

# TODAY'S WORLD

OCTOBER 1996



**FATHER—BECOMING THE REPRESENTATIVES  
OF HEAVENLY KINGSHIP**



## Message from the Publisher

Reverend Chung Hwan Kwak

# Father's Unique Strategy to Achieve His Unchanging Goal

Speech to the Italian Church (Part II)

May 4, 1996  
Colle Mattia, Rome

**M**AY I congratulate you on your success here in Italy. The month of May is very significant for our Unification movement, because May 1 is the anniversary of our founding day. Forty-two years ago True Father officially started our movement in Korea. Please imagine what it was like 42 years ago, when there were just a handful of members. They were working in the midst of tremendous persecution and misunderstanding and were living in great poverty. They had no external foundation and their environment was very difficult.

### *Why Father started HSA-UWC*

Father started our movement under the name of the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity. The title was big, but the living circumstances were so humble. There was a very small house with a very big sign. People disliked us and teased us; they threw stones and broke the sign. The goal of unification of world Christianity includes not just the physical world but also the spiritual world. Ever since that time Father has been working steadily towards this unchanging goal.

Since you joined the Unification movement, I assume that through this organization you have come to understand Father's main goal and heart. HSA-UWC and the Unification movement are not normal organizations. They did not start centering on Father but centering on God. As you know, Father represents the third Adam, so our church history goes back more than 6,000 years. The main goal of HSA-UWC is the fulfillment of God's purpose of creation. There are many organizations and systems throughout the world, but only one is directly connected to God's providence.

Think about the founding of other religions. The founders of the major religions based their movements on God's will. Because they were God-centered, the secular world always opposed them, and during their lifetimes their vision spread only as far as the national level. Only after their deaths did their ideas spread

throughout the world.

The Unification Church is unique because a foundation has been laid in more than 160 nations during Father's lifetime. Father has created so many organizations dedicated to achieving God's will, and many people have an open mind about him because of the results he has achieved in his lifetime.

Of course, Father's course was not simple. He had to go to jail six times; he was imprisoned in several nations; he has set a historical record for enduring persecution. However, under such serious circumstances he has achieved a worldwide foundation. Today I would like to share with you some of the internal aspects of Father's life.

### *Father challenges the world's ideologies*

Since the Renaissance there have been two main streams of thought: first, the ideology centering on atheism and materialism, and second, the ideology centering on the so-called free world, which has moved in more recent history in the direction of secular humanism. The communist world which is centered on atheism has ended; however, it ended not because the ideology of the free world was better than communism but because of the weakness of communism itself.

In 1950, Father arrived in Pusan as a refugee from the North. As a homeless refugee he wrote the original manuscript of the Principle and predicted the failure of communism. During that time communism was rapidly expanding throughout the world, especially in Korea. Korea had lost two thirds of its territory to communism. Under such difficult circumstances, Father predicted that communism would fail because it is not true. Through the Victory Over Communism movement and various educational programs, Father has called upon the world to stand up against communism.

As you know, Father visited the head of Soviet Russia, Mikhail Gorbachev, and even the head of North Korea, Kim Il Sung. Some people wondered why an

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**Front Cover:** True Parents cut the welcome cake upon their return from Kodiak, Alaska to East Garden. September 5th, 1996. (Photo: Yasuhiro Hori/HSA-Brooklyn-S.I.)

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# BECOMING THE REPRESENTATIVES OF HEAVENLY KINGSHIP

REVEREND SUN MYUNG MOON  
LEADERS' MEETING  
MAY 1, 1996  
EAST GARDEN

Translator: Peter Hyo Yul Kim

**W**e all have our present missions, and we tend to give priority to them. However, you do not know what is happening beyond the scope of your own missions. You do not realize how the providence of restoration is being carried out and what kind of purpose lies beyond your mission. God's providence comprises the entire cosmos, and your mission is like one small part of this greater providence. However, you regard this one small part as everything. That is where you are mistaken.

Your mission is like a small outreach or branch of the main providence, but it cannot be central in the cosmic providence of God. Your mission should reach out and span 360 degrees. It isn't just one dimensional. Have you ever thought about that? Centering upon America you have different missions, but do not make the mistake of imagining that your mission represents the entire mission of America. There is always a 360 degree realm. In order to fulfill this mission and save America we need to access all 360 degrees.

My concern is to secure the central aspect of God's providence and make sure that things go right. [Father draws on the board.] You may be in one outreach station without moving, but God is always moving throughout all 360 degrees to interconnect all the different aspects of everyone's mission. At our level we have to build connections to all 360 degrees and expand our influence to greater and greater levels. If your responsibility is for one outreach station of the providence, and 360 different directions come to you from the central station, what would be your reaction? Would you take the attitude that they have nothing to do with your mission and refuse to deal with them? [No.] If you take such an atti-

tude then you will become disconnected to the 360-degree providence, and that will cause a setback to the providence.

Even though we are responsible for just one outreach station, we always need to be connected to 360 degrees through the central station. Along this 360-degree line there can be millions of different missions that we are unaware of. Usually American people are so pragmatic that it is only when you are convinced logically to do your missions that you do them.

But if some direction comes to you which is beyond your logical comprehension then you become confused and are unable to act. It is because you are located at one remote outreach station of the providence that you feel confused. From the central station's point of view the direction is logical, and it is urgent.

It is as if everyone stationed along the 360 degree line pitches baseballs towards the center station, and the central station has to catch all of those balls and stack them there. In a similar way, if 360 baseballs are pitched from the central station to your position, you are supposed to catch every one of them and stack them beside you. Are you confident to be able to do so? Even if there are only three different directions coming toward you at the same time, you open your eyes in amazement and don't know what to do.

The providential history of restoration is maybe hundreds of millions of years old. It is like a warehouse full of stuff. Now I am opening the doors and taking everything out of the warehouse, trying to resolve it all. From this perspective, can you say that you want to just stick with one single clear-cut mission and not care for anything else? [No.]

Within America alone there are scores of different problems surrounding us. Therefore, you cannot demand the right to focus on your own single mission and ignore everything else. This huge country of America is not totally united with the



Father enjoys a moment during the celebration of True Parents 36th wedding anniversary. (Photo: Ken Owens/NFP)

*As the founder of the Unification Church, I don't just focus on Unification Church issues. Instead, I am concerned about the future of all humanity, the world and the cosmos. Because I give my heart and soul, I am able to mobilize the angelic world and through them the phenomenon of rebirth is taking place.*

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central station. There are no clear directions from the central station to you, due to lack of connection and communication.

Jesus needed twelve disciples to represent the twelve different directions. These in turn reached out to 360 degrees. If those twelve disciples of Jesus had fulfilled their mission centering upon their outreach stations, then Jesus would not have had to go to the cross. Not even three of the twelve were able to unite. They all felt their individual missions were important and looked down on the directions from the central station. They considered their local outreach stations more important than the headquarters.

### LEADERSHIP TRAINING

I always teach you to train members to be leaders and send them out to the world. The individual is supposed to sacrifice for the family, the family for the society, the society for the nation, the nation for the world, and the world for the cosmos and God. You should place more value on the number of people whom you have trained and sent out as world leaders rather than how you accomplished your church work. Do you understand? This is very important.

The entire Unification church is somehow troubled by the issue I am explaining here. If I call upon someone to take up a certain responsibility they always say that they are the only one who is able to do it. Before they even attempt to accomplish anything, they respond this way. If you have that kind of attitude you have no future. By doing so you are denying the central headquarters role. Do you understand?

If the Japanese church had originally sent all of the elite students to the Unification Theological Seminary, as I had requested, by now those elite leaders would be taking care of the entire Japanese church. This same principle applies to the American church. The American church also sent only the second- and third-grade members to UTS. Where are all those UTS graduates? You should think in terms of our future and the future of the world and the central headquarters instead of only your own situation.

As the founder of the Unification Church, I don't just focus on Unification Church issues. Instead, I am concerned about the future of the entire humanity, world and cosmos. Even if it is almost impossible, I try my absolute best to solve the problems and tackle various challenges in this regard. Because I give my heart and soul, I am able to mobilize the angelic world and through them this rebirth phenomenon is taking place.

### THE MISSION OF HEADQUARTERS

Working and helping me only brings prosperity. My foundation throughout the world is based on the principle of focusing on the central purpose first. Your local position is not as important as the role and mission of headquarters. In other words, you need to put more effort and soul into achieving the work of headquarters rather than your own work. Without a healthy root system the tree cannot be secured. No matter how difficult your situation might be, even if you are in prison, you are supposed to give your absolute support to

headquarters. Then you will never be forgotten.

If you truly live such a quality of life, then even if you are imprisoned God will come and help you solve your own problems. A highway will open up for you to run on. Even if I go to the remote countryside in South America where I might be alone with one fishing pole, as long as I have the absolute standard of the central headquarters then the entire world can be moved. Even if I forget the fishing pole in my hand, I must never forget the role of headquarters and the entire world situation. No matter how urgent a situation might arise, wherever I may be I can immediately give direction and guidance to those who are carrying out the urgent missions throughout the world.

Who in this room took the goal of tribal messiahship seriously when I gave you that mission? Through tribal messiahship your goal is to restore your nation. Through restoring heavenly sovereignty we want to save the entire world. As tribal messiahs, before you think of restoring your tribes and nations, you are dealing with our own physical situations, worrying about how to earn enough money for food, etc. But in God's mind there is no such situation. I even neglected my family and abandoned the nation of Korea for the higher Will.

With the fatherland of Korea in such turmoil and difficulty, I neglected it and went to South America where there is no foundation and began all over again. For what? Because I have to establish heavenly sovereignty in order to save the entire world. No one in all Korea understands this. I am the only one who understands this and that is why I walk the path of the pioneer even now.

My determination is that even if I sacrifice my own children, I am going to accomplish this mission. That is why my own family is suffering and struggling. I feel that even if all my direct children are taken by Satan and destroyed, I will never change my determination, because I am the central headquarters point and this mission has to be carried out for the sake of the world.

I am in the position to secure the heavenly headquarters and to protect the entire cosmos. That is God's way. No matter how difficult your situation might be, you have to consummate this ideal. After the fall mankind lost everything. How can God's ideal be reestablished on earth? Through your family, your tribe, your nation to all humankind. Without this we cannot create God's ideal. This is the correct viewpoint. Is this true? [Yes.] The foundation of our own home is last, not first.

### CAMPAIGN TO UNITE THE AMERICAS

You have been living centered upon yourselves, particularly American young people. You have enjoyed being subsidized. You must hold the ideal of God foremost in your minds. This is most important. I may give you this last piece of advice and leave America. *The Washington Times* and University of Bridgeport are important for the sake of American Christianity. I know that Christianity's establishment in this country is based on sacrificial tears and shedding of blood. I cannot abandon Christianity in America. Therefore, I have launched the campaign of uniting the Christianity of North and South America. Do you imag-

*Now Heung Jin Nim and Grandmother Hong are working together to liberate hell in the spiritual world. They have mobilized the fallen archangel Lucifer. Even Lucifer has repented and confessed and is now being used to liberate all the evil spirits in this physical world as well as in the spiritual world.*

ine this is an easy task.

Among you leaders gathered here, has even one of you sincerely dedicated yourself to go to South America and offered some money to educate even one single Christian minister down there? How can you claim to be true children and call me your True Father? How old am I now? As an almost 80-year-old man I am traveling back and forth between North and South America. The remote South American countryside is a place of great danger, but you stay behind and sleep.

There are millions of Catholics in South America, and some of them would do anything in order to protect their religion. I revealed all the deep secrets of Jesus' life to the ministers of these churches. It is just the opposite of what they believe. Who knows what some of them might try to do? Yet I have been clearly teaching them even in the midst of potential danger. I told these Christian ministers how Mary conceived Jesus. How could they take that? Their root system is now being shaken. Some of them might feel that I am a threat to their churches and decide to destroy me.

I have been preparing for many years order to give you rebirth and save your lives. Do you believe this? [Yes.] True Parents sent Heung Jim Nim and Daemon Nim to the spiritual world so they might work in the position of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. They are mobilizing the high spiritual world to come down to the earth and assist True Parents in this providential work.

### THE SPIRIT WORLD IS BEING LIBERATED

True Parents have reached the level of perfection here in the physical world. However, in the spiritual world Jesus is still in the stage of imperfection. Through Heung Jin Nim and Daemon Nim the process of rebirth can take place in the spiritual world. Just as God sent Jesus and the Holy Spirit to the physical world in order to give rebirth to the entire humanity, True Parents have sent Heung Jin Nim and Daemon Nim to the spiritual world to give rebirth in the reverse way. [Here Father writes on the board.] In order for anyone to enter the Kingdom of God, they have to inherit the true love, true life and true lineage of True Parents. In other words the family unit has to be established.

I blessed Jesus on February 2, 1973. Based on the condition of blessing Jesus, I could bless Heung Jin Nim as well. Through this Heung Jin Nim has his family in this physical world. Originally those who enter the Kingdom of Heaven are supposed to have experienced a physical family in this physical world. However, there was no one who went through this course. Therefore, after Heung Jin Nim's ascension, I established his family in a reverse way in this physical world.

The leadership here is being cleansed, and all those evil spirits are being sent into the spiritual world to be educated so they can become good spirits. This is the way we can liberate hell. Hell on earth and in the spiritual world will be liberated. You are presently residing in the physical hell of your physical body. How can we liberate this physical hell and then the spiritual hell? Now Grandmother Hong and Heung Jin Nim are working together to liberate hell in the spiritual world. They mobilized the fallen archangel Lucifer. Even Lucifer has repented

and confessed and is now being used to liberate all those evil spirits in this physical world as well as the spiritual world.

When these liberated evil spirits turn into good spirits in sufficient numbers to form a nation there, then the entire spiritual world can immediately be restored. Once the nation is established, then Satan's realm will no longer have any influence, because God's ideal settlement can take place on that foundation. Satan will not be able to defeat that foundation. It will be an eternal place of settlement for God.

This is a time of great urgency. It is the time to save your nation and save the world. You cannot simply just focus on your own local mission and your family. Your local mission and local state is nothing compared to the restoration of the entire world. You have to connect with the headquarters power, the world power.

### TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR AMERICA

I am presently educating Christian scholars throughout North and South America. Your responsibility is to save Christianity. Because of the demise of Christianity we are losing so many young people throughout the world. If the American church had truly fulfilled its mission to save Christianity in America, then America would have become the saving nation for the world. Then instead of one nation under God we would have one world under God. America would prosper eternally as a result of fulfilling such a work. But the reality is that America is declining into hell. Only I can halt this decline. Be alert. Wake up!

I am absolutely serious. Now I have to return to Korea, because the North and South are unable to unite without me. Do you understand? [Yes.] Without my mediation we cannot establish one nation of Korea. Actually Korea is in a life-or-death situation. There are so many important issues that I have to deal with for the sake of North and South Korea.

If you continue to maintain your past attitudes, then you have no future. But with a new determination you can remain as mediators in your mission. You must be connected with the central station. Otherwise, you will have a miserable future. This is not just my idea; this is universal law. Will you take responsibility for America? [Yes.] If you don't take responsibility I may leave America, abandoning all the foundation here. If Satan wants to take the University of Bridgeport and The Washington Times then let him take them.

Once Rome failed, God abandoned it. When Christianity failed to receive the Lord of the Second Advent after World War II, God abandoned it. But I reclaimed it and have a grip on it now. [Father writes on the board.] I established Japan in the position of the Eve nation, America as the Abel nation, and Germany as the Cain nation. Therefore, the Christian culture and the Islamic culture are connected. That is why America was not abandoned. From my viewpoint, America has been the worst enemy nation. The whole Christian foundation of the world was intended for the Lord of the Second Advent, but America broke this foundation. That means America is in the position of the worst enemy.

However, I still desire to see America standing in the posi-

*We are now living in the era of direct dominion, which is the time of kingship. In order to be qualified to follow True Parents and enter the Kingdom of Heaven, members of the first generation must go through the training session in Korea in order to cleanse themselves.*

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tion of Abel, the country of blessing. Directly after World War II, the Allied nations failed, but I want to restore their failure by educating the American people and uniting Japan and Germany. As you know, these nations combined with communism to try to destroy me. This is historical fact. God is unable to use a central figure once it fails. America failed; therefore, God is unable to use America again. However, I am in the position of son, and from that position I was able to choose America again. As God's son, I took responsibility for the mistake of America and restored it.

You also need to feel responsible to save America and the free world. America was placed in the position of Abel again only because I chose to take responsibility for its mistake. America stands in the position to support both Japan and Germany. This is why ever since the end of World War II, America has been giving economic support to countries such as Japan and Germany. Today the central providential nations of Japan, America and Germany are on an almost equal level.

### MISSIONARIES FOUGHT INSTEAD OF UNITING

After I came to America I sent out missionaries to the world. These missionaries included Americans, Japanese and Germans. Upon sending them out to the world I instructed them to unite with their own embassies within their mission countries and fulfill the mission there. If those missionaries truly had done this, then the Unification Church would not have received so much persecution in the late 1970's.

If there had been even one country where we had built a strong enough relationship to receive protection from the embassy there, then centered upon that embassy all the countries could have been mobilized to support the work of the Unification Church. However, our Japanese, American and German missionaries in each nation were all fighting with one another over who was Abel and who was Cain instead of working for the higher purpose.

American missionaries insisted that they had to be Abel because all missionaries were sent out from America, the victorious Abel nation. The American missionaries felt that since Germany and Japan had been in the position of the enemy nations in World War II they could not stand in the position of Abel.

On the other hand, the German missionaries argued that many years had elapsed since the end of World War II. They considered themselves to be intelligent as a people and superior to Americans. They argued from a position of power.

The Japanese missionaries argued that their nation had become an economic superpower, and that God loved Japan so much that it was assigned as the Eve nation and held a greater mission than any other country. Therefore, the Japanese missionaries felt themselves superior to the American and German missionaries.

Everyone wanted to stand as the central figure. This is how Satan was able to infiltrate their work. Therefore, in 26 mission nations our missionaries were imprisoned. During the Carter administration, a letter was sent out to over 120 nations recommending that these nations arrest Unification Church

missionaries because they posed a threat.

As a second alternative I sent 1,600 Japanese women missionaries to the world. True Mother became the spearhead for this. When children are fighting the Mother has to intercept and control the situation. When I sent out these 1,600 Japanese missionaries I gave them the same direction. I instructed them to build a good relationship with their embassies in the various countries and make sure those embassies protect the Unification community in those mission countries.

### YOU NEED QUALIFICATIONS TO FOLLOW ME

Following the viewpoint of God's providence, I have been preparing everything step by step. I never consulted with or sought advice from anyone else, just as Adam and Eve never received advice from anyone else. I never asked even the most famous religious leaders of the world for advice; instead, I did everything by myself. Recently I have been invited by various leaders in different countries to give them advice. However, I have never consulted anyone else, because they are all in the position of archangel nations.

Now we are in the age when the elder sonship has been restored as well as parenthood. We are now living in the era of direct dominion, which is the time of kingship. In order to be qualified to follow True Parents and enter the Kingdom of Heaven, members of the first generation must go through the training session in Korea in order to cleanse yourselves. You need to reach the stage of Adam and Eve prior to the fall. None of you want to be scolded by me. Instead, you want to be praised. But no matter how difficult it may be, even if you have to crawl, you have to cross over the boundary of nationalities.

### SECRETS OF FATHER'S LIFE COURSE

In North Korea I visited the tomb of my parents and brothers and sisters. Two of my sisters are still living. If I were an ordinary person in this world, I would do everything within my power to support, protect and have my family treated in a special way through appealing to the high officials in North Korea. However, I never opened my mouth on their behalf while I was in North Korea. Even at the tomb of my physical parents, I never shed a tear.

My elder and younger sisters burst out crying at the tomb site. They cried out to their parents recalling how their parents always continually called out my name during their lives. "Now he is here," they cried; "please wake up." But I never shed a tear. I came to North Korea in order to save the entire nation, not for my personal purpose. Therefore, at the personal level I could not show my sorrow. In my mind, I acknowledged that I was indebted to my elder and younger sisters because I did not share any sorrow at this time. I promised to return and in front of all those North Korean high officials declare my feelings towards my physical parents in tears, but only after I bring about reunification of North and South Korea with my own hands. Then I will shed tears.

No one has ever understood why I am so serious, not even in North Korea. Even if I had shared this serious heart to the

*Let people read the Unification News and Today's World and have them learn from those articles. They can gain the determination to become even greater than the people they read about in these publications.*

most trustworthy disciples, they would have forgotten it. Therefore, I never revealed it because they are incapable of understanding. I can never forget how my physical mother and sisters grabbed my legs and tried to prevent me from leaving North Korea. Yet I knew that if I stayed there I would not be able to do my public mission to which I had been called. Therefore, almost kicking them, I ran away from home.

If you truly understood my life history you would cry. But no one fully understands it, not even the experiences of imprisonment. Jacob's descendants had to follow his footsteps, and Jesus' disciples, including Christianity as a whole, had to walk the path of Jesus. Likewise, Unification Church members, the disciples of Reverend Moon, must be able to follow my footsteps. If I revealed my difficult life course and the different stages of persecution, you would have to go through such stages also. But I don't reveal all the details because I don't want to see you going through such a difficult course.

After joining the spiritual world, you will see all the different stages of my life course. If you had known all of this while on earth and had not been able to fulfill your role then you would be in deep trouble in the spiritual realm. Therefore, I am protecting you by not revealing all the details. Then you can always claim not to know fully all of the details of my life. Out of parental love, I am providing space to repent, even in the spiritual world.

When I begin to think about my life course, even without realizing it, I find myself in tears. When I am alone at the river fishing I reflect upon my life course and am overcome with tears. I never remember any moment of my life which was lived for my own purpose. How far you are from me in this sense. However, Daemon nim and Heung Jin Nim understand my heart. That is why they are working to help you grow closer to my heart. Do you understand? Therefore, don't forget headquarters and the liberation of the entire world. That is important and precious.

### **HOW TO CONNECT WITH GOD'S FAMILY, GOD'S NATION AND GOD'S WORLD**

Even while eating, sleeping and working, you still have to remember those public goals and try to build your career at that public level. I have spent my entire life working for that public goal, so God can never abandon that foundation. During the last 40 years I have been establishing a foundation. You have to realize that I have made God cry many times. Each time I established some foundation God cried.

If you claim to be my children and disciples, you have to ask yourselves if you made me shed tears due to your effort and work. This determines the quality of your accomplishments. During my public speaking tour in America, I covered 48 states in 40 days. I felt that even though the fallen people did not understand fully what I was doing, the creation understood. I shed more tears for your nation than your founding fathers and ancestors ever did. Don't ever become indebted in heart, or you will perish.

My message may become my will for your country, because I cannot promise when I will be able to meet you again. Please

take this seriously. Do you understand? Your outreach mission is not as important as the central role of headquarters and God's providence. Therefore, support the work of headquarters to liberate the entire world. How can we liberate God, centering on true love? Without the hope of a true love family, there is no hope to connect with God. This means that God will not be able to liberate your nation.

God cannot break down the worst satanic power. That is our mission centering upon True Parents. This is the Divine Principle viewpoint. Is this clear? You have to clearly understand this. This is not an oriental concept. This is God's concept.

How can you connect with God's family, God's nation and God's world? You have to seriously concern yourselves about creating an atmosphere to enable this connection to take place. Otherwise, this nation cannot be saved. It is a very serious matter.

I went out onto the Hudson River so many times in order to catch striped bass, but my true purpose was not to catch striped bass. I shed so many tears on the Hudson River. Many times I stood at the holy rock and prayed in tears, "When crystal clear water runs in the Hudson River, then God's tears will be dried." Who is going to be able to do this? Can any American do this? If this is the task that can save the American people then I will do it. This is my deep determination.

No one really knows how difficult it is to fit in all the different programs for the sake of the entire world and carry out the different stages of the providence I am implementing for the sake of the world. No one else can accomplish this, and no one can truly understand me.

America in general must recognize my contribution towards halting the decline of America. Without my help America would have declined far more rapidly than it has. Do you as my followers have the confidence to save America and the free world? [Yes.] Because of America's immoral influence the entire free world has been declining for the past 40 years. Satan almost took over Christianity. Do you clearly understand this? [Yes.] Do you? [Yes.] Do you only want to save your lives and focus on your own families while millions of young Americans die within ten years because of AIDS? [No.]

If you are truly serious about it, can you spend time to eat meals and sleep? Wake up! If I am not here, then you have determine to go out and do ten times more than me. Can you pledge this? [YES.]

### **REPRESENT THE HEAVENLY KINGSHIP**

I am giving you this final piece of advice. Since you heard vivid testimony from those who attended the 40-day training in Korea, now you know the reality of the evil spirits affecting your body and your life. Therefore, if you truly follow my directions today and implement them in your daily life, then America still has hope. Wherever you go make sure that you are in the position to represent true kingship. Make sure that you are the representatives of heavenly kingship.

By following God's direction centered on true love, true life and true lineage, I have been working to restore all humanity. Likewise, if you go out to your mission field with the same level of dignity and integrity, you will be able to accomplish



*You have made your  
commitment to be  
responsible for America.  
Will you continue to do so?*



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

your mission successfully. Will you do so? [Yes.] If you truly go with absolute faith, as soon as you go beyond the growth level then Satan will leave you and God will lift you up. Even if you believe in Satan's lie with absolute faith, eventually he will have to give up and let you go to God, because absolute faith belongs to God, not to Satan. Do you understand? [YES.]

Are you willing to take on such a venture? There is nothing to be ashamed or embarrassed about. What is so difficult about approaching your friends, your police chief, your governor? Tell them that if they accept your advice, the entire state can be educated and there could be enough resources to have your state prosper. Challenge the police chief and governor to gather all of the state officials and police officers and give you the opportunity to teach them. Tell the governor and police chief to test you to see if you can do it. Challenge them by telling them that if they don't choose to save their state and nation then you will do so. Why not? God needs such powerful and courageous actions.

Consider yourself the younger brother of your state governor and the cousin of your police chief and go challenge them. Those who received my words last week in Washington, D.C., are local leaders in your various states. Work with them to build influence in your state. If you cannot do so then disappear from my view.

### BE DETERMINED AND COURAGEOUS

From now on I need strong and courageous followers. This is like the time when the Israelites were about to enter Canaan. Joshua and Caleb were strong and courageous. The moment you respond I see determination in your eyes, but as soon as you leave East Garden and arrive again in New York you will have already forgotten. That has been your tendency. Because of the inspiration and spirit that you receive from me at this moment, you all have beautiful eyes and the look of inspiration. However, when you go to Manhattan you will lose this. [No, Father.] Will you not? [NO.]

Then when I return to America will you be ready to show me your results? [YES.] I may not come back. I may retreat from America. People ask me not to leave, but I am seriously contemplating whether to leave America. You have made your commitment to be responsible for America. Will you continue to do so? [Yes.]

The entire world has spread a rumor that I would go bankrupt. Yet I could not stop the providence even if I end up in bankruptcy. Six years ago this rumor began, but so far I have not gone bankrupt. I have even prospered during this time.

We cannot afford to eat as much as we want and to play as much as we want. Do you understand? [Yes.] Everyone thinks it is necessary to eat three meals a day. However, in reality we can survive with only two meals a day. Even one meal a day is enough to sustain you. No matter what method you take, we must accomplish this responsibility. Shall we do it? [Yes.]

Harvard may be superior to the University of Bridgeport academically, but it cannot provide the program which can rehabilitate, revive, and give rebirth to students. When you joined the Unification Church did you join because you looked into my face? You joined because of the truth of the Divine Principle, right? [Yes.] The Divine Principle restores and re-creates humanity.

The first qualification for leadership is the power of persuasion; once you are equipped with the truth of Divine Principle you can persuade anyone. Second, you need diplomatic ability; when you meet governors you should be able to build a friendship with them. Third, you need economic self-sufficiency. These are the criteria for Unification Church leadership.

I have these abilities. In South America I have the ability to persuade the leaders there and they like me. Certainly I have diplomatic skills. Because of my financial self-sufficiency I have been maintaining the Unification church all of these years. You have to follow my footsteps. Do you want to become responsible for the headquarters or just one branch station? [Headquarters.] Then you have to witness.

### RAISE UP MEMBERS GREATER THAN YOU

With enough members you can solve economic problems and all other problems. You have to be able to raise even greater leaders than yourselves in your regions. Therefore, you have to be able to persuade people to study the Divine Principle more than you and to witness more than you.

Let people read the Unification News and Today's World and have them learn from those articles. They can gain the determination to become even greater than the people they read about in these publications. You should also be able to contact each state leader to find out who brings the best result each month and share such results with your members so they can become even greater leaders than you are.

If a much greater result was brought in a particular state, you could suggest to your members that you all go and learn from that state in order to bring greater results. You have to be able to build a ladder to enable your members to climb up to that goal. Do you understand? [Yes.] There are so many materials available now to educate people. You can use them

*If members in your state have been trying with little result, then you as their leader should encourage them to try as much as they can. If they still cannot make it, you can tell them that you will go and complete it for them. You need to give people such training.*

to street preach, visit families, and teach Christian ministers the Divine Principle.

Your scope of activity should be wide. If you are confined, make a hole up and down, right and left, front and rear so that you can expand your horizon and range of activity. If you want to set a goal for this month to persuade certain people who oppose you in a nasty way, then go ahead and challenge it. Ask your members if they would like to volunteer to persuade these antagonistic people, or do they want to do so only when instructed. Sometimes you can even have them draw straws to decide which person they are going to be responsible for.

In the beginning they might feel hesitant, but once they meet these negative people a few times and get to know them and gain confidence, they will be more and more courageous. If members in your state have been trying with little result, then you as their leader should encourage them to try as much as they can. If they still cannot make it, you can tell them that you will go and complete it for them. You need to give people such training.

Only those with enough experience will progress. All of you look handsome; don't waste your youth. Your congressmen and senators are nothing actually. Challenge people by saying, "We'll see in the next ten years." That is how you need to prepare yourselves.

### MAKE THE IMPOSSIBLE HAPPEN

If you just sit around nothing will happen. You may want to sit around waiting for some donor, but don't expect that. If you come to a certain place, determine to leave at least one building behind you when you leave. Don't take anything from that place. Once the people of that place learn about your action, they will be impressed. You have to make impossible tasks possible. If any task is already possible, it will already have been done in the satanic world.

Do you think that I have only undertaken the possible things in life? If it seems impossible then put 20 or 30 times more effort into it and you will be able to make it possible. When I was your age I had to deal with very heavy persecution all the way to this point. But now, due to my victorious foundation, there is no more persecution. You are all young and strong, so what are you doing?

You American leaders are like tall trees. Do you want to become a poplar tree, or a pine tree which bears pine nuts? American citizens have a free pass in South America wherever they go. They are not even required to obtain a visa. But in some South American countries it has been difficult for me to obtain a visa. I want all Unification Church members to be able to travel freely throughout South America without any visa.

### INSPIRE PEOPLE TO DONATE TO THE SOUTH AMERICAN PROVIDENCE

Find the most fearsome and difficult person in your state and challenge that person. Will you do so? [Yes.] Maybe you should go and find a rich person and persuade him or her to invest in this project. Don't just visit the person's family right

away. First you have to do some homework. Find out how many children are attending elementary, middle, high school and college and through such connections find a natural access to that person. Just as God created the environment first when He created the world, you also need to do your homework in advance. Through preparing a positive environment you can establish yourself in the position of subject and the person you are approaching will be in the position of object. Then challenge that person. Maybe you can learn to know a member of his family first and gaining their help to persuade that person.

Once you secure that support then you can go and see that person and provoke him. He will surely fight you back. Then that would be a good time for the member of his family whom you know to intervene and take your part. These are some suggestions of how you might approach it.

If this person has three sons and all three were to take your part, then the father would surrender. If you praise his children and lift them up in his presence, you can become friends with him. Have the three sons write a proposal as to how much they think their father should donate to the South American providence. Of course the amount may vary from son to son. Then average the figures and show them to their father, asking if he plans to give more than his children proposed or less. If you challenge him this way, he will surely offer more than his children proposed.

If you find yourself invited to special banquets or functions you should be able to give a fluent speech and sing well. If it is for the purpose of advancing God's kingdom, then you have the freedom to learn how to sing well and speak well. If your host recognizes you as a very attractive, intelligent person then the door is wide open for you. You have to develop a strategy to make it come about. No matter how difficult it might be to meet rich people, if you plan your strategy and succeed then it will all become very easy for you. Then even if I instruct you to take a break you would just keep on going in order to meet more and more people. If you are doing so for a good purpose, nothing is impossible. Be sure that your motive is only for the purpose of helping and saving.

### CREATE RAPPORT WITH PEOPLE

I have great potential to accomplish things through using my wit. Do you understand? If you are hungry you should be able to find a place to obtain a free meal. If you are thirsty you should be able to find a drink any place. If you are hungry and happen to see a house then just go in. If someone is cooking try to sample it. What would they say? [Laughter.] You could praise the cook by telling him or her that you have a famous chef in your family, but this food is even better than anything this family chef makes. Maybe you could encourage them to create one more dish so that you can taste it and be able to really tell how good that cooking is. If you would like something more to drink, then just sit down and talk and you will automatically be offered more beverage.

If you become a good acquaintance of this person, then when you meet in the street they will invite you again to their home. This is possible. Why not? I experienced witnessing to

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one particular woman for one and a half years in the midst of very negative opposition from her husband. When I was chased out through the front door I would go to the back of the house and enter through the rear door and sit down to share a meal with the husband even as he showed how much he hated me.

I made sure that his second daughter and son really liked and respected me. These children asked their father to invite me to the house because they liked me. The father never actually said yes or no., so with that condition I entered that house. I shared many stories with that family and pleased the children in order to gain their trust and respect for the purpose of the higher goal.

### BECOME FAMOUS

This morning I have given you a seven-hour message. Does it feel as though you've been here for seven hours, or more like three hours? [Less than an hour.] If you truly think so, then I did a good job. There was one woman follower who sat many hours in front of me and became so intoxicated by my speech that she forgot to go to the bathroom and urinated right where she was sitting. This happened. [Laughter.] Do you think it happened because I prepared my sermon in advance? I shared from my heart, giving many examples and analogies and involved the audience in my sermon. I become involved and interested in my talks. Doesn't it make you happy when I use all different kinds of facial expressions. [Yes.] It is necessary. If you want to become a good leader you need that kind of ability and flexibility.

If you happen to see fighting in the street, go and tell them, "Hey, there is blood all over you." They will stop fighting because they will want to look and see. [Laughter.] Try it. Since you are all honest, ardent, religious leaders here, I hesitate to give you all the really vivid stories. [Laughter.] In order to reach this level of success, don't you think I have trod every possible path? Since you became a leader of the Unification Church, you should become a leader within your family. It is not your place to become just another mediocre family member who follows the rest of the tribe. It is your role to become famous. Not just famous externally, but because you offer people good contents. Then you will become famous both externally and internally.

You leaders standing around over there, do you have the ambition to become senators and congressmen in the future? [Yes.] How many people are working under you now? No one pays any attention to you as you are. In order to become a big tree you should have a strong root system and have strong branches. It is logical that if your congressman is far uglier than you are

and it took him ten years to get elected, then it should take only three years for you to catch up with him. Isn't that logical? When you accomplish four times more than your congressman you will be able to replace him with yourself. It is that simple. There is no exception. The key is to enjoy what you are doing.

I recognize all of you here as people who are capable of doing good work. Why are you all so tall? That means you have bigger guts and greater ambition. In order to contain big guts and ambition, you need a big body. Do you understand? [Yes.] What kind of responsibilities do you have?

With the modern communication system, I am able to visit Washington, D.C., several times a day. You know that? [Yes.]

### MAKE THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE

My conclusion is that you must make all of the tasks you receive possible, even if they appear to be impossible. Will you do that? [YES.] When I first announced my plan to educate North and South American Christian leaders, I was laughed at. For the past 400 years, Protestant and Catholic leaders have been in bitter conflict with one another. Then how can I possibly unite them? But I have been doing so.

I originally invited 120 leaders, both Protestant and Catholic, and some 80 leaders from both sides showed up at the conference. They all wanted to meet me in person. After hearing my message at that conference they were inspired. However, it also generated a good deal of controversy. They concluded that this conference for Protestant and Catholic leadership



*Father enjoys the positive reports from Chung Pyung Lake at the leaders' conference, May 1, 1996, East Garden.*

PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

*Leaders demonstrate their determination to follow Father's instructions by raising their hands. May 7, East Garden.*

marked a turning point of 400 years of Christian history in North and South America. [Applause.] They strongly requested that this be the beginning of many more such conferences.

Are you able to accomplish such a task on your own? [Yes.] Nothing is impossible, go ahead and make it happen. If it doesn't work the first time, then just keep on until it does. If I allow you to run the American church as you have been doing thus far, there is absolutely no hope. Therefore, I want you to crack this shell and emerge from it with a new substance. [Applause.]

Those of you who are over 40 years of age please raise your hands. At the age of 27, I turned the entire city of Pyongyang upside down. I became so controversial at the age of 27 that all the Christian ministers proclaimed me a heretic.

I persuaded so many youth leaders of the main churches in Pyongyang to follow me that I was labeled as the one who takes away the key members from each church. Instead of feeling ashamed that they lost their key members, the ministers persecuted and criticized me.

## CHALLENGE CHRISTIANS

Do you ever challenge Christian ministers whom you meet by asking them if they think that Jesus was supposed to marry in his lifetime? Have you? [Yes.] What has been their response? In your opinion, do you think that Jesus had a male sexual organ, a female sexual organ, or something in between? [Male sexual organ.] Then what was the purpose of Jesus having a male sexual organ? It was for the sake of his marriage. Through utilizing his sexual organ in marriage Jesus would have given life to his own children.

Since Christianity doesn't believe in Jesus' marriage, do you think that Christianity would have gotten rid of Jesus' children? Do you think that God would have been happy to see such children? [Yes.] Think about how many descendants of Jesus would populate the world today. If that had happened, the world would have been united long ago. Instead of restoring all of these fallen people, it would be much easier to gather Jesus' descendants together and restore them.

What do I gain through revealing the secrets of Jesus' life and mission? Nothing. But I have given the truth to the world. Don't you imagine that many Roman Catholic leaders met to discuss how to deal with my message? Don't you think that other prominent Christian ministers gathered and discussed this issue, since it has become a worldwide message now? They may say, "Logically, what Reverend Moon is saying is right, and if we oppose it we will eventually be chased out. Therefore, what shall we do?"

They don't have any logical argument with which to fight against me. Theologians from the various seminaries who hear my message concerning the life of Jesus may come to feel that I am very courageous and want to know more.

Jesus and Mary, who are in the spiritual world, are in trouble. Do you think that Jesus and Mary can hide the mistakes



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

they made in their lives? By my clear revelation of their lives and their missions at this time, they are actually now free to pursue their course in the spiritual world. They can begin to take the correct initiative in front of God.

## BE PROUD OF TRUE PARENTS

Who can liberate Jesus and Mary in the spiritual world? Only True Parents. If I had revealed this truth ten years ago, just imagine the kind of opposition I would have had to face. But since I have laid a strong enough foundation, the battle is now over. Therefore, I am free to disclose this secret. Since True Parents have been announced to the world and have revealed these secrets, this year's motto is "Let's Be Proud of True Parents and Love True Parents." Then what is preventing you from accomplishing your missions?

When you are in a restaurant and someone blesses the food, you can speak out loud and declare that you love True Parents and are proud of True Parents three times. Then you will digest your meal well. People around you will be curious enough to ask you what you mean by True Parents. Then you can share with them. In five minutes you can explain it to someone and convince them. It is a simple task.

Do you suppose that I invented the term, "True Parents," or do you think that God gave it? If God could have given such an answer to me so easily, then why could He not give such a secret to Jesus? Suppose God gave such an answer to the American president? If God were able to do such a thing freely, then I would not have needed to walk the path of persecution. Even Christian leaders now have no logic to fight against the term True Parents.

The term True Parents is patented by the Unification Church. No other organization or holy book uses the term True Parents. Isn't this fantastic? [Yes.] How wonderful the name of True Parents is! [Yes.] Don't you think that I deserve to take a break after all of these hours? [Applause.]

Now I want you all to promise in front of me that you will no longer keep your mouths closed. Instead, you will go out and spread the good news everywhere you go that you are all

*Today you have heard the testimonies of the kinds of tears that have been shed at the training course in Korea. Now return to your states and shed tears in your missions so that you can cleanse yourselves and bring greater results.*

proud of True Parents and that you all love True Parents.

Do you realize how much the Coca Cola company advertises? Therefore, will you forge ahead of the Coca Cola campaign or lag behind? [Ahead.] At the entrance of so many towns there is a large billboard advertising Coca Cola. Don't you want to create your own billboard proclaiming that you are proud of True Parents and that you love True Parents? [Yes.] If you can't create your own billboard then use the newspaper. Advertise in the newspapers. Don't you want to post more advertisements than Coca Cola in your local communities? [Yes.]

### SAVE PEOPLE FROM COMMITTING SUICIDE

If you want to beat the Coca Cola company in advertising, how do you plan to do it? You have to promote True Parents through daily newspaper ads. Invite those who are seriously thinking of committing suicide to please contact True Parents at this number. Find such people. Every year the number of people who commit suicide increases. If those who are seriously considering suicide call the advertised number and you answer their call, you will be able to save lives. If they study Divine Principle they will be able to give up that crazy idea. Don't you agree? [Yes.] Then why do you just sit around and watch many young people waste their lives?

Why don't you visit your local high school and challenge the principal to allow you to speak with the students for three hours and you will save their lives. Why don't you do so? Do you have that kind of inner conviction and courage? You are like a flock of flies and maggots. If you don't utilize your mouth to speak the truth, when you join the spiritual world your mouth will be padlocked. Why do you rest? Just go and speak out. Walk around with a sandwich board declaring that you are proud of True Parents and that you love True Parents. Will you try this? [Yes.]

People might regard you as crazy, but you are not. Many saints and sages of the past were considered crazy people but they were not. When I went into prison, many of my followers pointed at me scornfully asking how I could go to jail if I was the son of God. I have never forgotten their persecution and criticism. I told them that I would make sure that their children would follow me and that they as their parents would have to shed tears of blood. I have never forgotten that. Neither have I forgotten the persecution I received in America.

### I HAVE TO BE VICTORIOUS

No matter what, I have to be victorious. You have to renew your determination in front of God and True Parents. Don't trust anyone else. Trust only yourself. That is the key. Determine that God has no other choice but to believe in you, and that in this unbelievable world you will do believable work. Will you make that kind of determination this evening? [YES.] Then how many people will you witness to in one month with this truth you have learned from me? Twelve? Twelve people a month becomes 144 people in a year. Will you do so? [Yes.] Those who are determined to do so please show both of your hands.

Even if you may not be able to reach the goal of 144 spiri-

tual children, why don't you buy 144 Divine Principle books and distribute them to 144 people as a condition? Then go and visit them every other month. You will be able to harvest some people in that way. If they have questions, have them call you and discuss it with you. Give them that opportunity. If you continue in this way, within six months you will be able to select from among them those whom you can invite to your church and educate. Because you have not done this, we have a miserable result in America.

Do you all have the Unification Church flag flying from your house? Do you have it hanging on the wall inside your house or hoisted outside of your house? [Outside.] When you hoist such a flag and your community feels strange about it, invite them to your home for a dinner party and share with them about it. We have a lot of content to share with them. There are many different ways. There are 360 different means and ways to approach people. How can you continue to eat three meals a day without witnessing.

Throughout my life I have educated the elders of the church. My mouth has never rested. I have an obligation to teach you. I continue to repeat the same things over and over like an incantation. A masterpiece is usually created through many attempts, never upon the first attempt. Do you understand? [Yes.] Those who feel ready to fulfill what I have shared here even if I don't give any more instructions and guidance, show your hands.

Today you have heard the testimonies of the kinds of tears that have been shed at the training course in Korea. Now return to your states and shed tears in your missions so that you can cleanse yourselves and bring greater results. After the training session in Korea where will you go? Water flows naturally from a high place to low place. Where do you think this low place is? Think about it. You'll have to be sent some place.

I was imprisoned in America, but if you are sent to Africa it would be easier than going to prison. Because of my victorious foundation, no matter where you go in the world, the American embassies will not ignore you. There is no problem now. As a Unification soldier nothing can stand in your way. You can march forward to clear the path. That should be your determination all the way. What is America's responsibility in regards to the blessing of 3.6 million couples? If your goal is 360,000 couples, what percentage of 240 million people are they? Approximately one and a half percent.

America is centered upon the Christian culture, but look at what is happening here. I spent 20 years here in this miserable nation based on the Christian culture, and in some other nation the results of my efforts could have been 100 times greater. I knew that, but I didn't really have a choice. Now you know what direction you have to take in order to survive and save your country, don't you? [Yes.]

I understand that all of you have good brains. Therefore, I expect you to have understood everything I have shared with you and to go out and implement it. Therefore, I will omit the rest of what was prepared in the written text. Everybody stand up, please. Let us pray.■

[Edited for Today's World.]

MOTHER SPEAKS TO THE KOREAN COMMUNITY IN THE U.S.



**Left:** Mother delivers the speech, "True Parents and True Family" to a Korean audience in Denver, July 21, 1996.  
(Photo: Courtesy of KEA/NY)



**Right:** Mother prepares to cut the victory cake, Philadelphia, August 2, 1996.

**Bottom:** Mother gives a victory speech to members of the Philadelphia area.  
(Photos: Courtesy of KEA/NY)



## FATHER SPEAKS AT BELVEDERE



**On this page:** A sequence during Father's speech to members at Belvedere. Father explains how to achieve absolute conjugal love. Sunday, September 8, 1996. (Photos: Yasuhiro Hori/HSA-NY)



# 33,000 Couples Blessed in Africa

Kathy Rigney

January 2, 1996

World Mission Center Grand Ballroom  
New York, New York

*Father asked Kathy Rigney, the Continental Director of Africa to give testimony on how they witnessed to churches to reach their goal for the Blessing.*

THE story about how the blessing providence developed in Africa, especially in Nigeria, started in 1993, when True Father sent True Mother on her worldwide tour. At that time we knew that the worldwide goal was to get 360,000 couples for the next blessing in 1995, but Rev. Kwak had told all of us, "Don't think about 360,000 couples. Think about each one of our blessed couples worldwide wit-

nessing to 12 couples. If each one of our 30,000 couples can accomplish their mission of finding 12 couples each, then we will be able to fulfill the goal of 360,000." So in Nige-

ria we were following what Rev. Kwak said. We had about 200 people blessed in the 1992 blessing, a very small number of people, so we set our goal on getting 12 couples per person, which would have brought us up to nearly 2,400 members for the 1995 blessing, so we made that number our goal.

## A revolution of heart

Then in December 1993, True Mother arrived in Nigeria and something very wonderful happened to our nation. Thanks to the love of our True Parents, the love of our True Father, Father came to Africa for the first time in 1995, but he sent Mother to us in 1993. Mother, representing our True Father, set her foot on African soil for the first time, and for us it was a real revolution of the heart.

When Mother gave her speech in Nigeria on December 5, 1993 she asked the missionaries who were working in Nigeria at that time to have dinner with her. During that dinner, Mother began to cry. It seemed as if she cried the whole

time she was in Nigeria. She was always shedding tears. At that dinner she said, "I am so happy to see the African members—their black, beautiful, shining faces. I am sorry that it took True Parents a somewhat long time to come, and I know you have been working since 1975, but I want to ask you to do something more." Mother was crying as she spoke.

"Every minute of True Father's life, there isn't one second that goes by that Father lives for himself or pursues his own desires. He always lives for the will of God. He always lives for others. On this tour, occasionally there is time in my

*It was like the beginning of a revolution in the hearts of all of the missionaries there. From that minute on all we could think about was not disappointing Mother and how we could help to bring glory to Father while he is on this earth.*

schedule when I can rest. The members say, 'Mother, please take a rest while we are waiting for the speech to start.' But every time I lay down and try to rest, my body won't let me; my heart won't let me, because I think about Father and the way Father is living his life. I cannot rest when I think of Father. I want to ask you something; I want to give you a goal. Please; you have to find 10,000 couples for the next blessing. I want to ask you to do this because every moment that I am alive, I'm only thinking of how to bring glory to True Father while he is still on the earth. How can I do that and how can I inspire others to do that? So I'm asking you today to make the commitment to bring 10,000 couples to the next blessing, and to help to bring glory to True Father while he is still alive physically on this earth."

That was a dinner at which nobody ate because of Mother's tears, nobody felt like eating, and all the rest of us shed tears also. It was like the beginning of a revolution in the hearts of all of the mis-

sionaries there. From that minute on all we could think about was not disappointing Mother and how we could help to bring glory to Father while he is on this earth.

## Witnessing to small churches

We began to look for ways to find 10,000 couples. We were not really sure how we could do that, because if 200 people just witness one by one by one, we might never be able to fulfill the goal. So we began to think of finding a church. We considered that if we could find one church that has 10,000 couples, that would

fulfill our goal. So we began to witness in one particular area of Nigeria where we heard that there were some churches that might be good to contact. We began visiting small

towns and contacting the leaders of the spiritualist churches.

Why did we choose spiritualist churches? In 1975 before we went out as missionaries, Father used to come to Barrytown and talk to us every other day during our 100 days of missionary training. One of the things Father told us in 1975 was to work with spiritualist churches. When we went to our mission field, we didn't know what we were doing; we contacted spiritualist churches, but nobody responded so we forgot about it. But this time, when we tried to think of what to do, we remembered that Father had told us to work with spiritualist churches.

We started looking for spiritualist churches. We contacted a few, and then we started having these incredible experiences. Our eastern regional leader, Imo Essien Nkanta, went to one spiritualist church in the small town of Uyo, in the southeastern area of Nigeria. He arrived in that town and went to speak to the founder of the church. Our brother is



around 28 years old and this minister is about 45, and in African society age is very important; it is difficult for young people to teach older people. Nonetheless, this pastor said, "I have to listen to you, because last night I had a dream and I saw you in my dream, God told me you would come in three days' time, and then you came, I have to listen to everything you say. So tell me what you want me to know."

Our brother sat down and for two days he taught him about the blessing, using the approach of non-Unificationist blessing first, teaching him that Jesus appeared to Rev. Moon and gave him a mission, and that Rev. Moon has been living his life for the sake of others to accomplish the mission that Jesus gave him in 1936. Well, the minute that we mentioned the name of Jesus, the pastor's heart was completely open and he said, "Yes, if Jesus gave that mission to Rev. Moon, then we have to work with Rev. Moon to accomplish the mission, and that's the mission of True Parents." This minister told us that he had 40,000 members in his church, and we believed him; so we reported to headquarters that we now had at least 10,000 members for the next blessing.

We started to work with that church, going from village to village. You have to understand about villages in Nigeria: there is no electricity, no water, and sometimes no roads. Still we went from village to village and started teaching the members of this church. We soon discovered that he did not have 40,000 members in his church. It was more like 10,000, and a lot of those people were polygamists—having more than one wife. Even as a non-Unificationist, someone with two wives obviously couldn't participate in

the blessing. We realized we had to continue to look for more churches, since this one church wasn't going to help us fulfill the goal that True Mother had given to us.

Therefore, we started looking for more churches, and as we reached out to other spiritualist churches, we began also to have many spiritual experiences. The leaders of these churches would receive revelations that our members were coming to see them, and that they should follow what we asked them to do.

Like John the Baptist, some of them received that revelation and a few days later they forgot it. Some of them did not. They remembered what they had received as a revelation and they sincerely tried to work with us to prepare for the blessing. But we realized we were not going to reach our goal by working only with small churches.

### Witnessing to larger churches

At that time, one of our leaders, Una Smart, was inspired to prepare a packet of documents to use as witnessing materials. In the packet, he included a copy of True Mother's 40-nation tour speech, Dr. Richard Rubenstein's speech "Reverend Moon's Vision: The Family of Man", a list of scores of projects True Father is directing throughout the world to create world peace, a Blessing brochure and a letter of invitation from HSA-UWC for the pastor or other leader to attend a meeting to introduce the Blessing in their neighborhood. We started distributing the packet to all religious, political and social leaders.

In Nigeria, there are maybe 10,000 spiritualist churches, each one started by someone who received a revelation. It is very common. But we thought we

had to leave those small churches for the moment and go to the big churches.

We also contacted the IRF office in New York City and asked Dr. Frank Kaufmann and Taj Hamad for some advice about how to teach the members of these churches about the blessing. They sent us a video called, "World Peace through Ideal Families," which is an invitation and an explanation of the blessing for non-Unificationists. We asked them to give a special invitation to the leaders of the big spiritualist churches in Nigeria: the Celestial Church of Christ, the Cherubim and Seraphim Church, and the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star. Those are the three major spiritualist churches in Nigeria. We contacted the founders of those churches and invited them to London for a workshop taught by Dr. Kaufmann.

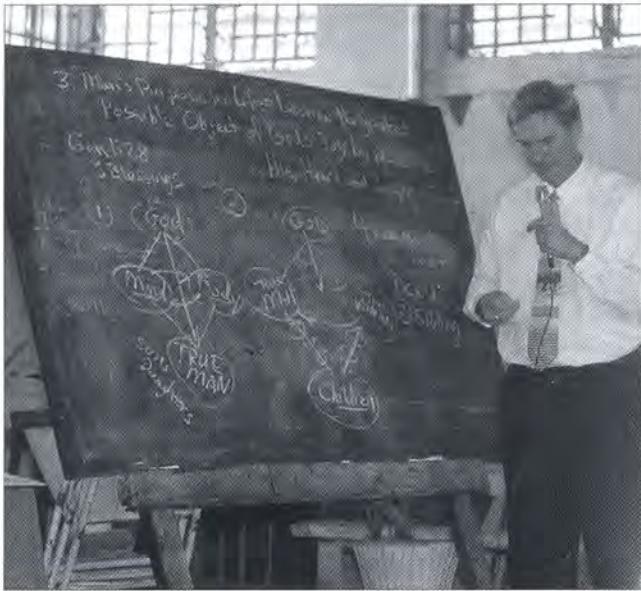
Pastor Bada, the leader of the Celestial Church of Christ, came to London along with two of his assistants, Senior Evangelist Akande and Senior Evangelist Aladesanmi. Pastor Bada was very kind and gracious, but he didn't respond as fully as we hoped he would. However Senior Evangelist Aladesanmi, was completely overtaken with the spirit of the Unification message. It was through this man that we really understood the value of John the Baptist and the difference it would have made if John the Baptist had fulfilled his mission.

Senior Evangelist Aladesanmi is a close advisor to Pastor Bada and a former military officer who served Nigeria in the Biafran war. A son of a traditional ruler, he went with us every day as we visited every major Christian church throughout the whole of Nigeria, especially in Lagos. Members of the Celestial Church of Christ do not wear shoes. They walk everywhere barefoot. The streets of Nigeria are dirty and filled with broken glass, but those people don't care because they believe that when they meet the Lord, they should be humble; as a sign of their humility they don't wear shoes.

Senior Evangelist Aladesanmi is also an executive member of the Christian association of Nigeria, so everywhere everybody loves and respects him. He went with us to every church and he testified to the value of what we were doing in the HSA-UWC. We used the term Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity, because Christians love this name. They do not want even to hear the term 'Unification Church.' They do not think of us as a church; they believe that our mission is like that of the National Council of Churches or the World Council of Churches. Our mission is to unite Christianity.



*A few of the top Christian leaders who were blessed on August 25, 1995. Lagos, Nigeria.*



*Kevin Winter presents a Divine Principle lecture at a Christian church during a seminar on the blessing.*

So they were deeply moved.

We would go and teach a four-hour workshop on the meaning of the blessing to the leaders of various churches, one by one, throughout the whole city of Lagos, together with Senior Evangelist Aladesanmi and some other ministers and pastors that he brought with him. And one by one they all started to respond positively. He really worked as a John the Baptist and opened doors. Without him I don't know if the doors could have been opened as easily. But through him it was much easier to open the doors to Christianity. In this way we arranged for the blessing to take place.

Our house was like the Christian hub of Nigeria. In our sitting room we have a big picture of True Parents on one wall, and on the other wall we have a picture of Jesus. Our Christian guests would feel comfortable when they walked in and saw the picture of Jesus.

Our house was full of Christian ministers; between 20 and 30 Christian ministers every day, for about three months before the blessing. They helped us to organize the blessing. They made the posters and the banners; they prepared everything. They went witnessing to all the churches. We divided Lagos and the surrounding communities into 20 zones, and in each zone we would have one Unificationist and one Christian pastor visit all the Christian churches in that area, tell the members of the church about the blessing, give them a one-day workshop, and invite them to sign up.

### **Satellite blessing ceremony**

When August 25 came, the satellite reception was scheduled for 2:00 a.m.,

corresponding to 11:00 a.m. Korean time. Lagos, I am sorry to say, is well known to be quite a dangerous city. There is a lot of armed robbery, so people won't even go out after 10:00 p.m., much less at 2:00 a.m. Thus we had to bring people at 6:00 p.m. and hold an all-night prayer vigil the night of August 24/25. We prayed all night together with the Christians and at 2:00 a.m. we held the blessing ceremony.

Because of the difficult hour of the blessing coupled with the fuel shortage which was crippling the nation's public transport systems at that time,

only about 15,000 people came to the main ceremony. We had 13 ceremonies all over Nigeria, but only about 15,000 people could come to the main ceremony because of a lack of transportation. The buses that were supposed to transport people were afraid to go out.

### **Blessing ceremonies every day**

We made a report to Rev. Kwak, and we received permission to continue the blessings for several more months. This was a great opportunity for us because it opened up a whole new way of working with the Christian community. As we continued during the months of September, October, November and December, we would go to the churches with a Christian minister, witness to the pastor and his wife, have a one-day workshop for them, and go back for their Sunday service if they agreed to let us give a presentation to the parishioners about the blessing. At the end of the service, people would sign up for the blessing

*Our house was like the Christian hub of Nigeria. In our sitting room we have a big picture of True Parents on one wall, and on the other wall we have a picture of Jesus.*

and then the next Sunday we would go back and give them more education. The third Sunday service we would hold the blessing. So their Sunday service was the blessing.

We first had the pastor and his wife receive the blessing wine, and then they would help to give the holy wine out to the rest of the parishioners. In Africa,

especially in Nigeria, many people still use traditional magic charms and potions as a way of advancing their ambitions or getting revenge and sometimes people are poisoned because of jealousy. Therefore, people are cautious about drinking something you offer them. If you offer a Coca-Cola to someone, you have to open it in front of them so they know you didn't put anything inside. Thus the holy wine ceremony was a little difficult because they did not fully trust us yet. But when their own pastor helped to distribute the holy wine, they felt more confidence and trust.

During the last four months we have been having blessings almost every day. The last Sunday of December, we had 21 blessings in 21 different churches. It is like a revolution spreading all over the land. We do not have enough members to organize the blessings.

### **Persecution becomes intense**

After the initial breakthrough we made by making contact with certain ministers who actually work full time with us now, it was as if our movement multiplied by itself. Pastors from one church would see that another church held a blessing ceremony, and they would come to our headquarters to ask us to organize a blessing in their church even without receiving our presentation on the importance of the Blessing. Their faith was so great. In the end it became more easy to bring churches to participate because the word was going like fire among the Christian community, spreading all over.

All this was not without difficulties. We received the most incredible persecution that we had ever gone through in Africa. We were harassed every day at our headquarters center by one or another division of the police forces; by the military police, Interpol, immigration police, the city police, the army, the air force and the navy.

Our members were being arrested one by one. It would take too long to tell you all the reasons why. They were all ludicrous. Very strange things were happening to us. But every time a member was arrested, these Christian ministers would go to the police station, the army headquarters, or the Interpol station, testify on behalf of our members and get

them out of prison. They always comfort us when we receive persecution because many of them were persecuted when they started their churches and they know that Satan always attacks when you are working for God's providence.

The harassment was brought on by false accusations from people aiming to sabotage our work. On several occasions when some of our top leaders were arrested they were thrown into jail together with some of the worst criminals while the police investigated the accusations. The criminals had their own cruel way of treating newcomers - beating them up

brother did pass into the spiritual world due to a heart condition he didn't know he had. Before the doctors discovered this though the police came to our center and arrested all of our members because the brother's family thought we had poisoned him. It took about ten days to get our members out of prison. So we were really fighting a battle.

We were fighting against the forces of Satan, which wanted to discourage us. Persecution also came from Christians who received negative information about True Parents from abroad. Tracts were distributed against us. People cried anti-

poorly equipped and are slow to arrive at the scene of a crime. Using big hatchets and machete knives they smashed in the windows of our car. It felt as if we were in the middle of a war, but it just made us more determined to persevere through this so something special could happen.

We made many strong conditions to strengthen our defense against Satan's attacks. We started our mobilization with 50 members fasting for seven days while others did other fasts and a chain fast and prayer continued up to the time of the Blessing. We heard testimony of the witnessing team set up by Rev. Kwak in Korea bowing 100 times to end the day. So for the final 120 days leading up to the Blessing we got up for 5 AM pledge and prayer as we had been doing since just before True Mother's visit, but we stared bowing 40 times before the pledge for 40 days, then 80 times for another 40 days and then 120 times for the last 40 days. Our general life style was so busy with preparations that there was no time to sleep or eat! After early morning prayers we met to plan activities through breakfast until time to leave, then the meetings continued in the evening and on far past midnight. Sometimes the only way to sleep was in the car going to the next meeting.

*Our general life style was so busy with preparations that there was no time to sleep or eat! After early morning prayers we met to plan activities through breakfast until time to leave, then the meetings continued in the evening and on far past midnight.*

and taking anything of value from them. When two of our leaders were being beaten in this way the other prisoners learned they were churchmen and asked them to prove it by praying. Our members started praying intensely and reciting the Family Pledge in Korean. This somehow frightened the prisoners who thought the Holy Spirit was coming down to make our members speak in tongues and they begged the police guards to let our members out of the cell!

On another occasion, a church leader was forced into a car down the street from our headquarters by soldiers who had been hired to attack us. He was beaten up as he fought his kidnappers but with so many people stopping to look they finally pushed him out of the car and left. We received telephone threats. Our children were threatened so that we had to move them to safety. Our missionaries were told if they didn't leave the country by a certain time they would die. We took precautions to beef up security and pressed on with our campaign.

One of the Christian spiritualists received a revelation that one of our members was going to pass away before the date of the Blessing. She went to this brother and said, "Please, you must make sure your life is in good order before you go to the spiritual world." We were all surprised but according to our past experience the spiritualist churches are not very accurate in their prediction of events, and we tried to reassure our brother.

Two months later however just as he was teaching a 21-day workshop, this

christ. Some Christians went door to door in the communities where we wanted to hold blessings to tell people not to attend. They spread rumors that there was something in the wine and even something in the holy water that would put a spell on people. Someone even paid the national telecommunications office so that they would sabotage the satellite reception and hooligans were hired to invade the blessing ceremony.

Outside of the blessing ceremony itself we were attacked three times during this time period. On two occasions some men surrounded our car in the middle of a big traffic jam. In Nigeria the armed robbers are very brazen and they are not afraid of being caught because the police are

### *No time to total the numbers*

We continued the blessing ceremonies. Right now there are over 2,000 Christian pastors who are blessed. More, probably. We don't even have time to do our statistics, because every available member we have is either witnessing to new pastors or officiating at a blessing in a church. Literally people have no time to stop and type at a typewriter. We cannot take



*Blessing seminar participants.*

time to even add up certain things. It is even difficult sometimes to go to the toilet or eat. That is how busy everybody has been, because we have so few full-time members.

All our leaders have talked many times about Father's promise that some day there would be so many people coming that we wouldn't even have the people to teach them. We absolutely experienced that in Nigeria over the past year. We feel that there is a revolution taking place, and we ourselves know that we didn't do anything to make it happen. When Mother came and told us with tears about her love for True Father, we just plugged in. It was like plugging yourself into a light socket that True Parents have wired. When we plugged into it, the light started to shine everywhere.

The experience of this Blessing preparation showed us the importance of being really crazy in our determination to reach the goal. We had to be desperate and we were. If we had just relied on one technique or another, no matter how well thought out, we would have had a much smaller result. When obstacles arose it would have been too easy to conclude that we had done the best we could and settle for much less than our goal. But when we tried with all of our hearts after Mother told us in tears about her desire to bring glory to our True Father on this earth, it changed the heartistic connection that both missionaries and members had with True Parents. Then we just had to succeed, no matter what. We know it was not the victory it should have been; if we had done more, we could have brought much more victory to our True Parents, and we feel really sorry about that. But if there was any victory won, it was only because of the love of our True Parents and only because True Mother came to Nigeria and set the fire of desperation in our hearts. Everyone in Nigeria felt that very deeply.

Many of these church ministers don't understand clearly about Father as the Messiah, but every day they are receiving revelations. When Father went to Ghana, 40 Christian ministers went there to see him. We could have had many more, but we didn't have money to bring them. They were at the banquet when Father spoke. Among the 40 Christian ministers who attended Father's speech, some of them had visions of Jesus standing right with Father. Then when they

went back to Nigeria they had dreams in which they saw Father blessing people. In Africa, you bless people with oil, so they saw Father blessing people all over the world and Jesus was holding the oil for Father to bless them. In this way they could understand Father's position as True Parents.

This is a testimony not about ourselves but about the foundation of sacrifice and love that our True Parents have laid. When we plugged into that, then results came.

### Village-level blessings

Right before the blessings ended, we started organizing blessings on a new level. This was a community blessing. We would contact the traditional ruler of a village and witness to him and ask him to join the Family Federation for



*True Mother receives flowers after her speech. Nigeria, 1993.  
(Photo: courtesy of Kathy Rigney)*

Unification and World Peace. Then we would give him a workshop, and he would call in all the couples in his village and talk to them about the blessing. Following this, he would invite us to give the villagers a workshop. Thus, instead of offering blessings only on the church level, we started doing community blessings centering on the traditional ruler of each village. That helped us to have a vision for the 3.6 million couple blessing coming up.

When we first heard about the 3.6 million goal, we were not really shocked. We never thought that it was impossible, but we just wonder how we are going to have enough people to do the work that needs to be done. We have to take care of the earlier blessed people plus the people blessed through the community blessings. We could see how many more people could be mobilized through the traditional rulers and through the FFUWP.

My conclusion is that when we sim-

ply heartistically connect to our True Parents in love, many things can happen. If we become desperate to show our love to True Parents through accomplishing our goals then miracles happen in the middle of that desperation. If we unite together our determination and our external capacities with the love of our True Parents, with love for them, with love to the point that we desperately want to be with them, to live with them, to bring glory to them, to please them, then God shows us the way to bring victory.

When Father was in Africa, I always thought, what can we do to please Father, to make him happy? Let's give him a nice bed, the best hotel and good food. It was right to do all of those things, but based on Father's speeches in Africa, I felt that the major thing that all of us can do to make True Father happy is to become true men and true women. Our work is cut out for us. If we really want to connect heartistically to True Parents, we have to become true men and true women, living for the sake of others exactly the way True Father and True Mother are doing. Otherwise we really have nothing to do with True Parents.

The stories I just told you took place also in Ghana, in Burkina Faso, the Ivory Coast, Mali, Zaire and elsewhere. We know that for the next blessing, many victories can come if we really unite and work together, centering on True Parents' love.

The victory in Africa came because of True Father's love and True Mother's heart of love to True Father. We can never show our appreciation and our gratitude to Father and Mother for what they have done in Africa all these years, supporting us and loving us and taking care of us. In Africa we are determined to become number one, not because we think we are better than anybody else but because we want to live with True Parents forever and bring them glory while they are physically on this earth. That's the only reason. So thank you, Father.■

*[After this testimony was given the church and community blessings in Nigeria continued until April and a total of 33,000 couples were blessed.]*

*Kathy Rigney is the continental director of Africa. She and her husband Jim participated in the 1,800 Couples' Blessing in 1975. They have one daughter.*

# The Royal Visit to Guyana

Marilyn McKenzie

IN South America, the English-speaking Guyana was blessed with the honor of a visit from In Jin Nim and her spouse, Jin Sung Nim. It all started when True Parents were planning their tour of Latin America. The Guyana family hoped to receive True Parents during their tour of 20 countries in June and July 1995.

While we were making preparations we were notified by fax that True Parents would not visit Guyana but would be going to the Dominican Republic and that our nation should render financial support. Two days later we were told that all national leaders and all Korean missionaries should go to the Dominican Republic on June 28. We were a little disappointed and sad, knowing what a blessing it would have been for True Parents to visit our nation.

Many of our members longed to see True Parents. Some brothers and sisters have been around for as long as 15 years and never saw True Parents.

We were told that True Parents would visit twelve nations, and the other eight nations should hold a banquet for their president and other dignitaries on the days when True Father was expected to speak. We were preparing to hold our banquet after our national leader returned from the Dominican Republic with all the information and requirements necessary for a successful banquet.

Everyone was tense as the excitement gradually mounted. The fifth fax instructed us to wait for further information from our regional director. We were told that True Parents would visit Haiti and maybe Surinam. It seemed as though every fax which came in provided different instructions. Our national leader told us to be prepared for anything and be ready to travel or hold a banquet at any appointed time.

In the meantime, we were raising funds, holding workshops, and preparing people for the blessing. It was a very exciting and tense time. Every day we were either calling or going to the church office to see if there was any news.

On July 10 we received a tentative notice that True Children would be vis-

iting the nations that were not visited by True Parents. We began preparations and started looking for the best hotel, a suitable place for the banquet, and appropriate transportation. Being a Third World nation, Guyana finds it difficult to provide such facilities on short notice. For example, there is only one good hotel where we could accommodate the True Children. We felt very sorry and apologized to the True Family.

The advance party, comprised of Rev. Hyung Tae Kim and Rev. Kazuto Nishigima, came to Guyana on July 14. Final decisions were made, and Rev. Hyung Tae Kim selected the hotel rooms, the Queen Elizabeth suite. The Japanese missionaries were asked to prepare to serve In Jin Nim, Jin Sung Nim and the entire delegation.

Our national leader wanted the banquet to be held at the best hotel, but that weekend was very busy and most of the suitable banquet halls were fully booked. Consequently, the alternative was to make use of the Convention Hall of a new hotel at Liliendaal, on the east coast of Demerara, a few miles outside of the capital city of Georgetown.

Meanwhile, our national leader had

tried diligently to arrange for the president of Guyana to meet with In Jin Nim and Jin Sung Nim, only to discover that the president would be out of town that weekend, along with the prime minister and other government ministers.

In Jin Nim and her entourage were due to arrive on Sunday, July 16, at noon, and visit the Unification Church after the close of Sunday service. However, the flight was delayed, and in Jin Nim and her party arrived at 2:00 p.m. instead.

All blessed families and their children went to greet In Jin Nim and her party at the airport. Meanwhile, my spiritual daughter and I were praying for their safe landing and protection on the highway into the city. In my prayer I felt as though Heavenly Father was coming and we were praying and thanking Him. The national leader's wife called to say that In Jin Nim's leg was in a cast and she looked very tired.

Members had been requested to be at the banquet hall by 4:00. At 6:30 our first guest arrived. We were feeling nervous, because our desire was to fill the hall with a standing room only audience in order to express our heart to Heavenly Father

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26



In Jin Nim and Jin Sung Nim with Guyanese members, July 17, 1995.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF MARILYN MCKENZIE

### Father's Unique Strategy...

anti-communist leader visited Gorbachev and Kim Il Sung. Since the very beginning, Father has had an unchanging desire to embrace all humankind. Communism is wrong because of its theory, but since Father wants to embrace people of all races, he wants to embrace people living under communism. Even when Father first visited Moscow he clearly proclaimed that communism was wrong, and when Father visited Kim Il Sung he proclaimed that his teaching could overcome communist theory.

Father is always challenging secular humanism, individualism, self-centeredness, and other ideologies. I am confident that the Unification theory is the number one theory among all other religious, logical and scientific theories. Because of this, the Unification Church has attracted many young followers, in contrast to other religions. Not only today but also in the future, young people will demand logical explanations, and the Divine Principle is a powerful and effective guide for young people.

#### *Father seeks to solve physical problems*

The second speciality of the Unification Church is that Father focuses not only on the spiritual world but also on the physical world. The activities of the Unification Church are mostly focused on the earth. Whether we go to the Kingdom of Heaven or paradise after our spirit self separates from the body is of secondary importance compared to the primary importance of our state on the earth. Father always teaches the importance of reaching perfection in our lifetime. He always talks about individual perfection and dedication to fulfilling God's will on earth.

Heavenly Father created people with the idea that they would establish the Heavenly Kingdom on earth. One cannot go to the Heavenly Kingdom in the spiritual world based just on repentance; we have to live in the Heavenly Kingdom on earth before we can go there in the spiritual world.

The Divine Principle has a unique emphasis on personal human responsibility. Other religions do not focus so much on human responsibility, emphasizing instead God's grace. The Unification Church has never denied God's grace, but it emphasizes our responsibility for receiving God's blessing. God's blessing comes down like the rain, but unless we have certain equipment, such as a tub, we cannot collect the rain water and keep it.

Heavenly Father's grace will always come, but our responsibility is to form a certain base to receive it through fulfilling our responsibility. We cannot perfect our personality without fulfilling our portion of responsibility. Mere reliance on God's grace will never get us to the Kingdom of Heaven.

After we joined the Unification Church we recognized that we need to fulfill our personal portion of responsibility. Many people mention the diligence of Unification Church members

and wonder why they are so dedicated, so excited, so hard-working. There is a clear reason: our portion of responsibility. Once members deeply understand the teaching of Divine Principle, they recognize their own responsibility. Many organizations in the Unification movement are related to the practical conditions of the physical world. We are all working so hard to carry out such activities, so our personality can keep growing and our spiritual self can become good.

This kind of responsibility is fulfilled voluntarily through sacrificing, serving, and living for the sake of others. Please understand that according to Unification teaching, we must establish the heavenly kingdom on earth by fulfilling our portion of responsibility.

#### *Father's work is linked to the spiritual world*

Third, the Unification Church's activities are always linked with the spiritual world, not only the physical world. I don't know in your case, but in my case I have many religious ancestors. Religions teach about the spiritual world to a certain degree, but they do not give clear explanations or clear directions.

If the spiritual world exists and I have no understanding about it, my physical life has no connection to the eternal spiritual world. If the spiritual world is real all people need to pass through the way of religion, the way of faith. The quality of our life of faith determines our existence in the eternal, spiritual world. If the spiritual world does not exist, then religion has no meaning. Therefore, the existence of the spiritual world is an important issue.

We know some aspects of the spiritual world but not the details. Many church leaders do not teach clearly about the spiritual world. Please understand that the Divine Principle explains it very logically. We understand it not only logically but also through spiritual phenomena. Even now, at the Chung Pyung training center in Korea there are ongoing spiritual phenomena. Angels are working, and many spiritual phenomena are occurring. Our faith is directly related to our understanding of the spiritual world. Do you believe in the spiritual world? Have you made the right conditions?

The more people on earth are convinced about the existence of the spiritual world, the closer we will approach the ideal world of goodness. If we understand that our spiritual self will go to the eternal world, how can we commit sin?

#### *The spiritual world brings people to Father*

Since the early times of the church, many spiritual phenomena have occurred centered around Father. For example, just after World War II, while Father was on an errand in Seoul, Heavenly Father directed him to go to North Korea because important believers were waiting for him there. Because Father always obeys Heavenly Father's directions 100 percent, he went directly to Pyongyang with-

Our faith is directly related to our understanding of the spiritual world. Do you believe in the spiritual world? Have you made the right conditions? The more people on earth are convinced about the existence of the spiritual world, the closer we will approach the ideal world of goodness.

out telling his own family. Amazingly, when Father arrived in Pyongyang, a man approached him and asked, "Are you Rev. Moon?" Father followed him to a small house and held a meeting there.

The most important Christian city in Korea was Pyongyang. There many prayers were offered. When the people in Pyongyang learned that a wonderful spiritual leader had arrived from South Korea, they went to meet him and they told others about him. Most of the early members joined the church without listening to Divine Principle or hearing a sermon. They believed because they had been directed by God.

Sunday services were not normal services. People sang holy songs, cried, and received revelations from God about the identity of Father. Members were often crying, laughing and making a lot of noise. Because of this, the neighbors began to think that the early members were crazy.

The communists had just begun to take over the government of North Korea, and they were watching everyone very carefully. They did not like Christian movements and especially people like Father. Therefore, Father was put in jail and tortured for 100 days. The communists had difficulty believing that Father came to North Korea because of a spiritual revelation; it was more reasonable for them to believe that Father came from South Korea as a spy.

Father was tortured almost to death and then released. He recovered, and many people gathered around him; church activities began to grow once again. Father was put in prison a second time and then sent to Hungnam. Father was sentenced to five years of hard labor, but had never committed any sin.

When the United Nations army liberated Hungnam, Father was freed. After returning to South Korea as a humble refugee, Father started the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity. How was he able to do that and attract members? Father could have gone witnessing door to door—and he did that—but most of the early members were guided to him by the spiritual world. We early members never had any doubt about the existence of the spiritual world. Therefore, please understand that our life goal is to develop our spiritual self.

#### *Father works for religious unity*

The next special point about HSA-UWC is its emphasis on dialogue and harmony among different religions. What other religion has emphasized inter-religious dialogue? Father started inter-religious activities in Korea in the late 1950's and has continued doing them ever since. He emphasizes that Catholicism is the elder brother, Protestantism the second brother, and the Unification Church the youngest brother.

Religions have divided people, but Heavenly Father always considers all of them to be His children. Father has spent an incredible amount of money to promote inter-religious harmony and dialogue. He never emphasized building Unification Church buildings, and even now the Uni-

fication Church in Korea still does not have a clear headquarters building. Father always uses the example of Jesus Christ, who did not emphasize the role of church buildings in bringing people closer to God. The conflict among religions causes God great pain. Please understand that the Unification Church is the only religious group which keeps its focus on religious harmony.

Father made the first manuscript of the Divine Principle in 1951, in which Father predicted the coming of one world under God in which all people will live together as one society, overcoming barriers of nationality. The world is now moving in the direction of oneness. Who can deny the direction of history? Although the world is moving closer together externally, the painful point is that people are experiencing more and more internal conflict.

Father has already predicted the outbreak of a religious war, and he is focusing on preventing religious and racial wars. No superpower can protect against religious or racial wars. Only the teaching and practice of the Unification Church can prevent this. We are promoting many inter-religious activities, and through them Father is focusing on building religious harmony.

#### *Father opens the way for family salvation*

Individual perfection or salvation relates to world salvation and peace. Past religious movements emphasized only individual salvation. Christianity and Buddhism, for example, teach that believers will go as individuals to paradise or experience nirvana.

Father teaches that the fundamental unit of the Kingdom of Heaven is not the individual but the family. Please understand the importance of this point. What will happen to people who believe in individual salvation when they are elevated to the spiritual world? Many religions have taught about the Kingdom of Heaven, but they could not give a detailed explanation.

Do you have any idea about the kind of life you will have after you are elevated to the heavenly kingdom? Will you try to get a job? Will you change your spouse? How many children will you want to have? What kind of house would you like: Italian style or American style?

If the spiritual world exists and you are going to live there, you need a plan. Unfortunately, religions have not given us guidance in this area. We have listened to sermons describing the Kingdom of Heaven as a wonderful world of happiness; however, we need detailed information about what to expect.

Those who go to the Kingdom of Heaven in the spiritual world will probably need a sightseeing tour. It is so beautiful and wonderful that sightseeing is a good idea. Most people who go to the spiritual world were sick immediately prior to their elevation, and sightseeing would be a wonderful experience for them. But don't you think that mere sightseeing would be lonely? No matter how wonderful the environment

No superpower  
can protect  
against religious  
or racial wars.  
Only the  
teaching and  
practice of the  
Unification  
Church can  
prevent this. We  
are promoting  
many inter-  
religious  
activities, and  
through them  
Father is  
focusing on  
building  
religious  
harmony.

The first responsibility is our vertical responsibility towards God our Creator. In front of our Creator we pledge to keep our purity. Through fulfilling this responsibility we can achieve individual perfection. The main element of human personality is responsibility of love. People who do not fulfill their responsibility of love do not have a reliable personality. At a minimum, we have to fulfill this vertical responsibility.

of the Kingdom of Heaven may be, filled with music and flying and many kinds of things, don't you think you would be lonely without your spouse, your parents, and your children? Our original mind seeks happiness that we can share as a family.

Father says that people go to the Kingdom of Heaven not as individuals but as couples, based on respect for our parents and love for our children. The family is the basic unit of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Because the fundamental unit is the family, it is very important to experience family life on earth. Heavenly Father created us with the capacity to achieve the family ideal, but because of the fall the ideal of the God-centered family was lost.

Humankind in general recognizes the importance of the family. Unfortunately, throughout history many family problems have arisen, including unfaithfulness, immorality and divorce. Father teaches that our individual freedom, happiness, peace, and ideals must be linked directly to the family and that our family's happiness, freedom and ideals must be directly connected to the nation, the world and the cosmos. In other words, happiness, freedom, peace, goodness, and ideals are spiritually linked on one axis that runs from the individual to the family, tribe, nation, world and cosmos.

Parents and children generally work hard to contribute to the family, but families do not understand how they are linked to society. Therefore, True Parents' teaching about the family ideal is very important.

Through the blessing ceremony we receive the blessing of God and True Parents. However, True Parents' blessing is not simple. The Unification Church's marriage ritual is linked to world salvation. Heavenly Father has given human beings a higher blessing than the animals. Animals mate for multiplication, nothing more; only in human beings is there no limit to the horizontal love relationship.

#### *Father emphasizes the responsibilities of love*

We have freedom in love. God permitted freedom in love. For freedom to become real freedom, however, we need to fulfill certain conditions. Without responsibility, freedom never becomes real.

People have three kinds of responsibility. After fulfilling these three criteria, we can enjoy real freedom of love. The people of the fallen world seek freedom of love, but they fail to recognize their responsibility.

The first responsibility is our vertical responsibility towards God our Creator. In front of our Creator we pledge to keep our purity. Through fulfilling this responsibility we can achieve individual perfection. The main element of human personality is responsibility of love. People who do not fulfill their responsibility of love do not have a reliable personality. At a minimum, we have to fulfill this vertical responsibility.

Our second responsibility is toward our spouse.

The conjugal love relationship should be experienced only with our spouse. Conjugal love is restricted to two people, and there should be no interference from outside. God created this clear order of vertical and horizontal love.

The vertical love relationship has a unique order. Parents love their first child; when the second child comes they discover that they are still full of love to give that child. The same applies to the third child and all the other children. Even though the vertical love relationship is divided, it is still perfect. Because of this principle, one parent can take care of ten children. In the same way, one Heavenly Father can embrace all humankind as His children.

However, the horizontal relationship is different, because if conjugal love is divided it is not complete. If one or two percent is missing, the love is not complete. Please understand this original principle of conjugal love. God created us to experience unwavering, unchanging love relationships.

Our third responsibility is towards our children and our descendants. The most important source of children's happiness is their parents' unwavering love relationship. In modern society people think casually about divorce, but when children are involved divorce is unacceptable. There may be reasons for divorce, but the children can never accept such reasons in their original minds, because parental love is the root of their very being. If parental love breaks down, the child's root is broken. Furthermore, true love is the original source and fundamental element of happiness. True love is so important, but it can never be fully understood through teaching or logical explanation. True love can only be understood through a living experience. Children recognize true love through their own parents, not through anybody else.

For all humankind, the most important kind of education is education of heart and love. This is more crucial than logical or technical education. The most important education of love comes from the parents. The family is the most important school, because this is where children study true love. It is impossible even for a famous teacher to give guidance about true love. Orphanage staff are rarely able to truly love the orphans in their care. True love can only be received through one's own parents. People who cannot inherit true love from their parents have a disturbed life. Thus, the parents' most important responsibility toward their children is to educate them in love. When all humankind fulfills these three responsibilities, then we can enjoy the freedom of love.

#### *Father offers hope to the world through the blessing*

These three responsibilities culminate in the ideal of the Unification Church blessing. Single people prepare to make this pledge in front of God, their spouse, and their descendants at the time of the blessing. Unification Church blessed couples do not always impress people with their good looks, their wealth or their wonderful



lifestyle, but what makes them special is their conjugal love relationship. We are proud of this. Through this blessing ceremony, modern society will be saved from immorality and the incredible problems experienced by youth.

The Unification Church blessing ceremony is not only for the younger generation; it is also for people who are already married. It is for couples who want to declare before God and the spiritual world their determination to fulfill these three responsibilities.

In both developed and developing nations people experience family breakdown, youth problems, social breakdown, and total loss of any moral or value system. Who can solve these problems? Can the government do it? Can teachers do it? Can these problems be solved through material power or money? It is impossible to solve such problems in this way. Only through the Unification Church blessing ceremony can these fundamental problems of modern society be solved.

In the society of Unification Church blessed families, it is easier to protect against AIDS than against a cold. Newspapers report about Christian ministers or priests distributing condoms to their congregations. This clearly shows the limitation of the church in confronting the challenges of modern society. Condoms can never provide adequate protection against AIDS. All religious leaders must focus on fundamental ethical and moral standards. The Unification Church is the only religious group that can face this challenge. Please fulfill your love responsibility and enjoy the freedom of love.

My conclusion is that Father did not found HSA-UWC for the sake of church activities. His ultimate goal is to build a society where religion is not necessary. There was to be no religion or church in God's original ideal of creation. No process of belief was intended. People were not supposed to follow a life of faith. We should

graduate from religion and graduate from faith. We should be able to attend God simply through the process of living.

Do you believe in the existence of God? Do you believe that He is a living God? All religions ultimately relate with God. Do you have the conviction that when God looks at the world He sees the Unification Church as a unique movement? This is the most important point.

### *Prepare for the blessing of 3.6 million couples*

The blessing of 3.6 million couples will take place next year. Do you have confidence? Is 3.6 million couples a large number or a small number?

On April 19 I met with continental leaders in New York. The African continental leader reported that Africa already has 3.6 million couples committed to the blessing.

Why are you clapping? If the Italian church can bring that many people, maybe you can clap. Whether other nations or continents have already accomplished a certain goal does not affect you. I want to check your determination.

To reach 3.6 million couples you must not think just about witnessing. Please remove from your mind the Unification Church concept of witnessing. The blessing is not a ritual of just one church, but for the whole of humankind. All humanity must follow this ritual.

All Italian members should start a patriotic movement for the sake of saving this nation. Don't just witness; please start a movement. In Korea we have started a movement for the salvation of the nation and the unification of Korea. I have met the president of the country and top religious and academic leaders and explained to them the ideal of the blessing. I never encountered even one case of negativity towards the ideal of the blessing. How can people oppose the blessing? It is the only way to solve the fundamental problems of society.

Please approach many people with the ideal of the blessing. In this way you can find many righteous people who will support this ideal and want to be part of it. I want to emphasize again not to think about traditional witnessing activities but about creating a social movement. Will you do this? Through the fulfillment of this ideal of the blessing, our Unification movement can truly dedicate itself to this country and this continent.

Your continental leader has praised you

*To reach 3.6 million couples you must not think just about witnessing. Please remove from your mind the Unification Church concept of witnessing. The blessing is not a ritual of just one church, but for the whole of humankind. All humanity must participate in this ritual.*

*Welcome to Rev. and  
Let's realise the 3.6 M  
Colle Mattia, Roma.*



*Rev. Kwak speaks to leaders and members at Colle Mattia, Rome, May 4, 1996.*

and your movement. I don't know if God is thinking on the same level, but the important thing is how you can link your activities with God's work. I expect the Italian church and the Italian members to fulfill the real goal of the coming blessing.

Tomorrow I am leaving for Moscow to meet with leaders from the CIS; then I will return to America through Canada. On May 11, I will go to the Robert F. Kennedy stadium in Washington, D.C., to sign the final contract for the blessing.

Because 3.6 million couples will attend this blessing, there will be many satellite ceremonies. Only representative members from each country will go to the stadium in Washington for the main celebration. I am waiting for news from your national leader that you have fulfilled all your responsibility.■

[Part I was printed in the July, 1996 issue of Today's World.]

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

## The Royal Visit to Guyana

and True Parents. Guyanese people tend to arrive late at functions, but we have to restore this bad habit, as our Korean missionary constantly reminds us. At 6:50 there was a rush of persons coming in, and this continued until 7:30. We were all excited and astonished, because very soon there were no more seats at the tables, which fulfilled our expectations. In our preparatory meetings Rev. Hyung Tae Kim had said repeatedly that it was best to have an overflow crowd, and so it turned out. Our members stood at the back of the hall throughout the entire proceedings.

Distinguished persons who attended included Mr. Hugh Desmond Hoyte, former president of Guyana; Mr. Hamilton Green, former prime minister and currently mayor of Georgetown; Mrs. Viola Burnham, former first lady of Guyana; Ms Desiree Bernard, chief justice of the Supreme Court; and the North Korean ambassador.

In Jin Nim arrived at the building at 7:15 and waited for people to be seated before entering the hall at 7:30. The chair-

man of the evening was Mr. Antonio Betancourt, who introduced the persons at the head table and then immediately opened the program. He gave a short talk in which he explained the importance of In Jin Nim's visit to Guyana, the countries they had already visited and the ones they planned to visit. Dr. Dale Bisnauth, minister of education, was supposed to give the invocation. Since he did not attend, the prayer was

offered by Mr. Ronald McGarrell, our national leader. One feature of the program was a video on True Father's life in North and South Korea. It seemed to me that everyone was interested in the film. Mrs. Sheila Chapman-Wong, second vice president of WFWP and also a blessed member, introduced In Jin Nim to the audi-

ence. The introduction was perfect: very clear and to the point.

In Jin Nim gave an excellent delivery of the speech, "The True Family and I." Even those who did not know anything about our church could understand about us after listening to the speech. Everything said was as clear as day! In Jin Nim also acknowledged the presence of the North Korean ambassador, the former first lady and other citizens of promi-

with a medley of songs in English and Spanish, which clearly delighted them. Even though there was a hitch in serving the meal due to the overflow crowd, everyone was generally grateful and tried to overcome the difficulties.

After the banquet In Jin Nim held a private meeting first with the North Korean ambassador and later with members.

*In Jin Nim gave an excellent delivery of the speech, "The True Family and I." Even those who did not know anything about our church could understand about us after listening to the speech. Everything said was as clear as day!*

We could all feel In Jin Nim's warmth and love as well as the presence of the high spiritual world. We were reminded of the care and love of our True Parents, who we hope will one day come to Guyana. We can make True Parents' visit a reality if we work hard and with sincerity. It was quite an experience.

After all the preparation and changes that were made, it was just as though our True Parents were there in person. Also I felt that Heavenly Father was there in person. I felt so sorry to see the True Child with crutches and a wheelchair. It hurt me very much.

After the banquet I began a condition to read half of the speech, "The True Family and I," standing on one leg, but it was so difficult that I had to break the condition and make another offering in a different way.

Three nights after the banquet, I dreamed about In Jin Nim. I felt so close to her, and it made me happy. I promised Heavenly Father and True Parents to take more responsibility and sacrifice more. The entire experience was a blessing that I will never forget.■

*Marilyn McKenzie was blessed with the 30,000 Couples in 1992.*

*Brothers and sisters were reminded of the importance of God leading our nation and how this could be realized. First, we have to unite our mind and body and then unite as husband and wife to build ideal, God-centered families—a place where God can dwell.*

nence in the audience.

Brothers and sisters were reminded of the importance of God leading our nation and how this could be realized. First, we have to unite our mind and body and then unite as husband and wife to build ideal, God-centered families—a place where God can dwell. Then the nation can be at peace with itself.

At the end of the formal program, Mr. Betancourt entertained the audience

# The Speaking Tour in Surinam

November 1995 - March 1996

Tirso Ramirez

FOLLOWING True Parents' direction that we should give the "True Family and I" speech throughout the nation, we started in the west side of Surinam, at Nickerie, a city four hours by car from the capital.

During this speaking-tour we experienced many tests of faith, because we had to overcome many difficulties. In the first and second cities the number of guests was very small, but we did not get discouraged. Therefore, even though we were in a very difficult situation economically, we determined to continue.

In the third city we had almost a full audience. From the fourth city on so many people came that there were not enough seats.

The last city we visited, Brokopondo, is five hours by car south of the capital. This was the most successful place. This city is mostly populated by black Christian people. Although these people have been strongly opposed to us, we made friends with the chairman of a women's organization there, and they arranged for us to give the speech in a school building.

We sent two members in advance to invite people for the speech, and they met a church leader who wanted to know



Members and guests who attended the "True Family and I" speech in Brokopondo.

more about our activity. When he heard that we had arranged to give the speech at a school, he said that it would be too small for all the people who were supposed to attend the speech, so he offered the church building for the program.

The congregation stayed in their seats waiting for our program, and many people came. The audience overflowed to the street.

During the program one person did not agree with the message and went to the pastor to complain about it. He

claimed that we had come to take over the authority of the church in that area. The pastor of course became fearful, and we had to stop the program for a few minutes to explain the situation to the audience. Afterwards, they allowed us to end the program. The people were impressed by the message.

The pastor himself testified that never before was his church so full. After the speech many of the guests followed us to the motel where we were staying in order to know more about the Family Federation for Unification and World Peace. As result, 20 of them will attend a one-day workshop in the first week of June at our headquarters.

The next day, Sunday, we went to the morning service at the church before our departure. During the service the pastor mentioned our activity of the night before and apologized to us for the offensive action that was made during our program. The pastor said that those who wanted to follow our ideology were free to do so.

By this we can realize that through faith and determination we can achieve victory for our Heavenly Father and True Parents. ■■■

*Tirso Ramirez is the national leader of Surinam. He and his wife Isabel participated in the 30,000 Couples Blessing in 1992.*



Brokopondo, Surinam. March 17, 1996.



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