

Testimonies Of Those Who Attended The May 21st Events

Doug Burton and Celine Tardy
May 21, 2011

On the Slot Machine Tournament:



Rev. Michael Yakawich, Billings, Montana

In my community there is no more noble an act than contributing to a community-based organization such as the Salvation Army. I am honored to be here to contribute money to the Salvation Army.”



REACTIONS TO THE FOUNDER'S ADDRESS:



Rev. Willie Weston, Pentecostal Pastor of Church of God in Christ in Chicago:
The speech today [of True Father] was timely, very timely. The Kingdom of God is unfolding right before our eyes. We are actually living it. We are helping to make it happen...”



Mr. Gayoklanichi J. Ayala, Native American spiritualist from Montana
“I am a spiritual person. Something happened today during TF’s speech. True Father turned something upside down in the spiritual world, and I felt it. Globally. Not just one level. It was like True Father restored a position that had been broken before by the disunity of many people. Today, he shot right to the top. And it taught me a lesson: I have to unite with True Father 100 percent – like a military type.”

Archbishop George A. Stallings
Founder of Imani Temple in Washington, D.C.

Today’s event in Las Vegas, marking the Parents’ European tour, came at a pivotal moment in time. Just at the point when so many prognosticators predicted the end of the world, True Parents ushered in a new era of love, peace and unity. The old order passed away today, and a new world was unfurled and celebrated. We are witnessing in our time the dawning of the Age of Cheon Il Guk!



Jaff Adshead – Seattle, Washington
What astounded me today was almost the machine that could create something like this – a phenomenal well-oiled machine. With the slot tournament, the donations to charity -- getting everyone here. I’ve been to many events, but it struck me how this all fit together.

And even though I'm not much of a dancer, I got out there tonight and jumped around a bit. I enjoyed that too.

What also struck me was the whole thing about it being Judgment Day. Actually, I had called one of the people we ran into that were passing out the flyers saying the 21st is Judgment Day, and said: "Why don't you go to Las Vegas and see if there is anything there. You know, come to an event that might shed some light on this." Although they didn't come, I think it's really interesting how a lot of things are culminating at this time. And Father has this amazing, optimistic, or rather realistic, view of the ideal world coming, while the rest of the world is freaking out this is the end.

I am also glad that the band name, "Sonic Cult." was clarified tonight. I can see the PR in In Jin Nim working on how we can create a positive view of the movement. In Jin Nim is creating a new culture for our movement by really putting all our best parts out there for the world to see.



Mami Ogawa, Tokyo

"I felt really loved by True Parents. This was my first time to be really close to them. The most precious thing for me was that TP were always smiling. We look at the young people dancing at the gala, and they look so glamorous – like movie stars. Not like the 2nd gen we see in Japan. I feel like the historical era has really changed."



Heidi Iseda, WFWP Chairwoman in Los Angeles

Our guest at today's event was Darlene Helstrom a life coach, who came with her husband. She said she just loved to see our young Unificationists dancing. She said that she could feel the purity of our young people, and added, "I can't believe my eyes."

Kumi Okazaki, estranged Unificationist from Wakayama, Japan,

“I was so moved. Thank you! It was like angels were flying in the room...”

ON SONIC CULT

Amalia Kim – California

(On Sonic Cult)

This was my first time to see Sonic Cult. I see them as very professional with quality up to par with any rock band. They have a good vibe and spirit that will attract people when they first see our church, as well as change old concepts for people.

Sarah Canack (2nd Gen)

I really love Sonic Cult every time they play. I’m really blown away by the sincerity. They are really throwing it back in everyone’s face that we should be proud of who we are. Once people can really see the band members for who they are then they’ll definitely be respected.

Rev. Bienvenue Mbobile, from Congo:

“I am a musician, and a minister of music in the Houston church. Sonic Cult is so professional! They are ready to go out into the world and witness to True Parents. Since I saw them last year, their lyrics sound so much more meaningful. “

TESTIMONIES FROM PARTICIPANTS OF ORIGINAL DP WORKSHOP

Bishop Hill from Portland, Oregon

“Kids are leaving the church in droves, but not this church.” According to Rev. Krishneck, Bishop Hill has been struggling with ODP until Rev Jenkins told him to sit in the front. Now he likes it a lot, Rev. Krishneck says.

Mr. Hubert Arnoldi founder of Religion Roundtable, lay pastor of Unification Church in Stuttgart, Germany, UPF chair in Stuttgart:

“When I go back to Germany, I will tell them that the world is entering a new era of religious leadership. We will tell them the details of the ODP workshop. And they will be inspired, because interfaith efforts in Germany are rising in popularity.”

Ron Pine, 41 year member of the church

The Original Divine Principle Workshop as it has revealed God to me is the most traumatic, life-giving series I have heard. And my fellow workshop colleagues feel the same way. We never thought of God as having sexual organs, or a belly button...it’s profound.”

Daniel Stringer, media Consultant in Ottawa, Canada

“From a political perspective, it was very significant to hear the insights on headwing ideology from Rev. Yu at the ODP workshop. I loved the gala, too. I have two kids who love this music. In retrospect, I have always thought that we would break through in the

First World only after the children of Korean couples – who were born and raised in North America – took over the movement. It is happening.”



Jan Van Zutphen, Environmental Planner, City of Annapolis Maryland

I loved the hike to Red Rock Canyon on Thursday with Randy Francis and Dan Stein. I am having a deep experience at the ODP workshop -- God's heart at the beginning of creation. Also, it was amazing to witness Hyung Jin Nim's respect and honor for True Father at HDH on Friday. He wanted to give TF a message but TF just kept going on and on. Finally, Hyung Jin Nim just stepped away.

Observations of Members at Sunday Worship at Aria Hotel May 22nd

Mimi Morse, Executive Director of Marketing, Aria Resort and Casino

“I am a Christian. I have always believed in One God, and we all are sons and daughters of the one God, no matter what church we have, whether we go to church or not. It’s all the same. I believe in Father Moon and Mother Moon and everything they stand for. When he (True Father) came into the ballroom yesterday you could feel a special energy. When he is not in Las Vegas, it seems like the city is empty somehow. In Jin Nim gave a great message today. We have to just believe, we have to learn how to trust each other, trust God.”

Rev. Rohan Durant, National Leader of UC in Barbados

“I was struck by the spirit today. How the young people love the service. In Jin Nim has captured something that I am dying to capture in Barbados. She has made it cool, that is, made the life of loving and following True Parents cool, acceptable. She has bridged the gap between True Parents and the young people.”

Paul Eagle, Cherokee Indian, from Antelope California;

“Sunday was an awesome service. I feel that my Indian ancestors are crying out for liberation.

Mrs. Junko Eagle, wearing buzz cut hair.

“Today In Jin Nim gave us clear direction. Recently I have been meditating on the value of my whole life. What In Jin Nim said today really hit my heart. She spoke to the issue I have been thinking about, because I feel that my Japanese ancestors have been struggling with sin, not knowing how to get restored. Now I know exactly how to restore myself. After the second 40 day prayer condition, I felt much more the returning resurrection, so I cut my hair short to make a new start.”

Mike Cunningham, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

“Awarding checks to the Salvation Army was fabulous. I loved seeing that. In retrospect, I don’t think the slot tournament was a good idea, but the event, the speech, were well organized. Smooth. ”

Mark McDougald, Cincinnati, Ohio.

“I used to be the pastor in Cincinnati, and I would give the sermon every Sunday. In Jin Nim has grown into a brilliant speaker. I feel that God is speaking through her. People in Cincinnati have grown to like In Jin Nim’s Sunday broadcast. Like me, they believe that God is speaking through her. The music ministry (Sonic Cult) is hitting their stride, too.”

Mariko Cunningham, 18, graduate of STF

While I was on STF (in Canada) I never heard of Lovin’ Life. Now I watch it on the computer. I admire In Jin Nim. Her message always speaks to me, about how BC’s can do anything.”

Pier Angelo Beltrami, graphic designer, Charlestown, West Virginia

When I heard about the slot tournament at first, I didn't think it was a good idea. I heard there was a better way to make a gaming tournament into a fundraiser. But when I saw the checks presented, I thought: 'Such a great idea. We should have done this a long time ago.' Doing these benefits will influence others to believe that we practice what we preach. I predict that other churches will follow this breakthrough and sponsor benefit tournaments in Las Vegas. The next step is to market Divine Principle online so that it is appealing to a larger audience, that is make it deep, interesting, absorbing, like the PBS Nova series. If In Jin Nim can do that, she will go down in history.