

TODAY'S

WORLD

May 1991



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OFFICIAL TRUE FAMILY PORTRAITS—p.20



Letter from the Publisher

by Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak

It has recently been announced that the World Culture and Sports Festival has been postponed for one year, until August 1992. All the church departments and other organizations in our movement which have been preparing for the Festival should continue to make progress toward fulfilling their goals and contributions. All members should continue to focus on witnessing to and educating blessing candidates. Since the time of preparation for the Festival Blessing was extended an extra year, we must use this time well. Each blessed couple should feel responsible to witness to and educate three blessing candidates by August 1992.

Recently Father has been teaching us about the precious mission of tribal messiahship. Messiahship activities are only possible on the foundation of the mainstream dispensation, that is, Judeo-Christianity and the Unification Church. Without this foundation the Messiahship activities would have no meaning.

Now, because of True Parents' victorious worldwide conditions, we can inherit tribal messiahship. Our tribal messiahship activities are also to be connected to the historical mainstream dispensational foundation. In other words, tribal messiahship activities should be horizontally connected to the vertical religious mainstream foundation. Tribal messiahs must work together with this foundation and connect it to the True Parents. This can be done through your work with your relatives in your home town, in your home church area, with other Christian churches, or with any religious person who has a foundation to receive God's grace. Through the tribal messiahs' presence and activities, the vertical dispensational foundation is able to receive God's grace and blessing.

Now, our good ancestors, from no matter how far back in time, are anxious to help the tribal messiahship activities on earth, in order to receive God's grace. Beyond national and religious boundaries, and based on the foundation of true love, the good spirits will assist the tribal messiahs.

Since the beginning of the era of the second generation, young people are the most able to receive God's providential grace. Therefore, we must especially seek to teach youth about God and True Parents' message of the Divine Principle.

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FRONT COVER: Father and Mother, in traditional Korean hanbok, have their portrait taken in front of an Oriental wallscreen. (Photo: Derald Bleu /New Future Photo)

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SECOND

Blessed Couples' Conference

PART II

REV. SUN MYUNG MOON
FEBRUARY 21, 1991, WORLD MISSION CENTER

Translator: Dr. Bo Hi Pak

My goal is to make one world under God, and I want to accomplish this before the year 2000 comes, which is when I will welcome my 80th birthday. How can we create this unification?

The world has been divided into 10,000 different directions because the body seeks after carnal desire. Therefore, unification at every level begins in oneself. When mind and body are not united, your love cannot be one beautiful pure love, nor can your work be one pure single-minded effort. Nothing can be one. All your five senses will work in two directions making you see a double image, so how can you loudly say to others, "You have to be like me"? Could I tell you to do what I could not demonstrate myself? Always my determination is even if you cannot do something, I will make it happen. I always talk with my mind and body united. I do not tease anybody, speak idle chit chat, or talk in a joking tone. Do you say "yes" to your friends with a united mind and body, or is it just lip service,

spoken only with your mouth, but not with your heart and mind?

Your mind is eternal and your body must be 100 percent obedient to it. So many times today you have said, "Yes, Father!" and raised two hands. But as soon as you leave, do you forget? Are you thinking instead, "Oh no, I have this problem and that worry"? When lunch time comes, your mind tells you, "Before you go eat, why don't you witness to one person? Then you can eat a victorious lunch." The body will say, "What are you talking about, mind? We've got to eat lunch first! After that you'll have energy to go witness to two people." The body always has good excuses and seems to say something very smart—following its idea the result would be even better. But even if the result sounds better, the body's mission is to obey the mind, period. You should always check to see if you are listening to the mind's orders or the body's orders.

American people love to joke, but think about how few jokes are holy and how the great majority instead are immoral, relating to Satan's work rather than to goodness.



Returning from Korea to New York, True Parents visited Hawaii on February 8, 1991. For the next three days, Father's main activity was fishing. Among the fish caught by Father was a 134 pound Ahi, which is the local name for the Pacific Yellowfin Tuna. On the last day of their visit, True Parents visited church members in Honolulu.

PHOTO COURTESY: A. ROGHANIAN.

*You have absolutely no idea how difficult it is for God to
elevate holy men out of this fallen, degraded environment.
I have so much sympathy for God.*

Satan is always saying, "Everything is just a joke, why don't you laugh?" However, many things people joke about are very serious. American culture is a joke culture, an abuse of freedom culture, not a true freedom culture. You have absolutely no idea how difficult it is for God to elevate holy men out of this fallen, degraded environment. I have so much sympathy for God. You may not be able to make your whole body holy, but even if you can only make one eye holy or even half of your mouth, it is at least something that you can offer. Your mind is always encouraging your holy part and attacking the other parts, saying "You must also become holy."

DO YOU FOLLOW YOUR MIND OR BODY?

We have to consider even seemingly trivial details about how to eat, how to live, and how to die. All three are important. Are you concerned to have nice food, using beautiful dishes for each gorgeous meal? Or can you live on McDonald's food three meals a day, desiring only to focus on obeying your mind? Your mind will say, "Instead of eating the best food possible, I am going to serve other people, share with and help them."

When you obey the order of the body, your conscience will hurt because your mind is always working in God's direction. You may have only a very humble bed, or even be sleeping on the floor, but the mind feels very light and very joyful while the body will complain. Look at how humbly I have dressed even though this is a public place. When you stand in the middle you can easily reach out to those in high society as well as to those at the bottom. When I was young, I wore clothes thrown out by the army. I dressed as a beggar, worked as a laborer, but thought like a king. My mind and conscience are always free, thinking about both worlds. If your conscience is guiding you correctly, it is welcome in the highest as well as the lowest possible place. Humble and holy people are most natural. Each night reflect upon the day's activities and ask if you obeyed your mind or not.

You must live correctly, and you must die correctly. If you die for somebody else, for the sake of the country or world, your death is a precious and holy death. You may not have the chance to fight a war or die for the world, but the important thing is that motivated by God's Will and purpose, you serve your spouse, parents, children, God and True Parents, and country. If you die while you are doing that, it is a successful death. The grandparents of a family represent the past ancestors, your parents represent the contemporary world, and you yourself represent the future. Thus by serving your family you are serving the entire history—past, present and future. Connecting those three levels means connecting all history through love. For that reason grandparents, parents, and children want to live together. But many American couples don't want to have too many children or to live with their parents. American

families lack that vertical love system, and consequently their horizontal love is very changeable and unstable. Grandparents, occupying God's position, mother and father, and you yourself, equals the heavenly four-position foundation.

LEARN TO LIVE UNSELFISHLY

I heard a very heartwarming story about a Korean-American blessed couple. The American husband has two elder brothers who are both married, but are not Unification Church members. Initially his whole family persecuted his Korean wife, saying, "Why did Rev. Moon give such an ugly Korean girl as a daughter-in-law?" But after many years, the parents discovered how much better she was than their other daughters-in-law, and were so sorry they had complained. When the father's birthday came, the eldest daughter-in-law brought a big box, but it had very cheap stuff inside. The second daughter-in-law brought a medium-sized box but it too was like a make-believe gift. The Korean daughter-in-law brought a very small box. Did the parents seem to be disappointed? No, they thought, "The best, most precious daughter gave this to me." When they opened it up, they found a big check. She gave it saying, "You need some money so that you can enjoy yourself; go out for a meal. My husband and I worked for one month to prepare this gift. Please accept it." The parents were so moved that they completely broke down in tears. They feel, "This is the kind of daughter-in-law I can leave my entire inheritance to because she would never spend one penny of it for her own sake. She would spend it for the goodness of the family, the children, society, and nation."

In many cases people think that Unification Church members become beggars, but if you become pure through begging, it is for whose sake? Are you incapable of earning money? Not at all. You are not rich because you are devoting yourselves and your energies for the Will of God and the sake of the country.

Suppose a master gives some money to a servant to purchase some things. Instead of thinking, "I am a good servant so I should make some commission off of this," what if the servant even adds his own money because he didn't have enough to buy the things? When the master finds out he would think, "This servant is not a servant—he is more like my son. I can give him my entire fortune." Then suppose that master gave some money to the servant to spend on himself and sees the servant give the entire amount to an orphanage, plus adding his own pocket money. The master will be deeply touched and again think, "I can give my fortune to that man. He will spend it for the sake of goodness." That is the road to prosperity. Everything else is the road to disaster.

Many people thought I was coming here to take money to my own bank account in Korea. But instead of taking any money, the world-wide movement has contributed

My way is to teach by deed. Do you think that God is just jabbering nonstop all the time? God teaches silently.

more money to America than to any other single country in the world. With that kind of money would you like Father to give you a salary? If you are given a salary and add your own fund-raising money would you then use that money for the sake of charity? On the contrary you sometimes think, "Oh, I want to go where I can get more salary."

EVERY PENNY FOR GOODNESS & HUMANITY

You should die well. I do not want to lie down sick for many months or die in a hospital bed. I want just to go on with my mission and one day Heavenly Father will say, "My son, you have suffered so much. You come home." You are eyewitnesses to my life, so you must live like me, though it won't be easy. And after you pass away, you again have to meet me. If you can say, "I exactly followed your way so I am automatically close to you," that is the natural way. I will say, "Yes, that's true." But if you don't live like me, you cannot lift your face to me in the spirit world. I will not know you and you will have to turn away.

I have understood God's position and have absolutely followed His way. That is the wisest course. Though people say I am crazy, I will continue in the correct direction no matter what kind of obstacles exist. Do you only want to follow a convenient course? Satan likes that but you don't belong to Satan, you originally belong to God. Do you want to hear me say, "Go ahead. Earn a lot of money, live well, that's your job. Show me your big house and big automobile"? Or do you want me to tell you to give every penny for the sake of humanity and goodness? The second direction sounds almost cruel, but in terms of eternal life, it is the best.

What is the difference between your physical parents and True Parents? Your physical parents always say, "You're clever and could have a good job. What are you doing fooling around in the Unification Church? Rev. Moon only makes you poor. You could go earn money. You could feed your kids better and live in a big house. I'm ashamed of you." True Parents say, "No, work for God, for the country, world, and for the sake of others." Which path will ensure your eternal life?

When my children were young, they could seldom have a meal with me. Sometimes they would be sitting at the table eating with Mother and I. If suddenly a leader came I would tell one child, "You go upstairs." If two leaders showed up, I would tell two of the children to yield their seats. One by one all the children would be chased out. When they were young they said, "Mom, Dad, what kind of parents are you? You are only the 36 Couples' dad and mom." I always told them, "Wait until you become 20 years of age or more. Then you will understand us." Many of them are now over 20 years old and have received the Blessing. Now they realize what we have been doing and cannot lift up their faces to us because they complained so much. They can only say, "Father and Mother, we are very

sorry. You really are living and loving for the sake of the world. We must follow in your footsteps. We are very honored to have True Parents as our physical father and mother." Hyo Jin Nim is writing many love songs, but they are always centered upon True Parents. Hyo Jin Nim cries when he sings his songs because he thinks of Father and Mother. My children understand what I am trying to do.

TEACH YOUR CHILDREN HEART TO HEART

The East Garden staff includes 12 nationalities, all living together in one house! Twelve different languages are spoken. I understand each staff person's strengths and shortcomings, good and bad habits. But I never call even one to say that what he or she is doing isn't right. American people truly can't understand that, but my way is to teach by deed. Do you think that God is just jabbering nonstop all the time? God teaches silently. I don't want to say much to you either. I now look at you as grown up children because most of you have become moms and dads.

Don't look at your children thinking, "Oh, my loving daughter, my loving son. . . ." Think, "This is not my son. This is God's son. He belongs to the world. I must be a model of a true parent to him." It is not easy to become a model parent or spouse. We are not talking about a secular spouse; we are talking about a heavenly good one. It is not easy to become a good older or younger brother either. It is done by heart, not words. So heart to heart contact is the best education for your children. Spanking and scolding your children is not the best way to teach. Let them understand your heart. Gradually but surely they will. They are smart.

I started out today's important meeting by saying that world unification begins from the unification of mind and body. It starts with "me". As you become a true person whose mind and body are unified, unification happens as a logical consequence. Self-centered men and women will never bring unity or harmony. You are born for each other, not for your own sake.

God wanted man and woman to become one in mind and body centering upon His true love. God's way of loving is to invest totally, 100 times 100 percent. When we imitate God then we always wish our object—our spouse and our children—to be better than ourselves. God invests totally and then forgets. God does not do love bookkeeping!

Every day God invests more and continually invests eternally. Therefore the recipient of that love has a relationship with God that we call eternal life. That is why eternity comes into being. When you deeply believe that God created you and all things for the sake of true love, then you can suddenly feel God and all of the creation come so close to you, so intimate. Sometimes you feel mechanically, "Oh God is so far away. I have nothing to do with Him." No! God is very close to you—He created you because of His love. The objects of God's eternal true love are the only

ones who can enjoy eternal life.

GOD'S TRUE LOVE PLACE

God created two kinds of human beings, giving men what women need and women what men need in order to fulfill love. Therefore in order to fulfill love you have to totally unite mind and body and have give and take with each other. This is the secret. No one can deny that true love is the purpose of creation. True love is unchangeable, unique, everlasting, and ultimately valuable. God wants to rest there. If you lose true love, then you lose everything. If you get true love then you get everything. So God wants that kind of love and He wants to see that kind of man and woman who are unified forever, not just for an instant. Man and woman want true love unifying them. This can only be done centering upon true love, the place where God exists. The place of God's love is like the true love mind and the opposite sex's love is like the body. Combine them and you can move anywhere in the universe. The whole universe will welcome people who occupy this happiest place of true love, the place of freedom. There will be no obstacles there. Everything will push you on, up, up, up to delightful surprises, power, and ever-increasing happiness. It is a wonderful and joyful world! The individual mind cannot imagine how it can be fulfilled and completely happy. Only God's true love can do it.

Without true love you cannot unify mind and body, man and woman. So you have to take the concept of "living for the sake of others" completely into you. Only then can you make the ideal society. The absolutely most valuable thing is true love—living for the sake of others. So woman was born for the sake of who? Woman? (No!) And man was born for the sake of woman. Women, how wonderful that sounds!

Everybody likes True Father. (Yes!) Why? (True love). When Father is here, the room is full. When Father leaves America, it becomes a vacant place immediately. Father comes back here and—vroooooom!— the place is full again. That kind of powerful influence is the power of true love. You can have the same thing as me. You can go everywhere and be a true plus attracting a true minus. The God-centered give and take generates a global sphere of influence. That is the ideal center where God can dwell. In a family where there is parents' love, grandparents' love, and children's love, all kinds of love can be experienced.

Do you want to make a peaceful world for yourself or for others? True love—living for others—is the true motive.

For hours I have been expounding on just one subject—true love, the source of peace and the solution to the world's problems. If you become the personification of true love, all happiness will begin from you. Because of you



CHRIS GARCIA / NFP

your family becomes a happy true love family, and your community can become a true love community, nation, and world. When true love is practiced and perfected between your mind and body, you are the beginning of the unification of the world.

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS IN YOUR MIDST

By practicing and teaching true love I want to solve the world's problems. The world solution is really not that difficult, but it depends upon oneself. This is what I am really trying to let the world know. The religious world is nothing more than an extension of the mind. The body is expanded into the political reality. Therefore when you govern your mind and body you automatically govern the religious reality as well as the political reality. Always remember that the mind and conscience are on the side of God and the body is the ally or instrument of Satan. Like God, your mind keeps investing and forgetting and thus we say the mind represents God's side. However, the body centers on "me," on taking love, making give and take centering upon self. Satan's thinking is, "You are my property." But God is different. "Mine is yours. Yours is the family's. The family's is the tribe's. The tribe's is the nation's. The nation's is the world's. The world's is the cosmos'. The cosmos' is God's property." In that way the small thing is connected to all the bigger, most precious things based upon

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true love. How valuable this is! It is so different from the communist concept of what is yours is mine! You have to know very clearly what is God's side and what is Satan's side in you, separate them, and then discover how to occupy the body so that it too becomes God's place. You do this by going the humble way, leaving self-centeredness behind.

Now we can clearly understand what Jesus meant when he said, "The Kingdom of Heaven is in the midst of you." When you become the possessor of true love, you become the palace of true love and God dwells there. Then the Kingdom of Heaven is within you.

I know so clearly what the spirit world is and what its rules are, and you must practice them on earth. There is a train track to the spirit world, but if you don't fit the rails you cannot move. You cannot change the rails—you have to change yourself. When you go to spirit world it is too late. The vibrations of true love here on earth and in the spirit world are the same, so you can run on the same rail from here on earth straight to the true love terminal in the spirit world.

I want to teach you very, very clearly. Self doesn't exist in the spirit world. Those who live without self, that is, without selfishness, here on earth will fit perfectly on the spirit world rail and will go straight into the Kingdom of Heaven. I am a big locomotive pulling the train cars. Will you become one of the train cars behind me? The twelve pearly gates are there. As long as you follow Father, you are capable of going in or out of any gate. Inside the train you can sit together with God and share an ice cream cone in a party with God, True Parents, and yourself! It's amazing—I am telling you something the rest of the world could not believe! But you just listen all day with lots of interest, joy, and laughter. I'm sure you are a bunch of kooks! You are a different race—the true love race.

Everything that I needed to do here on earth as the Messiah and as the True Parent has been done! Yesterday you were told restoration of the elder son's position is done. Restoration of True Parents' position—done. Restoration of the kingship position—done. Furthermore the spirit world is in the Cain position and you are the Abel. Spirit world must listen and be obedient to you. All I have to do now is unify the Fatherland and that is only a little bit away. It is really only a matter of time.

You know that 55 communist leaders came to see me in East Garden. I asked them, "Those who believe in God, raise your hands." Only a few hands went up. Then after a two-hour sermon I said, "Those who do not believe God exists, raise your hands." There were none whatsoever! If these hard-line communists can be turned around in three nights and four days, through the television or the radio we can teach the entire world Principle for one week, and then it can also be turned around! It's a matter of teaching. Restoration in the beginning looks very hard but in the end it is not hard. It will be done quite quickly.

THE ROLE OF THE TRIBAL MESSIAH

Through the Washington DC Television Center we can telecast all over the world. Wherever you look you will see Father and Principle lectures. Children will say, "Mom, come over here and look at this! Drop everything." So all the family will listen to the Principle on the television set! Just in the nick of time that day will come.

To conclude, unification between mind and body and unification within your family, centering upon true love, are the two primary goals for blessed couples. I will trust that you have taken notes on my instructions and will fulfill them. Now when you go to your hometown, you are to become the saint of your family so that it will be united around you. Your deeds and actions will impress your relatives and give them tremendous inspiration, just like that Korean daughter-in-law. She already accomplished the tribal messiah's role because she completely, naturally subjugated her clan. By doing the same, you will become more than just a blessed couple. You will complete the tribal messiah's mission and be elevated to become heavenly citizens.

The textbook of the family, of tribal messiahship, lies in uniting the three levels of grandparents, your parents, and your couple by serving with true love and by uniting your own mind and body. This is the central model that only has to be expanded to other families, relatives, and community people. Then you will become a tribal messiah. The clan level represents your ancestors; your parents represent all the human family, and your place is their children. Those people combined in one represent the past, modern, and future generations. This is the textbook to connect all generations with true love and to make the atmosphere of Heaven on earth. That kind of atmosphere connects immediately with the spirit world. In your lifetime you have to follow that same course in your family. That is the point of going back to your home, the center of your tribal messiah territory. This is your mission. You can do it as I did it, following the same formula step by step. You have to cultivate the restoration course each day.

Today this conference was centered upon the blessed family, because now I am giving you an extraordinary mandate and responsibility. The situation in Korea has improved though there is still negativity against our movement. Our church's responsibility is to go into the community to evangelize. Actually the Korean church originated in North Korea. So if the evangelism is successful then this can move the government and Kim Il Sung will have absolutely no place to stand.

I have made a system in Korea such that every level of leadership down to the very bottom has the mission of tribal messiah. Also another movement is reaching non-Unification Church families. They were given True Parents' picture to put up in their homes in a very prominent

All the people of history can only get results through you. You have to think, "I am representing past history and the future generations." That is the kind of value you have.



place. On the 31st Children's Day, I ordered the spirit world to stop exploiting you and instead to assist your work. The spirit world is in the archangel position and should protect Adam's position. From now on you as subject can completely control the spiritual atmosphere. True Parents' picture identifies a home that has accepted the True Parents. So every morning, though the family cannot physically see them, the ancestors of that family come and bow to True Parents, and then kick out all the satanic elements from that house. "We have to protect our lineage," the ancestors will say, "This is my children's home. Satan, you have no business here. Get out." So a picture of True Parents in any home will safeguard that family.

After making the national base harmonious, then the world base will be no problem. The Israelites separated after Jesus died. But now the Korean members should become tribal messiahs connected with me and make the foundation to restore the nation. In Korea all the older generation members are moving into external duties and the younger leaders are in charge of the Church. That is actually the elder son's position restored. Rev. Sung Pyo Hong is now president of HSA-UWC.

RESTORE YOUR TRIBE

When the national level foundation is secured, Kim Il Sung, the worst father, cannot remain in the north part. I don't want to destroy Kim Il Sung and God wants to save him and all the communist world as well. So even the worst communists will testify, "True Parents saved me."

The fall of man destroyed the family, therefore in the final stages, restoration must begin at home. A country consists of families, so when the family has been won then everything else will be automatic. Your registration in the Kingdom of Heaven will be as a tribal messiah in your hometown. Women are more ready to move the hearts of other people. So when you go back to your hometown, men, who were created first, will be in Cain's position and women will be in Abel's position. In restoration the hard-

est work is on the women's side.

In Korea our members are going to the small villages and will have one evangelical meeting and several days of Principle seminars. When there is a great deal of response they will go to another village and another. In this way they will reach the local leaders as well. Just as Jesus' organization had 12 apostles, 70 disciples, and 120 disciples, you will organize in the same fashion. That's

the way tribal messiahship will be accomplished. If Korea doesn't do the job, you will do it. Teach them a lesson.

Centering upon me you have the trinity system in America. Actually, the trinity means the three children of Noah and Adam, so with True Parents in the center a four-position foundation is created as in Noah's family where they had three sons and three daughters—eight members of the family. Therefore there should be eight people in your trinity, including Father. Jesus also had three main disciples. Quickly create eight members of the family. By fulfilling this beautiful and sacred family responsibility you can go directly from the family to the Kingdom of Heaven. Thus you are in a better position than Jesus.

Do you feel hope or despair for the future? (Hope!) True Parents are on earth at only one time in history. How happy are the people born at this time? How could you choose not to participate? All the people of history can only get results through you. You have to think, "I am representing past history and the future generations." That is the kind of value you have. You don't have to have the best face. Your content is what is most important.

You are ripened fruit. Therefore you have seed inside. Go out and plant it so that you multiply yourself. Fertilize it first with smelly fertilizer and then put rich topsoil on it.

I trust you will get down to work. I am not going to rest either. I have already planned the next ten years' schedule. There is a lot of work to do to connect heads-of-state and make one world truly under God. I will travel around the world, bringing with me the most distinguished diplomats, professors, and journalists. Then any country will have to pay attention and we can reach the highest possible levels. Already many high level people contact me to apologize for the past and to invite me to come to their country.

Those who pledge that you will go to your hometown and give your life, fortune, and sacred honor to become the true God-centered ancestors of your family tree and the tribal messiah of your hometown, say "Amen" and raise your hand! (Amen!) □

(Edited for Today's World)

The Selfless Offering

by Hyo Jin Moon

March 17, 1991, Belvedere

Today I would like to share with you the most precious thing that Father has shown me. This is something that can make a difference in my life, in the lives of all the church members, and in the future of the world. I am going to give you my personal testimony about what Father showed me that gave me hope. By duplicating Father's example, we can truly change the world.

More than ever, especially now that we have cable television, many churches are getting involved in the broadcasting medium. They are transmitting their message of Christ to the world. There are certain connecting themes in almost every program. Simply put, that theme is sacrifice. In other words, they show certain segments on what their church is doing—usually how they are helping needy people in the world communities. These programs evoke interest by showing the audience that someone cares. These churches do not just dismiss the fact that the world is not perfect. They recognize the many unsettling things and many inadequacies in every aspect of life. They are addressing these problems through church-sponsored programs that help the needy, feed the homeless, and help families in difficult economic situations—promoting a kind of sacrifice. More and more people are trying to get the public's attention through that theme.

Everyone yearns deep inside their heart to connect with Heavenly Father. They want to realize the greatest hope that every man has—the ideal world. Although everyone feels they want to realize the ideal, not many people know that the way to attain their goal of a harmonious, joyous, eternally prosperous world is only through Heavenly Father. But with that kind of desire present in every person's heart, there must be an avenue through which it can be manifested in this physical world.

Many religions are providing their own version of how mankind's great expectation will ultimately be realized. But lately, more than ever before, Christianity is stressing the way to attain that goal is through sacrifice—nothing else. This raises a very interesting point because we all dwell in an environment in which we experience problems. So when we find someone willing to give us answers or make those problems go away, obviously we will be very interested in their suggestions. Certainly such a message attracts a lot of attention.

The most important priority

The greatest lesson Father is trying to teach us is that sacrifice, in every aspect of our lives, is the most important priority. It is becoming much clearer because the time is getting closer. When you look at Father's life, there is no person in the entire world who has sacrificed himself for the sake of the goal—the Will of God—more than Father has. There are many churches in the world who have greater traditions and histories than us. Many have been

around for thousands of years, but what Father has done within his lifetime, within the last forty years, is incomparable. Father has attained the foundation and is now in that position to make a difference in the world, to shake the world. That is amazing!

When you study Father's life history, you can see that one step after another Father was shunned and totally rejected. Father had to go through tremendous obstacles and suffer numerous betrayals—several of which were committed by the people closest to him. Father had to endure all hardships to establish the foundation we inherit today.

When you look at Father's life it breaks your heart. Every step of the way he had to endure the most difficult thing of all: selflessly giving his utmost for the sake of others, even those who completely rejected him. Being rejected is not an easy thing to endure in and of itself; but giving every ounce of your energy to someone who rejects you, even accuses you, is just unthinkable. Put yourself in that position. Think of the worst experience that you had—then try to put yourself in Father's shoes. For example, remember some experience that hurt you: many times those painful experiences of yours stemmed from rejection. But how many of those rejections came after you had made a complete sacrifice? That is the constant pattern in Father's life.

By carrying out his responsibility, Father met with rejection of his selfless offering to others.

From the time he received the revelation from Jesus Christ and was given the mission from Heavenly Father to proselytize Korea and bear the responsibility of True Parents, Father's life story bears this pattern. That realization is overwhelming. By carrying out his responsibility every step of the way, he met with rejection—rejection of his selfless offering to others.

Even the prepared people rejected him. Before it became necessary for Father to go to North Korea, Heavenly Father had prepared many sects in South Korea to follow the Messiah. In order for there to be a Cain and Abel union firmly set on a national foundation, then, according to the Principle, Father should stand as Abel on the national level foundation. Based on that foundation of restoring the elder sonship position—the position of dominion—by Abel (South Korea) embracing Cain (North Korea), he could have expanded to the world level. But that was lost when the chosen people failed to accept him. I don't know their personal interpretation of what happened or the content of their revelations, but they did not live up to the expectation of Heavenly Father, which made it necessary for Father to



Hyo Jin Nim joined Father and Mother as they happily made a calligraphy motto for the Washington Television Center at the opening ceremony in September, 1990.

endure many hardships.

I am trying to sift through this history and am piecing a heartbreaking picture together. Over the years I have discovered many details that are agonizing—one thing after another. The tortures alone were incredible. But you don't even see that in his face.

Father's heart for America

When I first came here, America wasn't what I thought it would be. As a little boy, I used to think about America as a very wonderful place. If there was a kingdom of heaven on earth, I thought that America was certainly close to it. But I was so disheartened when I experienced what America is all about. If America did that to the heart of a little child, can you imagine what it did to Father? Imagine yourself in Father's position, with his mission. How would you have carried it out?

It was unbelievable to look at America twenty years ago and imagine what had to be done. But Father gave every ounce of his energy to make sure everyone in America heard his message. He began the Day of Hope tour, speaking about the Principle, explaining the Will of Heavenly Father to the American people. He has continuously given every ounce of his energy.

He has built our movement in America, yet we have not lived up to Father's expectations. In spite of our shortcomings, Father has created a network of sincere people in America and now wants to move America toward God's way. He is constantly gaining broader ground in the task of making his words heard. But coming this far obviously did not happen without incredible sacrifice and tremendous effort.

After Vietnam, America lost its ability to lead the world toward a certain goal. Father arrived just as Watergate was

happening. Many who looked to America's leaders as torchbearers of the spirit of the founding fathers were sorely disappointed because increasing numbers of politicians were shown to be deceitful people and the government was losing the trust of the American people.

The sixties gave rise to the free-spirited hippie movements which shunned traditional American values. Values that originally stemmed from Christianity were rejected for being too restrictive. This country's youth wanted change because they saw so much hypocrisy and corruption. It was not limited to certain aspects of society, but extended into many of the religious movements as well. Young people had a natural yearning to create an ideal harmonious world where everyone loved one another. But rather than centering on God's way of realizing it, they centered on the satanic way. This resulted in many young people living with

no boundaries or laws—promiscuously sharing themselves. That lifestyle was a product of the young generation's effort to break away from a corrupt, hypocritical environment, trying to realize the ideal world by applying their own methods. Because so many young people were involved in such experimentation, they created a sense of community.

Young people sought happiness and gained a simple satisfaction through drugs, sex, and music. Because young people saw so many compromises on the part of the religious leaders, they participated in these things to break away from religion. Although a religion might have been good and just, they wanted nothing to do with it because it was taught by hypocrites.

Understanding Father's course, his suffering and self-denial, shows us the way in which we can change America and the world.

Their new lifestyle brought them momentary joy, and resulted in a generation being lost to the physical joy of drugs and free sex. Among these people were many idealists. They thought the way to change the world was to become involved in something that could change the masses. Consequently, many of them became journalists working in the print and broadcasting media. This satanically-controlled generation produced a lot of talent which would change and mold America's future; many eventually became editors and major media contributors throughout

America. Father arrived during their heyday. Recently we witnessed the victorious completion of Father's suffering course in Danbury where he initiated *The Washington Times*. Even before Father began *The Times*, he had started the *News World* and News World Communications. The reason for the advent of all this media was very simple: Americans were turning away from Heavenly Father and uniting with satanic, socialist ideology. Many current journalists, as products of the sixties, are usually of liberal political persuasions with many swinging toward socialism.

Capitalism stresses property and ownership; communism stresses distributing all the material wealth equally. The hook in capitalism and the free world is ownership, while the hook in communism is equality. But in "True Lovism," ownership and equality dwell together. It was Satan who separated these two qualities. Satan wants us to divide all these things—ownership stresses this division. Communism stresses just equality, neglecting man's uniqueness.

Develop your uniqueness

Everyone has a unique identity—there is no one like me or you. But how can individual uniqueness interchange with others? Through love—the giving and sacrificing of oneself for others. If I practice sacrificial love, then what I possess will also be yours. That would apply universally. Although each one of us is uniquely different, if we practice true love, that difference can be equally distributed everywhere. We are equal, not in terms of each physical individual, but because everyone can, through give and take of love, receive what God has manifested on earth.

God wants give and take with mankind. He wants mankind to represent His position, and recreate this world centered on this relationship. God is literally giving Himself to realize this goal. You are the owner of the unique quality that you have received from Heavenly Father. Therefore, it is your responsibility to develop it fully so you can have the deepest give and take of love with Him.

Capitalism and communism each have an appeal: one is the desire for equality, while the other is the desire for ownership. Because there is no unity, conflict results. Father is telling us the only way to combine these two is through Godism.

The more we substantiate what Father is trying to teach us, the more we will become the leaders whom people will try to emulate.

American journalists wanted to bring about change according to what they believed. Disguising themselves behind a veil of "objectivity," they were trying to multiply their fallen lifestyle, saying "This is what America is all about—freedom." True freedom was losing its ground and its boundaries. In any wartime situation, the transgressors who invaded first wiped out the traditions of the opponent people. That way, the people had no root, nothing to trace



Hyo Jin Nim: "I was there everyday (at Danbury), with Mother... Father was always encouraging us to do well in school, to do well at work and not to be discouraged."

themselves to or connect with.

As the lost generation proposed, we should love one another—but we can do that only based upon the teachings of God. That is the important thing. What the sixties' generation wanted stemmed from a different source.

The Watergate crisis provided the leftist media with a way to show America how conservatism, representing the mainstream traditional thought, was hypocritical. America's adherence to God's way of living was gradually losing ground and, bit by bit, America was dying.

The reason Father started News World Communications in New York City, and later *The Washington Times*, was to communicate to the masses. Satan's side was using the media to reach the masses, so Father also needed to have media available which presented God's viewpoint. You must have a body to realize Cain/Abel unity. If Father and Unificationism represent the Abel side, America represents the Cain side. Father had to establish a complete body to deal with the media, he needed a vehicle. Therefore, he created the *News World* in New York City.

To save this nation

Wherever Father stays is the center of the Providence. Father's dwelling place—East Garden—represents Abel's position. Father first invested in the *News World* newspaper in

New York City, and after that he made *The Washington Times*. At that time there was no voice representing conservative America in Washington DC, the capital of America. All the conservatives knew it. We invested an incredible amount of money to establish *The Washington Times* on a competitive scale. No one had been willing to sacrifice huge financial resources for a dying cause, but Father did it and not for his own reasons. Father knew America was important for God's dispensation because it represented certain aspects of Christian history and the free world. Although it was not perfect and had many inadequacies, it still represented God's side. Father also knew what America had done for Korea during the Korean War, so Father gave everything.

Father understood that if America continued to be dominated by leftist media and leftwing policies, America and the whole world would be in jeopardy. Father's individual mission would suffer the most grievous consequences if he used money to remedy America's problems and save this nation. With that kind of money, we certainly could have created nurseries, preschools, elementary schools, and educational systems for our children all across America. We could have bettered ourselves; but, instead, Father invested everything to save America.

Why am I stressing this? Because now other Christians are upholding and promoting sacrifice; but the bottom line throughout our whole life has been sacrifice. Father's entire life was sacrifice. The way in which we built this foundation was upon complete sacrifice! Father has the kind of ingenuity where our church could have built bigger buildings than the Vatican. We could have been the most elegant church, if we had poured all of our resources for our own benefit. Just think about the investments Father has made: none has gone for the welfare of the church. Everything went to the very people who hate Father. America locked Father up in Danbury. Father could have avoided going to prison, for there is no extradition treaty between Korea and America. But he returned, because he knew that by so doing he could provoke the religious community to stand up. This was important because more and more leftist media factions were encroaching upon religion, wanting to control religion and to allow only certain religions to exist. Father knew by going to Danbury he could ignite certain issues which had been dormant in the religious community. At least religious people would begin to address the problem of leftist factions trying to do away with religion and promote their own scuzzy, scummy, immoral way of living.

Influential people were using their power to promote satanic, socialistic agendas—the immoral, boundless freedom of the sixties generation. Father sacrificed himself to become an example for America to talk about. He realized that America was becoming increasingly satanic and religions were losing power which meant God was also losing ground. Because Father got involved in this issue, he kept the fire burning.

When Father entered Danbury, we began educating 7,000 ministers though videotapes sent throughout America. Father told these leaders that America was losing ground to the secular forces and this nation must wake up now! Father was willing to invest his resources to help American people realize the seriousness of the problem. Father will continue this investment until America is fully aware of this. That is his goal. This is what he did in every aspect of

life—the media, education, religion. Father invested every ounce of his energy to wake up America to its decaying situation.

Now, what is the hope for the future? The future of America lies in Father's sacrifice. I am not saying we should try to profit from or capitalize on Father's sacrifice. But understanding Father's course, his suffering and self-denial, shows us the way in which we can change America and the world.

Apply Father's pattern

Father has encouraged you to start your family hometown ministry or tribal ministry. You accomplish that by applying Father's pattern and example. Without using words or conjuring up some scheme, just selflessly sacrifice. Simply practice and accumulate sacrifice and, when the time comes, that effort will be the determining factor in restoring your own family. Even though all religions promise joy, happiness and eternal prosperity, one attains a good relationship only through self-sacrifice. Every individual who is involved in a marriage for example, is enduring a great deal of sacrifice. Each party has to sacrifice for the sake of the marriage and the family.

You have to appreciate Father's course. If you don't value it, you can't do it. You have to value what Father has done—and be absolutely grateful!

We are the ones who most clearly understand that ideal relationships stem from sacrifice for one another. But who among us will be its representative by manifesting that ideal? In brief, the more we substantiate what Father is trying to teach us, the more we will become the leaders whom people will try to emulate. We will be the people worthy to represent that idealism to the rest of the world. But the only way that can happen is through the foundation of substance or by us substantiating what we preach. That is what Father has been telling us: that the foundation of substance is most important. From the beginning when you joined, you were driven to sacrifice through the formula course. The fruit of that lifestyle will be the determining factor of the future. If we can show people that we have done more than anyone else in the world, then they will have no qualms about accepting what we teach.

The development of man's yearning to attain joy can be divided into three phases. During his childhood years, man experiences joy through the interaction of his physical senses with the environment. Certain things have to be exaggerated for children to get the message—physically stimulated to get certain points across. The second phase is the intellectual phase, where man's joy comes from intellectual interaction. The final phase is one of internal or spiritual satisfaction. When you come closer to death, you start satisfying your soul for the purpose of our life on earth is to prepare for the spirit world. The closer you get to entering that final dwelling place, the more urge you feel to bring gratification to your spirit. But joy is not automatic, it must be realized through physical interaction, so you have

to establish it. There has to be a structure or substance within individuals; based on the realization of that substance comes intellectual development which stimulates you to attain the greatest goal of unity with Heavenly Father.

Choosing God's commandments

Adam and Eve were capable of realizing the importance of God's commandment through their intellect. Adam could fall because he was put in a vulnerable position; God wanted Adam to become like the Creator through his own volition. In this instance, volition is the most important element in the creation process of man's perfection. Through his own free will, he must choose what God has commanded him. But the commandment Adam received from Heavenly Father to him was uncertain. Because he wasn't sure, Adam could be tempted. Based on his own intellectual understanding, he should have tried not to separate from his Father by persuading himself, saying, "God is my Father. I know He loves me and I love Him. There is one thing that He commanded me not to do. Should I keep it or

You have to understand the importance of sacrifice, and when you do, America will soon be in God's hands.

should I just abandon it? Right now, a certain idea is pulling me to experience it. I want to grab it. Maybe it will give me some satisfaction, maybe God will be pleased." But I'm sure another side of Adam was saying, "No matter what the outcome of this new idea, I should stick to my Father's plan and direction." Adam could have done that by himself, through simply realizing the importance of God. That is the base from which you can receive God, by seeing God as more valuable than the temptation.

Our childhood stage of development, when we experience physical things, is most important. But we do not live in an ideal world. The formation or physical period is completely controlled by Satan. With every physical experience from childhood into the teenage years being influenced by Satan, when children reach the intellectual phase, they try to use their intellect to satisfy Satanic habits. Habits can be a good thing, but they certainly can be used wrongfully. If you are living in the satanic environment, your habits can really be wrong, and Satan knows it. The only way you can manipulate things is by knowing. Satan knows and manipulates God's plan for his own service. Satan completely controls the initial phase so he can control the world.

That is why Father is now focusing on restoring the cultural medium within American society—the "pop culture." Ask yourself, "Why should the American pop culture be the popular culture of the world?" It is devastating. Even Korea's 5000 years of history is being devastated by the American pop culture. And what is the pop culture? You know well. It literally brings you momentary physical joy. America's motto has become to live day by day and it really affects modern day people. We have to improve it.

The most important thing, however, is that we must sacrifice. We will show other Christian broadcasters greater sacrifice than they could ever imagine. We will let them see for themselves all the suffering and sacrifice Father has

gone through for the sake of the world, to liberate Heavenly Father and to restore the world! But we need to generate more evidence. People of the world are influenced by physical things. So we will show them what we mean in terms of substance—we will inundate them with substance! We will show them what we are doing every week. People tend to believe what they hear in the media.

The more we know about Father's life, the more we appreciate Father for his suffering; then we can truly bring victory to our hometowns and to America. You have to appreciate Father's course. If you don't value it, you can't do it. You can't force yourself to do it. You have to value what Father has done—and be absolutely grateful!

Father has created many physical establishments, so that we could have the resources to make a difference in America and the world. But we need to follow Father's footsteps! Someone has to set an example to become the true ancestor in their lineage. Someone has to be the central figure in their own household, to restore it; in their lineage and community, to restore them; in their nation, to restore it. You represent that person. Father needs you to fulfill the dispensational cause. Without you, God's ideal cannot be realized. So, once we understand that Father's value lies in his great suffering for the sake of love, for the sake of God and for the sake of humanity, the sooner we can harvest the fruit of our labor.

Everything worthwhile requires suffering and sacrifice. Please do your best to bring Father's victory to your own hometown! Our victory lies in suffering and sacrifice, so the more we can sacrifice the better. But our sacrifice could never compare to Father's sacrifice. That is for certain! I have the luxury of going into the studio and making certain programs. Of course it takes labor, but that is nothing! Of course we need to go out and witness, of course we need a television ministry. Someone needs to speak the word. Those things are difficult, but they are nothing compared to what Father had to go through. Do you understand what I am saying?

If you think selfishly, it is foolish, because your situation and Father's position are incompatible. You admit that, right? (Yes.) But you want to become like Father, right? (Yes.) That is the important thing. So if you want to be like Father, if you are "Father-want-to-bes", you must sacrifice. You have to understand the importance of sacrifice, and when you do, America will soon be in God's hands.

I will try my best to make the second generation happy, through what Father has given me. I want to create an environment that we and our children can be proud of. I want our culture to be second to none. So, let us try our best to make that goal come true. It will happen; it just depends upon how hard we work. Father has given us the tools, all we need is our ingenuity, effort and sacrifice to do it. I know we can have victory. Thank you very much. □

(Edited for Today's World)

Birth Correction

We are deeply sorry for an error in the birth announcement of Ye Jin Nim and Jin Whi Nim's new baby, which appeared in the March 1991 *Today's World*. Shin Choon Nim is a new heavenly son, not daughter.

A New Dimension of Heart

by Dr. James Baughman

Dr. Baughman, President of the Unification Church of America, lectured at the 21-day workshop for Russian students held in Budapest, Hungary in January and February of this year. The following article, edited from an interview conducted by Mrs. June Saunders, reveals the incredible insights Dr. Baughman gained into the heart of the Russian people and the course our American movement must take to help bring the world to God.

Like anything that is done in accordance with True Parents and God's Providence at this time in history, events like the Budapest International Leadership Seminar don't occur without some price. We need to keep in mind that Father's many years of sacrifice is the foundation for these changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Secondly, for even the conference itself, there seems to have been a price to pay. It is probably no coincidence that Gerti Zwerger, the wife of the Bulgarian leader, was killed in an accident just a day or two before the conference started. Based upon Gerti's willingness to go into Eastern Europe and work as an underground missionary within a communist country, we felt strongly that her beautiful offering was used for the success of this conference. To honor her sacrifice, we wanted to keep her name alive during the conference through prayers of repentance and gratitude.

What happened in Hungary was an amazing event! First of all, Satan tried to block this seminar with money and transportation problems, but miracle after miracle got the students there. The conference was an international effort. From America there were representatives from CARP, the church, and ACC to support the project. From Europe, there were national leaders and members from many different countries. Members from Eastern Europe were also helping. The significance of many aspects of this meeting may not be fully understood until years later—including the spiritual price that was paid.

My personal testimony

When I first joined this church, I was very conservative, very anti-communist and very anti-Russian. Because of that, I never made the distinction between being communist and being Russian. Coming from a mid-Western

town in Kansas, a devout Catholic studying physics, with my hair always as it is now, I was very conservative. I knew there was something very wrong about communism. One of the reasons I joined the church was because it had a clear answer to communism. After I joined the church, I started to have strong feelings that one of my tasks in the future was to go to Siberia to liberate people in the concentration camps. The feeling faded, and even the concept of going to Moscow which Father declared in 1976 seemed beyond me.

When Father invited me to attend the World Media Conference in April 1990, it was such an honor and privilege. Miracles seemed to happen daily. While celebrating Father and Mother's 30th anniversary, we received word from Dr. Pak that President Gorbachev would meet True Parents on that day. It was the icing on the cake.

I had planned to stay as long as I had to in Russia, but no longer, for I didn't feel comfortable at all. I saw what I had expected to see: a very depressed kind of society where everything was dingy and the people didn't smile. But on the last day, I made almost an 180 degree about-face. An overwhelming feeling of compassion and repentance came over me, as I realized that what I was feeling was not only very arrogant and irresponsible, but totally outside of Father's thinking. I really had to ask myself what my responsibility was in this. I then wanted to stay longer and tried to change my schedule to leave on a later flight, but it wasn't possible.

When I returned to America, the Russian students' program had been initiated. I wanted to connect with that because I felt there was still some unfinished business in my relationship to the Soviet Union. Based on Father's understanding that the Soviet Union and China were now brothers with



President Baughman plays the guitar as the team leaders and the workshop guests rehearse a few songs before the lectures begin.

the United States in a triple archangelic position to the Adam and Eve nations, I felt America had a responsibility to help bring the Soviet Union and China to God's side. It is important for America to share its blessings by giving our time and energy to help these nations. This is the primary reason for my involvement to this day. I tried to understand my responsibility in terms of representing America in this providence, not even just as the President of the Unification Church of America. In this project, I always try to reflect on how America is doing this, and to trust that whatever the result, it will come back to influence America.

Teaching in East Europe

When the 40-day pioneering began, I received a miraculous blessing—the Soviet Union was chosen for me during the lottery for country designations. I took it very seriously, and decided to go as soon as I could. October 10 was the beginning of an 80-day period that would finish at the end of the year. We were asked to do our 40-days during that period.

I stayed for 70 days, until December 23, for two reasons: First, the internal reason was to represent America on the pioneer condition for as much of the 80 days as possible. The second was that by the end of my 40 days, I was deeply involved in the spiritual development and education of as many as 100-200 advanced students in the Principle at the very critical time when they were deciding whether they would continue to study. There were very few teachers. I was coordinator, song leader, general affairs and lecturer all in one for more than 50 people. For

me to leave would have put an extra burden on the other staff members there, and the needs of the students would not have been met. I felt a very personal connection to the students.

During my time in the Soviet Union, I learned much about the Russian people and decided to become a Russian in my heart. I believe this is part of our goal to become citizens of the world, not just of the country that issues the passport we carry.

resented CARP, to raise up that archangel nation. So the follow-up is a joint effort of our Unification Movement. When that work is successful, I need to bring that foundation of success back to America to be implanted in the hearts and minds of our brothers and sisters here. Through this testimony of my experience, I am trying to inspire our members to not only appreciate these countries, but to feel the competition from abroad to witness

I feel America has a responsibility to help bring the Soviet Union and China to God's side. It is important for America to share its blessings by giving our time and energy to help these nations.

I went to Korea after the condition to report my experiences to Father and to give True Parents some God's Day gifts from the students. I also delivered some letters the students had written to True Parents thanking them for sending missionaries to the Soviet Union to teach the Principle. Dr. Seuk delivered a petition which had been handed to him for Father, signed by all the students who had been in my class, saying "If it is okay, please send Dr. Baughman back."

I was open to any idea. When Father and Dr. Seuk started discussing the Budapest conference, Father turned to me and said, "Why don't you go there and teach?" Father challenged me to "study Russian quickly." I went to Budapest soon after that to teach the 21-day Divine Principle seminar. I represented the American church working hand in hand with Dr. Seuk, who rep-

and teach. I want America to increase our witnessing and education efforts, so we can produce and contribute something to the World Culture and Sports Festival. In that way, the victories and blessings in America and the Soviet Union reinforce each other, bringing these two archangels closely together so that both nations can fulfill their role in the Providence. As President of the American church, I need to inspire America to beat the competition. Yet I am also responsible to teach the competition how to become the best. How do you coach two rival teams? Only for the purpose of Heaven; it is very exciting. So wherever I find myself, I just try to infuse the greatest sense of responsibility and desire for success. The main purpose of our experience in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe is to understand what we can learn to inspire and



Dr. Baughman and Rev. Won Pil Kim welcome the workshop participants at the opening festivities in Budapest.



With the city of Budapest as a backdrop, a small group from the workshop huddle together in face of the Hungarian winter.

strengthen our work in America.

The heart of the Soviet people

Father has said there are four characteristics of the Soviet people that are ingrained in them at birth and influence them throughout their daily life whether they are aware of them or not. These characteristics have already guaranteed them longevity as a people and will guarantee them success in the future.

The first attribute is a daily life of sacrifice. When I was there, it was almost like a daily diet of fasting; restaurants don't take you, and there are only certain foods in the markets. You have to stand in such long lines in the school cafeterias that you often decide to skip eating.

So to teach them about the formula course and the need to sacrifice certain things takes on a whole new dimension for them. Since they don't have much to sacrifice materially, they need to sacrifice their atheistic and materialistic ideas. They hold their intellectual reasoning very dear to their hearts. This necessitates a different approach to teaching them the Principle.

A second aspect is they live a daily life of discipline, even just to get around. Surviving winters of 20-30 degrees below zero Celsius testifies to their tenacity. The armies of Napoleon and Hitler couldn't do it. It was good training for me while I was there. Ordinarily, traveling in the city is difficult at best: taxis don't always pick you up, buses are really crowded; but trying to do it in harsh weather really takes it out of you. The people are rugged, hardy individuals. You see that in how they study and in how they just per-

severe through everything.

A third characteristic of their nature is they live a daily life of piety. When I visited some of the Orthodox churches and monasteries, I saw tremendous piety especially in the older generations.

The fourth quality of their nature is loyalty: loyalty to their families and loyalty to an idea. The fact that communists are willing to give up their lives for a cause while not believing in life after death is quite different from those who sacrifice their life for an ideal clinging to a belief in an afterlife. Sometimes I wonder if many religious people would be capable of that depth of allegiance.

Three generations of one family often live together in the same apartment: grandparents, parents and children. Housing is also difficult to get, so that lifestyle may not be a matter of choice but of circumstance. We helped the students understand how to gain from such an experience, rather than to feel it was their burden. Many people feel very close to their families as a result of this situation.

Lessons in Budapest

The Soviet Union was the first nation to fall to Satan's ideology, so it is like Satan's firstborn. Now it is in the archangel position with God and True Parents trying to pull it back. Satan knows if he lets even one part of it go, the door will open in ever-widening degrees and he'll lose it. Satan also realizes that should this nation get back into God's hands it will be invaluable to Heaven's side. Therefore, Satan feels he can't lose even one battle.

Budapest was the first battle in the

sense of people wanting to actually join our church. Although there were other spiritual battles preceding this meeting (Father meeting Gorbachev, and other inroads), no one prior to this conference had become a full-fledged church member. The real victory will be when some of those who have joined receive the Blessing.

In Budapest, every day we confronted tremendous spiritual battles both within our individual selves and among the student body. We felt tremendous energy and power flowing through us; but we also felt as if we were striking an iron wall. At the end of the day, after hammering away in the lectures, I felt as if I had been crushed by a 20-ton truck. I would go to bed at night totally exhausted, yet unable to sleep. My body was completely knotted up from the heavy battle going on.

One night we decided to pray. When there hasn't been a Christian foundation for three or four generations, it is awkward to even suggest prayer. We felt they had to experience prayer, first by being in an environment where we prayed and then by praying themselves. Some of the students were advanced from previous lectures; they had studied prayer and some were actually trying it. But most of the students didn't know prayer. So we decided to have an evangelical night at the end of one day's lectures. We closed by singing "God is not dead!" calling everyone up front in an informal group. Many people came reluctantly, while some just stood back. The majority of people standing up front were clapping, singing, and having a great time. Directly after that, I began to cry during an in-



Discussion groups after each lecture were well-attended and animated. The students' questions delved into the depths of the Principle, enabling them to grasp the meaning and importance of what they were hearing.



Nature walks, such as these students walking on the iced-over river that meanders through Hungary's capital, helped the Russian youth to "come out of their shells."

tense prayer. The students also began to cry. The people who were just observing felt very uneasy. They thought it was one of those emotional manipulations—again a very rational feeling. The following day, that prayer meet-

We gave some really hard talks: "Look you've been given something very special and very precious. You now have the choice to save your country or not. You're not doing something for Rev. Moon by being here, you're doing something for yourself and your nation." One sister said after hearing that she cried all night. She told me, "I just realized that you people have left your families at home, sacrificing a lot to be here to save my country. My country is dying because it's choking itself to death." With that, she began to feel a sense of appreciation.

People had many deep spiritual experiences; the next gen-

eration who are going to be leading that nation have now broken out of Satan's grasp. That is the greatest victory.

What America can learn

In working with the Soviet students, we realized that Satan has been choking America as well. Father mentioned this at the Blessed Couples' Conference. He said that Satan has been trying to destroy this country with drugs, free sex, and all kinds of ailments due to radical individualism. How do we take what we learned in Budapest and apply it here to break that strangle hold? How do we liberate America?

Father has said that we have to mobilize the spirit world. During the staff meetings of the Budapest conference, Dr. Seuk made the same statement. We didn't quite "catch on" to what this meant until midway through. We began to realize that in the end it is not us who transformed people, but God and their ancestors. What we have to do is to make a foundation for that to happen; usually this means a foundation of indemnity. This is the providence of the start. By paying indemnity on their behalf, the spirit world and

God can now begin to work. That's the role of the spiritual parent.

So we decided to pray desperately for these people and their ancestors. We sacrificed sleep and food—whatever it took. The students started having dreams and overwhelming feelings about ideas they had never before considered. On the foundation of these experiences, they began signing membership, volunteering to stay involved of their own accord.

I cannot say that everyone there was totally committed to the Principle and True Parents. But Father's way is to give the blessing, like the parable in the Bible of the sower. It then becomes the responsibility of the one who hears, whether the seed will flourish. Father can never be accused that he didn't give an equal chance to everyone. He "calls" everyone in the Biblical sense that "Many are called but few are chosen." The same goes for our work there.

One thing I learned in Budapest was the value of learning how to teach. Members really need to learn how to teach. I feel strongly that our purpose as part of the True Parents' family in this age of restoration is to witness and teach, ultimately to bring people to True Parents' lineage. We are encouraging several of the Soviet students who know English well to teach. Most of the people in Russia don't know English, so we need people to start teaching the Principle in Russian.

Another thing we realized is that the students need more than wonderful lectures and wonderful intellectual experiences. Intellectually they know the Principle very well. The question



Panel discussions were an evening event each day: (left to right) Myra Stanecki, Dr. Baughman and Richard Buessing answer the extensive questions of the students.

ing was all that was discussed in the group sessions. The students were trying to decide if it was manipulation or genuine spiritual liberation, which many admitted to feeling afterward. We had to break down all of the barriers and perceptions they had been raised with all their life, as had generations before them.

Signing membership is another sensitive point for those who wanted to join. Most of these people had to be members of the Consomol if they wanted to have any status in their school or society. In the Consomol, part of their job was to make sure others didn't get involved in any kind of religious activity. Their concern is that if internal politics in their country become more conservative, they will be under the old communist regime. The students are afraid that the government will get hold of a list of people who signed membership, then they'll lose everything. So to sign membership with the Unification Church is a very serious matter.

Signing membership is for the purpose of connecting their whole ancestry to True Parents. We told them they represented the Soviet Union and the generations under communism. Some of them were moved to tears by that deep realization. They felt they could save the generations that had suffered so much under communism, but they had to grow up fast.



This is just one-third of the students who studied the Principle in

is experiencing the Principle. We're not going to change their lives by a series of lectures; we've got to practice the foundation of faith and foundation of substance. That's really the issue and the crisis in the Soviet Union now.



This student is posing a question to the nightly panel; the students were serious and always very detailed about what they needed to know.

The way we are going to do it is to practice true love. We must sacrifice our lives for them in the simplest but most profound ways that they will never forget. They will know that there is something different about this—that true love is powerful and that it can change lives.

Also, with such a small staff and difficult circumstances, including the instability of the government, how can we help them fulfill a formula course? To have church centers is difficult, and we can't really fundraise. That's where we need members' prayers and support. Also they need literature. Members could make donations

for the purpose of purchasing study materials. Understanding these problems, helped me to realize our need to learn to teach here in America.

Russian history

One question I would now like to pose is: Why does God love this nation so much? To answer it, I would like to share a little bit about the history of Russia. Around the year 800 A.D., Charlemagne was crowned king of the Christian Empire. He was already king of the Frankish empire, which was a small subset of this larger area. At this time, the Byzantine Empire was at its strongest. Just a few years before Charlemagne was crowned, negotiations were conducted which eventually would have led to a marriage between Charlemagne and Irene, the Empress of the Byzantine Empire.

That marriage would have unified all of the Christian Empire. At that time, Rome was on the Abel side and the Orthodox Church was on the Cain side, relatively speaking. When Charlemagne was crowned king of the Christian Empire, that created a split between Rome and the four Holy Sees, although there was already a lot of disagreement between the five patriarchal Sees. Jerusalem said, "This should be the center of Christianity because this is where Jesus was born and where he worked." Rome said, "No, Peter was the rock and he was given the keys to the kingdom, so this is where the center of Christianity should be."

When Pope Leo secretly crowned Charlemagne, behind the backs of the other Patriarchs, it was like saying, "This is the legitimate Christian Empire and you people are on the fringe." There was a very strong rejection of this and eventually a split developed between the Orthodox and the Catholic tradition, which was finalized in the year 1054.

Around 802, Irene was deposed, so the marriage never took place. Charlemagne tried to dominate the church tradition and the Orthodox Church started to go

their own way. They sent missionaries, Cyril and Methodius, around the year 864, into what is now Bulgaria.

As we know, the Messiah could not come to the Christian Empire at that time. What happened between the Catholic and Orthodox traditions is almost like a split between Isaac and Ishmael—the Eastern/Western, and Catholic/Orthodox Churches split. So now we are faced with the need to bring the Orthodox and the Catholic, and also the Protestant traditions together. The Protestant Revolution never even touched the Orthodox tradition.

The Third Rome

In the 900s, Christianity eventually reached the highest leadership of Russia. There were no Czars during Charlemagne's time, but the wife of the leader, Oleg, took over his rule when he died and she was converted to Christianity. Around 989, the first Czar of Russia, Vladimir, was baptized a Christian and he married the sister of the Byzantine Emperor. He did exactly what Charlemagne was supposed to do. It drew these two very close together.

After 800-900 A.D., the Byzantine Empire began to falter, just as the Roman Empire did, so that by 1453, the Ottoman Empire completely subdued the Byzantine Empire. Constantinople fell to the hands of the Muslims. What happened then? Rome had fallen. Constantinople had fallen. Russia was beginning to rise in prominence at this time so that by the year 1510, one of the Russian Orthodox priests wrote a letter to the Czar, Vasily the Third, saying, "Know then, pious Czar, that Orthodox Christian realms have converged in thy single Empire. Thou art the only Czar of the Christians in all the universe. . . . The two Romes have fallen, but the third stands and no fourth can ever be."

Basically, this established the concept of Moscow being the Third Rome. Then in 1589, Boris, who was Czar at the time, detained the Patriarch from Constantinople and kept him under house arrest until he was convinced to officially make Moscow the Fifth Holy See.

In 1989, they celebrated the 400th anniversary of the patriarchate of Moscow. What else happened in 1989? Everything! Turmoil, all kinds of liberation of the Soviet Empire, the fall

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22



Hungary. What a crowd!



Ye Jin Nim — Jin Whi Nim
1981

left to right

Shin Bok Nim, Shin Hwa Nim, Shin Choon Nim, Shin Goon Nim
1982 1988 1990 1983



**Jeung Jin Nim, Kwon
Hyung Jin Nim, Sun**



In Jin Nim — Jin Sung Nim
1984

Shin Myung Nim, Shin Kwon Nim, Shin Sun Nim
1986 1989 1990



Un Jin Nim — Jin Hun Nim
1986

Shin Yeon Nim
1990



**Jin Nim, Young Jin Nim,
Jin Nim, Yeon Jin Nim**



Hyo Jin Nim — 1982 — Nan Sook Nim

Shin Jung Nim, Shin Ok Nim, Shin Gil Nim, Shin Young Nim
1983 1989 1987 1986



Hyun Jin Nim — 1987 — Jun Sook Nim

Shin Won Nim, Shin Eh Nim
1988 1989



Kook Jin Nim — 1989 — Soon Ju Nim

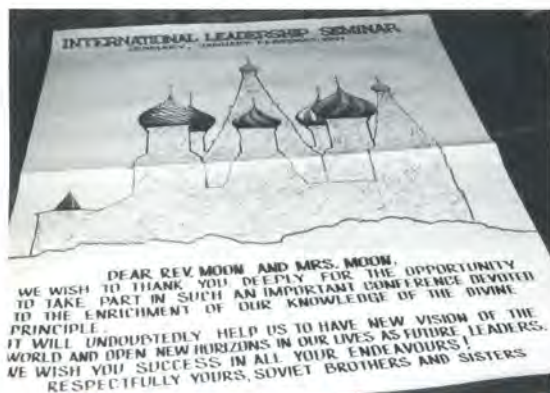
* — 1981 — Year of Blessing

* The True Grandchildren's year of birth is listed according to the lunar calendar.

Photos by Derald Bleu
New Future Photo
Feb. 18 1991

of the Berlin Wall. There are some very interesting parallels here. In 1990, the fifth official Patriarch of the communist era was elected, so it was a new era for the patriarchate in the Russian Orthodox Church of Russia.

So I think spiritually, at least for some time period, Russia had been the



The student participants often create original cards to thank True Parents for helping them understand the Principle.

center of Christianity, the bridge between the East and the West. The Soviet Union's land mass is strategically located between the East and West. Of their 17 republics, some are very Oriental, some are very definitely Middle Eastern, and some are of the European type.

Father often says that Christianity should have gone East and I feel that God wanted to use the Russian nation. I cannot say that this is in fact the reason why God wants this nation, but if you read their history, you begin to appreciate the essence of Christianity in that country.

God must love this country very much or Satan would not have zeroed in on this country as the first to fall to communism. Russia was the first Adam country during World War I, according to the Divine Principle, but in 1917 Satan invaded through the Marxist revolution. Like in the Garden of Eden, Adam was deceived and fell.

America came into the war in 1917, just before it ended in 1918, and occupied that position spiritually. Then Russia became what is now the Soviet Union, and Satan used this nation as a pivotal point to cause Adam (North Korea) and Eve (China) to fall.

The Orthodox Church has always seen itself in a central position. I believe that it is and that now God is claiming it back, restoring it to an

archangel position on God's side.

Students' internal obstacles

I want to share some other problems the Soviet people face. In the Orthodox tradition, they have a word "pravoslaviy." It means "true worship." It is not dogma. The core of the Orthodox tradition is ritual and worship. They are interested in doctrine and dogma, but they are not strongly doctrinaire like fundamentalist Christians or Catholics. For them, ritual is more important. In a Russian Orthodox Church, there is a three or four hour service and every prayer has to be memorized and done in a certain order. They believe that if you do things in the right order, you are changing and saving your soul. Because of their emphasis on ritual, they may not have a lot of trouble with our doctrine, but they have a lot of trouble with unison prayer!

Now most of these students do not have much of a tradition, but some of them do. They are getting more and more interested in religion and they are studying the Orthodox faith with the same intensity that they are studying the Divine Principle.

Also, even though many of the students have rejected Marxist-Leninist thinking in many respects, it still influences the way they look at life and the way they are going to understand

Our sacrifice—our prayer and our willingness to pay indemnity, our service to them—is going to be the most

the Principle. The 73-75 years of Marxist-Leninism have basically strangled the Russian culture. In the 1700s and 1800s there were tremendous cultural advances which matched and even superceded that of almost any other Western nation.

But Marxist-Leninism stifled that whole tradition. Yet if you go to Russia now, people are still so proud of their tradition of ballet and their masters in music and art. Now, Russia is beginning to revive and restore not only their museums, but also their churches, which is another kind of art which is very valuable.

These students are coming out of this. They are dealing now with their

newly-found freedom. They are very curious about religion. One of the strengths of these people is that they are tenacious. If they do not understand something or if they do not agree with you about some point about God or spirit world or whatever, they will keep trying to understand. That is one of their strengths.

Let me give you a few examples of specific Marxist-Leninist ideas that they are still very much affected by. One of the main tenets of Marxist-Leninism is the survival of the fittest. It is a materialistic view of the human being that comes from Darwin and Malthus. Basically, it states that for survival's sake we will do anything to protect our life.

How does this affect their view of the Principle? First of all, there is no room for the concepts of mercy, forgiveness and love. They do not like the word humility, because it connotes being obsequious or so submissive that you let everyone walk all over you. To them, being humble means losing their position and status in society. However, the core of our concept of restoration according to the Principle is the principle of obedience. So we have to teach them that humility is a strength by supplying examples showing humility in the Principled sense as a strength of character that can change the world—an "aggressive

humility." Mercy is a strength. Forgiveness is a strength. These virtues have the power to transform enemies. We must demonstrate that these are not weak characteristics of human beings.

The second problem is the concept of materialism—everything else is an illusion. Spirit world or spiritual things are derivations of mental construction. One of the hardest things is to help them have an experience of true love, an experience of God and spirit world. Even if they do experience it, they may rationalize it away by saying that they were put into an environment which caused them to create this experience in their mind. So we must show them that emotional experiences of love are spiritual things, not physical.

The third point is the dialectic, which emphasizes conflict between good and evil for change to occur.

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WORLD PIONEERING CONDITION

The first testimony in this 40-day world pioneering section is from the regional leader for West Africa 2 and the national leader of Senegal, who tells of his experience receiving pioneers in his country. The additional testimonies were given by pioneers after completing their witnessing efforts around the world.

"Open Wide..."

by Justin Fleischman

When I first heard the announcement of the pioneering condition, I realized it was a serious and providential step. But it was only when the first pioneer arrived that I could begin to appreciate Father's wisdom in establishing the circumstances as he did.

The first pioneer arrived on the very first official day of the condition period. He was a brother who had already spent two years as a missionary in Central America. He was not scared at all of going to a strange land where he didn't speak the language. I was very inspired by his internal courage and determination. Within one week, another sister and brother had arrived. For them, it was a first experience of settling into a foreign land, but they were not fearful about getting their feet wet. Although I never requested it, these three Americans integrated themselves into our national movement as if they were new members who wanted to succeed in a new mission. They telephoned in weekly reports, and sometimes even more frequently—one brother discovered that immediately following each conversation, something good happened. So he increased the frequency of calls. I, for my part, to not feel indebted to them for the investment they were making in my country, visited them in their pioneer situation.

Dissolving ignorance

From this initial experience, I realized that one of the greatest victories of

this condition overall was to break down the ignorance which exists in America about the developing world. It's easy to sit back from a distance and think one knows what it's like—there are many tear-jerking reports and news stories. But once the pioneers committed themselves to coming to their mission, by getting on the plane, they were automatically and inevitably destined to have their eyes and hearts opened up wide. They all had deep experiences, and most took many photos and slides. Their experiences will be retold many times to other Unification cen-

Once the pioneers committed themselves to coming they were automatically and inevitably destined to have their eyes and hearts opened up wide.

ter and home members, physical families and home church meetings. The larger effect of this will be a completely new understanding about the other hemisphere. I think many more people will be moved to accept or even volunteer for pioneering next year.

For the past few years, I have felt that America should be giving more to the Third World, and because I work here, especially to Africa. On several occasions, when visiting the United States, I brought African pro-



Justin Fleischman, shown with some of the American pioneers to West Africa, felt they integrated into the church family as if they were new members who wanted to succeed in a new mission.

duct to fundraise with. Members were sympathetic, but I realized that almost no one could really understand the day-to-day situation we face. In Africa, we have businesses, but due to weak national economies and rampant corruption, we can show high sales volume, but never get ahead. We are influenced by student strikes, military curfews, outrageous taxes and even religious customs (for example: Ramadan, the Islamic month of fasting). It's a very fragile existence. We would love to send members to America or to Europe to fundraise, but it's almost impossible for them to get visas—even transit visas to get to Korea through New York. (They have to stay overnight in the airport.)

Natural solution

I was nervously wondering how to send our 40 Blessing candidates to Korea. Then, one of the pioneers volunteered to pay the ticket for one person from Senegal to Korea—\$2000! One by one, the pioneers have been making their pledges—\$1000, \$2000, even \$3000 was pledged by one pioneer and his wife. I was so moved. I re-

alized that this is the natural outcome of the condition—true cooperation between American and international members to advance the world-level providence. Father is very wise. He could foresee the long-range advantages of this condition.

On November 17, 1990 (Children's Day) there were 11 pioneers gathered in Senegal—some just finishing their

40 days, others just beginning. In looking back, I can see that even though our celebration was simple, God's heart must have been amply warmed by such a mixture of American and African members. We look forward to a similar reunion each year. And I want to thank all of the pioneers who came to any country for their 40 days—Heavenly Father really loves your

sacrifice, even if you think you didn't do very much. Just being here and meeting us and our members and understanding their backgrounds (socio-cultural and economic) by seeing their native villages, is enough for now. Tell everyone what you saw and felt, and then come back next year. We'll be expecting you! □

A Blending of Hearts

Parakou, BENIN

by Yasutomo Tsubaki

Benin is located in West Africa between Togo and Nigeria. There are about 3.5 million people in a country with a land mass equal to that of Switzerland and Austria together. A French colony until 1975, the main language is French, in addition to the native languages of Fon, Bariba and Dendy. A coup d'état in 1975 established a communist government; the "Cuba of

all goods being imported from France, Nigeria and China.

I went to Benin as my family's representative. Our pioneer city is Parakou, which is located in the northern section of the country about 250 miles from the main coastal city, Cotonou. I met many beautiful church members upon my arrival in Cotonou. Although we couldn't speak the same language, our hearts were united in our determination to bring victory for True Parents.

Two Benin members, Alfred and Judias, volunteered to assist my pioneering mission—they accompanied me on the long, dusty, 9-hour train ride to Parakou. When we finally

reached our destination, we went right to work. We started visiting our new neighbors around the house we rented in Parakou. We knocked on doors every day for 10 days. On the second weekend we held our first 2-day workshop which was attended by 7 people. Alfred gave very inspiring lectures and organized our activities. The second 2-day workshop was attended by 8 people. Just one day before we left the area, the third seminar was our biggest success with 9 guests attending. These guests, selected as our best contacts, were given the responsibility to learn Divine Principle so they could continue teaching after our departure.

This witnessing condition was a great experience with Heavenly Father's deep heart. The language difference presented an additional external difficulty. Everyone knows how much Japanese people love to eat miso soup and rice everyday! Although the food



A few people from the small Benin fishing village represent the 150 members of their village and Christian church who now follow True Parents.

in Benin was very different from anything I had ever eaten, the one ingredient never missing was God's love, which helped me to appreciate and enjoy each meal.

After returning to Cotonou, I helped with their witnessing activities during the final part of my 40-days condition. Several months earlier, one small fishing village had joined the Unification Church. The village population totals 150 people who all attend the same Christian church. It seems that the founder of this church had had a revelation about the root of sin and that the messiah would come again as a man born on earth. He taught this to his congregation and shortly afterwards, he passed away. Before he died, though, he told his people to look for the person or the church that taught these things.

In May 1990, one member of that church met the Unification Church and attended workshops. He returned to his village and reported what he had heard. Then the pastor attended a workshop too! He realized this was the true religion they had been searching for, so the whole town joined. They



Two Benin members, Alfred and Judias, assisted Yasutomo Tsubaki on his pioneer mission to Parakou.

Africa" until 1989 when its doors opened to democracy.

The people of Benin are very spiritual with the main religions being indigenous animism (60 percent), Christianity (20 percent), and Islam (15percent). There is a minimal amount of industry, with tourism being the mainstay of the economy. There are a few exports of cotton and coconuts— with virtually

have all heard 2-day workshop and half have heard the 7-day workshop.

Two American members and I visited the village to give testimony about Father and his work worldwide. Since I am an Ocean Church member, I felt very close in heart to these people. One of the other American brothers, Mackay, is the Sea Hope IV captain. We really felt God had chosen this country for us. We rode in canoes to see how they fished. They have pound nets, slowing nets and gill nets. Crab pots too! They are also fishfarming! Really good fishermen!

In Cotonou, one member had contacted a top political leader in Benin. He had been the ambassador of Dahomey (Benin's name before 1975) to South Korea. At that time, he unsuccessfully tried to meet True Parents. Now as a political leader, he seeks advice from True Parents on how to prepare for the future of Benin.

I was deeply moved by all of these experiences in my family's new country. It is our blessing to be able to serve and work with brothers and sisters in Africa. On the foundation of the good organization and hard work of our members, spiritual world is definitely helping; I am sure great success will come to Benin. □

Cotonou, BENIN

by Carmen Kimura

Although Benin had close ties with China and North Korea in the past, communism didn't totally dominate the lives of the people because religion and free enterprise were not suppressed. Under the communist government, the people were encouraged to keep their tribal language and customs. The country is very poor with an average income of 5000 francs a month (about \$20.00 US). This means that many children do not attend school as they must work to help support their families.

Our church in Cotonou, the capital, has about 200 members. They are all home members trying to maintain jobs. However, many do not work because there isn't enough work to be found. The church is very poor. Those members who don't work are willing

to fundraise but the top fundraiser can only raise the equivalent of 4 to 8 dollars a day. While I was there, the members opened a small cafe. They are serving food and drinks and small cakes (which they also sell shop-to-shop and in the markets). They invested in a small motor boat to take tourists back and forth to Ganvie, a small village built, literally, on a lake 30 miles north of Cotonou.

They also began a very brisk business of selling medicines on the street. One of the sisters works in a hospital and she buys the tablets in bulk. They then repackage them into small bags and resell them. I can't imagine ever doing this kind of business in America.

Momma to members

When I was introduced to the members, they all wanted to take me to their homes and keep me there. I stayed with Pierre and Philomene Ammoussouvi, the national leader and his wife. After three weeks of members constantly coming to see me, I began to visit all the members in their homes and stay with them. Most of them live in small "apartments." That is, they have 2 or 3 rooms and share a common well where they get their water, and if they wash, they must go behind the building or into one of their rooms. Many have to cook outside since they have no kitchen. Even in the best homes they have to wash all their laundry by hand, beating it over stones. I discovered that laundry and ironing was a job for men in Benin.

As I visited the members, I could see that they are all longing for spiritual food. They want to know everything and don't mind sitting for hours to hear anyone speak to them. I had to repent deeply because it was only me and not someone much better than I.

It was also very unique to live in the African section of the city. Most of the people had never been close to white people before. Every time I went out the gate, I was mobbed by little children who wanted to touch me or to shake my hand. Everywhere I went, it was the same: followed by women and little children. The kids would al-



Carmen Kimura stayed with Pierre Amoussouvi, the national leader of Benin (on the far left) and his wife Philomene (standing next to her husband). Jan Vier (in the center) and Philbert Dojiohn, assistant to Mr. Amoussouvi, are part of Benin's church family.

ways start chanting, "Yobo, yobo! Bon soir! Ca va bien? Merci." It means, "White, white, good afternoon. How are you? Thank you." It was quite exciting.

Wherever I went, I was always addressed as "Momma" among the members. Most of them are very young, spiritually. They really need an older member to help them and to take care of them. Mr. Kanadani, the Japanese missionary, lives in the Ivory Coast because while the communists were in power the North Koreans accused him of being a spy for South Korea. He and his family have been living in Abidjan, Ivory Coast since that time. He comes to visit on occasion but he cannot stay for a long time.

I helped organize a sisters' group. The sisters had not been able to do so much because there are many children and no one to keep them. Now, they are witnessing 3 days a week and 3 sisters keep the children in their homes. Also, the brothers have organized a fundraising team. They work from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The members are all willing to work very hard and they do. I only wish that I could have done more for them in the short time that I was there. I look forward to returning to them. I really felt that this is my family and I love them very much.

I am very grateful to God and True Parents for this mission. Only Father could know to do something so great and wonderful as this. □

Laughter and Tears

Poznan, POLAND

by John Williams

Hearing Father talk about this condition at Belvedere gave me such a spiritual lift. Father said that 80 percent of the members were stuck on the individual or family level. After Father announced the pioneering I gave my biggest "Mansei" ever. I knew this was my opportunity to not only give love and truth, but to advance myself beyond the crippling family level. My goal was to leave as soon as possible, despite financial difficulties.

room was filled with members, when I thought I would not be meeting any

members there. We were surprised to see them and they were just as surprised to see us. Not only were we surprised by the crowd, but the fact that they were waiting for the arrival of President Won Pil Kim, Reverend Ahn, Mr. Abe from England and the national leader. What a reception! Finally the leaders arrived. The Polish members were truly sincere in their efforts to serve us. We could hardly get a free moment. They wanted to hear all we knew about the True Parents. I felt the Polish members were much better than me, yet they looked up to me so much. It was embarrassing sometimes.

Give them everything

President Kim spoke to the three of us giving some very valuable advice. He suggested putting notices up at universities to teach English and offering English conversation. He also said that we should give everything that we had to the people—all our love, all our truth, all our money, all our time, everything. He said whether the people accept or reject us will mean whether or not they will accept or reject God. I have always loved and respected President Kim; God could not have given

us a better advisor.

Leaving tearful members the next day, I arrived in my town of Poznan at 3:30 a.m. After dragging my luggage all over town I decided to check with a government agency in order to rent a room. The lady behind the counter was friendly and could speak some English. She and her husband later took me to many museums and churches. Polish people in general are very sociable and good-hearted.

To make it short, three weeks later,

thanks to God, I had five guests for two-day workshop. All were very young students, two brothers and three sisters. In Poland, being an American is like being some kind of hero; so talking to people was not that difficult. Sometimes students would call me looking for conversation just because I was American.

At the two-day workshop, the conclusion of the Principle was given. This was really something! I felt it was too fast. It was a good workshop but I knew that this would take a lot of aftercare. My guests liked the members, but some of the Principle was difficult for them to digest. Poland is about 95 percent strong Catholic. Of the original five guests I took to workshop, only one kept faith. Her name is Magosha; she is a real saint of a person.

God in our midst

I went to the next weekend workshop with Magosha, along with two other sisters, Margaret and Anna. This time all three sisters were moved by the lectures. I believe this to be the result of putting them (myself included) on fasting and prayer conditions. We would often spend time in prayer and tears together. I felt God's heart was moved many times when we would cry together.

The three sisters and I went to a seven day workshop in Budapest, Hungary, a very beautiful town. It started to snow just as we arrived at the workshop. The lectures were given in English by brothers from Austria and Switzerland. There were six translators in the workshop, who spoke in Polish, Bulgarian, Czech, Hungarian, Serbo-Croatian, and Russian. We felt like we were in a United Nations building! We went through the workshop with plenty of tears and laughter. Usually when I laugh a lot I feel a bit guilty but laughing with my spiritual children, I felt God was right in our midst.

About the fifth day, the four of us went out to pray at night on a mountain ledge in the forest. We were singing "Angels Watching Over Me" and we witnessed about ten shooting stars. One day some of the East European members wondered why we were laughing so much, then someone walked over to me and said "You are able to laugh so much during the day, because you spend time crying togeth-



Guests from six countries joined together for a seven day workshop in Budapest, Hungary. The lectures were translated into Polish, Bulgarian, Czech, Hungarian, Serbo-Croatian and Russian.

Barry Geller and Chris Ogden contacted me several weeks later, just after receiving information that our mission country was Poland. We contacted the national leader of Poland and it was arranged that he would meet us at the airport. On the plane I was worried about not knowing the language, the culture, or anything about that part of the world.

A Polish member picked us up and drove us to the church center in Warsaw. To our surprise the whole living

er during the night." He was right. People are deep and I felt more serious in Eastern Europe. All they need is True Parents and they will take off like a rocket. People are really searching and they have no satisfactory answer to all their needs and the changes going on.

Repentance and gratitude

I repented for having such a limited understanding of Eastern Europe. There were times at the workshop I thought I had lost them, but it was just a matter of understanding their

hearts. They would take a much longer time contemplating or considering compared to Americans. Anna has had a few dreams and visions before and after the workshop. Margaret, Magosha and Anna have all signed membership.

Now aftercare for my spiritual daughters is a big consideration because there is no center or members in my mission town. Talking to the national leader, he agreed to send a member and open a center soon, but this may take some time. My spiritual children are all studying at different universities

in Poznan. They were all crying when I left from the airport in Warsaw. At times I struggle with having wasted so much time in the past when people in Eastern Europe are so anxiously waiting for some direction and truth. I also repent for America's exporting so much garbage to these countries. I thank my wife for being ever patient and supportive during my two months in Poland, and mostly I thank the True Parents for giving me this priceless experience.

And as for Poland—I shall return!

□

To Warm My Heart

Gognoa, IVORY COAST

by Annie Calavan

I arrived in Cote d'Ivoire on November 9, 1990, along with three other American pioneers. My heart was immediately touched—even the national leader, Mr. Akaishi, came to meet us at the airport. After a brief welcome, orientation and a night's rest in the headquarters, I was off, without delay, to my pioneer town.

The bustling, dirty, colorful bus station and market was the first jolt into African reality. The journey itself brought a realization of how conspicuous I was as a white person—the only one on the entire bus. Women wore colorful, traditional dresses; men wore basically Western-style clothes. There were children in large quantities—surprisingly peaceful and content, it seemed, throughout the entire journey.

Gognoa proved not to be a 'pioneer' town in the specific sense of the word, in that there are about 35 home members there. I was received so beautifully and warmly and soon came to understand that Africans are a very gracious people. Members of our church and most other people I met, were sincerely pleased to welcome me and expressed it in lovely ways. Each day at our house, gifts would arrive: eggs, papayas, chocolate cake and on and on.

Gognoa is situated in a jungle

oven—a tropical rain forest. It is such a different atmosphere than where I live in Boulder, Colorado. Yet, to see True Parents picture on the walls of the homes, to sing the same Holy Songs, and to recite the Pledge, warmed the heart.

As the only blessed member in Gognoa, I was struck by the responsibility we have as 'elder' members. I felt strongly that we need desperately to strengthen the foundation of our spiritual lives, especially now as many young members begin to join worldwide. The inspiration to live and work with young members was great. I am grateful to God and True Parents for this renewal.

As for the main witnessing mission, I quickly memorized a few essential witnessing lines in French and was armed for the streets! With other members, by myself and later with my fellow pioneer Paivi Yoshizumi, I could strive to witness. People were usually attentive to my awkward witnessing lines. Several were able to visit the center and be taught Divine Principle by my young brothers who were always willing and able to teach almost any lecture.

Even with my limited French, I was able to work in a clinic (I am a nurse) three mornings a week, and give vac-



Annie Calavan is shown with a few of her neighbors in Gognoa, Ivory Coast.

cinations. With the language problem I was forced to use a little common sense and also put myself in the hands of God. A useful method, but something I often do my best to avoid!

Visiting families in their own homes, I was moved to witness the extended family system, with children helping their parents in a way we rarely see in America nowadays. Many members could fairly easily bring their brothers and sisters to receive True Parents.

Now, back in America, my heart is comforted to receive a letter "My dear spiritual mother"—a letter of joy and gratitude, written after a 7-day seminar.

My husband, too, thanks me for my offering in Cote d'Ivoire. He himself experienced spiritual renewal, even as he remained in America fulfilling his mission.

I thank God and True Parents with gratitude and amazement as to how they are continually working in our lives. □

Geelong's Renaissance

Geelong, AUSTRALIA

by Hans B. Moyer

On October 21 I was on my way to Belvedere, to share Sunday Service with our True Parents. I had one burning question in my mind, "How can I represent our True Parents in my pioneer country?" True Father's message, "Love's Formula Course and Heavenly Fate," revealed to me the closeness of my living God, and the answer to my question. True Father reminded us to read John 14, if we are still unsure of God's love for each of us. I returned to Philadelphia filled with enthusiasm and determination to depart for a forty-day pioneering mission to Geelong, Australia.

The next day my wife and daughter brought me to the airport. The plane lifted off and twenty hours later I landed in Melbourne, where the leader welcomed me and shared some basic points of interest. We visited the Church and CARP center and met the local members. After a good lunch, I took the train to Geelong. Finally I was there! To my great surprise, the town was deserted. Where was everyone? I read in one shop window, "Closed for Cup Day." "What is Cup Day?" I wondered.

What should I do? I decided that even if the people were all gone, I could at least greet the trees, and houses, and witness to the environment. I later discovered that October 23 is Geelong's biggest horse racing event: the Cup.

I slept that night under the stars in Eastern Park. Spring was just coming to Geelong. The sights, sounds and smells of the season filled my senses with peace. Awaking early, I visited the downtown to observe the workings of this city I would call home for the next six weeks. My time here can be divided into two distinct stages. The first consisting of 21 days during which I was working on my own. I got a real

taste of Jacob's course. During the remaining time Bob Anson, my pioneer partner, and I worked together reaching out on a higher level in unison.

During the first stage I was confronted with both internal and external challenges on the individual level. While striving to digest the environment and the cultural differences surrounding me, I was confronted internally with my own limitations and concepts. Through repentance, prayer and studying truth, a plan of action and central theme slowly developed in my work. The theme I chose to use in all my outreach came from True Father's speech in Moscow, "True Unification and One World." It reads as follows, "A spiritual renaissance is



Hans Moyer (second from right, back row) and the Melbourne family share a morning service on Children's Day.

the precondition to any social, economic or political progress." I could meet my best contact soon after developing this theme. His name is Charles Liew. He is a graduate student at Deakin University and we could share deeply about the Divine Principle, True Parents and the Unification Movement. I began visiting churches and various social organizations, meeting many kinds of people and sharing with them centered on the theme. I was invited to a number of homes to share a meal and step by step the city of Geelong was a stranger no more. The first stage concluded with three days of fundraising and the celebration of Children's Day

on November 17 in Melbourne.

Embracing Father's Vision

From here on Bob and I began to work together. Many of the foundation contacts I had made earlier could now be further developed. Out of this cooperative effort many blessings could be given by God and our work took on a new dimension and scope. We participated in the planning and setting up of a "Prayer for Peace in the Middle East," where representatives of the Christian, Koori, Baha'i, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh and Muslim faiths gathered in a local auditorium with an attendance of approximately 400 people. We met many local clergy, professors, mayors and the superintendent of the Victoria Police. We tried to visit representatives of each aspect of the community, thereby gaining insights we hope will be valuable in our future efforts. Each community

leader was given an info packet including the "New Vision for World Peace" booklet and a flyer on the World Cultural and Sports Festival. All community leaders received us graciously and embraced True Father's vision with optimism and appreciation.

Along with this leadership orientated outreach we wanted to further our contact with the people on a one-to-one basis. Through Charles we were introduced to a number of

students and shared with them our vision centered on the Principle. We always gave out flyers for the World Cultural and Sports Festival, with local CARP and Church address information. We developed a survey for house to house visitation and built a mailing list for follow-up work. Through our work we discovered the cultural and spiritual diversity of the greater Geelong community. We could also make ourselves conscious of the real problems within our city that waited for a principled solution. Both of us became soberly aware of the reality that we represented the messianic hope to this

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Resolving Centuries of Strife

Interview with Thomas Cromwell, Publisher of the Middle East Times

Q: Could you tell us how the *Middle East Times* was initiated?

A: The *Middle East Times* was founded at the end of 1982, and the first edition appeared on March 7, 1983, in Nicosia, Cyprus. The original vision for the paper was to be a high quality, regional English language publication that would represent the True Parents in the Middle East media.

From the beginning, it had a significant role to play. Other area media is partisan, being either directly or indirectly controlled by a particular government or religious interest. Therefore, most of the media contributes to the divisions within the region. Since other papers are quite political in their approach to news, even inflammatory and irresponsible, people's emotions are often whipped up in support of a hostile stance against a particular people. Examples are the Arab-Israeli conflict, the traditional deep tensions within Syria and Iraq, the Arabs and Iran, and Egypt and the rest of the Arabs after Camp David. There is a constant flow of hostility between the various factions within the region.

We offer a vision of building a united region through cooperation and mutual understanding.

The *Middle East Times* has always promoted a regional view of the Middle East, taking a position of reconciliation between the different sides. We offer a vision of building one region through cooperation and mutual understanding. Because of this enlightened editorial position, we have won a certain respect from the outset.

Secondly, from its first edition, the paper has set a standard in editorial content and production. It has a better appearance and is better edited than any competing paper. When we started it in the early 80s there were a number of other regional English publications; but as we enter the 90s, most of those have disappeared. The oil bust that came after the initial oil boom of the

early 80s forced many publications to fold. Because of Father's support, the *Middle East Times* now stands virtually alone in the region, with the exception of some specialized business magazines, most of which have suffered considerably in recent years.

Several years ago we began sending the paper to some 18 countries in the Middle East. We built up quite a large distribution network. When we found that the sales were still shrinking due to the stagnant oil economy, we began a strategy of national editions about three years ago. With a regional publication you appeal to a readership with a certain regional interest; but that readership is inevitably rather small. But within

each country there is a substantial readership that wants to read a paper which focuses on their own news, for example, Egyptian news. The target market for the paper has always

been a very good quality readership—the diplomatic community, the international business community, expatriate English-speaking people within the region. In addition, there is a market that begins small, but is ultimately the most important and the biggest market: natives who speak English and appreciate a quality, objective, well-edited publication about their own region. This particular readership is the most interesting and has the greatest potential for growth, because everyone in the world is trying to learn English, with many of them having been educated in the West. This is the point of communication between the Western world and Middle East. Father has



Five weeklies are produced in Athens.

said that the paper should be a bridge between the Christian world and the Muslim world. It clearly has the mission of working among Muslims, particularly in the Arab world. We don't target the Israeli market. Our concern has been to work within the Arab context. The Gulf War has shown there are Abel and Cain-like elements within the Arab world. Our job is to support the Abel-type elements by separating issues clearly to show what is good and what is not good within the Arab world. Through these Abel elements there are prospects for building good relationships.

Over a year ago we established the Egyptian edition with a distinctive Egyptian flag on the front cover, while keeping the *Middle East Times* title. It has a regional perspective, but is clearly focusing on Egyptian news. For more than a year the paper has covered all of its local expenses—a full bureau in Cairo, with two fulltime foreign journalists, contributors, advertising staff, secretary, and so on. In Yemen, we are the first and only English-language paper. We were able to accomplish this simply because we have a blessed couple there. That paper gives us

tremendous access in Yemen. For example, when I visited there recently, the foreign minister met us at his home on his day off, gave us a long interview, and then solicited help from the Prime Minister and the President to print the paper in Yemen. The *Mid-*

mendous access into our target audience, which is the English-speaking population in Athens. This has about 25,000 or 30,000 readers. Based on this presence we launched the *Greek News* a year ago, as a regular paid-for weekly. In the course of the year it has been

fulltime journalists in Egypt and Yemen but, like everyone else, we use other wire services. Of course, one of the things that happens is that, after being in the region for 15 years, one just acquires a growing understanding. For example, we were the only paper to predict the invasion of Kuwait. When we looked at Saddam Hussein's behavior prior to the invasion it was exactly what he did prior to his invasion of Iran—blaming Iran for having an aggressive policy toward Iraq, so Iraq would have to strike back in self-defense. Saddam presented it as a defensive war. He did exactly the same thing with Kuwait, and so we predicted that he would invade it. Being in the region, watching developments, and understanding the way people think is a very important element in being able to judge what is taking place.

Q: How has this understanding helped other aspects of our outreach to the Middle East?

A: I think something that should be understood, is that our missions in the Middle East have had a very hard time—people have been kicked out from many countries, imprisoned, and so on. But Father has been able to make other inroads in the region. One of the reasons for starting the *Middle East Times* was there were so few ways to penetrate this area. You can't do the traditional missionary street witnessing. The *Middle East Times* is a way for Father to have a presence in the region. Another way is through PWPA, which came on the foundation of ICUS, and held a series of six very successful conference—bringing together Arabs and Israelis, Turks and Greeks. No one else has been able to do this. Topics of the conferences included: Middle East cities, agriculture, education, industrial development, culture and conflict, trade and peace. We met in the fringe area of the region: Istanbul, Athens, Rome, Paris, and Cyprus.

I organized these conferences for the region as a regional representative for PWPA. We have also produced a series of books from these conferences. It is a question of setting a standard of quality for the region, so these are highly appreciated. Then, on the foundation of those secular topics, we were able to organize more internal conferences: for example, the "Inter-religious



True Parents visited our offices in Athens on November 24, 1989. L-R: Zoi Bennett, Thomas Cromwell, Floyd Christofferson, Jennifer Symon and Wolfgang Schawaller.

dle East Times has given us tremendous access to a ministerial level, and ultimately to other areas of leadership, within these countries.

We would like to open an edition of the paper in the Gulf, because that is the commercial center of the region. Our goal is to become the dominant English-language publication in the region. We have developed experience and skill in this field over the years. That is why I am confident that *Middle East Times* will grow. It also has subscribers from around the world, including quite a few in America—major universities like Harvard and Princeton have it in their libraries and Middle East studies centers. Embassies around the world and major companies doing business with the region are subscribers.

Right now the readership of the three editions is around 17,000 a week, but that definitely can and will expand, especially because we have been there for three years now, experimenting with various media approaches. One such experiment was the creation of a free shopper paper in Greece, supported entirely by advertising. It gives us tre-

gaining momentum. We expect that within another year, it will break even commercially. There was also a definite opening in Egypt—where there was no English weekly, and a huge market of 55 million people. It is absolutely the key nation within the region. From a media point of view, we had to have a presence in Egypt. Now we are quite strong there.

Father supported our idea of establishing a type-setting business which is related to our work, with the main office in Budapest and an outlet in New York. That is now breaking even and we hope next year to make money, which is part of our effort to support the paper.

We have a total of 50,000 readers from all of these titles every week, and we are reaching the real world. I write the editorial every week for the *Middle East Times*, and what I try to do is simply translate the Principle, Father's viewpoint, into the real world. It is a very stimulating exercise.

Q: How do you keep up with all the events in the Middle East?

A: We have our own stringers and

Dialogue on the Middle East", which was held in Toledo, Spain in 1988. Also, in cooperation with Dr. Frank Kaufmann and the staff of the Council for the World's Religions, there have been several intra-Muslim conferences.

Interestingly, the majority of those participants came from outside of the region; but among the few people that we reached inside the region, were the Grand Mufti of Syria and Dr. Mohsen Al-Labban from Alexandria. The Grand Mufti of Yemen was contacted by our member in Yemen. Through these conferences and media activities, we were able to reach people who could connect very deeply, very internally to

negativity. Sometimes it is hidden or subtle, but it is there. Arabs feel they are the superior religion yet they are always having to live as the underdogs—first as victims of colonialism, and now overshadowed by Israel's American-supported military dominance. If you really believe your religion is the last word of God, and yet your life is always dominated by people of another faith, it is a struggle. That is why our movement has such an important role. We don't come from that position. We Unificationists are the only people, as a non-Muslim faith, who clearly see Mohammed as a providential figure, and Islam as a providential

group coming from Egypt. It is a different situation in Yemen. The Grand Mufti of Yemen is respected as the highest Muslim figure of the land, but he is not a Sheikh with disciples. It will be interesting to see how the Yemenese participants respond. Dr. Al-Labban from Egypt is the deputy of a Sufi order which includes some 12 million members worldwide. This does not mean they are all of a standard who can accept the Principle or the teachings of Father; within that membership there is a common base, as well as different levels of depth and commitment. But their teaching itself is very spiritual, and they are open to the guidance of God. When they hold their Zikr—their spiritual meeting—they chant together to become open to spiritual guidance and available to

Our movement has such an important role. We Unificationists are the only people, as a non-Muslim faith, who clearly see Mohammed as a providential figure, and Islam as a providential religion.

Father. This is the only way the providence is able to develop here: through high-level people who have some sort of protection within their countries, such as the Muftis. They are connecting to Father, and endorsing education for their people centering on True Parents. While on one level, the foreign mission work has been extremely difficult in the Middle East, Father pursued a strategy which made it possible for people to come. Now those people don't share our belief 100 percent, but they have a deep respect for True Parents and, as Father said, they are another wheel pulling the chariot of the world. Within the Islamic world, they can bring about development and transformation that contributes to God's providence, and bit by bit we are drawing closer. This is a profound, substantial development.

My experience in Syria and Egypt is that Muslims of these groups are deeply serious about their commitment to Father. Because their leaders are really obedient to and humble before God, they are willing to testify to Father's work. One of the problems for Muslims is that established Christians don't take them seriously. Because there is nothing in Christian scripture to anticipate Islam coming, many Christians don't believe Islam is a real religion. So Muslims suffer from this kind of

religion. So our relationship with them is completely different from the relationship they can have with any traditional Christian organization. For them, to find a group like us is also a major discovery.

Within the Islamic world, the people who can best respond to us are the Sufis. The Mufti of Syria is not only the highest Muslim figure in Syria, he is also an Naqshbandi Sufi Sheikh, or leader, which is the reason he is able to bring a group here. In Sufism, the Sheikh has absolute authority over his followers. If he says, "Do this" they have to do it, because it is part of their training. It is a very principled system, because they accept that the Sheikh knows the Will of God more deeply than the followers. When the 40 Syrians came to America and ran into difficult problems in studying the Principle, they were able to continue. Why? Because their Sheikh had told them to study. Then in the end they could understand it. The same is true of the



Publisher Thomas Cromwell at his desk in Athens.

God's Will. That is an important aspect of what is going on now.

It is quite remarkable when you encounter the spiritual depth of these people. They have a serious, deep commitment to religious life which is very impressive. The Alexandria group meets almost every night to hear lectures.

Q: How has the *Middle East Times* been able to contribute to peace in the region?

A: I think we have always represented peace. In addition, we have represented mutual understanding, and promoted democracy and human rights. We are leaders in this area of concern, since some of these still don't exist in the region. In this post-war era, which marks

a big change in the region, we will have a very important role to play. We are presently conducting a colloquy every month, with decision makers discussing changes in the region. I am hoping we can organize a major conference on the future of the region, with former heads of state, current political leaders, religious leaders, and academic leaders receiving Father's guidance for the Middle East. My vision for the newspaper is that it will become a major vehicle for defining and guiding this region into the future.

Q: What kind of spiritual conditions have our members laid for these changes to take place?

A: Honestly speaking, I think the main conditions that have been laid have been through their suffering persecution and rejection. Despite these situations, we found a way back into the region. Father's worldwide foundation has been connected to the region, which has made it possible for Father to work. I am sure God is moved by the fact that German, Japanese, and American members came, witnessed to True Parents and were thrown in prison, beaten and deported. In Iran, for example, our movement has suffered a lot through the whole decade of the 80s. One thing that should be

made clear is that the situation is far from resolved. The problems are still very present. I feel optimistic that major changes are taking place, but just until last year, Lebanon was extremely difficult. We had a presence there, but finally had to leave when the Christians started fighting each other because our center was in the Christian area of Beirut. But I think all this effort to fight it out has laid the conditions for what is happening now.

When I talk to some members and try to inspire them to come and work in the region, it is like asking something extremely difficult of them. To me, being on the front line and having to deal with unexpected and difficult things, is what makes spiritual life interesting. This is a pioneering experience. Perhaps some members don't like that, but I feel it is fantastic. I wouldn't be anywhere else. I think we can meet God most dramatically in difficult situations. I am grateful for having been in the Middle East for so long. Unfortunately, there are very few members there. The Middle East Region has 16 countries, but 8 of them have neither a missionary nor a native member, because often members simply cannot stay in the country legally. Plus there is the internal prob-

lem of living in a very tough environment spiritually and physically. But personally, I would rather have my children grow up in the Middle East than in America, because the schools aren't infected with drugs, or free sex as they are in America. I don't think we should look at the world from the immediate perspective, but rather from the long-term.

What I would like to see more of is an organized connection between the mission countries and the more developed countries. For example, some of the members in America who were to come as pioneers to the Middle East couldn't come, but I would like to organize those people into a Middle East association which could relate to us more directly, and perhaps support us. The people who came to the region had good experiences during their 40 days.

There is definitely a need for people here, but I am realistic enough to know that one has to have an ability or capacity, in order to even get a visa, and it also takes time for someone to learn how to function effectively in the area. But it is not impossible. Of course, we want to have members working with us in the paper. It is heaven's paper.

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A New Dimension of Heart

They will constantly say to you, "We must have hardship, suffering, and evil in order to understand and appreciate goodness." They do have a point, for natural suffering or effort actually helps us to appreciate our achievements more. But we need to clarify that we do not need to have evil in order to have goodness.

Another challenge is they have just rejected a universalist ideology, supposed to bring world peace through the communist system. Lenin became the messiah to the chosen people—the proletariat. The Lenin tomb is the most venerated part of the Kremlin. The revolutionary holidays are like holy days—everything shuts down and people reverence Lenin. Lenin is like a state religion that everyone learns in school. Now that they have rejected 75 years of that system, we're coming to them with a new universal-

ist ideology, a new Messiah, a new proletariat (the tribal messiahs), the Blessing, the new Kingdom of Heaven on the earth. They're asking, "How do we know that this isn't the same as what we got rid of?" The only way to convince them is through our example: teaching true love and explaining how this can actually work through our example and testimonies. Our sacrifice—our prayer and our willingness to pay indemnity, our service to them—is going to be the most important factor.

To conclude, the most fundamental thing that happened to me was how to distinguish between communism and the Russian people. I fell deeply in love with them. I just thank True Parents who sent me there to teach. I feel it's my responsibility to do the best I can to serve our True Parents in both America and the Soviet Union.

I feel that the Russian people suffered enough, like every nation—the Israelites, the Christians under the Romans, Korea under Japan. They've

gone an indemnity course where they can now receive God's blessing in a very powerful way. In a way it is a blessing to be oppressed, because you can deeply appreciate the blessing. Now is the time God can heal them and give to them what they've sacrificed for all these years. □

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Geelong's Renaissance

community of people.

In my final Sunday Service to members at the Melborne Church I shared with them Father's words from the sermon I had heard that Sunday morning almost forty days ago. Especially the words from John 14, ["I am in the father and the father is in me."] filled me with gratitude for having been fortunate enough, to attend our True Parents, the living God among us in my lifetime. □

The Hometown Providence

by the Schmid families

On September 7, 1989, President Won Pil Kim gathered us three Schmid blessed families for a special briefing in Frankfurt Headquarters. There he shared True Father's vision for hometown and asked us to make a breakthrough in our hometown of Hurlach, near Munich. After sorting things out, Wolfgang's family, then active in London, Great Britain, and Manfred's family, then active in Nurnberg, Germany, moved to our hometown. Stefan's family had been working there already for a number of years.

In 1974, when we three brothers moved away from our family to join the Unification Church, it was a dramatic event for our parents, observed by the townspeople. Therefore our coming back with our families (our wives are from Korea, Germany, and Japan) raised a lot of questions among them. However, we found this to be a valuable base from which to testify to True Parents.

To attain influence or a position of authority in a small community like our hometown, we needed to be seen as trustworthy. We could only achieve this by showing consistency, reliability and constant service. We had to pass on to our community all we had learned in the past 15 years.

At first, we concentrated on serving our relatives in order to prevent confusion; then we joined clubs in our hometown. We also invited the mayor and his family, as well as some members of the Town Assembly for meals and introductions to our movement and True Father. On the advice of President Kim, we decorated our flats with activity pictures and other items that would testify to our True Parents. It proved to be extremely effective. We also invited another important group in our town, the Gossip Ladies, for coffee; they are responsible for verbal communication here.

In order for our tribe to regain confidence and trust in us after a 15-year absence, Stefan and Wolfgang began working in our younger brother's

sausage company and restaurant. This helped to not only finance their families but also to have closer contact with our relatives. They worked from 3:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. five days a week, which enabled them to be free for public work the rest of the day. Since all three of us are musicians, we also had a music mission. Stefan and Manfred have had several good opportunities to work with high-ranking artists of the German music scene, by touring with them, cutting records, and occasionally appearing on television. Doing this we could make our parents and the townspeople proud of their famous sons and help to liberate their feelings of disappointment and resentment.

"Europe Today", our church band—founded by Heung Jin Nim—is part of our music mission as well. This band was honored to perform in Korea at True Father's 70th birthday celebration. Also, "Europe Today" recently performed at our physical mother's 60th birthday celebration in our hometown. Wolfgang, inspired by this, began working to establish a Birthday Association.

Through all of our activities we tried to move into the public eye and to stay the talk of the town. We took voluntary jobs for the town: giving English lessons, introducing Oriental traditions (Koinobori, Ikebana, Oriental cooking). We also witnessed to local people about our church activities: 40-day seminars, the CARP Convention, our work in Hungary and East Germany, the Moscow Rally, and so on.

Twin cities

In April 1990 we adopted our Twin Town Jena in East Germany and organized a 2-day Friendship Seminar

between Hurlach and Jena in our hometown at our younger brother's restaurant. We hired a bus

and brought over 45 people from Jena and nearby towns to our home. We taught them the Principle and freely served them physically and spiritually. We realized this was an incredible blessing for us.

Since that time we have been very active in Jena. Despite the five-hours drive, we go there at least once a month for witnessing. We held several introductory evenings, a two-day



The Schmid brothers and their wives (from Japan, Germany and Korea) pose with their families: (L to R) Wolfgang, Manfred, and Stefan.

and seven-day seminar, and a signature campaign where we gained many associate members. We are now working through responsible contacts there.

In the beginning of December 1990 we had a very successful Christmas celebration with over 60 guests. Inspired by Father's words, and as a condition to understand the humiliated heart of people from East Germany, we bought a "Trabi" (a car made in East Germany)! Our guests in Jena were touched that we wanted to love and understand them more deeply. Returning with the Trabi to our hometown, it became a unique witnessing tool for our East German activities, as people asked inquisitively for the whys and hows.

Finally, the mayor of the neighboring town and his wife attended a Korean dinner with us last month, including an introduction to the Unification

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Experiences with PWPA of Korea

by Karl-Heinz Schulz

Almost ten years have passed since I first started working with our PWPA movement in Korea. I was a CARP member studying civil engineering at the Hanyang University in Seoul when I was asked to join the Korean staff during the 10th ICUS Conference in Seoul. My first experiences were rather challenging since the staff, overestimating my knowledge of the Korean language, had assigned me as translator to the ICUS secretariat. Although I think I must have created more misunderstanding between the Korean and American staff than serving the real purpose of an interpreter, I cherish these first memories of my work with the Professors World Peace Academy in our Fatherland of Korea.

However, those "challenging" experiences during the 10th ICUS were not the first ones after my coming to Korea with the Second Global Team in 1977, but more like a summary of what was happening every day at my university. I was registered as an ordinary student, with the purpose of studying and witnessing, but I didn't have a solid foundation in the Korean language. So the first three years strongly tested my patience. During that time I saw myself as a deaf and dumb person desperately trying to gain back his hearing and speech. I could better understand the heart of God, who must try incessantly to communicate

with man.

Not until 1984 could I finish my studies and acquire enough skill in Korean to work in the CARP headquarters. For two years I enjoyed working with CARP, especially helping with the preparations for the First CARP Convention for World Students. Since I came to PWPA in 1986, I have been preparing and participating in many events in Korea, although it is hard for me to give a complete picture of this academic movement, since many aspects are involved.

PWPA projects

The PWPA movement has greatly expanded during the last decade. Initially PWPA was purely an academic movement; now social and cultural aspects are included in its activities. It is also sponsoring projects like: the One Mind Publishing House, the Dowon Production Design Bureau, the weekly newspaper *Chongkyohak Shinmun*, the Community School, and the Cheonpa Theater. The staff working for these projects make up a large family of almost 100 members coordinated by Dr. Son Dae-o, the Executive Director of PWPA-Korea, and Mr. Hong Sung-bok, our Secretary General.

The 1500 professors that are members of our movement in Korea are headed by Dr. Lee Hang-nyong, who has served as President since the beginning of PWPA in 1973. We have nine working committees to which the professors are assigned according

to their field of studies. From those committees ideas and plans for seminars or other events are developed. Some of our recent seminars that deal with the problem of North-South Unification drew a lot of public and media attention. Several years ago Father had told our professors that they should guide the Korean people in their striving for unification and he gave direct education and guidance to the Korean scholars. Those professors who have attended tours to the United States, where they pledged to pioneer the way for the unification of Korea, seem to make the most effort to work on that task.

But we have also succeeded in attracting the attention of the Korean people with other projects. Recently

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we sponsored a six month expedition to the Yangtze River in Mainland China, led by our Korean CARP Scuba Diving Team and accompanied by the Korean Broadcasting Station (KBS) camera team. A documentary film on the expedition was shown last month in a series of eight parts over two weeks on TV and gave a good impression of our work to the viewers. Most of the Korean people have a great interest in China but have never had the



Housewives attend the community school where professors give lectures to help better the lives of families.



Soviet Koreans visit Olympic Park in Seoul during their first visit to their homeland of Korea.



Participants attend the PWPA Conference entitled: "Policy for North-South Unification at the Changing Point."

chance to see such documentaries, since the government had forbidden showing movies about Communist China. However, now the government is eager to establish diplomatic ties with mainland China and was very pleased to see such an in-depth film on China introduced to the Korean people.

Soviet-Korean conference

Another project, publishing a Russian-Korean Dictionary, was praised for its good sense of timing; Father had told our professors seven years ago to work on the dictionary. Now that Korea has established full diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union, our dictionary has become an indispensable item for many Korean students and businessmen who are interested in the Soviet Union. This dictionary became indispensable for us too when we hosted the first team of Soviet-Koreans on a two-week tour of Korea, which had been suggested to the Korean Association in the Soviet Union by Dr. Son at the time of the Eleventh World Media Conference in Moscow. When a selected group of 120 people from all 15 republics of the Soviet Union visited Seoul at the beginning of this year, our Academy was again at the center of public attention. It was the first tour of its kind and caused some heart-breaking scenes of reunification between tour participants and their relatives living in Seoul. All the participants were overwhelmed by the warm welcome they received from the Korean professors, who had invited them to a dinner party at their annual general meeting. The main event of their tour schedule was a four-day Divine Principle workshop. Father asked Peter Ladstatter to teach

the whole Principle twice (in Russian), because they had no Christian foundation. Still it seemed to be difficult for some of them to understand all the points made in the presentations. Through their meeting with Father, the lectures on Korean tradition, history, and culture, and our sincere efforts to teach them Korean songs and language, they were assured that Korea is a country with a very bright future.

The *Chongkyohak Shinmun* is also playing an important role for making our activities known to Korean citizens. Originally the paper was meant to support PWPA professors in their struggles on the campus against leftist and radical professors and students, but it soon became a paper made to guide other professors and students. Now the paper is even read by workers and other citizens who appreciate the objective, earnest style of covering news.

The community school

However, our most noble project is the Community School, which is helping

young and elderly people to achieve their goals in education. For instance, poor labor youth are educated and guided toward entering higher colleges or universities. Housewives and elderly people can attend lectures on health care or on how to improve their daily life. Our PWPA professors devote much of their time to teaching and managing the schools which now number more than 100 all over the country. Many university students and high school teachers have volunteered to teach. They enjoy the respect and love they receive from their students, as well as the praise from all levels of society for serving such a pure purpose.

I believe as long as our PWPA professors in Korea keep the spirit of using their knowledge to serve the society and the nation, our movement will continue to grow. My sincere hope is that our professors will soon get a chance to serve on the worldwide level. There is no doubt that Korean professors are able to contribute much more to the international research projects than they are now doing; but that potential won't be realized until the Western academic world discovers the hidden assets of our Korean scholars. Through my work with PWPA of Korea I was blessed with countless opportunities to learn about the culture, tradition, thought and heart of the Korean people. I believe my ultimate purpose is to support our Korean members abroad in their efforts to introduce the spirit and heart of Korea to the world. □

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The Hometown Providence

Church and True Father, and four hours of discussion. He was intensely interested in the activity pictures and wanted explanations for each one of them. He was moved by the fact that Father met Gorbachev, and gratefully received various informational materials from us. In the name of his town and himself, he thanked Stefan for his efforts with the young people of his town.

As Pres. Kim began establishing many hometown missions all over Europe, we saw the necessity to inspire each other through exchanging our experiences, and were therefore asked to publish a quarterly hometown newsletter, entitled, "Living for Others."

We are grateful to Pres. Kim for entrusting us with this wonderful mission. All we've learned in the wilderness will serve to raise our tribe and community so they may welcome our True Parents to our hometown. □

In the Hands of God

by Christian Zwerger, National Leader of Bulgaria

I had a deep relationship with God before I joined the Unification Church. I had wanted to become a missionary since I was five years old—although I didn't know exactly what a missionary was or did, I recognized missionaries as special people. When I was sixteen years old, I wanted to comfort God as I felt He must be in so much pain because of this sinful world. This understanding led me into many deep experiences with God where I cried every day for many hours because of God's suffering. Once while listening to the Ninth Symphony of Beethoven, I was laying in bed with open eyes and had a very exact vision: I was searching for the Messiah among all the people in Vienna, but he wasn't there. So I went up into the sky to see where he was. I had the intuitive feeling that he was in the East.

Looking to the east, I saw Hungary; going higher in the sky, I saw Turkey, then India. Going still higher, I saw a pyramid. The pyramid was made of people standing on each other's shoulders. All the people on the earth were in Korea, so there was not enough room for everyone, so people had to stand on top of one another. Then one man, standing on the top of the pyramid, was in the clouds because the pyramid was so high.

I joined in Austria in 1973. Although I had many spiritual experiences with God before I joined the Church, when I went to Bulgaria it became much deeper.

Historical parallels

My mission to Bulgaria was quite by accident and this fact ties in with the history of Bulgaria, for the same situation happened 100 years ago with the king of Bulgaria. He also became king of Bulgaria quite by accident. He, like me, was from Austria and didn't even know the native language of Bulgaria.

After 500 years of Turkish occupation, Bulgaria was liberated in 1878. The first king was German, but he left

after awhile. After that, a Bulgarian delegation searched all over Europe because they had no king and no tradition. Finally, they found their new king in a casino in Vienna where members of the military frequently played. He was an officer, but of a royal lineage of Hessian kings and only waiting to become a king. He was a little bit drunk when the Bulgarian delegation approached him. Until they met this officer, no one was ready to go to such a country as Bulgaria. He remained the king until the communists came.

Toward the end of 1979, there was a 40-day workshop in Austria. During the last few days of the workshop, Peter Koch asked who wanted to be a missionary behind the Iron Curtain. Many

The first three years in Bulgaria were a time of deep spiritual relationship with God. I had to be very careful, making many prayer and fasting conditions.

of us volunteered. Everyone wanted to go to Russia, because it was a well-known country, or Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia. So I decided I wanted to go to a country which no one had chosen. Filled with the love of God I answered, "Yes, I want to go to Bulgaria which no one has chosen."

Every missionary knew that they might be killed if they were not careful. We were warned that the conditions were so bad spiritually that we might go to prison, die or be killed by the communists. I knew a missionary in Russia who was shot and killed by communist officials. We clearly knew of the danger involved, but we voluntarily went on this mission.

Before the matching, I was alone in Munich, Germany to prepare myself for Bulgaria. One day I heard beautiful music on the radio, and had a deep experience with Jesus. I felt that Jesus was terribly sad that he had no bride.

I felt his sadness so deeply, that I cried. I prayed for one hour and made a promise to God, saying, "When I am matched and blessed to someone in the future, I will unconditionally receive my wife from the Messiah. I only ask one thing: that my spouse must be such a wife with whom we can fulfill Your Will." I knew there were wives and husbands who are only half-heartedly serving True Parents—they live their own lives, isolated from the church. I didn't want to become such a person. I wanted a wife with whom I could fulfill the Will of God.

In June of 1981 I was matched by picture with Gerti Persch. Gerti was this person, even though in the beginning it seemed just the opposite, because she felt unworthy of the Blessing and the mission. But I had faith in her that she would overcome and she became stronger than me. To secure my ability to continue my "secret" mission, I had to remain

free of any public association with the church. So Gerti alone attended our Blessing in October 1982, representing both of us. I entered Bulgaria in 1982, working as a lecturer at the University of Sofia, in the capital of my nation.

The first three years in Bulgaria were a time of deep spiritual relationship with God. Although I had been given the mission years earlier, I was only able to enter after two years of preparation. In the beginning everything was very quiet; I was in the underground. I had to be very careful, making many prayer and fasting conditions. I experienced God very deeply among the people. I did everything without speaking, for I never knew who was listening to what I was saying. Spies were all over Bulgaria and all the communist countries. Normally, every citizen of a communist country has to report to the police when he has a contact with a foreigner. This was also a law in Bulgaria, which had

Gerti Persch Zwerger

a special mission to train KGB agents.

Nonetheless, I got to know many good people, teaching three of them the Divine Principle and about Father. It was very difficult to guide them because everything was underground and they were afraid.

In August 1986, Gerti came to Bulgaria and we started our family life. Suddenly, everything became more substantial: we started Sunday Service, we did pledge, members became more confident. In July of 1988, our first child, a daughter, was born. Thus, both internally and externally, our life went from the spiritual foundation to becoming more substantial.

There were peaceful moments in our first few years as husband and wife. Once when I laid my head on her lap, I mentioned to her, "I'm thinking of the Bible passage where Jesus said, 'The Son of Man has no place to lay his head.' I feel Jesus didn't mean that literally, but that he wanted someplace where he could feel at home. This is exactly the feeling that I have now." I always felt so near to Jesus.

A gnawing question

Each summer, we went to Italy to fund-raise. And every year as we returned to Bulgaria, I had the feeling that I or someone else would die. It was a sickening feeling. I explained it to Gerti, who just listened, and then by her

Gerti Persch Zwerger was born on January 6, 1957, in Obertraun, Austria. Gerti spent her youth in the city of Liezen, an industrial center in the Austrian Alps. Upon graduating from the commercial high school in Liezen, Gerti studied languages at the State University of Vienna. Being very intelligent, she mastered and spoke four languages fluently within a short time.

During a vacation in 1977, she visited Brussels, Belgium. There she met the Unification Movement. Being a very sociable person, Gerti was very inspired by the concept of "ideal family." On October 16, 1977, Gerti celebrated her spiritual rebirth. From then on, she witnessed with great zeal, dedicating her life for the sake of restoration. Gerti returned to Vienna and moved into a church center. In the summer of 1978, she became a member of the International One World Crusade, which began the Home Church Providence in Great Britain.

The following four years Gerti spent mostly in Cardiff, South Wales. She always brought many guests and became one of the most successful members. Her friendly and optimistic nature gained her many friends in

her home church area where she won a clear victory. When there was stormy persecution after the church lost its court case against *The Daily Mail*, she found all of the doors in her home church area were still open to her. She was also an excellent fundraiser. Her compassion and selflessness reached out to comfort other brothers and sis-

ters, although a word of complaint never came from her own lips no matter how difficult the external and internal situation might be.

In 1981 she moved to London and in June of that year, went to Camberg for her engagement. When Father asked for candidates willing to be

matched to brothers and sisters living in the underground in communist-ruled Eastern Europe, Gerti volunteered. She was engaged to Christian Zwerger from Austria, who had been the missionary to Bulgaria since 1980. Gerti came with the IOWC when it moved to Germany in August 1981. She went to Korea in October 1982 as a participant in the 8000 Couples Blessing. Upon returning from Korea, Gerti started preparations to follow her husband to Bulgaria. Christian was working as a lecturer at the University of Sofia, in the capital of Bulgaria.

In 1985, she graduated from an International 120-Day Seminar in New York held specifically for missionaries working in South America, Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe. Upon her return to Germany, she prepared to join her husband in his mission country of Bulgaria. For the sake of the mission and to safeguard her own life, Gerti had to cut all official ties with the Unification Church. Having overcome many hardships and much loneliness, Gerti was finally able to enter communist Bulgaria on May 22, 1986.

At that time religious activities were heavily persecuted and most people were living in constant fear. Nevertheless Gerti was very courageous, thinking only to comfort the lonely heart of God. She freely spoke out about the living God. Even while taking care of her children, Gerti continued to go witnessing. She exemplified an energetic pioneer spirit wherever she went. In a very natural way, she was a model of a true disciple as a sister with a compassionate heart for everyone, never displaying resentments when encountering mistreatment. A sister who spent many years beside her, having a similar mission, testifies: "While most brothers and sisters, including me, try to be good, Gerti was good by nature." Her innocence was often a mirror which challenged others to become better persons.

She was a most dedicated missionary for her nation, a loving mother for her children, Hannah and Daniela, and a truly precious wife to her husband. □



The ribbons express the love and gratitude of family and friends for Gerti Zwerger, missionary to Bulgaria. Gerti was well known for her goodness, her innocence and her dedication to her mission country.

presence and her support these feelings would subside. But one summer night, on my way home, God asked me what I would be willing to offer as a sacrifice should it be necessary. The first time this question came, it was so awful I didn't even want to think about it. But God asked again, "What will you offer? It should not be some-

thing that you don't need; because this is not an offering. It should be the best and what you love the most."

It was clear to me that God would continue to ask me this question; I could not escape. So I said "Okay. Of course, You know it is Gerti. She is the most precious person." Then He said, "Are you ready to offer her?" And I answered, "No, not for one person, not for 1000 people, I wouldn't give her up. Or for 10,000 people. She has much more value to me. Also for You: we are blessed and our original sin is forgiven—and this has much more value. She has given birth to 2 blessed children—so she has much more value than that." Then God asked, "Are you ready to offer her for Bulgaria, the nation you are responsible for?" Then I had to think. Although, we are taught to offer the family for the nation, I asked God, "Can I think about it some more or do I have to say immediately?"

When the feeling came again very strongly, I wasn't willing to offer her for Bulgaria. Normally, you would think I should, but we are the only blessed couple in Bulgaria. I told God I felt I could only be ready when it's for the highest purpose, that is, for God and True Parents—not for one nation.



Christian teaches at the University of Sofia, in the capital of Bulgaria.

I thought if I offered her only for Bulgaria, then she is bound in some way to that one nation. I didn't want her to be bound in any way. If she had to be offered, I wanted it to really be for the Providence of God and for True Parents—only for the highest purpose or when it was very, very necessary. That would embrace the whole cosmos, including Bulgaria. Then I had the feeling that God accepted this, so I said, "Yes."

This thought was so difficult for me, as Gerti and I loved each other so deeply. She was the mother of two very

young children, and we understood each other very well. She was so good in supporting me in the mission, and doing so well many of the things that I should do. We had so much work in fulfilling the responsibility for all of Bulgaria. Many brothers and sisters are coming now; we had to take care of them as well as many external things such as organizing conferences, and the mobilization from England and from America. Many qualified people are coming and there are no older members. As a couple we had the highest responsibility for Bulgaria.

We were returning from a leaders' conference in Camberg, Germany on January 21, 1991. We had stopped to buy extra food for Bulgaria, and were traveling on the highway just 30 minutes from Frankfurt. I had been very ill during the three day meeting, so two Bulgarian members were sitting in the front seat, with Gerti and I in the back. I had wanted to rest as I was very tired after the illness and the conference. It was the first time Gerti and I had been together in that manner in front of the members. Normally we never did this; because they are young and must be brothers and sisters, we always maintained that same relationship when we were with them. But this time I laid my head in her lap and said, "You know I feel so good and now the son of man knows where he can lay his head." Other than that we didn't say anything.

Thirty minutes later our car broke down on the highway and we all got out to warn the oncoming cars. It was dark, and Gerti was hit by an oncoming car passing us on the shoulder where she was standing. She went into the spiritual world.

I shouted 5 or 7 times, then I became very quiet. I knew this was no ordinary accident. As I walked to where Gerti had been hit, I felt God very, very near. I spoke with her in my heart, "I cannot hear you now; but I want to tell you that you are now in spirit world. You

lost your body through an accident; so don't be confused. Maybe you want to speak with me or the other members and we can't hear you. That is because you are in the spiritual world." I spoke with her awhile in this kind of vein. I



Christian listens as Dr. Hugh Spurgin explains the life and teachings of Father to a Bulgarian government official.

felt some response from her, so I said, "It's okay if you know already; I'm telling you this to make sure." Then I began to pray right near her that God could take this offering for Him and for True Parents, for Eastern Europe and for Bulgaria.

I thought that clearly this offering was for a very high purpose, but one or two moments after this thought, I had doubts whether God had taken this offering for the highest purpose. Then God said to me, "I always keep My word. It was very necessary and I keep My word."

Visions of Gerti

One Bulgarian sister, who had been fundraising in Hungary, knew that Gerti was in spirit world; because one night after this accident, she had deep experiences with Gerti the whole night. This sister said these experiences were not dreams, but were more of a vision or direct spiritual experience with Gerti.

Gerti came to her and then the sister Victoria asked her, "Does this mean that you are in the spirit world? But you are alive; I can see you and you're smiling." Gerti said, "Yes, but only my body is dead. I am alive." Victoria told me that Gerti was very, very beautiful, very bright and in some way free. Gerti told her during her visit, "I'm very free now. You cannot imagine. No one on earth can imagine the possibilities there are in the spirit world." Victoria asked her, "But why did you

die?" Then Gerti said to her, "It was very, very necessary." These were the very words I had spoken to God; I had never told Gerti the exact words of my conversation with God. Also, Victoria had never known of my experience.

She was smiling, was not complaining and had no resentments. This was a very pure and clean offering. Then Victoria asked her, "Then for what purpose did you die?" Then Gerti smiled and said, "I cannot tell you the purpose. But this was very, very necessary." Gerti comforted Victoria, freeing her of a heavy feeling. Gerti told her, "When you or the others are very sad, there is a prison wall around you. I cannot come to you because you are not open. So please don't be sad. Don't worry about the accident." After this, Victoria was very happy, which means Gerti gave her so much comfort that she felt no need to cry out all the sadness she felt at the loss of Gerti.

I met Victoria in Bulgaria a few days after her experience with Gerti and she was happier than she had been before the accident. This was a really a strong experience for Victoria. She saw Jesus and Heung Jin Nim with my wife. Then Gerti showed her a long list and smiled. She said, "Look at how much I have to fulfill now; there is a lot of work here." And then Gerti's arm went around this sister, hugging her. In the vision, Gerti took Victoria to Bulgaria and began explaining what should be done: "Here is Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria." And immediately Victoria saw Sofia. Then with her finger, Gerti showed Victoria a man: "This man (with his face becoming visible to Victoria) is very important." Then Gerti put her finger to another person and immediately Victoria saw his face. "This person is very, very important," said Gerti. She went on and on.

Then Gerti took Victoria to another city and continued to point out the people that it was important for the church to meet. Gerti gave so much information that Victoria couldn't remember all of it. One thing was obvious: Gerti was happy and immediately

working—continuing to witness and work for True Parents without stopping. This was exactly how she was in the physical world—always running and investing a lot of energy in the mission.

"Trust means to believe in the power of love, to be a strong optimist, to search for absolute goodness—to risk your own life for something or for somebody."

And then Gerti brought Victoria to me. I was sitting with red, desperate eyes. Gerti wanted to speak with me, then she stopped. Again she wanted to say something and again she didn't. Victoria felt she wanted to tell me something very important; then Gerti said, "I will tell him later what I want to say."

Gerti appears to me

Fourteen days after the accident, I dreamed there was a mountain, surrounded with beautiful nature and a meadow. In the meadow, three persons were sitting—Gerti, a sister, and a brother. Gerti was beside the sister,

a strong desire to be together with Gerti. Gerti recognized my desire; she was also interested in speaking with me, that's why she came to me. This is a law in the spirit world. So the next moment we were walking together on

a path in the wood. We could see the sister and the brother some distance from us. I took Gerti's hand—"Oh I can feel your hand—so it is possible to feel you substantially." She was only smiling; so we just walked hand in

hand. As I was speaking with her, I felt she wanted to rejoin this sister, for she hadn't finished her talk with her. She was always thinking "How can I convince her to accept the Principle?" as I held her hand. So I said, "Okay go back to the sister."

It will be beautiful when we can be together a longer time, but in spirit world you go where your heart is. In the beginning, her heart was with me. Later, her heart was to finish witnessing to the sister.

While Gerti was on the earth, we experienced the love of God and felt God in our relationship. In the beginning there were not many members, so we had more time to invest in our relationship. We had been together four years before she passed into spirit world. Through three years of spiritual foundation and four years of physical foundation, we could fulfill the four-position foundation. This year is the tenth year of my mission in Bulgaria and it has been ten years since Gerti and I were matched. The number ten symbolizes the "return to God." Gerti returned in a literal way back to God.

Gerti wrote these words in the front of her last diary:

"Trust means you put yourself in the hands of God completely: To have roots in the heart of God and in the heart of

one man and therefore to be able to see with confidence into the future. Trust means to believe in the power of love, to be a strong optimist, to search for absolute goodness—to risk your own life for something or for somebody, to start walking on the way to the Heavenly Kingdom." □



Gerti (far right), who always brought an uplifting warmth wherever she went, joins Dr. Hugh Spurgin at a small celebration in Bulgaria.

witnessing to her: "It's good when you accept True Father and all these things." The sister looked uncertain whether to believe in True Father. "I like you" she was saying to Gerti, "but these things are all so stupid to me." But Gerti continued to speak with her. I heard this from a distance of 100 meters, where I was watching them. I had

The textbook of the family, of tribal
messiahship, lies in uniting the three
levels of grandparents, your parents, and
your couple by serving with true love
and by uniting your own mind and
body. This is the central model that only
has to be expanded to other families,
relatives, and community people.

Rev. Sun Myung Moon

February 21, 1991