

Alice Fleisher

Additional Thought on the Topic of “The Blessing = Fulfilling God’s Purpose of Creation and Restoration” - 5/30/07

Appendix I: Additional thoughts on the topic of “The Blessing = Fulfilling God’s Purpose of Creation and Restoration”

The crowning task that is the responsibility of Blessed Couples in the Principled Realm (remember that this is a realm of couples and families) is to pioneer the fulfillment of the Second Blessing. Just as the fulfillment of the First Blessing must go through 3 stages, I believe that this task will also be fulfilled through a process and will take time. The partners in the couple start off as two disunited individuals and must get to the goal of the ideal unity as modeled in the visual image of God in the Yin Yang symbol. In that symbol, the dual characteristics of God are still distinct but they are also beautifully and fully united and form a rounded/whole and complete entity/Being that is greater than the sum of the parts. This journey must also take time and is a process that we, as Blessed Couples are pioneering. We fortunately have the model of Our True Parents to follow and guide us, but we must find the way to customize this process to our unique couple.

Please understand this in the greater context of the limitations /baggage that our imperfection and remnants of sin bring to the mix. This then means that in addition to learning how to and working on perfecting our couple and family, we must continue to strive for individual perfection and to cleanse all traces of sin in the world.

Even given this very difficult job (this is a grace from God, not a curse, and mimics the process of Restoration which is progressive and moving towards the ideal from a horrific reality due to the fall) let us think what we can do to pioneer the perfection of our second blessing. I certainly think that we should spend time working on this task as a couple and also as a community of faith. This is especially true since victories in this process can benefit not only the individual couple but also establish merit of the age. In this regard, it is not only a benefit for the couple or a practice of the couple’s devotion but also a contribution to the process of Restoration.

The following are some suggestions:

Study the existing marriage ministries and marriage education/enrichment programs that have been inspired by God to expand our knowledge and education in this task. Just a word of advice regarding the material that is being developed from the marriage movement; this must always be viewed in the greater context of the Divine Principle and Father’s words. If utilized in this context, then the material is very helpful and useful.

Read the Words of our True Parents about the Blessing, Ideal Family Life, Parenting, etc.

Study and pray focused on the Family Pledge – this is a God inspired text that very clearly sets the standard and goals that we should strive to attain as a Blessed Family.

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Spend time, on a regular basis, on this task – you have to work at it – but please work smart as well as hard. The deal is that we Adamic/Eveic beings are designed to initially accomplish the Three Blessings while on the corporal plane. The process, then, is designed to be accomplished while we are entrenched and acting (imbued with spirituality and Love) in the realm of time and place. Of course, after the first Blessing is accomplished, the 2nd Blessing could be carried out in the spiritual world without the need for returning resurrection – the one limit here is the begetting of biological children. I believe, however, the best way is for many years of family time together and also in service to the greater society, nation and world prior to continuing the Blessing in Spirit World.

I would suggest that there be opportunities provided on a monthly basis to the Church community to encourage and support this devotional practice – an opportunity for our community of faith to benefit from and be exposed to the many available resources concerned with the accomplishment of successful marriages and families. These should be really joy filled fellowships – a time for culture building and wisdom learning. It would be helpful to utilize these meetings to focus on supporting our members in gaining skills for establishing and developing successful relationships. The value of such meetings would also be to provide a community of support and encouragement to our community of faith. A third value of such a meeting would be to function as gentle reminder to each couple of their responsibility to invest/work on this area of their life (help in building up a habit of working on their Second Blessing). Now, these meetings will not solve the problems being experienced by our Blessed Couples as this is ultimately their responsibility, but they should encourage healthy growth and help in providing the necessary tools for the task. You might think of them as providing proactive, preventative medicine as well as encouraging healthy marriage practices. More difficult problems will surely require specialized help and a counseling ministry should focus on this need and arena.