

## Stand up and give God, our Heavenly Parent, and True Parents praise

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Good morning, my beloved sisters and brothers. It is a distinct honor and privilege for the entire American Clergy Leadership Conference and the Peace Starts with Me Choir to be here with you today at Cheon Bok Gung, a church of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification. The first thing that I would like for all of us to do today is to stand up and give God, our Heavenly Parent, and True Parents praise for a tremendous victory yesterday at the World Cup Stadium. [Applause] To God be the glory. Gamsahmnida.

There are many things that I would like to share with you, today but time does not afford me that opportunity. So, I would just like to leave you with a few thoughts that will allow us to better serve God and attend the True Parents. There is a passage in the Bible, in the gospel according to Luke.

In chapter one, we hear about the Archangel Gabriel announcing to Mary that she was to be the mother of Jesus. Mary asked the Archangel, "How can this be, since I do not know man?" The

Archangel said to Mary, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you and you shall conceive a son." And how could this possibly be, since Mary had no sexual relations with a man in order to conceive a son? And the Archangel told her there is nothing that is impossible with God; for with God, nothing is impossible. Mary's humble response was this: "Behold, the maidservant of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to your word."

What is the meaning of that Bible passage two thousand years ago that has significance for us today? I believe that it is this: Mary was a young woman, a girl, when God announced his purpose for her life. Mary did not have a choice as to what was to be her purpose in life. God had prepared her life before she was even formed in the womb of her mother. God decided what her life, what her life course would be, not Mary herself.

Our young people have read Harry Potter. In the book, *Harry Potter, the Chamber of Secrets*, the professor, Albus Dumbledore, said, "It is not our abilities that determine who we are; it is our choices." For Omo nim, True Mother, it was not her privilege to choose what would be the purpose of her life. God decided before Mother, before Omo nim was formed in the womb of her mother Dae-mo nim that she was to be the chosen woman of God. It was not her decision. It was God's decision for her life. God, our Heavenly Parent not only prepared True Mother for a special position in life to be the wife of Abo nim, True Father, but also to stand as the woman who would restore Eve, the first woman, back to her original position.



Eve, the first Eve, was supposed to have been the True Mother, she was supposed to have been God's only begotten daughter. But because Eve failed, God had to wait until another woman could be prepared to stand in the position of Eve to restore humanity back to its original greatness. [Applause] So, I know it is difficult for many to understand what True Mother means when she says she is God's only begotten daughter. It does not mean that she is God. It does not mean that she is better than the rest of us, but what the "only begotten daughter" means is that she has said "yes." She has said yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, and never "no" to God. [Applause] It means that she does not live for herself but she lives for the sake of humanity. She lives for the sake of 7.4 billion people on the face of the earth; her life is only for God! [Applause] I am sure that when God revealed to True Mother that she was to be in the position of God's only begotten daughter, she said, How can this be? But God told True Mother, Do not worry for with God, nothing is impossible. So all that True Mother could say is, I am the maidservant of the Lord, let it be as you say it is. When you and I say "yes" to God, our Heavenly Parent, when we say to God, Let your will be done, we will stand as the true sons or daughter to True Parents; we will be the true sons or daughters of God. [Applause, Aju!]

Finally, let us be committed to God, our Heavenly Parent; let us faithfully attend True Parents with hyo jeong, with filial heart, so that all of us together can see the kingdom of God here on earth. Gamsahamnida! Aju! Aju!