He would have disciples; and He would have errand boys and servants.... If you were asked whether you wanted to be in a group of God's sons and daughters, or of disciples, which would it be?

Let's forget about the other type of people. The people here today seem to be a better type of person. So, which would you like to be—a child, or a disciple? [A child!] What? [A daughter.] [A son.] Do you know what a son or daughter looks like? Do you know what a disciple looks like?

In the world, they say that the four great saints are people who became God's children. Children are like their parents. Children are born from the most important elements of their parents. They are born in joy and delight out of the union—not coupling—between the sperm, a man's crucial element, and the ovum, a woman's crucial element, centering on love....

We know of a hundred and something chemical elements nowadays. Can those elements become God's sperm and the egg of a mother centered on Heaven? Oh! That is never the case. Yet, that a single sperm from the father should meet the mother's egg for the first time amid all the things in the world... Wow! If you believe that love cannot exist outside that bond, when the two come together under the word "love," and when the sperm and egg meet centering on love, clasp each other's hands, promise each other to live together, grow old together forever and become a match made in heaven, that moment constitutes their marriage ceremony. Are people aware of that as they go through their wedding? I don't know. You should ask that question to yourselves—you who live as couples, have children and take pride in your families. What do God's sperm and God's egg look like? Nobody has ever come across them. God is called the father, yet He comes in the position of a mother. That's a mystery....

Distinguished guests participating in today's event, I am truly happy and grateful to see you at this new assembly.

What I am about to declare to you today is part of the course of True Parents' tour that is to proclaim the ultimate conclusion and fulfillment of all aspects of the providence of restoration during the True Parent's lifetime. The path taken by the True Parents shall serve as a tradition and historic example; thus, I am proclaiming that all of you should model your life course on this path, become families that pledge to inherit and fulfill the will of God that True Parents have already accomplished, and be true to this pledge.

On April 18 we celebrated our 52nd year of marriage. On that occasion, I brought to a close the era before the coming of heaven, which was marked by sin and indemnity [atonement], and proclaimed the era after the coming of heaven through which a new heaven and new earth will be realized by returning to true love.

Through this tour, I am leading a lifestyle befitting the era after the coming of heaven. Please engrave this point in your hearts.

All the blessed children in the heavenly and earthly worlds, who are related to the True Parents by blood, should keep this comprehensive and final proclamation in mind. This proclamation is being given in order to fully establish the ideal nation that comes from the incorporeal God and corporeal God, the God of Night and the God of Day, and from the ancestors of Jesus and of the True Parents.

The details of True Parents' life course have already been disclosed and conveyed to you through my autobiography. I pray that you will all become the representatives and heirs of True Parents before the conclusion of the Cosmic Assemblies for the Settlement of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind and for the Proclamation of the Word by God's Substantial Self. Please take heed of my autobiography, which is a record of my life's work to enable the True Parents to succeed in their mission during their time on this earth, and build on my achievements. Please also inherit the teachings I have bestowed upon this world. In doing so, I pray that you will surely be triumphant in your course of life.

Like the True Parents have done, you too should become heavenly bridges for all your relatives and the members of your clan that are around you, and also a God-centered leader that can guide your clan to God's kingdom.

I ask that you take this proclamation of True Parents to heart and pledge to put it into practice. Aju.

We now live in a world brought to ruin, where genuine communication has broken down.

It would be hopeless. Even if a king who is talented and capable among kings or the greatest of all saints were to emerge, he would not be able to save the world... Why? How can you liberate the very stronghold that caused the Fall without uniting the incorporeal God and corporeal God?

So, the Messiah must come. The True Parent must come. The false parent planted the false seed and people ended up in deathly hell. True Parents are the only ones who have not fallen and who can protect God's Garden of Eden and live with Him. There is only one set of True Parents. Two sets of True Parents couldn't have existed in the past and can't in the present or future for eternity. There is only one set....

I have already proclaimed that January 13, 2013 will be "Foundation Day." That day will be the actual beginning of God's Kingdom of Cheon Il Guk. That day will be the origin.

Yet, less than two years remain until then.

What will you do? [Applause] Answer me! I don't know. They say I am an optimist. I wouldn't know that either. Once you have the hope that things are possible, try making a determination after going through a hundred life-or-death situations. ... Any young folk who can become greater than I are symbols of hope, and they will realize that the one being more fearsome than a tiger lying in wait, the one being in the long-cherished garden that can be the one and only master is God! Aju! [Applause; Aju!] Don't say, amen. It's not *amen* but *aju jo-tah*.¹ A world is coming where you will be taken by the Parents and the king of kings, to tour the world of heaven and earth, where the Parents can say that they will care for you as their children.

Because Koreans attend such a God as their original ancestor, the spirit of interdependence, mutual prosperity and universally shared values is alive in the soul and tradition of the Korean people.

That spirit has continued to this day as the spirit that surpasses this spirit of interdependence, mutual prosperity and universally shared values. Because of that, my spirit self can discuss matters with the God of Night, which is why, through the absolute universe and absolute love, I can know about the secret, heavenly world of today and the liberated kingdom of heaven for humankind. The Garden of Eden is the garden that remained within the realm of God's grace. The Garden of Eden still exists.

First, all blessed families should attend God at the center of their families...

All of those here today, these mongrel dog-like people, these beggars, and even my own family are all part of the ideal family. They all enjoy life. God did not tell you to live like that! You don't know God. First of all, all blessed families must go before God, and in the family attend God as the center.

Third, humankind has moved out of the authority of the era of restoration through indemnity, thanks to the grace of True Parents who have suffered hardships through which they sweat blood.

For you to be well off is enough! In heaven and on earth you might end up becoming ancestors who gaze around, yearning to be liberated. It will be the other way around. The last human beings should raise a flag and be saved. Do not forget that you are responsible to liberate even hell. I too can save my family, nation, people and world but I should not forget that I am responsible to liberate hell to its very ends.

This mission must be completed within the next one year and eight months, by the D-day designated by True Parents.

If this is not completed, a time might come, before we know it, when everything suddenly disappears due to an atomic bomb or an earthquake.

I pray in the name of True Parents that God's blessings be with you, your family and your nation.

Religion is not the problem! God is not the problem! Figure out if what True Parents' say is the truth! The conclusion is simple. Go in peace and with a light heart... Take a nap during the day with God and you can still go to heaven. **TW**

¹ A pun on the word "aju," which also means "very." *Aju jo-tah*, means "very good."

An Excerpt from True Father's speech during the March 10 hoondokhae in Las Vegas

If there is a void in the air, all the air in the universe flows toward that place. It creates equilibrium. Once it is in equilibrium, there is no motion. When there is balance, the wind does not blow. God and human beings should create balance, and the world of water and the world of air must be in equilibrium. The world of love has a fundamental essence that can bring things that are higher, in any world, into balance.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am asking you what true love is. True love cannot exist where people live for their own sake. If God created this great universe, why did He create it? He created it because of true love. That is love that must give and give and give for eternity. After it gives, it becomes empty; the empty world is a complete vacuum. However, if air is released, a force binds together, pulls and replaces the force of the air being released.

Although human beings are not aware of it, there must exist a standard for that center that can fill up any vacuum and create equilibrium in any part of the world centering on God. Otherwise, the universe would be destroyed. Under these circumstances, the great universe would crash, break up and disappear. Yet because of this harmony, it does not.

The great universe itself is unaware that it revolves. It maintains equilibrium by allowing the high ground to become low and the low ground to be raised. That is why these days they are saying that the snakes and ants are all fleeing Mt. Baekdu in fear that it will erupt.¹ Human beings may not be aware of it, but the animals in nature are. God does not wipe out species. *TW*

1 Mt. Baekdu, a dormant volcano on the border between North Korea and China, is showing signs that it may erupt again within a few years.

Excerpts from the True Parents' Day speech at Cheon Jeong Gung (Peace Palace), Korea

Rev. Moon says that the king of kings was lost and that the True Parent of all kings was lost. Who is this person like the big boss that is capable of remaining until the end of history, out of all the last surviving members of the human race? It is I, Rev. Moon of the Unification Church... What in hell is worse than the founder of a religion? I have been thought of as worse than a big boss in the satanic world and such an enemy to all creation that any creature that met this person would immediately want to strike him and eliminate him. Yet, no matter how many times you hit him he would not disappear, but would become smaller and then, the more you hit him, the more he grows larger again.

You all have to bring things to a conclusion and to completion on earth. Neither bringing something to completion nor to a conclusion happens in the spirit world. I can liberate you here and tell you on earth to take the lead in going down. People may say, We never knew that a Lord who could do this was here in the world; the God of Night could not do this and the God of Day was unable to do this. You may well ask, Who I am to tell you to stand at the front and do this or that....

Perhaps thousands or tens of thousands of kings of kings exist, but there can only be one True Parent for eternity. Say it. [There is only one True Parent for eternity.] At the top of heaven and the bottom of hell, the person with the name True Parent grows and fills heaven and creates a hell that has no hell. Everything inevitably can be unified in the presence of the name True Parents. Joy and tribulation... Nothing shall be impossible. Very good! Say it...

When a person has money, he may spend it like water; when he becomes poor, he becomes a beggar. When he is a beggar, he is like a thief; yet he has the ambition to become, over the course of some thousands of days, an emperor over hundreds of nations and a wealthy man. Would such a person have desires, or not? Well, yes, or no? Anyone who doesn't have ambition, don't come here. When that desire reaches its highest point, you could say that you came here to take my place. Those who do not have that kind of thinking are unable to remain here. Why did you come here today? Did you come here to swallow up or sell off anything I leave behind?

[Imitating a hypothetical speaker:] "If something contains some aspects of a secret world that Rev. Moon has yet to become aware of, I should follow behind him in order to sell

it without his knowing." The cousins of such thieves are the big heads that I see here in all shapes and sizes. The heads of people from 387 nations are all assembled here. You pack of thieves, are you really the children of good fathers and mothers?

It's not just communication; it's about freely communicating in harmony. Say "harmonious communication." [Harmonious communication] You need to freely and harmoniously communicate before reaching unity. Communication is like a crossroads. You make a decision and engage in harmonious communication. A world where everything freely communicates in harmony must be formed and integrated....

I am not a fool. I'm saying that you need to communicate—to freely communicate in harmony before creating unity. When you go outside the main city, you will hear my name resound throughout heaven and earth.

When you saw the news about the earthquake in Japan, what do you think about that? I was told that the tsunami that followed the earthquake came right up to the front of our church and then took a ninety-degree turn and receded. ... One car was lifted up by the tsunami, toward a hillock. There was a cleft in the hill. The vehicle was caught in the cleft, and the driver survived. There were many people who survived in circumstances no human being could live through. You should hear those reports. When I heard them, I thought they were all concocted by our church members; they seemed like tall tales. After sending Hyung-jin there I found out they were true....

You all have the booklet, right? Well! "The settlement of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, God's substantial self" is all that is needed. "Cosmic assembly for the proclamation of the word" is about the proclamation of the word by God's substantial self. The True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind have settled, and this is a cosmic assembly to proclaim the word by God's substantial self.... The individual and heaven and earth should be connected and God's ultimate will must be brought to a conclusion. Only then can that which corresponds to the settlement of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, the proclamation of the word by God's substantial self, and the cosmic assembly be brought to their conclusion....

There must be harmony before unity. If the eyes are in harmony there is unity. They unite at the center.... Then, which

comes first, unity, or harmony? [Harmony.] The government party and opposition party must unite. Then a third or fourth party can emerge. There is no place for a third son between the ruling and opposition parties. Without that unity, sons and daughters can never emerge, for all eternity. When there is harmony, there can be a core, a root will emerge and a bud can sprout. Do you understand? [Yes.]

What's this? [Father reads a note.] "King Daddy! You seem to have a runny nose. Please quickly come upstairs." [Laughter, applause] Who wrote this? It was Shin-joon. Shin-joon.

Shin-joon plus Mother! Without Mother, King Daddy, Queen Mom, King Dad, Shin-joon cannot appear.

Before there is unity, things are divided. Once they are united after that division, they will not be divided again. Once enemies come together as one, they do not part ways. The concept of an enemy does not exist within God. The concept of an enemy does not exist within God's love. There is only eternal unity. That is why peace, happiness and love coexist in this unity. **YW**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

love in their own lives and bequeathing it to humankind. In this way, True Parents have led the way in the liberation of God.

True Father was tortured, imprisoned, scorned and hated for us. True Parents have taken on the burdens of our sins and made a way for us to be forgiven by God. They have suffered the torment and damnation that we deserve and have paid the price for us to come to God as sons and daughters. This is Christ's path and the path that our True Parents have followed.

Before I invite them to the podium, I want to leave you with one request. I want to ask that, through today's program, you do your very best to come to understand True Parents' value. Let us understand who they are and that they have come to fulfill an extraordinary mission.

Let us view the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind not merely through our physical eyes but through our spiritual eyes. And let us listen intently to these precious words with an open heart and an open mind.

In order to usher in a new era of universal peace and in order to establish a United Nations that brings an end to war, conflict, poverty, suffering and injustice, we must receive God's word and God's guidance and we must understand God's providence. That is why we have gathered here tonight. So, let us now all rise from our seats. Please join me in giving a rousing round of applause to offer glory and honor and welcome to the Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon, our beloved True Parents—the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind!

April 17 Sermon (Cheon Hwa Gung, Nevada)¹

When the Holy Spirit works, we can feel much change. However, these changes are not only for us. Recognizing that we actually are sinners, though knowing that our repentance is inadequate—even if we repent every day—we receive joy from this repentance. Repentance is not self-hatred, but is done while thinking about and focusing only on God's great love. I believe that's why, when we offer prayers of repentance with a pure mind, pure motivation and pure heart, and we love and believe in True Parents, amazing works will be done.

Brothers and sisters, while those works are being done, even though we don't notice, we can be reborn from the womb of the Holy Spirit. We have to be reborn through the Holy Spirit every day. Living with the Lord, living with Christ, living with God, changes and renews a sinner like me, giving me a new heart.

When we repented with such a pure heart, the Holy Spirit came into the center of our heart and planted new feelings within us. The Holy Spirit can instill in us the heart to earnestly love True Parents, the son and daughter whom God sent.

¹ The date refers to the Sunday the sermon was played to Hyung-jin nim's congregation. The place refers to where it was recorded.

When that heart is planted within us, we can become His witnesses....

Brothers and sisters, having arrived in America this time, we are hearing some truly remarkable testimonies. We came together—about two thousand American members—in Caesar's Palace, the famous hotel and casino in Las Vegas. Challenging that sinful culture, singing praises in the power of *Cham Bumonim Eog-mansei*, we amassed vibrations of love for a whole hour. It was truly like gathering the people of the world; there were black people, white people, people from the East—members from all the races of the world, all singing *Cham Bumonim Eog-mansei* together, and breaking into deep tearful prayers. Amid these spiritual experiences and phenomena, many healings took place.

Spiritual phenomena occurred, whereby people who had been unable to walk could stand and walk again, and people whose eyes were damaged could see. One Christian, not a member of our church and someone who did not know Divine Principle, was participating. For many decades, he had suffered from a very uncomfortable skin disease on his back, which through the *Cham Bumonim Eog-mansei* vibration disappeared completely without him even being aware of it was happening. This Christian man put his testimony up on the internet. These kinds of special things are happening. Brothers and sisters, the Holy Spirit is once again coming to our church.

May 1 Sermon (Rome, Italy)

The day before yesterday we went to St. Peter's Square, in front of St. Peter's Basilica, in the Vatican where the Pope speaks in front of huge crowds while giving outdoor mass. When the Lord of Second Advent came, it seems very sad that he just came alone, quietly like this.

As I was coming here, I thought a lot about Jesus. We have to remember that when Jesus Christ was on earth, when that cornerstone was here in this world, only twelve disciples followed him. He worked in the shadow of Jerusalem. Jerusalem was a powerful city, a religious city, a holy place. Even though Jesus was the king among kings, he was not welcomed in Jerusalem. He was an obscure and unknown person. Jesus was meant to appear there as a king of kings; yet he was persecuted and crucified....

On the path Christ walked, he never experienced glory. As True Father has mentioned, there was sorrow and loneliness. If we truly understand what the Lord encountered on the path he had to travel... He was persecuted for us, tortured for us, he walked the road toward death and hell for us, was hung on the cross, had to accept hatred and ridicule for our sake. True Parents' life course has been the road to save us. That has not just been their life course; it is also an expression of True Parents' love....

I think that—even though we are not in a situation where millions of followers have come while True Parents are in



In Istanbul, Hyung-jin nim giving his sermon to be delivered at the May 8 Sunday service at Cheon Bok Gung

Rome now—they are teaching with the truth and with the Holy Spirit just as Jesus did. As I've said, under no circumstances can we evaluate the Lord at his Second Advent based on how many believers are following him.

Only twelve disciples followed Jesus, but if we were to evaluate him based on that number alone, Jesus could be considered a failure. Yet, despite the tremendous power of religion in his day, and within the Holy Land, Jesus was the Holy Land itself. Likewise, within this tremendous Holy Land of the Vatican and Rome, True Parents are the Holy Ground.

Brothers and sisters, because the Christians were persecuted, one day they were able to overcome even Rome. Today Christianity, Catholicism, is indeed seated at the center of Rome.

I was talking with the Italian church leader, who said that Unificationists are truly a minority here. In all of Italy, there are only about two hundred families. However, if we were to compare this with Jesus' time, this is tremendous, a tremendous blessing. If these two hundred families, together with all other members worldwide, would join their voices in singing *Cham Bumonim Eog-mansei*—the vibration of love, the vibration of praise for the Lord—I believe the many Christians who long for the Holy Spirit today, Christians who persecuted the returning Lord, even Italian Christians, will come seeking Unificationism.

May 8 Sermon (Istanbul, Turkey)

I know that whenever True Parents achieve major victories, Satan always wants to attack. Brothers and sisters, you've probably heard that some difficulties facing the Unificationist Family are being publicized in the media in Korea. What we have to remember is that we should not boast about ourselves. As Jesus said, we may do good deeds, we may follow, love and feel filial piety toward True Parents but we must always have humility and repentance in our hearts. Through maintaining this heart, God can forgive us, and because not one person is perfect, we all need forgiveness. In order to receive forgiveness, we must do our 5 percent—admit that we are sinners and recognize that today we do have something to repent for. With that, with a purer motivation, a pure heart, a pure mind and pure love, I believe we can send glory and strength to True Parents.

Thinking about this reminded me of Matthew, chapter four-

teen. In that chapter, as you may know, Jesus walks on water. Surprised by this, the disciples thought he was a ghost. Peter the disciple said, "Lord, if it's you, bid me to come to you on the water." Jesus said, "Come," and Peter started to walk on the water, but a strong wind suddenly blew and he was afraid and began to sink. Peter should have paid attention only to Jesus and God, but since he turned his attention to the "wind," what happened? He was afraid and started to sink.

We can realize something from this story. No matter how strong Satan's wind or attack is trying to blow us, the Unificationist Family, away, it is only wind, brothers and sisters. That is not the Lord. We must look at the Lord and follow him, look at True Parents and follow them, love them and go forward. I believe we will be able to walk on water, like a miracle.

Hoondokhae in Istanbul

When I saw True Parents yesterday, Father pouring out his heart, I thought, So what if he is speaking for a long time? True Parents are not here to be popular, or to make people's ears happy. Father is here as the son of God, with the mission to save humanity, whether humanity listens or not. That's not what is most important. The grace of God's love, which we can receive through True Parents, is the most important thing.

Yesterday I felt that True Father was on the cross again. We should be up onstage declaring True Parents as the Lord at his Second Advent, but because we are not doing so—because we are too scared or ashamed—Father has to go onstage by himself. That's exactly what Jesus' disciples did to Jesus. That's why Jesus died.

Not just in this region, members everywhere must remember why we are here. We are not here to be popular or to please people's ears. We are here to show that the son of God is here, to show God's love, a ceaseless, endless love. We go to God, not because we are great, not because we are good people, not because we follow God's laws—we are so sinful in our thinking, in our mind and in our heart. In so many ways, we hurt God. We are able to go to God because of the son that God has sent. Because of the pain and the torture True Parents endured and because of the blood they shed we are able to go in front of God. That's God's grace; that's God's love.

May 15 Sermon (Geneva, Switzerland)

Wherever we go, we should explain clearly and proclaim that True Parents are the Lord at his Second Advent. When I did an interview in London, I said very clearly, "We believe, that True Parents are the Messiah." Many had the view that it may be better not to use the word, Messiah, at the UN headquarters, but I did not believe that. This is my faith, my belief, and this is the pride of our Unification Church movement. So we should not be embarrassed about this. If we are embarrassed, the world will know that we are embarrassed and will attack our faith....

Brothers and sisters, I came to realize this very clearly this time, while attending True Parents, although the European tour is almost over: whenever I feel things are difficult, I think about our brothers and sisters, all the members shedding sweat, shedding tears and praying hard together, and I receive amazing energy and comfort. **TW**



April 26, Spain: It's one o'clock in the morning here in Madrid, and the members are here. True Parents came with bright faces, and noodles and kimchi were shared.

April 26, Spain: During hoondokhae, Father quietly took Mother's hand as he spoke. A gesture filled with warmth. I wonder if we will all act as True Parents do when we reach 90.

April 29, Italy: Hoondokhae in Rome: "Jesus came to find his bride. Does Jesus need a bride? Christians are unhappy with that idea; however, wouldn't it be right that God's son, the prince, should find the princess of the universe? And isn't Christianity, as a bride, even today still waiting for Jesus?"

April 29, Italy: Yesterday True Parents visited the Vatican, 46 years after the first world tour in 1965. I think Father will feel those feelings all over again.

May 1, Norway: From today's hoondokhae on the work the Returning Lord must do: "These nations have persecuted me and been contemptuous of me. Each time, I thought that I would gladly accept it if these bitter nations could rise again through my being sacrificed. Even amid persecution, I have gone forward, always thinking about that bright day of hope."

May 2, Norway: Yesterday, True Parents successfully concluded the Norway assembly and then cut the celebration cake with members. We had a bite too. Mmmm! Norwegian members had stayed up all night making the cake.

May 4, Greece: Greece has few members, so many Albanian members came today. Some of the Albanian ambassadors for peace did a three-day fast before meeting True Parents. True Parents Eog-mansei for today's event in Greece!

May 4, Greece: "What? Only three families in Greece? Once a fire is lit, everything can catch fire at once!"—True Father

May 6, Turkey: Hoondokhae in Turkey: Not many members are in Turkey. About thirty, plus Japanese missionaries assigned to all Arab nations came for this hoondokhae. Father emphasized that in order to give his speech, he had read it countless times and offered devotion to mobilize the spirit world.

May 7, Turkey: Today we held the opening ceremony for the Middle East Leadership Conference (Theme: Divine Wind of Freedom), which addresses recent issues that have arisen in the Middle East.

May 9, Turkey: We took a picture with the Japanese missionaries who worked hard for this event. I pray that the reign of peace and "True Parents Eog-mansei" reverberates throughout the land and seas of Turkey. Aju

May 13, Switzerland: True Father read the Declaration of the Word by God's Substantial Self today in Switzerland. He began the reading with the words, "This speech is a record of my life, like a journal. That is why each page cannot help but be the truth. You, as the children, need to resemble your parents."

May 13, Switzerland: At the conference in England, True Father told us, "People thought I would die before I reached the age of 50, but I am still here at 93, standing in front of you and speaking in a loud voice. Even if someone tries to push me down, I will not go down."

May 13, Switzerland: Today's hoondokhae, held right before the UN conference, lasted seven hours. Rev. Yong-seok Song said that he had visited Fukushima, where the tsunami's effect was so devastating. He and the members said, "If we are all going to die anyway, let's fulfill our duties of filial piety and loyalty to True Parents beforehand." We were brought to tears. Japanese members in Fukushima, I wish you all good luck!

May 14, Switzerland: "You shouldn't think in a humanistic way. You shouldn't try to do things alone. Conversely, if the spirit world works with you, you can achieve anything. That is the truth. These are wonderful words." True Father said this during dinner, and I wish to share it with our members. May the Unification Church do well today!

May 17, Germany: True Father stayed up until 4:30 this morning in a leaders meeting. Though he plainly was very tired, he also attended 5 AM hoondokhae and asked some members to sing at the end of the session.

May 17, Germany: True Parents and Hyung-jin nim are all in good health. After touring Europe, True Parents are planning to go to the United States. True Father said that the energy of Europe will bear fruit in 2,000 people meeting in Las Vegas.

May 19, Germany: The event in Germany was a great success. True Father began his impassioned speech by saying, "I came here to forgive what the Western world did wrong to me." I am grateful to True Parents and the European members for their hard work. True Parents Eog-mansei! **97W**

To get their latest tweets, which may be in Korean, go to twitter.com, search for lovintp, click on Sign up and follow instructions.



Members during a witnessing campaign; the man in front is using a bullhorn connected to a battery on the bicycle. The banner reads, Unification Church Street Witnessing Team.

Going Global

This is the thirty-first installment in our series. It touches on aspects of True Parents' lives and work between 1963 and 1965. Drawn from two book series, The Sermons of the Reverend Sun Myung Moon and True Parents' Life Course (참부모님 생애 노정), these snippets from Father's speeches shed light on the great challenges he faced and on his relationship with those who followed him.

Sunday service, August 11, 1963

The Unification Church headquarters is in Seoul, isn't it? Those of you who live at the headquarters, do you think that you are eligible to stay there? Though I don't tell you this, I shed tears many times each day. Those who are closest to me know how I spend my days. I am ready to weep at one word; I'm that sensitive.

You should be aware that among those of our members who live on this peninsula, some hungry members are offering mournful prayers even as we speak. Others are suffering under severe oppression in restricted circumstances. You are the intermediaries whose mission is to convey a connection of heart to such members. Yet, how can you possibly fulfill your mission when you live the way you do now? Those who live at the headquarters will be chastised more severely than others, which is why I make a point of not speaking about something for the first time at the headquarters. Usually, I speak first in the rural regions, and then I speak about the topic again at the headquarters. Those who live at the headquarters do not pray much. The members living in the provincial areas are praying more. Can even one person living at the headquarters say he has nothing to be ashamed of in front of heaven and earth? I'm ashamed to be your teacher....

People from around the world will one day flock to this house. They will find their way here. Do you think that's only a dream? Because I lived here and discovered God's will here, people will cross nations in search of the ideology I have taught. If I were of a mind to build a new house, I could do it right now, but historic events occurred here. Heaven and earth wept here. All types of people have cried their hearts out and shed blood, shaking in anguish and making appeals to God here. Behind this tearful place—a sacred altar stained with tears—are stories that will never be forgotten.

After Sunday service, August 11, 1963

If a church member's husband tells her, Hey, woman! Don't go to the Unification Church, she will definitely reply, No! I'm going.

She'll say that, not because I told her to but because she has learned what to do from the Divine Principle. I didn't teach women this, so those in the spirit world did. Often, men

whose wives have joined our church curse us: May the Unification Church die!

Yet, the church has not died. People go to great lengths to oppose us. People of all types oppose us. That the Unification Church will never perish, however, is a fact. We will not be destroyed, even if the world's three billion people converge here in the middle of the night with torches in their hands, shouting, Down with the Unification Church! They are publicizing our church to the rest of the world.

Training young people, October 16, 1963

I am going to instill discipline in you. Is that all right? How should I go about it? Should I do it forcefully? Would that be okay? I am not dictatorially inclined, but when it comes to Satan, I exercise absolute authority. With my children, though, I'm not a dictator. I would only act dictatorially toward my children if they were to become devil-possessed.

You are all young, aren't you? Let me see your fists. Clasp your hands together. I used to clasp my hands so tightly when I prayed that they hurt when I opened them. Even when they became sweaty, I clasped them tightly and made a vow. Try clasping them tightly. In this way I am saying, let's increase our seriousness one notch as we go forward. Where are we going? I'm saying, let's go to Golgotha....

Have you become someone that if every one of the 30 million Koreans opposed you, you would have the conviction to never change? I don't think you have become such people. I have prepared myself based on that conviction, and no enemy I have come across yet has pushed me out of my arena of work. Are you confident to do as well as that?

The early days of 1964

Numerically, 1964 is not a good year. You should have the attitude that if you must suffer this year, you will suffer to atone for history; if you are wretched, it will be wretchedness for history's sake; if you are sad, it will be to atone for the past. We must be determined to resolve all this. 1964 is the year we must resolve to accomplish that in. You have to fulfill your responsibility in these four years and become those who successfully take dominion over the people of this nation....

Some recent news is that in Japan, high school students come to the church right after school lets out. They leave their schoolbags at the church and go out street witnessing; they



Two women introduce themselves at a workshop for those blessed with the 124 couples while Father speaks with the attendees.

go home only after each one of them has witnessed to one person. They are doing that now. What have you grown men and young people done so far? Even if you don't move a step, remain still, God won't stop to rest. If you don't work, I will.

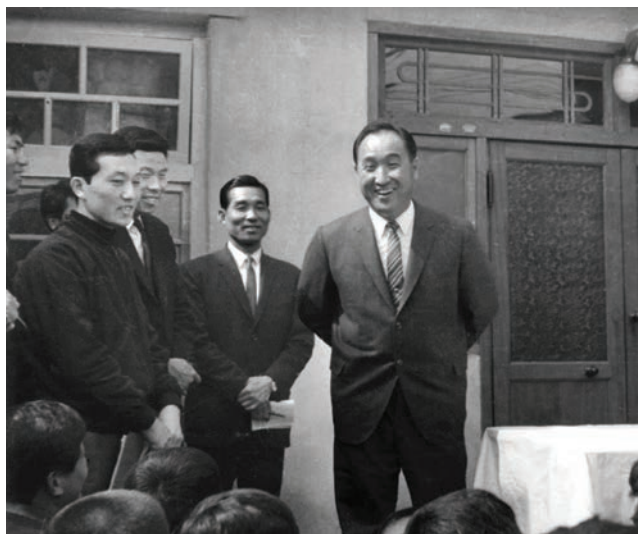
Visiting three places in Korea, March 23–26, 1964

Isn't it true that people speak of me as the founder of a religion who takes off his clothes and dances naked? They might be saying, Wow! That's a church where people dance naked. Well, good for them. I've lived for more than forty years and I've never had a chance to dance naked. [Laughter] What's the big fuss?... I've come this far, and I'm determined to move forward swiftly.

These days, people talk about global or international matters. They claim that the Unification Church intimidates people; they have a mistaken view. You just wait and see if what we've been saying are threats. People also say that our church has a lot of money. I'm sure all of you have wallets filled with gold, right? Of course you do. You may not realize it, but I'm telling you that you do have money that is not like money.

A man named Anthony Brooke¹ came here recently, and a

1 Anthony Brooke was related to the rajahs of Sarawak. He took a great interest in spiritual matters and new religious movements.



DURING A PROVINCIAL TOUR IN 1965: *Left*: speaking to members in Gwangju; *Right*: Father in a train station in Busan; in the foreground, early member Mrs. Hyun-shil Kang is speaking to a local member

television reporter asked him why he had come. People wonder why he's speaking well of us. Prominent people in Christian churches are saying that we must have paid him a lot of money for that!" [Laughter] It's all so funny.

When I think about it, I realize it would have been terrible if God had not made it so that people curse me. God in the end is our God! The Unification Church developed while being at the receiving end of insults, which is why it survived. We prospered while being insulted and hounded, which is why the church will not perish. We grew even though we were unclothed and hungry. Yet, we did not have any problems finding food and clothing, and we have not disappeared. Isn't that right? [Yes.]

Eighteen-day Divine Principle workshop, Daegu, April 1964

You should impress on your mind that as people working for Korea's restoration, you represent True Parents. Because of you, we are having this revival meeting at great financial cost. So when you return to your areas, you have to rise again. You have come from all parts of South Korea, and the fate of Korea and that of the world depends on what happens here. Heaven and millions of saints are watching us, so we have to feel a grave sense of mission and convey the truth. While I am working with you, you have to regain the heart and resolve you had when you first came to understand God's will.

Seven-day Divine Principle workshop, Suwon, May 1964

I began work with only my bare hands. Even if you don't have anything, when you work in complete unity and with complete faith, God will help you. The three-year course seemed tedious at the time, but after it ended, our situation transformed. Similarly, it may feel as if the four-year course lasts an eternity, but it will pass by in a flash. Our path will become increasingly easier to follow.

More than a hundred important people have organized themselves to propagate the word in Washington DC. By sometime next year, people in all fifty U.S. states will mobilize. Our members abroad are doing their best not to be outdone by Korea. So, the only problem is Korea.

You can be proud that you suffered through hardships without having anything. The members in the United States fast a day or two every week; the American members that have come to Seoul are fasting every Thursday and Friday.

Ceremony for Christianity, July 15, 1964

A hundred and forty-four Unification Church members, representing all the members, must be loyal. We will thus be able to focus on doing everything that was to be done in Jesus' day. You 144, who represent 144,000, might look worthless, but you are extremely significant....

We must start visiting other churches now. Christian ministers are saying that our church has been silent for three years. They are asking why we are now visiting them. Visit them, even if they oppose you. As Heaven has ordered, we have to clash with them until the end of this three-year course.

Mobilization for complete nationwide indemnity

My deep wish is to travel all over Korea this year. Now is the time for it. Our church members are exhausted after finishing the three-year course, which is why I held a revival meeting in Daegu and appointed new district leaders. Will you decide how you will grapple with what needs to be done this year and next? I am worried about this nowadays. I am going to mobilize more than two thousand people, but they will not be paid. On the contrary, you will have to pay a monthly fee to go out witnessing. We'll use that money to revive our people....

Why do you think I am activating as many of you as I can, whether you have achieved results or not? If, for instance, an emperor cuts down a tree in the mountains and carries it into his palace, would an ant sitting on the end of that tree enter the palace with the emperor, or not? It would. Similarly, though some people here have not been with us for a year, or two years, or a decade, we can at least take them with us beginning today. If a war ended while you were still on your way

to the battlefield, you would still be considered a participant in the war. Even if you had shot your own officer by mistake on the battlefield, if your side won, you would be one of the victors.

Hye-jin nim

(July 28–August 4, 1964)

Through my baby Hye-jin's death I could experience what God felt when He lost Jesus. Moreover, because I have not yet reached the point of death, I feel I haven't been completely loyal to God.

My indemnity course goes through the Christian indemnity course and continues the re-indemnification of the Unification Church, which is why things related with history happen, such as a child from my family becoming a sacrificial offering.

The battle until now has been over love between mother and daughter, between brothers, and

between first wives and concubines. Mrs. Won-pok Choi is in the positions of Mary and of Jesus' wife and of Leah. Therefore, she has to thoroughly obey what I say. She is also in the form of the fallen mother who must restore the growth and completion stages. The completion level cannot be attained with the heart of fallen people, so we absolutely need the mother. Because of this, even Mother suffered and our baby Hye-jin became an indemnity offering.

From the beginning of 1964, I entrusted management of the church to the church president. I am not meant to follow an individual's path now; we have begun the family era....

You don't know what I've been through. Not even the church president knows that. You ought to realize that even those closest to me did not know what I felt in my heart.

Even if ten thousand members of our family and clan are sacrificed, even if our children die, we should not feel sad. You should understand that at times like these, my only worry is that my family will fail to remain in a position where it can block all historical pain for the sake of humankind....

The perfection level cannot be achieved within a fallen man's heart, so we definitely need a mother to reach that level.



Decades ago in True Parents' prayer-filled lives

Because of this, in my family, True Mother suffered and baby Hye-jin became an indemnity offering....

The demise of elderly blessed members and of baby Hye-jin is deeply significant. On the day of her death, August 4, the problem arose in Vietnam.² The fact that I experienced the death of the closest person to me has great significance for you.

Before, if Satan appeared during my prayers, a problem arose outside. However, from this year, if Satan appears during my prayers a problem will appear in my family. More indemnity offerings will probably occur in the future. Because the Abel figure was an offering, God struck the Abel figure and forgave those in Cain's position. Because of this condition, God could strike the satanic world. From now on, God will strike those who oppose His will.

Mobilization for workshops nationwide

You need to understand that under the circumstances I do not have any choice; I have to order a total mobilization. I am appointing forty-five people to be the vanguard for six months. The time to fight behind that vanguard in a decisive battle that will decide the fate of this country has arrived. Each one of you must be active for at least two months. You each have to offer at least 10 percent of your time. Additionally, for at least a week, each month, I will not stay at home but will be visiting a region. If the results after two months are good, I plan to hold three four-day revival meetings in different parts of the country under the church president, on different dates, even though I will not be there.

2 On August 2, the *USS Maddox* was attacked by North Korean vessels in the Tonkin Gulf. It was reported that a repeat attack against the *Maddox* occurred on August 4. The U.S. government has since determined that the report of an August 4 attack was false. Nevertheless, that report was instrumental in convincing the U.S. Congress to pass the Tonkin Gulf Resolution, which until its repeal in 1971 was the legal basis for U.S. involvement in what developed into the Vietnam War.

First world tour, from January 28 to October 10, 1965

I visited twenty-four Western countries and sixteen Eastern countries, forty in all.... I returned to Korea after 256 days.

Regarding Japan³

What does God want Japanese brothers and sisters to do? He is saying to them, Die for the restoration of the world. Die quickly. That's why, when other people are sleeping, our young people assemble in one place and sing and study. They are working day and night for God's will.

In order to do what remains to be done to move the world, we first need to strengthen our ideology, to strengthen our organization and to become one through shared activities. We have to confront communism with stronger power in our organization and activities than they have in theirs.

Regarding the United States⁴

I had heard that foreigners don't cry easily. Yet when I arrived in the United States, I discovered that Americans cry more readily than Koreans do. The members didn't know the time of my arrival; they had only heard I would be arriving that day, so they waited all day at the airport for me. They must have been weary. When I arrived at the airport and slowly made my appearance, those who had come to welcome me reacted in various ways, some crying and others laughing. Though we come from different cultures and have different histories, because we are all Unification Church members, we laugh together and we cry together.

I met several world-famous spiritual communicators in the United States. I asked them three or four times about the problems of the world and how we might resolve them, but they

3 True Parents consecrated holy grounds in eight cities in Japan during the first world tour.

4 True Parents based themselves in Washington DC but traveled throughout the U.S. from February 12 to July 1 during the tour.



A crowd of well-wishers see True Parents off on their first world tour on January 28, 1965.



Left: Father speaking with Dwight D. Eisenhower (U.S. president 1953–1961) on June 25, 1965, the fifteenth anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War; **Right:** Father speaking to the members in Japan

had no answers. They were bewildered....

You American brothers and sisters here today need to understand how much suffering God had to go through to bless America and to have you here today. When I sent Japanese and Korean missionaries to the United States, neither the Koreans nor the Japanese had yet established the church properly in their countries. No one dreamed that we would send missionaries to America. Despite our difficult circumstances, I was determined to send somebody to America to plant the seed of the Principle. Day and night I worked for that goal.

We have to pass on the blessing we have received to humankind. You have to set the example and take the lead, giving all that you have for the people of the world.

You have to take responsibility for every city in America. Start with this city and expand your activities to all the others. Your numbers are limited, so each one of you has to fulfill your individual responsibility. Do you know what would happen to America if you didn't fulfill your responsibility? America, which is in Abel's position, would suffer at the hands of the Communist powers, which are in Cain's position. The whole of the Free World would suffer disaster.

A visit to ex-president Dwight Eisenhower,⁵ June 25, 1965

I asked Mr. Eisenhower, the former president, to fulfill three conditions. I asked him how he would solve the historical problem, the religious problem and the ideological problem. The meeting had been planned to last only five minutes, but it went on for more than twenty minutes. When I said I should go, he expressed regret and took me to see his living quarters on the second floor.

Reflecting on Christianity and Jesus

I saw many crosses on my world tour, which reminded me that it is my mission to get rid of all these crosses. Christianity is not the religion of the cross; it is the religion of the resurrection. You have to comfort God's heart. He is agonizing over the state of the world, and you have to put your area and your nation in good order. If you establish the standard of putting things in order in place of God, you will be able to make an environment in which you are standing in the kingdom of heaven. This is Jesus' hope and God's hope. It is mine, too. **TW**

⁵ Dwight David Eisenhower (1890–1969)



Left: True Father arriving in Korea on October 10, 1965, concluding the first world tour; The type of jet they flew on, in use only since late 1964, was the only type of commercial passenger airplane then able to cross the Pacific non-stop. **Right:** A welcome-home celebration for True Parents later the same day

Founders' Tour 2011



True Parents at the conclusion of Father's speech in the United Kingdom

What may prove to be only the first leg of the Founders' Tour 2011 ran for four weeks, from April 24 to May 21. After the first event in Incheon, Korea on April 24, True Parents, accompanied by Hyung-jin nim, Yeon-ah nim and other members of the True Family, visited Spain, Italy, Norway, Greece, Turkey, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Germany. The concluding event was held in Las Vegas on May 21 with some three thousand people in attendance.

A Muslim woman leader speaks at the event in Spain



By Mrs. Loli Piqué, Spain

The moment I heard the news that True Parents were coming to Spain, an inner voice told me that I had to volunteer immediately to help with the team that would serve True Parents.

I have been in the church for thirty-seven years, and I have always seen True Parents only from a distance in conferences and at hoondokhae. I have had many spiritual experiences with True Parents in prayer and in dreams, but I have always wished to be close to them physically.

In the days before their arrival, I knew I had to do some serious conditions—prayer, fasting and hoondokhae. I also felt it was important to do a Holy Spirit Healing Service using a video of Hyung-jin nim. While doing this condition many of my ancestors came to me crying. We cried together, and I felt my heart being purified and coming closer to True Parents.

On the day of the speech, True Father came out into the hotel corridor near True Parents' room and seeing a group of sisters there began to speak to us. Bit by bit, I started to feel as if my heart was uniting with True Father's and as if a great force was pulling me to his heart as he spoke. Spiritual women began filling the corridor.

True Father stopped in front of me and spoke in a mixture of English and Korean about the restoration of women. The spiritual women in the corridor all began to cry. In my heart, I asked forgiveness for women's sins, which have brought so much suffering to God throughout history.

True Father spoke forcefully, often shouting, his face very close to mine. I couldn't look away and I cried continuously. Because I could feel Father's deep suffering, I felt a great force inside me.

Father hit me on the head and on the chest. I didn't feel pain, only a strong energy inside and deep, profound love. I realized at that moment that I was representing many ancestors from this nation, which was why Father was so serious and could speak so intensely. Never have I experienced an inner force so great. I have had many spiritual experiences with True Father, but this time it was physical.

Father's teachings, which have saturated my life, were now being delivered to me by the Messiah himself, right in front of me; this filled me with life and love.

I heard voices saying, "The word of God is made flesh and lives in us."

The Messiah was in front of me. I could feel the substance of his heart near me. My life's great dream—not only to be close to True Father but to feel in my heart all he carries in his heart—actually occurred. Time passed as if it were only a moment.

FOUNDERS' TOUR

He also spoke about the mistreatment of Jesus. So much love, suffering and pain were in Father's heart as he spoke. The spiritual women in the corridor cried in repentance, asking for forgiveness. I felt Jesus' heart. I have loved Jesus all my life. Yet, in that moment, my feeling of Jesus was real and more profound than ever before. I could not stop crying. I felt the price Father has had to pay for us to be saved. At the end, Father spoke about the importance of the unity of black and white people and the great importance of the Blessing Ceremony to restore ancestors.

When Father finished speaking, he gently placed his hand on my cheek and his whole face lit up.

After this experience, every time I close my eyes tears well up inside me. I will never forget those moments; I will never forget Father's deep sorrow and strong desire for the restoration of humanity, and I will never forget the warm sensation of his hand on my face.

Dear brothers and sisters, we must help True Parents restore the world. We must do what they are doing, expressing truth to liberate each person, with a heart full of love.

I feel this experience was a remarkable gift. Perhaps I was not the ideal person to receive it, but I felt it wasn't something personal. I was there to represent Spanish women. True Father felt the strong desire in my heart and the crying of my soul to be close to him and he came. I will be eternally grateful for this gift from Heaven, for having felt Father's heart and for having had the strength to be there in front of him. *SW*



Hyung-jin nim and Yeon-ah nim in Turkey with (mainly) Japanese volunteers that once worked in the region and now donate to projects from Japan and come for major events



Giuseppe Calì, the Italian national leader, showing Father a gift from prominent Italian citizens at the event in Rome



Hyung-jin nim with Pål Arne Davidsen, Foreign Affairs Advisor in the Norwegian Parliament, outside the Parliament building

Yannis Porfyris, Athens Church Leader

It was after lunch, in the suite, when Father asked the Greek members to take a seat in front of him. Though he has reasons to scold us, he never did so; he is always embracing, forgiving and encouraging. He radiates calmness and serenity, profundity and security, qualities of great magnitude.

Zoe Bennett, early Greek member

When I first heard that True Parents were coming to Greece it was a big shock, because I felt that God and True Parents had more faith in our country than we did! Father believes in our country and came to demonstrate to us that God cares about it.

Reflection from a guest in Oslo

It has been a great meeting. The pinnacle was surely the presence of our beloved leader Rev. Moon. His ideas will surely contribute to stopping conflict based on differences of race, religion and ethnicity. I am amazed at his energy and ability to speak for several hours as a man of 90+ years.
—Rev. Åke Lion, retired minister, Church of Sweden

Friendly greetings in Oslo, Norway for Ye-jin nim, In-jin nim, Yeon-ah nim and U.S. Church vice-president Joshua Cotter



According to the hotel staff, which had to continually add chairs, more than a thousand people came to Father's speech in Rome.

By Giuseppe Cali, National Leader, Italy

We had no doubts about the historical importance of the event and especially about the spiritual power that Father manifested once again to uplift the spirit of the audience by convincing all of the reality of the kingdom of heaven, Cheon Il Guk.

Since I was the MC, I had to enter the hall a little early. I could not believe my eyes: it was full of people, with the hotel staff bringing more chairs for those standing! At that moment I began to cry. "Where did these people come from?" I was running through the hall greeting people one by one...

The seventy ambassadors for peace that came brought their own contacts, many of whom were attending a Unificationist meeting for the first time. They were as enthusiastic as our own members and the peace ambassadors. Christian pastors, Catholic ministers, politicians, professors, representatives of associations, and so on. Our members also brought many first-time guests who did not know much about our beliefs. To me this was a sign of the great work of the spiritual world, which always supports us by filling the gaps in our organization, which is challenged by the size and speed of the providence.

Even the hotel staff members did not want to miss a word of Father's speech and stayed until the end, later asking our members many questions about him.

True Father was bright as the sun onstage, a commanding presence that pulled everybody up to the highest heaven. His speech lasted an hour and forty-five minutes and nobody moved from the hall until the end, when all rose and offered True Parents heartfelt applause.

I helped an ambassador for peace present a plaque to True Parents. I cannot forget the smile that Father gave as he shook my hand. I saw God's face and His love, which entered my deepest heart.

Father was serene and embracing at hoondokhae in the early morning, even though the subject matter was about the end of the providential era and was many times more serious than his speech had been. He spoke about Christianity, especially about Christians having missed the central point and not being able to connect to the central pillar, True Parents. We received deep and important messages every day from Father and experienced the intimacy of being with True Parents and

their True Children, singing, sharing testimonies and praying.

We made a few excursions into Rome. We enjoyed taking care of our True Parents. I was especially grateful to be able to assist Father in climbing the many steps in the historic city. We ate in a simple Italian restaurant and I felt happiness from giving some of the food from my dish to True Father because Father liked the food so much.

I realized how important is our personal connection to True Parents, as the Parents that gave us true life.

Reflections from guests at the Rome event

I've been an ambassador for peace for a few years, and I've always felt that there is a special grace in it. I've defended Rev. Moon's name a few times without knowing him very well. Now I understand what the power behind my attraction to him is: He is the bearer of God's will in this age.

I'm grateful for this life-changing experience. Rev. Moon is a genuine man of God that not only preaches but lives what he preaches. Let's work to build the new world of peace together.

—Mr. Antonio Imeneo, High commissioner of the World Parliament for Safety and Peace

The extraordinary figure of Rev. Moon, with all his communicative power, is unique in the way he changed the contemporary era. I wish to express my great joy for his presence in Rome as part of his tour. I consider this choice an expression of his love and concern for Italy....

—Ms. Souad Sbai, Association of Moroccan Women in Italy

He is a man moved by a heavenly energy and the most important prophet of the twenty-first century. What he said, being deeply rooted in his universal faith, will soon blossom for future generations.

—Mr. Franco Bucarelli, author and journalist

A Final Word: In the Berlin speech, Father's last sentence was: "I promise you that I'll win and I promise that you will be victorious as well!" These were the last words True Parents said in Europe. I saw in Father's eyes all his determination, all his awareness, all his love, and in that moment I trusted him fully and forever: Yes we will all be victorious! —Giuseppe Cali



A European Leadership Conference was held in conjunction with the True Family's visit to Norway. Hyung-jin nim, pictured here with Yeon-ah nim and the participants in front of the Norwegian Parliament Building, spoke at the conference.



True Parents receive a gift and an expression of affection in the graceful Grecian way during the speaking event in Athens.



At the Little Angels performance in Berlin, Father and Mother presented medals honoring three people for their peace work.



Mr. Alfred Moisiu (president of Albania 2002-2007) introducing his daughter Mirela to True Parents in Germany



Labor Party Member of Parliament David Anderson greets Mother.

True Mother spoke to a large audience in an office in the nine-hundred-year-old Palace of Westminster, which also houses the British Parliament. Seated nearest her are her family members and senior European church members.



In Oslo, in front of "She Lies," a floating sculpture, are (left to right) Yeon-ah nim; Hwa-yun nim and her husband, Kwon-jin nim; Hyung-jin nim, True Parents, In-jin nim, Ye-jin nim and Yeon-ah nim, the vice-president of WFWP International



Father speaking in Istanbul, Turkey, on May 7 to an audience that included people from throughout the Middle East

By Sevil Naghshbandi, Turkey

While I was preparing to leave for Turkey for an International Leadership Conference, I learned of the possibility of True Parents' visiting the country. About ten days before their arrival, I learned that it was certain. On such short notice, one would expect great difficulties, considering that we had also to prepare for the ILC, which aimed to include forty people from sixteen Middle East countries. To everyone's surprise, the good Lord prepared everything; all we needed to do was show faith and make the necessary effort to substantiate it. May is one of the busiest months in Istanbul and hotels are unlikely to have rooms available. Yet, after several attempts, we found the Sheraton Istanbul was ready with all we required—the presidential suite, a hall for our main event and one for the ILC, and fifty additional rooms. What a miracle!

From my perspective, another miracle was that for first time ever, Father had a base to address people from many Middle Eastern countries in an Islamic nation.¹ Actually, for the last three years, we've had a plan to hold a high-level ILC in Turkey, but we never thought that True Parents would come. My personal feeling is that the Little Angels' performance was the foundation that made this possible.²

The night before his speech, Father said that he would like to see a thousand people at the event. Originally, we were expecting no more than three hundred and fifty. We brainstormed that night, and the following day, with a few basic changes, we prepared to receive many more than originally expected. The expression of Hyung-jin nim's natural charisma through his introduction of True Parents set the tone for the evening. The audience cheerfully welcomed True Father

and enthusiastically applauded at many intervals during his speech. Parliament members, religious leaders, civic leaders, academicians and Korean War veterans were among those present.

Witnessing the unity and harmony between True Parents and True Children at close range was very uplifting. Seeing the True Children's exemplary standard of filial piety brought me to tears. I feel heartfelt thanks for the motherly heart and concern Ye-jin nim showed when I spoke with her about a problem one of our sisters was having.

During one of the hoondokhae sessions, as we were all awestruck by the beauty of the rising sun, Father gave his blessing, saying that he will come again to Turkey. He also mentioned that He wants to build something like Acropolis, a peace palace here. Father said that Istanbul, then known as Constantinople, had been the capital of the Byzantine civilization, which was the fruition of the Greek and Roman civilizations.

I remembered a dream that a friend of mine had had during the Little Angels' visit to Turkey. In that dream, the White House³ had been cut off at the base, loaded onto a ship and brought to Turkey. To me, the dream foresaw Turkey playing a central role in its region. When Father announced to an audience that included four of our regional presidents that Turkey will be the center of the region and asked for their full support, the word confirmed my interpretation of the dream.

True Parents came here to dig into history and to open a new era with unprecedented blessings, so we all now have even greater responsibility to be worthy of their trust. Realizing the significance and importance of the moment, we must now act and not fail to take advantage of this providential tailwind, so that we may look forward to seeing and greeting True Parents on a solid foundation. **STW**

1 This was Father's first public speech in an Islamic country; Mother has spoken in at least two Islamic nations, Turkey and Egypt.

2 The Little Angels visited Turkey to thank Korean War veterans in October 2010.

3 The executive mansion of the president of the United States



True Parents in Interlaken in the Swiss Alps



Members of the audience in Germany and in the United Kingdom listening to Father's speech



Hyung-jin nim and Yeon-ah nim, participants and the staff on the first day of a Middle East Leadership Conference in Istanbul

How Many Miracles Do You Need to See?

By Alexandr Zamushinski



I was born in 1984 in Moldova, which is located between Romania and Ukraine and was then a republic of the Soviet Union. It is now an independent country.

When I was young, it was quite difficult for me to understand why all the churches in my hometown were closed, the buildings transformed into such things as museums, art galleries or gymnasiums. Meanwhile, every night my grandmother would open a cabinet door to reveal a small altar with crucifixes and religious icons. During the day, she would emphasize the importance of the Communist Party and obedience to its regulations, while every night she continued to pray to God. Somehow in her heart she was able to reconcile obedience to both the Communist Party and to God. I wished to join the Communist Party after I graduated high school, become its leader and make them accept a concept of God and human spirituality. However, God led me toward another path.

From childhood, I felt that God was beside me. Where I grew up, my friends and people around me used alcohol and drugs almost every day. An internal voice guided me and protected me from making mistakes.

One day, when I was seventeen years old, I heard the words “Gospel of John 9:25” mentioned in a movie. I later looked that verse up in the Bible and read, “He answered, ‘Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see.’” Reading the verse piqued my interest in Jesus’ teachings and from that moment, my life changed completely. I began reading the Bible and came to respect Jesus as a serious person.

Nobody guided me, and I had many questions. I started to visit different churches; I talked with priests and other people, but I didn’t receive adequate answers. Later these questions became profoundly significant to me. I couldn’t sleep well. I couldn’t eat well. I lost weight. Sometimes I closed myself in my room with stacks of books and did not appear outside for days.

When I did go out, I began to spend more time with nature. When I went to a lake, into the forest or climbed a high hill, I talked to God. I started to feel God and holiness every moment. I heard nature talking to me; in the trees and grass, even in the stones—I felt God.

After reading a passage in the Bible about Jesus and Mary Magdalene, I determined that I would remain sexually pure. I told God that I would never have a wife or relationships with women. I stopped looking at attractive women, even ones on television. If I saw a beautiful woman, I closed my eyes. I trained myself not to see women even in my dreams. In this way, I purified my spirit.

Later, I wrote a story about the Second Coming, and I started to tell my friends that Christ would soon come. Some of them felt that I might have gone crazy. I told them I was absolutely sure that Christ would come during my lifetime. From the roofs of the tallest buildings in my city, I talked to Jesus. I screamed and cried. “When will you come? I’m waiting for you. Please, come down! I promise I will be with you. I will hold on to your right hand, and I will do all that you tell me to do!” I almost became crazy. Many times, I wanted to abandon my life and go somewhere to witness to people, as Jesus did two thousand years ago.

First contact, early days

God came to me through a humble sister, Olga Bobrova, who invited me to listen to Divine Principle in June 2004. I told her that I’d been searching for her for a long time, because I understood that she wanted to unite all religions. This was also my dream, but I didn’t know how to realize it. Later I learned that she had suffered very much all her life, that she made many spiritual conditions, and that the communists had imprisoned her.

When I heard the Divine Principle, it destroyed my preconceived notions. I was shocked. It answered all my questions, while causing new ones to arise. Every day after lectures, I came

home, fell down on the floor and cried for hours. I opened the Bible and saw it with different eyes. I felt as if Jesus had come to me and explained all that happened two thousand years ago. Yet, I could not accept some points of Divine Principle. For a couple of months, I struggled with these. I went from church to church asking priests about True Father. They said many terrible things, but my heart told me something different.

I felt my life depended on finding the answers to two questions. The first was, Does the spiritual world exist? In the Orthodox Christian tradition, we even pray to saints, so I had had a certain belief in spirits. I thought simply that believers are living with Jesus in Paradise and bad people are suffering in hell, but I hadn't thought seriously about it. I visited different churches and asked about their beliefs. When I found that some believe that spirits are dead until the Day of Judgment, it challenged me. Confusion deepened when I read messages from the spirit world from Lenin, Marx, Hitler, Buddha, Mohammed and so on. Frankly speaking, initially, these seemed to be lies. It was a serious challenge for me to accept them. I was confronted with whether a spiritual world exists where all the physically dead are living, conscious and able to send messages. (Eventually an entirely different understanding of the spirit world opened to me through Father's teachings.)

The second question upon which my life depended was, Does Sun Myung Moon come from God or Satan? With these questions and my Bible, I went to a monastery for three days. I studied only the Book of Revelation and prayed. I made a fire and slept in the forest without food, without water. Only on the second day after confession and Eucharist in the monastery, did I allowed myself to drink the holy water. During those three days, I felt God's presence every moment.

On the third day, I had to be at my job, which was a hundred miles away, by 10:00 AM. I left the monastery at 6:00 AM, but it was a wild place without people or cars.

The nearest town was five miles away. I thought it impossible to get to work on time, but suddenly in this quiet, wild place, a car appeared. The driver took me to a major road and told me I should wait on the roadside with two other men waiting for transportation to town. At that moment, however, I saw a lady on the opposite side of the road and some internal power pushed me to speak to her. I felt foolish, crossing the road to ask her how to get to town, but she answered, "Wait a minute, and you can come with me."

A minute later, a factory gate opened and a bus appeared. We were the only two people on the bus, which was factory-owned; it was not public transportation. As we neared town, the woman said she lived near the public bus terminal and guided me there. I had to ask, "Heavenly Father, is this a woman or an angel?"

It was a large terminal and I was the only one there. When I learned that the next bus would not leave for two hours, I knew I would not get to work on time, but I thanked God for helping me so far and began to read my Bible. A few minutes later, a man appeared and asked, "Are you going to Beltsy?" "Yes!" I said. He said, "Let's go! I'll take you." I was astonished. I

realized that God is able to create miracles through people.

At nine o'clock, I was at home in Beltsy, and my mother was bringing me breakfast. I told her I wasn't hungry. I hadn't had breakfast for three days but I felt strong enough to move mountains.

A few days after returning, I decided to say a special prayer to change my life. It was a wonderful day, but downtown, where I live, loud music was playing and the streets were crowded with people who had come for a beer festival. On the way at home I said, "Father, why is it like this? Today is the most important day in my life." After a few minutes, heavy rain began to fall. The music stopped and all the people ran away. The city became very quiet. I came home, sat on my bed, opened the window and I heard only pounding rain.

My prayer was profound. I was wet from tears. I felt God's spirit while listening to the rain's melody. For the first time in my life, I ended the prayer "in the name of True Parents, Amen!" As I said "amen," I opened my eyes to a lightning flash. Tremendous, powerful thunder resounded at the same time, and I fell to the floor. My house shook.

I arose from the floor and screamed, "Jesus! What do you want to tell me? Am I right, or am I wrong?" I felt Jesus' answer—How many miracles do you need to see?

That day, I decided to join the Unification Movement and began to follow Rev. Sun Myung Moon. My highest dream had been fulfilled—I had met the Messiah. Heaven called me to choose, so I left university, left two jobs, left my sick mother and went to Moscow for workshops.

Putting new-found truth into practice

After returning to Beltsy, I joined a witnessing team and resumed my university studies. I also opened a lecture center in my house and began inviting my friends and neighbors to the center.

In February 2006, I registered a civic organization, Alliance for a Unified World. During 2006, we conducted more than forty service projects for the benefit of the country. Our newspaper *Culture of Peace* was distributed by the thousands in more than thirty Moldovan cities. That same year, I passed the state examinations and received my law degree. My degree work was about UPF and about True Father's work, "Peaceful Resolution of International Conflicts."

On July 5, 2007, I was blessed with a wonderful sister from Ukraine, Aliona Snitko. In May, then national leader of Moldova Ronald Koonce suggested I study at Unification Theological Seminary. I received this request as a call from God.

For three years, I studied at UTS. On winter and summer vacations, I raised funds to support the providence in my country. I was also involved in the U.S. providence, mostly during my internship.

After earning my masters of divinity degree, I went back to Moldova with a head full of ideas and a desire to immerse myself in the providence.

We have five leaders who are mainly responsible for the providence in the country. I am now responsible

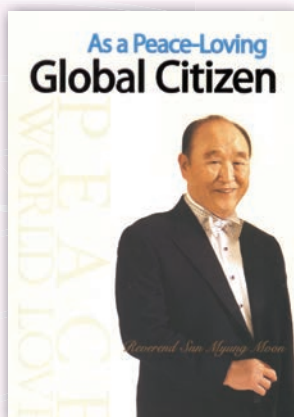


Alexandr and Aliona Zamushinski, with their son Timur, who ascended on May 17 this year, after his father had submitted this article.

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A Poet Glimpses True Father's Inner Self

Introduced by Andrius Jurkunas



In August 2003, Mrs. Rudiene¹ and Mr. Rudys first participated in a seminar, one held by the Inter-religious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP). The couple has since taken part in numerous events, in Lithuania, Korea and other countries. They are ambassadors for peace and trusted UPF supporters.

Mrs. Rudiene is kind and always ready to help. She willingly accompanies UPF-Lithuania representatives to different parts of the country and speaks at functions. At one UPF event, Mrs. Rudiene read the keynote address, one of the Peace Messages. Before she began, she told the audience, "I'm sorry you can't hear this speech directly from Dr. Moon. If he were here, he would also sing you a beautiful song." Her husband, Mr. Rudys, holds a PhD in economics.

Last year, UPF-Lithuania gave True Father's autobiography as a Christmas gift to all peace ambassadors and UPF associates. Since a translation into Lithuanian was not yet complete and older Lithuanians understand Russian, we were happy to distribute the Russian edition.

The book made such an impression on Mr. Rudys that he asked to help with the translation of the book into Lithuanian. By that time, our church members had completed the initial translation but much work remained.

Being a writer and a poet, as well as a person with deep respect for True Parents, Mr. Rudys is the right person for this work. He willingly agreed to help with as much editing as he can, given that he has health issues. Already, Mr. Rudys has edited some portion of the text. We hope his health allows him to continue. What follows are Mr. Rudys' impressions of Father's autobiography, in his own words:



Mr. Edvardas Rudys

This book is precious to all of us because it reflects a person's love for the world and defines love's most important expression—universal peace. This is well portrayed in the book, described with such wisdom that it convinces us without a doubt that human love, which is deep in our hearts, must guide us on the way of technical progress to create a global palace of peace—moral life for all nations, races, and other groups of people.

The book is interesting because it shows the challenges that fate threw at Rev. Moon. People that experience such difficulties may become evil or even turn into murderers. Rev. Moon managed to cross over these hardships and accumulate goodness in his heart, which is extremely difficult to do when you have been mistreated. He could transform that goodness to create tangible results and radiate it out to the world and humanity. He has been doing so even though, as he says in the book, many people burst into anger and call him names at the mere mention of his name. Human ingratitude is a fact. Some people perhaps will never change. Others do not wish to stay as they are but are willing to understand the world in all its aspects. Such people will understand these things after reading the book and will agree with the author without a doubt.

For me, that Rev. Moon managed not to go astray when the world showed him no smile and was not kind to him is most interesting. Each step was very difficult, but he managed to rise above all this with a pure heart. Evils of life polished him and he became even purer and better and now, near the end of his life, he has a wealth of experience. Because his soul, his inner self remained good, he does not need to change himself, but just to give to others what good he has. I see from the book that that is exactly what he is doing.

The unification of religions is a big problem. The book says that if a person is trying to raise his faith above another person's faith, this will fail. Equality among religions is a relevant issue. Religions cannot come together if they see other religions as lower than their own. When you put somebody down, a corresponding response naturally comes. The idea of true love is very impor-

¹ Dr. Zita Rudys, the name appears in the text in the form used in Lithuania to designate "the wife of Mr. Rudys."

tant, and from a wise person's point of view, there can be no better idea. Only this idea can change the world.

Yet the idea of love is difficult to make into reality in everyday life. I am a Catholic. Catholics believe in God and try to be good in their hearts. Yet, what are their lives like in reality, after they return from church? Even though people say they believe, they adjust religion to their own needs. This is the problem. You will not find a believer who would say he or she is evil. People think they are good.

On the other hand, there is love in the inner self, and it sometimes erupts with a strong power. For example, many people helped Jews escape from the Nazis, even under threat of execution. These things must be promoted, cherished and spoken of. I think many people will come to believe in this, and see it as the only way, a way of love, to find common ground and find a true understanding of life. This needs much work. When Christ died on the cross, he was all alone, but now there are millions of Christians in the world. It requires hard work. The author of the book, Rev. Moon, is taking this course.

His vision of peace is applicable on every level—for an individual or for a nation. An elected person guides a nation. If that person has love within, if he is a man of faith, everything will reflect this frame of mind. That this idea is important for everyone is beyond doubt. Even though nations and people do not yet live according to this idea, they must put effort into learning to live according to it. Learn to live in peace and in love; there is no other way.

Education in the spirit of love toward one's neighbor and in compassion is important. Love, compassion and mercy are the basis of the Christian faith and of peace and brotherhood. If we cast away these virtues and do not teach compassion or mercy, a human being turns into a predator. Because of this kind of thinking, Korean families



Photos courtesy of Andrius Jurkunas

Andrius Jurkunas with Mr. and Mrs. Rudys

were separated and much tearful suffering befell the nation. It even led to the sinking of a South Korean ship² with many sailors dying.

For Lithuania and other nations, one of our most important tasks is educating children in the spirit of love, mercy and compassion. If this is successful, when a person becomes an adult, he or she is completely different than those without this education. This is an important issue. Those who read this book will understand that. The book explains it very clearly. You will never lose if you guide your life according to this book. **JW**

2 On March 26 last year, the ROKS *Cheonan* was badly damaged by an explosion and sank near the UN-designated maritime border between the two Koreas. The South Korean government asserts that a North Korean torpedo caused the disaster, which cost forty-six lives.

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for witnessing and the internal education of guests. I initiated monthly witnessing meetings, where our members meet to discuss our church's current situation and perspective. As best as I can, I try to encourage our members to be dedicated to the church and to True Parents and to be confident in their faith. I am also involved in many other activities.

I translated the Lasting Imprint seminar¹ material into Russian and we started to promote it by all possible means. It worked. Members started actively inviting their friends and relatives. We invited people from the street and through the internet. People started to join.

Another initiative we began was a "theological club." While in the United States, I had an opportunity to study Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and other religions. I have visited around forty churches of different

1 A new educational course that the U.S. church has designed and runs; it is a visually attractive, interactive one-day introduction to Divine Principle for young adults.

denominations, mosques, synagogues and Buddhist, Hindu and Baha'i temples, as well as new spiritual and religious movements. I wanted to share my experiences with people of my small country, which lacks religious diversity.

We hold weekly meetings where we try to find answers to fundamental questions from the perspectives of ten to twenty different religious and spiritual movements. In this way, we are creating relationships with people who are interested in spirituality. With this nondenominational approach, members find it easier to invite their guests to such meetings. We expect our guests to naturally find the superiority of the Unification Church viewpoint, and we then invite them to study Divine Principle. Every week new people are coming. More than twenty people are coming to attend these meetings. Usually a third of them are guests.

The church in Moldova was strong and worked hard even without me. Our brothers and sisters are wonderful servants of God and True Parents. I just hoped that my return to Moldova would help to strengthen this desire to serve Heaven. **JW**

Unusual Beginnings in Italy

By Members of Our Italian Church

During the late 1940s, True Father was in Hungnam Special Labor Camp in North Korea, fighting to continue his mission, and for his very life. According to the testimony that follows, at the same time (and over the ensuing years) in Milan, in the peninsular nation of Italy, unusual communications were received from the spirit world during sittings held by a medium with the name Jolanda¹ Pizzi. A high spirit was speaking through her, explaining about the light of God being in the world. Despite some initial skepticism, many who heard the testimony from this spirit guide in the 1960s and listened to the Divine Principle had profound experiences with God, leading them to join the young Unification Church community in Milan. We asked some of these early members to explain what they experienced, and extracts from their testimonies are presented here.

The four people from whose accounts this article is drawn are:

Elio D'Alberti: National messiah to the Czech Republic

Franco Ravaglioli: Former national leader of Italy

Luciana Ferrario: An early home member, now national messiah to Romania

*Daniela Granata: She recorded many sittings with the medium, Jolanda, during the 1970s and 1980s, later transcribing and publishing them in a book *Il Vero Amore* [True Love] in 2009, from which a section has been translated into English and included at the end of this article.*

**Jolanda Pizzi (left), a
spiritual medium, with
Franco Ravaglioli's mother**



Photos courtesy of Franco Ravaglioli

Jolanda Pizzi's Declaration

I testified to him even before knowing him.

When I came to know the Divine Principle brought to me by Martin, his wife and Barbara and Carla, it was not difficult for me to accept it, since for many years, from time to time, I had received revelations about such content.

Even so, the Lord still wanted to give me testimony based on my faith.

I should explain that I have been in direct communication with Jesus for many years; therefore, after reading the whole book, overjoyed for what I had come to know, still enraptured in that feeling of beatitude induced by the reading, the presence of Jesus wanted me to write down what was happening to me and which I now report.

[Jesus:] "I am here with you, my gentle instrument and dear sister, do not be afraid, but follow so you can help the prophesies be accomplished, since it has taken too long for them to come true. I am near you, do not be afraid and go to spread the divine truth, I will pave the way for you. My being near you will help you greatly. Be bold. Your preparation is good and you will be listened to. Sow well, for the harvest will be satisfactory."

I wish that all people encountering the Divine Principle may have such proof as to dispel any fear or doubt, and may accept with a peaceful and hopeful ear this last dispensation from God as the only salvation for us and for the whole creation.

Jolanda

¹ Pronounced Yolanda; She died in 1995.



Franco soon after hearing the Principle

Testimony of the Early Italian Members

ELIO D'ALBERTI

My mother and I knew a spiritualist lady named Jolanda. She loved Jesus very much. I am writing to testify how well the spirit world (in particular her spirit guide, Horward) was ready to testify to the Second Coming of the Messiah at that early time. True Father's suffering life was known in the spirit world, as was the fact that he had brought the light of the highest truth and the power of the greatest love of God. Words will never be sufficient to express the joy when the news came that "he is living on earth."

FRANCO RAVAGLIOLI

My mother learned that Horward, the spirit speaking through Jolanda, had been British and was the captain of a ship that sank in the thirteenth century. He and all his crew had perished. In Jolanda's early days, when he came down and spoke through her, Jolanda was completely out of her body. Her body was taken over by his spirit. My mother was very impressed by what this man said, because he was giving a very high level of spiritual guidance. He talked a lot about Jesus. When my mother came back from the sittings, she would tell us what he had told her—about what to do in

order to overcome difficulties, the support the spirit world was giving, and so on.

When my mother was pregnant with me,² she had had a sitting with Horward. She was thinking to herself, I will talk about anything, but I won't talk about the baby in my womb. As soon as the sitting began, the spirit told my mother, "You have a wonderful baby in your womb"! My mother was shocked because she had not wanted to talk about her baby. The first thing he said was about me: "He will have a great future. He will be like a priest."

My mother said, loudly, "No! I don't want a son who is a priest; I want to have grandchildren, and I want to have a daughter-in-law."

Horward replied, "Yes, but in the future, priests will not be like they are now. You will have grandchildren and a daughter-in-law."

DANIELA GRANATA

From childhood, Jolanda had paranormal powers, but she thought that all people were like her. She received help and support from her grandmother, who reassured her about the phenomena occurring to her (she felt the presence of spirits).

Horward came to her for the first time on February 3, 1948.

Jolanda told us that he testified to Mrs. Ravaglioli, a good friend of hers, about the baby she had in her womb and to whom she gave birth shortly afterward. He told her that her son would become a religious leader. Franco later became the national leader of our church in Italy.

Some of those who had attended sittings with Horward before us and were guided by him told us that from the very beginning he had talked about "this important person" who had a special role for the future of humankind, although in those years it was still impossible for this person to manifest himself openly. We are talking about the years 1948 to 1965.³

LUCIANA FERRARIO

Horward told them to write whatever he said on paper and to keep the messages somewhere safe. "The time will come

² Franco was born in 1949

³ True Father's first global tour was in 1965



Jolanda Pizzi (in the chair second from the right) with members of the Milan church community; standing at far right, behind his mother, is Elio d'Alberti.



Children's Day 1970 at the church center in Milan; Luciana Ferrario is standing in the doorway holding her daughter (her husband Mario is at far right).

when you will understand," he said. They had a drawer overflowing with these pieces of paper. One of the things he said, which at the time had seemed strange, was "the marriage of the lamb has taken place."⁴

FRANCO

My father died of cancer six years after I was born. Just before he died, he met my mother and me and asked for forgiveness for all the pain he had caused us. He said he would recover and we would be one family, together again. My mother was very hopeful about this.

When she went to a sitting, she told Horward what my father had said. Horward was silent for a time and then said, "I am sorry. You will not be able to see him again. You will hear about him only through that special device you have with numbers that go around." (He meant the telephone).

My mother said, "Oh, he's crazy; that's not possible—of course we will meet!"

Two days later, the day before my mother was to meet my father, his sister called to say my father had died. My mother could indeed never meet him again, but just heard about him over the telephone.

ELIO

My grandfather had had healing power in his hands, and my mother discovered that she also had that gift. Our small apartment became a center for healing people. My mother could not stop the people coming. For my father, brother and other relatives, it was difficult to accept the situation because they could not understand what was happening. Finding myself in a position of having to balance different people's expectations of my mother, I began to ask myself about values in life. My faith in Jesus and in Mother Mary pushed me to find answers outside the Catholic Church. I started attending meetings where Mary appeared.

I had many unanswered questions. Often, I could not sleep at night. One night, an oriental man appeared in a dream, calling me by name. He said, "Elio, you are living a life without value." I awoke with a very clear mind. I wanted to be more useful to more people.

In particular, I questioned in my heart why so many marriages break down, though in the Bible it is written that man should not separate what God has united. I wondered what God thinks about marriage.

With greater determination than I had had before, I asked for an appointment with Jolanda's spiritual guide Horward. I asked him what God thought of marriage. He said, "No marriage has value in front of God. You cannot understand this now, but ask Jolanda to invite you again when she has a larger meeting." Little did I know that the most wonderful clarification was waiting for me.

That was 1969. In March, True Parents had come to Europe and had blessed the first couples there;⁵ among them were

⁴ According to Daniela Granata, another paper read, "He who is to come cannot show himself now." They later understood that he was referring to True Father, whom they realized had been in Seodaemun prison at that time.

⁵ For the Forty-Three Couple Blessing in 1969, eight couples were blessed in Essen, Germany.



True Parents in Rome on their fourth world tour in 1972. It was during this time that Jolanda Pizzi met Father; at far left are the Porters, who had become the center of attention at a sitting with Jolanda three years earlier.

Martin Porter and his wife. At that time, Martin lived far south in Rome, and he did not know Jolanda. It turned out that he decided to visit Milan on the same day that Jolanda had invited me to a "larger meeting." A lady who had been invited was unable to come, and that lady suggested Martin and his wife participate in her place.

There were many people, many couples. When it was my turn to put my question, I asked the same one as before. The answer at first seemed to be the same—but there was a big difference. Horward, the spirit, then pointed to Martin and his wife, and said that their marriage did have value in front of God; that they were the only married couple there that was accepted by Heaven.

LUCIANA

Everyone was surprised that Horward said only Martin's wedding was recognized by God. Because nobody knew him, because it was the first time he had come. Many were senior members of society with well-established marriages.⁶ Horward spoke to Martin very humbly as if he were addressing a superior.

After this, Barbara Burrowes⁷ and Martin Porter began to teach the Principle to the group.

Around this time, Jolanda took all the pieces of paper with Horward's messages out of the drawer. In light of the Divine Principle teachings, the meaning of all the messages became

⁶ Jolanda's following was well established by the time Horward began speaking through her; her clientele included many high society women who were fascinated by the idea of communication with the departed. According to Luciana, a good number of these became early home church members. They continued to attend Jolanda's sittings, and some of their children joined our church. They believed in True Parents, but because they were already a certain age and did not have the courage to leave their families and material possessions behind, many couldn't stay with the church as it was in those days.

⁷ Barbara Van Praag (her married name), who was then living in Milan where she had been sent as a missionary for our church

clear. For example, the one that said, "The marriage of the lamb has occurred." All the messages were connected with True Father. That is how the Italian church began.⁸

FRANCO

Jolanda had many revelations from Jesus. She could only accept that Father was the Messiah after she received direct revelation from Jesus. I remember that she said, "I could never think to replace Jesus. I was praying a lot to him, saying that if this is the right person you have to give me a sign."

ELIO

Three months after the session with Jolanda when we met Martin Porter, Jolanda called to say that she had an important message for me. I went to her house one Saturday. She told me to sit down and then said, "The Messiah is on earth!" A wave of feelings came over me. If this were true, nothing in the world could be more wonderful.

The following Monday, we started Divine Principle lectures with Barbara Burrowes. When she explained the ideal of creation, I realized that my dreams concerning an ideal family were not my own fantasy. At the end of a tormented and conflicted history, God had planted the Tree of Life on earth. I took a photograph of True Father home to show to my mother. Being spiritually open, when she took the photo, she had a vision that from Father's face a great light, like sunshine, covered the world. My mother began to cry, feeling True Father's incredible suffering, which she said was beyond our imagination.



Franco Ravaglioli and other members witnessing in the early 1970s

Jolanda's acceptance of True Father as the Messiah helped a number of people become the first group of disciples in northern Italy.

DANIELA

We often came to know what Father was going to do before it was announced, so we were absolutely certain that Jesus and therefore Horward were in contact with Father and were supporting what he was doing...

⁸ Prior to this, mainly non-Italians had joined, and mostly in Rome.



Barbara Burrowes teaching Divine Principle in Milan in those early days; those present here include the Ferrarios, a lawyer and a businesswoman.

In 1972 Jolanda went to Rome to meet Father. He expressed his appreciation for what she was doing and through Mrs. Choi, who always accompanied Father in those days, she received Father's embrace and blessing.⁹

FRANCO

As I grew up, I strongly believed what my mother told me about the sittings, but I never wanted to go. I was afraid. My mother was pushing me... She would ask, "Since you believe so much of what Horward's saying, why don't you talk to him yourself?" I would say no.

One day during a sitting in 1968, he told my mother through Jolanda, "Don't push your son to come. When the time is right, he will ask to come." So my mother came home. "Oh," she told me, "He said you will ask to come."

I said, "He's crazy. I will never ask to come; you know that. Don't talk to me about it anymore."

However, one morning, in September 1969, I woke up feeling that I had to go. I told my mother, "Please call Jolanda and make an appointment; I want to go to a sitting." My mother was shocked.

Going to a sitting is like being in a doctor's waiting room. You sit and wait for your turn. Each sitting lasted around thirty minutes. As soon as I sat down, I looked around and saw two or three people, and I thought, What am I doing here? Are we all crazy? I'll be talking to some spirit. I don't know where he is, or if he really exists.

Just as I was thinking of an excuse to run away,

⁹ Daniela shared the following background information about Jolanda based on conversations they had: Sometimes Jesus came down to talk through Jolanda. I think the Holy See must have been aware of this, since Jolanda at that time was received by the Secretary of Pope Paul VI, to whom she described the details of her encounters with Jesus. She received their acknowledgement that she had really met Jesus. From what she told us, the Catholic church has some particular characteristic signs that allow its officials to understand whether the person describing an episode is telling the truth, because the person must give precise details. As far as we know, for Jesus there are three signs that must be confirmed, but Jolanda told us only two of them: the color of his eyes and his hairstyle—which are not those which we see in common holy pictures. I leave you to imagine what role Jolanda might have played as a mediator between our movement and the Catholic Church. She passed away in 1995.

Jolanda's sister came through the door and said, "Oh Franco, it's your turn now." It was too late to escape, so I went into the room. I was expecting something terrifying, but Jolanda was just sitting in an armchair with a blanket on her knees, with her eyes closed. As soon as I entered the room, she said, with a strong English accent,¹⁰ "Oh I have been waiting so long to meet you! You finally came."

Without asking any questions, Horward began to talk. He said (making a long story short) that it was the time of a great revolution, not a physical one but a spiritual revolution, because God had sent his living light to earth and it was now walking among mankind. "If you have faith," he said, "you will find the light." All of a sudden, he stopped and asked, "Do you understand what I am saying?"

I said that I did, but he replied, "You don't understand one word of what I've said. But don't worry; in a few days, you will understand." I thanked him and left.

When Jolanda's sister asked me how it had gone, I told her what he'd said about the light of God walking on earth and that I didn't understand it. When she said that she knew what he meant, I was even more convinced that they were all a bunch of crazy people. I returned home and told my mother, "Please don't tell me to go there anymore; they're all nuts." And I forgot about it.

Some weeks later, Jolanda called to ask what I'd thought of the experience. I told her it had been very interesting. She said she was glad I'd enjoyed it and invited my mother and me to her house the next night because a lady was coming "to explain a nice philosophy from the Orient." I spoke to my mother, who agreed to go, which is how we met Barbara Burrows.

At Jolanda's house, we heard the explanation of the first chapter, which was very interesting, very uplifting. Then we learned about the Fall, why human beings could not reach what the first chapter had promised. When I heard the Fall—Satan, the snake, Adam and Eve—I decided it was a poor imitation of Catholic theology. When we left, I told my mother, "Please don't ask me to come anymore. It makes no logical sense."

Jolanda invited us for another meeting the following week, but I told her I was busy. My mother, who had recently bought me a small car, wanted to go to the meeting. She said, "You see! I bought a car for you, but you won't even bring me to the meeting. What kind of thanks is that?"

So, I took her to the meeting to hear another "story." That night, Barbara explained the chapter on Jesus. I was shocked when I heard it. It was such a profound explanation. I was not a good Catholic at all. I went to church out of duty. I made offerings to help myself when I had school exams or to ask for grace when I needed something. I didn't believe in the church or the priests, but I had always believed that Jesus was a real person, who really existed. The explanation Barbara gave uplifted me, and from that time on, I continued to attend the meetings. We were

10 Speaking in Italian

Extracted from the book *Il Vero Amore* (True Love)

December 21, 1979

Daniela: We want to ask you how the Movement [the Unification Church] will develop.

Horward: The truth is the truth. The Principle shall continue. I already told you that. It will develop even more after the year 2000. It is not important whether the person who revealed it will still be alive at that time. I tell you, he shall work more freely and will accomplish more when he is in the spirit world than while he is on earth.

Here [in the spirit world] there are already many of his disciples, who are instructing other spirits. Most of the people in the spirit world do not know the Principle. That's why some spirits still speak through mediums about Christianity or even about things before Christianity.

Now they have to change, but it is very difficult, because they are spirits that are not advanced, that still ignore this message. Yet many other spirits here are getting ready to transmit this message....

February 4, 1981

Daniela: Many times we face great difficulties, since we don't know what to do... perhaps, because we do not have a sufficiently deep bond with Master.

Horward: You see Master only in his human form. You are used to worshipping idols on an altar. Master walks and does all the other things that men do; he has to act on earth like any other man, but internally there is a completely different mechanism with which he understands God's law and transmits it. God did not send us His son as a being to be worshipped on an altar. He sent him to help the earth. He sent him for him to work, and not in order to have a monument to him.

What I mean is that Master lives on earth in the same way any other man does; with more wisdom, of course, because he knows [God's plan]; you should not have the idea that he is different. He too has to brush his teeth, since one can't brush one's teeth with God's law, and if he loses a tooth he has to replace it with another. God's law is right and can do anything.... Do not worship him; He does not want to be worshipped; he just wants that through him you love God.

doing one chapter at a time. I heard the final two chapters in a center they opened in Milan. After her explanation of the Principle, Barbara invited us to sit in a circle in the living room and pray. She explained that we should pray aloud and express what we feel, and so on.

I told myself that I hope she doesn't ask me to pray. And Barbara looked directly into my eyes and said, "Now, you pray." I was stunned. I did not know what to say, or how to start. Everyone else had bowed their heads and were waiting for me. I was trying to say good things in perfect Italian. The more I prayed, the more the prayer became natural. I began to feel I was really expressing myself, and I felt God's love and energy embracing me, giving me so much warmth and love. I started crying. At that moment, I accepted that True Father was the Messiah.

When I next talked to Horward, he asked, "Do you understand now what I meant when I said that the light was walking with men on earth? That is the light I was speaking of." **TW**



Franco today



Witnessing in Tallinn old town (in the background is the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral)

With some of her spiritual children, Olga and her husband celebrate the eighth-day dedication ceremony for one of their children



Photos courtesy of Olga Bolocan

Consciously Choosing the Harder Path

By Olga Bolocan

I joined the Unification Church in 1994 at the age of seventeen as a student of Tallinn Technical University.

God gave me the mission to witness many times, so I luckily had many chances to discover the influence of indemnity conditions on people's lives.

Sometimes I met very good people on the street that promised to come and who seemed prepared to hear Divine Principle and change their lives. Most of the time, these people did not come. I repented with tears for not having made enough indemnity conditions and then made some extra conditions for such people—cold showers, skipping dinner or anything else that required physical self-denial.

Once, my central figure sent me to visit one of our guests that had broken a leg and had stayed at home for a few weeks. On the way there, a sister approached me and asked me whether I am from CARP or not. She said that I had invited her a long time ago and that now she finally had time to come. She took our address and phone number and came the next day. About a month later, she joined. She always has been consistent and devoted in her life of faith. After such experiences, I realized that I do not choose the people who join. God uses our sincere efforts to save somebody's spiritual life.

I also discovered that one always is asked to choose between an easier and a harder way in everyday life. Every one of my decisions made a direct impression on people to whom I witnessed. If I was sick and chose to relax and asked somebody else to take care of my guest, my guest would call me and refuse to come to the lecture, giving some excuse, of course. If I chose the harder, more sacrificial way, I saw that based on that, God was giving my guests strength and courage to make the right decisions in their spiritual lives.

I also realized how important it is to move God's heart by changing myself through repentance. Once I witnessed for a few months and nobody joined. I had a stable schedule and witnessed from morning until night, usually alone, day after day. Our national leader, Mr. Hinterleitner gave internal guidance once a week. In one lecture, he said that True Father seldom praises people because from God's point of view no one among fallen people is worthy of praise; no one has done enough. Those words cut me like a knife. I realized that during the previous months I was content with myself and believed that I was doing more than enough. I realized how arrogant and improper my attitude was; tears flowed. I went to the holy ground for a long time to pray and cry. I felt ashamed in front of God and I was willing to do anything to correct the improper attitude I had had during the past few months. With such a heart, I

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Facing Down Adversity with Prayer and Love

By Rupsingh Bhandari

I am serving as a regional leader in the mid-western part of Nepal.¹ I joined the Unification Movement eleven years ago, when I was just eighteen years old. It was difficult to remain a full-time member. I struggled hard to continue my life of faith. When I learned about God and True Parents, though, I absolutely made True Parents my model and followed Divine Principle, practicing it in my life of faith.

My Filipino wife and I take care of our region and its twenty full-time members, uniting in heart and excelling in our God-given mission. We've recently been blessed with a baby boy, whom we are doing our best to raise as a true son of Heaven.

I always follow my leaders absolutely and go wherever they send me wholeheartedly and without any hesitation. My leader sent me as a pioneering leader to Sikkim, India, where I remained for two years. Now, seeing that many people from Sikkim are serving God and True Parents, I am glad. My experience there provided many important lessons on belief and clinging to fervent prayers, through which I overcame trials. My faith became stronger and with the support of all the members, my mission was a success.

I was sent to this region in 2008 to pioneer again. Hindus and Muslims are in conflict in mid-western Nepal.² Maoists³ dominate the region politically. Also, the weather is extremely hot. Convincing people here is difficult because many don't believe in God, and those who do only listen to their own reli-

¹ One of five church administrative regions

² Since Nepal ceased being a kingdom (with Hinduism the state religion) and became officially secular in 2006, Islam is Nepal's fastest growing religion. Tensions exist but physical confrontations are rare.

³ For more on this, see "A Vision to Heal a Nation Divided" in our July–August 2009 issue



Photos courtesy of Rupsingh Bhandari

People from the author's hometown at an Original Divine Principle workshop in Kathmandu

gion's views. I was scared when I first heard I would have to come here, but I believe that Heavenly Father and True Parents are always with me wherever I go.

I will never forget the members who came with me here to start this mission. They have tremendously supported me and tried hard even though they became sunburnt as they tried hard to witness to people. My wife, who has never experienced weather this hot, worked harder than I am able to express in words. Even though she doesn't understand the Nepali language and finds it difficult to adjust to the Nepali culture, she struggles to overcome and she is one with me in our mission. During the pioneering stage, members sometimes ran away. My wife and I cried, we wiped each other's tears and prayed for them. We always wanted our members to understand the path that our True Parents have taken through incomparable difficulties, in absolute obedience to God. Every time members leave, we witness to others and bring them to



Left: Binod Dangi, deputy national leader, presenting an Original Divine Principle lecture; Right: The Kathmandu training center filled with people, some of whom had traveled a great distance to hear the Original Divine Principle presentations

this godly mission.

After we attended the first Original Divine Principle workshop held in Nepal, we felt compelled to witness to many people, in order that they can find God and True Parents and can realize their responsibility as children of Heaven. With young members who are still developing their lives of faith, we witnessed to many people in the area.

We are very far from the capital city where the Original Divine Principle workshop was held. Though covering that distance took many hours, we brought numerous guests. To convince them to attend the workshop, I had to give nine hours of lectures a day from morning until evening in such hot weather that beads of sweat rolled down my face. I sometimes continued without eating because new participants hungered for truth, and I felt that was more important.

Our full-time members also set conditions, as did my wife. She did three hundred full bows every day for a month and she increased it to four hundred the following month, though she was breast-feeding our baby and he was unwell at that time. Nevertheless, we did not lose faith and we never gave up. In the end, many people came to the workshop.

We strongly believed that if we sincerely fulfilled our responsibility—through God and True Parents and the spiritual world, where our absolute, good ancestors dwell—blessings would pour down on us. At the same time, we were lucky that our true elder brother Hyung-jin nim and true elder sister Yeon-ah nim visited Nepal. It was a blessing that my wife had the opportunity to testify about her life of faith to them during hoondokhae. That we are receiving so much blessing touches my heart. As the result of everyone's sincere dedication and devotion, from the national headquarters, our region won a prize for witnessing—the very precious book *Cheon Seong Gyeong*, which Hyung-jin nim signed. Our members are inspired and happy to learn from it.

When our national leader, Mr. Ek Nath Dhakal, gave the Original Divine Principle lectures, which were broadcast live



An Original Divine Principle workshop at the Nepali church national headquarters

over nationwide television, our home members watched it with their parents and thousands of others watched it in our area. Many Nepalese were touched by the lectures and have begun coming to our center. **TW**



Rupsingh Bhandari (29), seen here with his wife and son, is the leader of a region roughly the size of Denmark.

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went to witness and the second person I approached was an Estonian brother. He said that he did not know much about God, but he was looking for people who could help him to discover God. This brother joined after a few weeks and moved into the center.

Sometimes, I would not meet a prepared person for a long time, but I repeatedly read Father's speeches; from these I learned that if we did not restore people, it is not their fault, nor is it our city's fault. The root of the problem lies within us, within our limitations to love. After reading this, there was no way I could make excuses for myself if none of my guests was joining. What True Father had said helped me to take responsibility for guests and for those people who promised on the street that they would come to the center. In such a frame of mind, I witnessed to eight people who remain in the church and have maintained their spiritual lives to this day.

I often feel sorry for not being serious enough, because if I had been more serious, more people could have remained in the church. I have always felt that witnessing is a great support for my own personal life. However difficult were the situations I faced, I feel that each of my steps influenced somebody's spiritual life and this thought gave me the strength to go on and not to give up.

I have not yet found a way to witness after having children. To witness to relatives or acquaintances seems as difficult to me as climbing Mt. Everest. But I do like to help take care of those in our second generation as much as I can; I feel it is also means of witnessing, even though it takes years to see the fruits of these efforts. Blessed children are our church's future, which is why I find it very important to invest in them. This is what inspires me most nowadays. **TW**

Olga and her husband Vasile are expecting their third child in May.

Unification Thought Applied to Real Issues

By Julian Gray



Many people see Father as a philanthropist, others as a religious leader, successful entrepreneur, or even a political leader. But I think there are few people who see Father as a man of ideas. And I think that's our failure. We haven't been able to convey to people that Father has tremendous ideas and that those ideas serve as a foundation for a cultural reawakening. —Dr. Thomas Ward speaking to the author

My mother once explained to me that in the course of one of her co-counseling sessions, she and her co-counselors helped each other remember the peaceful experience of their time in the womb. Each counselor took turns in lying down on a soft blanket and being gently covered with cushions to simulate the cozy, embracing environment of that primal stage of life. Many programs like this, which seek to help people overcome tortured emotions and regain an original peace of mind, have emerged in recent decades. Yet, how fully can they heal people without understanding the existence of the spirit world and that we, as human beings, are essentially an eternal spirit?

As a Unification Church member, university professor and professional mental health counselor Dr. Shigehiro Suzuki is aware of this reality. He approaches his patients from the perspective that all of us are greatly affected by humanity's separation from God and the negative influence of the spirit world. He is successfully treating patients by applying his understanding of the Principle in his specialized field.

He is also working on a book¹ commissioned by the Unification Thought Institute (UTI). "It applies Unification Thought to medical theory," he states. "It covers the techniques I have devised that combine understanding of the internal, spiritual reality with knowledge of external, medical techniques (based on brain science) applied, in particular, in the area of mental health. I would like to expand the truth of Unification Thought with true love all over the world, and thus testify to God and True Parents."

Medicine is just one area among many where academic understanding of the spiritual reality would bear enormous fruit. Yet Divine Principle as a book or lecture series may not be perfectly suited to convey that understanding to those from a scientific background.

Said Unification Thought Institute vice-president (Japan) Akifumi Otani, "Divine Principle is Rev. Hyowon Eu's systematization of True Father's teachings

from the religious aspect, focusing on Christianity. Unification Thought is Dr. Sang-Hun Lee's systematization of Father's teachings from the perspective of philosophy and science."

Dr. Richard Lewis, who has been a regular presenter and writer on matters of science for the Unification Thought Institute over a decade, further explained, "Divine Principle is written in religious language. Unification Thought translates the religious language of the Divine Principle book into philosophy, into scientific language, even into political language, but it deals with the same basic concepts—for instance, relationships and the four-position foundation."²

The Unification Thought Institute, which has offices in Korea and Japan and active officers in a number of countries, provides a platform upon which anyone willing to commit their time and expertise can develop and apply their specialized knowledge to a particular problem facing society, and by extension convey awareness of Father's teachings within that framework. UTI thus seeks to disseminate those principles and to research how they can be applied to pressing issues in the world at large.

Like Dr. Suzuki, Dr. Lewis—originally a biochemist—has his own vision for applying Unification Thought, "When I joined our church I was a research scientist; I could see the confluence of science and religion.... In the scientific world, there is no God, no purpose, everything fits together in a materialistic way, without God. For example, science uses the term 'emergent properties'³ but assumes that these properties come from nowhere. But we say that it makes no sense to say this. Some of these properties are amazing. For example, an electron is not substantial, there is nothing substantial about a proton—it's a blaze of light. But when the two of them get together you have the beginning of a substantial world. Even substance itself is an emergent property. Materialists say these things just happen that way—all the forms, tastes, sounds, etcetera, just result from these properties. But we say that does not make

2 In Unification Thought, this is known as the quadruple base.

3 Something completely new arising from things interacting



Dr. Richard L. Lewis, Senior Researcher, Unification Thought Institute



Dr. Shigehiro Suzuki, Clinical Professor of Medicine, Kochi University, Japan



Mr. Akifumi Otani, Vice-president of UTI, Japan

1 One of a series of books that will explain the application of Unification Thought in specific disciplines.



Dr. Keisuke Noda, Associate Professor of Philosophy, UTS



Dr. Thomas J. Ward, Dean of the International College, University of Bridgeport



Rev. Hideo Oyamada, President, Unification Thought Institute, Japan



Dr. Ivan Kaltchev, President, Association of Philosophers in South-Eastern Europe is a regular participant in UT symposia

sense. There is something in the abstract realm that these qualities are coming from. So in that sense you can say you can prove the existence God.”

Proponents of the New Atheism are doing their utmost to ensure that the idea of the existence of God, and those who seriously entertain it, are discredited. To which Dr. Lewis responds, “I confidently predict that Richard Dawkins⁴ is destined for the dustbin of history. His science is faulty! Richard Dawkins is convinced that science is essentially complete. Nonsense! We have wonderful philosophical reasons why evolutionary theory doesn’t make sense. But the science of epigenetics is *proving*, based on evidence and observation, that the foundation of evolutionary theory, the central dogma—that there is a one-way-only information flow, simply put, from the DNA to the body—is wrong. Epigenetics allows for God’s original Logos (blueprint) to be progressively expressed and accumulated as genetic memory from the beginning of time, through lineages, such that the direction of the body plans and development will be always aiming towards the creation of humankind.”

“But you’ve got to know your science in order to attack Richard Dawkins,” Dr. Lewis continued. “He knows *his* science. You don’t attack his philosophy, you attack his science. I don’t know how long it will take, a dozen years, or a hundred years...but the simplistic, materialistic idea is doomed to fail. Scientists are not humble to philosophy, but they are humble to the results of experiments. And that’s how science will change. Not by philosophy, not by religion, but by the evidence from experiment. It’s inevitable.”

In addition to contributing in specialized fields of science or medicine, as in the examples above, Unification Thought also has philosophical goals to pursue. Among them, Mr. Otani explained, are to effectively present a critique and counterproposal to atheistic material philosophies (including Darwinism of course) and to critique the so-called theory of sexual liberation with the counterproposal of a pure love ideology—the focus of Mr. Otani’s paper at the December 2010 Unification Thought Symposium.

That symposium saw presentations from a broad range of fields in science, philosophy and the spiritual reality. For example, in his presentation on “Peace Studies in the Context of Unification Thought,” Dr. Thomas Ward, dean of students at the University of Bridgeport, spoke about Peace Studies as an important and emerging interdisciplinary field of study that has significant practical applications. Citing the work of some of the institutes and schools of Peace Studies around the world, which systematically analyze the root causes, actors and other factors affecting the different conflicts in our world, Dr. Ward commented on how impressed he was by their approach and that our movement would benefit from studying this.

“Rev. Moon and his associates,” Dr. Ward said, “are uniquely equipped, in terms of our disposition, training and life, to deal with problems of conflict in today’s world.” He expressed his conviction that

⁴ Richard Dawkins is an eminent evolutionary biologist and firm atheist who has helped popularize the debate between theism and atheism.



Photos courtesy of Julian Gray

Dr. Sung-bae Jin of the Unification Thought Institute in Korea delivers his paper at the 22nd Unification Thought Symposium from Korea via the internet

Unificationists can play an active role in resolving conflict in the world.

Dr. Ward added this comment in a later interview: “I think participating in Unification Thought symposia does a lot for us. It obliges those of us who present to reflect on our position on a certain issue. I hope that we walk away with more understanding of where we stand, and possibly about our calling—about what we have to do with our own life vis-à-vis Unification Thought.”

Dr. Keisuke Noda, a professor of philosophy from UTS in the United States, reflected on earlier years when inspiring members of the academic community to action had been a major goal of True Father’s—through the International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences:

Father expected ICUS to be a basis for the development of culture. Scientists were interested in the idea of pioneering new approaches in new areas. However, in reality, participants at ICUS paid little attention to Father and came because it was provided free. They just spoke about what they were interested in. They saw Rev. Moon as a benefactor, not as a serious thinker. Father later asked Dr. Sang-hun Lee to include a session on Unification Thought in each ICUS conference, as a seed, and he expected much would come from this. These Unification Thought Symposia are a continuation of that vision. Now, through the Unification Thought symposia, we are working out what ideas can be applied to different disciplines. We are shuffling around and experimenting. In the past, we too have had participants who came and spoke about what they believed in, and it had nothing to do with Unification Thought. Nowadays those who come are more interested and engaged in True Father’s ideas, and try to see how they work.

Dr. Noda concluded, “UTI is not so much a research institute with researchers, or with a large budget; it’s more like a network, and whoever is willing to come and invest is welcome.” **JW**

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