

## Reiner Vincenz International Seunghwa

Michael Balcomb

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Transcription: Airenae Culvy



### Michael Balcomb

Let's give Reiner a round of applause. You've heard a little bit about the life and seen some of the family photos of Reiner. It's time to reflect on his spiritual life and the life of dedication and service that he gave to our True Parents. As you can see in the program, Reiner's first encounter with True Parents was in Germany where the late Peter Koch witnessed to him about the Divine Principle and brought him into that first realization that we live at a time of immense fortune in the providence of God; and, I wanted to recognize Mrs. Gertrud Koch who is here today to say goodbye to Reiner on behalf of the Reiner family, thank you Gertrud for coming.

And as the story begins in Germany it's my pleasure to invite the president of the Unification Church Family Federation in Germany to begin this segment. Dr. Deiter Schmit is an old friend and colleague from days of CARP. We worked together during the time of the fall of the Berlin wall. I'm also going to invite Deiter to lead us all in prayer as we move into the second section of the Seunghwa. Let's welcome Dr. Deiter Schmit.

### Deiter Schmit

Brothers and sisters, Lets join all in prayer:

Our most beloved almighty God, Our most beloved Heavenly Parent and our beloved True Parents,

We have come here together to celebrate the Seunghwa of our dear elder brother, Rev. Reiner Vincenz. We are so grateful for this ceremony which our True Parents have given to us, giving us the clarity about our next step when we enter into the spirit world. We are so grateful that this day is a day of joy and glory and that connects us directly to the spirit world. At this very moment we have gathered here, brothers and sisters, literally from all over the world because our dear brother Reiner has truly loved the world as he worked in almost all the continents. Father we have come here now to really be joyful and grateful as I know that in the hearts and mind of my brothers and sisters here and all over, at this very precious moment, there are so many moments we have shared with Reiner, so many deep feelings, so many thoughts of gratefulness as we just could listen to such a wonderful testimony of our brother.

Father as we come here we want to reflect about the miracle how You, our Heavenly Parent handpicked this man Reiner in Germany only a few years after the Second World War has ended and that this first man found in Germany and Europe could become such a column of faith for all our movement. Father, that this man was able to join our movement, even there were no conferences, there were no centers, there was nothing, not even a clear Divine Principle Book as we have it today. Father, out of the depths of the love which came from our first missionaries to Europe and Germany, Father he was able to understand Your Heart; and, he got incredible spirit and courage to go to France without knowing even a word of this language. Father it was hard to bring unity between Germany and France, which we know is so essential for Europe.

Father, what is the secret that Reiner discovered that made him the man of unshakeable faith? What is the secret, Father, that he could have that spirit of serving and loving the True Parents. Father, we cannot but imagine that he really understands the heart of the True Parents, that he really understands your heart Heavenly Father, that he is the man, Father, that You are proud of because, he, coming from a fallen lineage, was able to rise so high in understanding your heart and bring this to us.

Father we are so grateful and proud as we are here, Father, as in Chicago where he had his last days, and even then he had such unbeatable spirit as we just heard. Father, this is something to make this day a new determination for each one of us here. This is really his hope that we can rekindle our determination to serve the True Parents and to bring unity, in the worldwide movement, to bring unity, Father, that we all really attend our True Parents with this unbreakable spirit.

Thank you so much as we are here and humbly bow down in light of this incredible life of our dear older brother, Rev. Reiner Vincenz.

I want to offer this prayer together with all my brothers and sisters, not only here in Chicago, but through the internet worldwide, in their precious names of the Blessed families and in the name of the Blessed family Schmidt, Aju !

Before I leave the podium, I'd like to just read a letter from our Continental Director, Rev. Young Shik An, who expresses the heart of our brothers and sisters in Europe:

Our dear brother Reiner Vincenz, on behalf of all our European Family Federation members, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for the devotion you displayed throughout your fifty years of filial attendance to True Parents and God's providence. So many European members were touched by your love and loyalty as you lead us through the pioneering years in France.

Your crucial role was the International One World Crusade in Japan and Korea, your leadership of our movement in Germany and during the home church providence in the United Kingdom and your many other international providential contributions.

We send our condolences to your wife companion on this path of devotion; and, our dear elder sister Barbara and to Leena, Jario and Muriel Claire, for you are in our thoughts and prayers. We join with them in the Seunghwa celebration, for as our True Father expressed, death is sacred. It is not a synonym for sadness and suffering. The moment that we enter the spirit world should be a time that we enter joy and victory. It is the fruits born of our lives on earth.

Dear Rev. Vincenz, we are indeed, shedding tears of joy and instead of sadness, as we thank our Heavenly Parents for your life and accomplishments in this physical world, knowing that you will return all the glory to Them as you humbly take your place marching on in the providence that They lead in the spiritual world toward the establishment of Cheon Il Guk in heaven and on earth. On this day, all our European members honor you. May our love and respect contribute to your swift and safe passage to a new life in the eternal spirit world.

And I like to just add to this that, on behalf of all our German brothers and sisters, our hearts are with you, Barbara and your whole family today, and we are so grateful and proud for the life of Reiner; and, we will definitely inherit, and we want, as he always said, 'March on.' Thank you so much. Thank you.

### **Michael Balcomb**

Thank you Deiter, Thank you for that testimony in Germany; and, Reiner's story moved on to France. And our next speaker, Mrs. Jeannie Kagawa is one of the spiritual descendants of Reiner, who joined in France, while a student at the Sorbonne University, and now works for UPF International, would like to share with you her personal testimony of the way in which Reiner and his teaching transformed her life and experience of God. Let's welcome, Mrs. Jeannie Kagawa.

My special greetings to Reiner, my spiritual grandfather and Barbara, and my spiritual father, Auri, who is here today with the presence of his wife, Hilda. Hello, Auri, how are you?

Accomplishment, accomplishments, we've all read all the accomplishments; but, I'd like to focus more on the personal view of why I feel Reiner was able to bring those accomplishments.

When I joined the church there was Reiner and Barbara and there was Auri, my spiritual father, his brother, another sister and I was the fourth member; so, you can imagine, four members in France with Reiner and Barbara, and we were the focal point of a lot of intense spiritual battles and object of a lot of overwhelming struggles mentally; and, Reiner was the person who could mentor us teach us. He understood very deeply where the main battlefield is. The main battlefield is in the mind. It's really in the mind; and, he taught us how to be

strong. Until today, I still remember all those things that Reiner taught us. And I am who I am; and, I can stand through the storms in my spiritual life because of what I learned in those early days with Reiner and Barbara.

So, Reiner would say, "You know, the criminal, the criminal is Satan; but, when the criminal commits a crime, what is the thing that he fears the most. A criminal doesn't want to be exposed. He doesn't want anyone to know his crimes. He is hiding. So, the brilliant thing about Father is that He exposed the crime of Satan. If you want to get rid of him, you will also expose him."

So, he used to teach us, actually, whenever we're depressed or down, 'You have to read 'The Fall of Man' and then Satan will just escape, he will run away. He can't stand to hear it. He can't stand to hear 'The Fall of Man.' And I remember we would be reading 'The Fall of Man' in our rooms in loud voices, whenever we were down or depressed; and, you know, believe it or not, it actually worked. It was so interesting. His guidance was so interesting.

You know, most religious leaders tell you 'Become a person that God can love.' 'You have to be compassionate and kind.' But he (Reiner) would say the opposite. He would say, "Become the person that Satan really hates. Become that person." And it made me think, 'How can Reiner tell me to be a person that Satan hates?' And then he would say "Well, you have to do what Satan hates to do; and, then he will run away. He will escape. Make him uncomfortable in your presence. Make him want to leave you because of the way, the person you are." So, he said "There are three things you have to do: you have to be humble (and people have told the testimony of the kind of person he is, but he has a philosophy behind it) be humble, because Satan can't be humble, sacrifice, because that is something he cannot do, and serve. If you can do those three things, Satan will absolutely give up on you; and, he will go look for somebody else to torture and invade. It won't be you." And I thought, "Well, this is so brilliant. This is really brilliant." And he is the person (I think everyone mentioned it that he practiced it) because for him he was absolutely making himself a person that Satan never wanted to be around and was uncomfortable to be with.

I remember one situation where I forgot all those things that Reiner told me; and, I was depressed. I was down. I was self accusatory (as he always said accuse Satan, don't let him accuse you) but I was letting him accuse me; and, I was almost suicidal. I remember for three days it was really horrible. I was working at that time, crying in the work place, come back to the center, lock the door, crying in the room. I didn't know anybody was worried about me at that time; but, I was just... just totally overwhelmed with negativity on every front. Then on the third day, I was in the streets of Paris coming home and I just remembered the things that Reiner taught us...and how to connect with Father, you gotta get rid of Satan first.

That was really his main point. And I just stopped in the middle of the streets and I screamed at the top of my lungs in the streets of Paris (I'm saying it very softly now) 'In the Name of Sun Myung Moon, go away' screaming ... and then this thing (from top of head) just released me and liberated me. And I was like I could breathe again. That overwhelming evil that was invading every cell in my body was gone. I started to feel light and skipping my way home. And the interesting part about this story was, when I got to the door of the center and I opened the door, Reiner was already there. He was standing right there waiting for me to come home that day. I opened the door and he was right there; and, he's got these big blue eyes and he's looking at you; and, I was shocked to see him, I looked up at him and he said, "Jeannie, are you alright?" very deep (caring) and, of course, I had already practiced his guidance and gotten rid of that evil spirit, and I said 'Okay ..!' and just bounced into the center ... He said 'What happened to her. She's just totally changed all of a sudden.' But I think he really practices it; and, he was so serious and connecting with Father and the way is to get rid of your habits that make you so friendly and a good partner of Satan. It was just such a valuable thing. I just wanted to share that part.

And I have another story about how he practiced the Divine Principle; and his mind was so clear. For some time I was assigned to go to America with the New Mayflower, and then I was pioneering and I was re-assigned to be with Reiner on the IOWC. We were 70 members; and, we were going to the different Day of Hope Tours cities; and, it was in Chicago where there was a monumental event taking place. Here in Chicago, Rev. Reiner and Barbara had a first meeting with Rev. Sudo; and, there was a clash of civilizations. And we found out later that it was a clash of German/Japanese civilizations. All we knew as members, I'm talking from a member point of view, was that our central figure disappeared for three days and we didn't know where he was. We didn't know about the clash of civilizations. We didn't know anything. We were just told to stay in our room and you will be informed what you are going to do after a few days.

So, we stayed in our rooms for three days; and then later on we heard (in fact Rev. Sudo said to Rev. Vincenz, which I heard later) "If we follow your style (which was like an army, we were like an army coming in there. It was a well-oiled machine. Believe me -- very very well-organized and very disciplined) If we follow you style, Chicago Day of Hope Tour will be a failure -- is I guess what Rev. Sudo said to Rev. Vincenz, and he sent us to our rooms and he did a three-day fast. This is Reiner's way of handling it. He didn't get angry. He didn't fight. He didn't (somehow want to) kill the person. He went to his room with Barbara (Barbara, I don't know if you remember that). They did a three-day fast. And they came out of their room after three days, and had a little talk with Rev. Sudo again; and, Rev. Sudo kind of like yielded and surrendered; and, he said 'Rev. Vincenz, we'll do it your way, but I know it's going to be a failure.' So, we did the tour, we did our job. We did the PR and we filled

the hall, and we filled the banquet and Father was like totally ecstatic in Chicago. It was the biggest event victory ever, was in Chicago!

Father got so excited. You better remember this Chicago, because this is important. Father said that Chicago is the hub of unity between East and West. East America and west America, Asian and Western and north and south and He gave this really fantastic, fabulous speech in Chicago because of that unity victory with Rev. Sudo. It was just spectacular.

And that gives you a key why, how Father trusted Rev. Vincenz so much, and how he was able to get the victory. Later on Father chose him to lead the global team; and you know all about what happened with the global team, but again, from the members perspective, we were wondering... but anyway I saw the situation (thinking) Reiner is the only person who can take this job to lead this global team where you are going to countries that are unseasoned, unseasoned Japanese in exposure to the West, and unseasoned Koreans in exposure to Western members and you are coming into a territory that is nothing but confusion. Reiner used to stand up and give direction in the morning. He would have us all lined up in the morning, very discipline. He'd give directions; and, he'd say, "At 7 o'clock we are eating breakfast, at 8 o'clock we're doing this, and when the meeting is over hordes of people will be going in their own directions. The Japanese would go off and do something. The Koreans would go off and do something. It was like scattered, total confusion. Then, finally, Reiner decided, with his wit, he kind of handled it with his wit, 'Never mind, such is life, marching on' is how he would handle these situations.

Then finally, he decided, I will just have everybody repeat to me my direction, and see whether they understood or not. So every morning Reiner would say 'We are having breakfast at 7 o'clock. Repeat after me. And everyone would say 'We are having breakfast at 7 o'clock'. So every day on the global team was really like that, just to show you the kind of confusion and the kind of situation that he was handling. I thought, 'I don't know how Reiner does it. He is patient. He is enduring. He is vertical. He just united with Father. I mean, he sat in meetings in Korea that were only Japanese and Koreans language spoken for hours every day; and, I'm sure he did not understand anything and he did not have a translator. Yet, he is leading our team and having to give directions.

Somehow we were lead in this kind of wilderness way full of confusion; and yet, when the meeting happened, we were always victorious, because his main focus was 'I've gotta just maintain the unity here. And he led us to be victorious in the Yoido rally and I saw the Yoido plaza and the sea of white. Koreans like to wear their white clothes, and it was just like a wave of the ocean filling up that area; and, it was so spectacular.

So, this is what Reiner was able to teach me in my spiritual life and why I am who I am today. Thank you.

### **Dr. Balcomb introduced Patrick from France**

Our True Father said 'The true leader is he who discovers the true path of life man must go is also the one who can help others to shoulder the load of suffering of 6,000 years and can commend them to do more because the accomplishment of the day is not enough'

I believe this exemplifies the indomitable Rev. Vincenz. He was just a young member when he volunteered to come to France. Everyone was against it thinking that he would lose his faith after three months. So, he wrote to Father himself; and, Father replied saying, "It's very good if you can go." So, Reiner said that day, "The only person who really understands me is True Father."

God sent Rev. Vincenz to pioneer France because he knew the arduous path ahead but trusted that he would never give up no matter what the difficulties. And France is not an easy country to lead. Even General De Gaul, one of the greatest patriots of France expressed in frustration, "How can anyone govern a nation that does 246 different kind of cheese?"

Yet, in spite of coming from an enemy nation and because he was armed with the Divine Principle, with True Parents' Love and his unshakable character, in only seven years, Rev. Vincenz could dominate the complexities of the French and unite our members in one mind and one heart more than any great general. He did everything he could to save our country and was willing to endure 21 years, if necessary, just to find his first spiritual child. Fortunately, it took him only three years; but, at the price of unimaginable indemnity. We learned that he was fasting so often that he collapsed, becoming unconscious for two days and was saved only by the prayers of True Parents and the entire Korean church.

He was a man who was completely led spiritually through his deep relationship with God, among miraculous experiences with others like John of Arc, speaking directly to him from the pulpit of our church in Paris, and many others in the spiritual world that guided him as well. From him our French family learned discipline, unwavering faith and to develop long-suffering endurance while going forward. His leadership style was imposing and direct, exactly what was needed to break through.

Through the unity with his first members, especially with \_\_\_\_\_, he could create miracles, like bringing over 100 new members in one year, that accompanied him in the next mission in the United States; and some of them are here today.

Spiritually, he is the father of France, greater than any French saint. He and his devoted wife, battled Communism and atheism and brought spiritual life in a country that did everything in its power to deny the existence of God for about 200 years.

Rev. Vincenz believed he was helped by his ancestors, who were actually French Huguenots, and had to escape because they were persecuted because of their devout Protestant faith. His name was actually of French origin (you may not know that) meaning victory; and, it suited him perfectly, as he would never give up until he accomplished the goal.

On a personal note, I am forever indebted to Rev. Vincenz. I joined and he left shortly after me; but, you've heard of incredible support and prayers to me. Recently, actually in the last three years of his life, for our business in France that was going through a miserable crisis due to the recession; and, even if he was very sick and could barely speak or write, he encouraged us almost daily through emails, to keep fighting on. So, this is what touched me the most and made me closest to him during this period.

Our country owes everything to him and his loving wife; so, today our French movement feels gratitude to his noble life, his sacrifice, his willingness to go beyond all obstacles. He never stopped loving, praying for and supporting our country in spite of his work in America, and for that we are eternally grateful.

As you know, France is in a grave crisis right now; but, I believe he will be of great assistance to us from heaven from now on. I am sure this is his deep desire to help us in France; but also anyone here who would call on him.

As he marches on in the next life by the side of True Father, our hearts and prayers go with him and his family. Thank you, Rev. Vincenz for being an inspiration to all those whose lives you touched. (French) For life well lived, we all know to have known you.

And the French family prepared a card for Reiner and his family with this picture that we just so love and I will offer that to his family. And I would like now to show briefly a few pictures of his mission in France (if this works, Yes.) So, this is just before Reiner and Barbara departed to the USA. They were leading a movement of over one hundred members that were joined quickly. This is the visit of True Parents in 1969 in Paris (and the Eiffel Tower) around the holy ground a group of members in 1972 and this is a visit of True Parents in 1972 ... Father teaching about Tamar and the change of blood lineage in Paris. This is a famous speech. Sending over missionaries in four countries ... Reiner and Barbara, leaving for America, actually. Ten years later with his loving spiritual son that he will join now in heaven, very close relationship... At the 40th anniversary of his mission in France in 2006 with our movement in France. Thank you.

### **Michael Balcomb**

Thank you Patrick, that was very moving ...Our final message is being delivered in absence by Mr. Farley Jones, one of my predecessors as president of the church here in America, and it is from Dr. Bo Hi Pak who led the International One World Crusade together with Reiner, and he wanted so much to be here, but he could not and he sent his message and I would like to invite Farley to come and present it to us. Thank you

### **Farley Jones**

(Farley bows hello to Barbara and Leena and Jario)

My wife and I are currently living in Kona, Hawaii, where True Mother stopped on her way from Las Vegas to Korea. When she heard that Reiner had ascended through Dr. Kim, She asked Betsy and me to come. I'm not quite sure why She asked us to come, but I think it represents her concern of... first of all, Her great awareness of Reiner's significant life in terms of our movement and his devotion to God and True Parents, but also I think Her concern that an older American couple be there to honor this very great and senior European, not just European, world-level member.

So, this Seunghwa has been designated, as you probably know, as not just a national but a world-level Seunghwa; and, in that spirit, I am honored to read this message from Bo Hi Pak from Korea. And then, although you've heard a lot of words about Reiner over the past hour or so, I do want to just share one thought of my own.

Bo Hi Pak writes:

I want to convey my heart-felt condolences on the passing of our dear brother, Rev. Reiner Vincenz. At the same time, I want to shout out to the world, 'Congratulations Reiner on a job well done. You are our hero who dedicated your entire life to God and True Parents.

When I heard of your passing, I literally cried, not because I was sad, but because I lost one of my dearest friends and a champion of our True Parents. You were a man I worked very closely with on so many projects and in so many places around the world. Reiner, I love you and will truly miss you. Our

Heavenly Parents chose several champions from Europe to assist our True Parents with Their most important crusade. One of those champions was you.

You were introduced to the Divine Principle in Germany and soon thereafter you went on to pioneer our movement in France. You then answered True Father's call when He needed you in America as it was there that Father invested all of His efforts in order to build up the Unification Church for the sake of world restoration. True Father truly loved and trusted you.

Once Father told me, "If there is a difficult task or difficult mission to be done, I give it to Reiner Vincenz. He will do it. He is such a loyal, faithful and hardworking man. He always brings one victory after another." Father actually told me this about you.

You and I traveled together all over the United States during the Day of Hope Crusades of the early 1970's. From there we traveled to Japan where you led the first global team. The landing of the IOWC in Japan was like the Inchon landing in Korea, during the Korean War. It was so powerful together with united and determined heavenly soldiers. Nothing could stand in your way. Your battle cry was always, "Marching on." "Marching on." I miss that war cry.

After several months in Japan, you and your crusade came to our homeland of Korea. There you were called upon to be responsible for the Yoido rally in Seoul. You were the leader of the IOWC Crusade; and, I was the evangelist. Together, our mission was not only to rally people to attend the gathering at Yoido, but to speak out to the multitudes the truth of the True Parents, the truth of the Messiah. We let the people know that a new age had dawned and that they should wake up and listen to the call of Heaven. I enjoyed that Korean IOWC Crusade so much. Father closely watched everything that you were doing and He often praised your work. During that crusade, the entire country of Korea was being revived and reborn.

Thereafter, True Father relied upon you for so many other missions and responsibilities throughout the Americas and throughout Europe. What an incredible impact you made wherever you went.

Yes, as you said in one of your testimonies, we are now living in a new era. However, during the time of those early pioneers, especially from 1970 to 1990, we felt that the world was truly being born again. You were one of the champions to carry out this great mission. Reiner, you will live on forever as you are now in heaven together with our True Father. I can see True Father welcoming you there now. We send you all of our love together with an everlasting Eog Monsei, to you and to our True Parents. God Bless you Reiner.

Dr. Bo Hi Pak  
IOWC Supreme Commander under True Parents  
January 24, 2015

We thank Dr. Pak

My brief comment is this:

I was reading through an email that was sent to be Reiner's brief summary of his life of missions and what struck me was the constant refrain: "Father asked me this, and I did it. Father sent me there, and I went. Father called me here, and I came. Constant unequivocal response to whatever Father wanted him to do. And it brought to mind the phrase 'To will one thing.' I was trying to recall the larger wording of whatever sentence that came from, so I did some quick research on the internet. It comes from the title of a book, by Soren Kierkegaard the Danish theologian/philosopher. The book is 'Purity of Heart Is to Will One Thing.' Reiner willed one thing, which is to respond to Father's call, whatever that was, that's what he was going to do. So, in that way, he made himself an absolute zero before God. He emptied himself. Within the Christian theological position there is recognition that Jesus emptied himself when he went to the cross. Reiner is in that tradition; and, I think that is something that is very remarkable and noticeable about him and his life and something we can all learn from. Thank you.

**Michael Balcomb**

So, we are moving now toward the high point of our Seunghwa Ceremony this morning. We are going to have a musical offering by a young couple, Seigi and Hope Nagai. So, to get ready, I'd like you to just rise and greet the person on either side of you in the spirit and heart of Reiner and his constant desire to witness and testify. Let's greet each other in his name this morning. Thank you. Thank you. Let's be refreshed. Thank you. Please be seated.

**Seigi and Hope Nagai**

Growing up with the Vincenz, I always thought of Reiner as a great uncle, a grandfather, to me he was always an old man, obviously a great one, but nevertheless, as I said earlier, the last days, the last few years of his life, he

suffered from Parkinson's, which made it difficult for him to do and speak things, and I know that once he ascends he will run and fly. He will be free, and his chains will be gone.

### *Musical Offering*

#### **Michael Balcomb**

That was beautiful. Thank you so much.

And now to offer our Scriptural readings let us welcome Mr. Jim Gavin. The Gavins and the Vincenz's became eternally related by the Blessing of marriage (Jario fixes the mike for his dad)

#### **Jim Gavin**

I know that in my heart I believe that our Heavenly Parents and our Father in heaven, our True Father in Heaven and our True Mother on this earth deeply and dearly love Reiner and Barbara Vincenz. When I think about Reiner I think of the huge heart that Reiner had and has today, and because of his heart, he was all business. He was focused on doing God's Will and bringing total victory to heaven and True Parents.

I like to read from Scripture Psalms 1:15, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of the saints" and then from Revelations 21 -27, "And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a voice from the throne saying, 'See the home of God is among mankind. He will dwell with them as their God, and they will be His people; and God Himself will be with them. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more. Mourning and crying and pain will be no more. For the first things have passed away and the One who has seated on the throne said, 'See I am making all things new' Thus they said write this for these words are trustworthy and true. Then He said to me 'It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things and I will be their God and they will be my children.'"

And True Father's Words:

'A true leader is he who discovers the true path of life which men must go. He is one who can help others to shoulder the load of the suffering of the past six thousand years and can command them to march on, and do more because the accomplishment of the day is not enough.' And if I might add, 'March on, Rev. Sun Myung Moon.'

And then finally a quote from Rev. Vincenz, from heaven's unstoppable, victorious spiritual warrior, Rev. Vincenz. "Marching on. Marching on. Marching on!" Amen? Aju.

#### **Michael Balcomb**

Thank you. As you can see from the banner behind, this is the International Seunghwa of Reiner Vincenz that is not because we have guests here from France and Germany and Britain and Canada and Korea and Japan and not because Reiner served in nations all over the world and preached the word of God in so many countries. Those things are not decided by the activities of men but by the will of heaven. When True Mother heard about his passing She immediately decided that this must be honored and respected as the International Seunghwa Ceremony; and, she sends on her behalf to the ceremony to deliver her message of encouragement and great fortune, our Continental President and Chair, Dr. Ki Hoon Kim and Mrs. Kim, representing True Parents. So let us rise in the spirit of our True Parents let us welcome the Message from Dr. Ki Hoon Kim. Thank you.

#### **Ki Hoon Kim**

Thank you. Please be seated. So many people remember Reiner Vincenz. Many people around the world have been thinking about Reiner Vincenz without having met True Parents, still he was like one of tough and stubborn German brother, but he is very Blessed. And he met True Parents and disciplined by True Parents, he became not just one national leader from Germany. He is the world-wide, well-known leader. This is the great works of True Parents and great followers as Reiner Vincenz and Barbara Vincenz, they are great role models of Blessed Central Family.

I like to share about True Mother's message with this Cheon Seong Gyeong, Book 11, Chapter 4, about how we can enter the kingdom of heaven in heaven. "Love your brothers and sister in the church as you love God. Your path to heaven begins there. You love and follow me, yet I tell you, you should strive to love and help your brothers and sisters and walk alongside them with the same heart. Those who can teach you the quickest and best way to go to heaven are neither God nor I but your brothers and sisters. If you strive to love them with a love greater than their love for their parents or spouse, you will be chosen as the supreme subject partner of love."

This is True Parents message, "Love your brothers and sisters in your church, leading you to the entrance of the kingdom of heaven, neither God nor I. Your brothers and sisters in your church. Look around yourself. Who is

here? So many brothers and sisters came across the Pacific Ocean and the Atlantic Ocean remembering about the fantastic leadership of Reiner Vincenz, from Seattle and from New York, from Los Angeles, even Hawaii Kona Island.



Reiner Vincenz made us, attending us like True Parents. Be a great friend. Love one another, brothers and sisters in our community. This kind of action, this kind of life leads you to absolutely deserve your seat in the kingdom of heaven in heaven. This is what I was so impressed about True Parents' message in this Cheon Seong Gyeong, Cheon Il Guk Holy Scripture.

You see. Look around. People point one another, incite one another. Jesus taught 'Forgive seven times, what you heard seventy thousand times forgive your friend, brothers and sisters. What True Mother said last year when we celebrated True Father's Second Year Seunghwa Ceremony; she brought the same message True Father gave to this

country America and American people, "Forgive, love, unite." This is True Mother's message ... better than that we point at one another 'Because of you' 'Because of you'... We divided like this. Don't point at others. Let them point to me myself. Because of me, we not unite, we not love one another. Why don't you forgive and love one another and bring them in one heart within God's self, within ourselves, within True Parents' Spirit.

We all remember Reiner Vincenz, his life. How much he dedicated, how much he is loyal to True Parents. How much he has been doing very faithful action, not only thinking, or not only fasting, or not only imagination. He is very tough and very generous German-born general in our community.

Once again he brought ... (together) brothers and sisters all around the nation and all around the world. He is general unified spirit of our community and marching forward.

I remember at the time of True Father's Seunghwa, the first thing True Mother mentioned to leaderships. We cannot stop here. We must marching on and marching forward for the sake of the Spirit of True Parents to fulfill the Will of True Father making this nation, this country the Cheon Il Guk. This is our targeted mission 20/20 by True Parents. We must come together, every brother and sister around the world, overcome any divisions, any division ideas like True Father did it, like True Mother did it last two years ...

Yes, time to time I share about Reiner Vincenz' condition to True Mother; and, on the way back to the Kona and airport, we'd been waiting over one hour and I shared (about Reiner) with True Mother. For the next few days maybe Reiner Vincenz will join in True Father's Heart. She had been meditating for a while. 'Yes, we need to prepare good Seunghwa Ceremony for the sake of Reiner Vincenz' life. And then after we arrived in Kona, and on the way to her residence in Kona, in the car, True Mother shared 'Let us celebrate his life world-wide level. Many European leaders testified that Reiner Vincenz is the first member to join in the church from European nation and True Mother remembers Germany's Unification Church the last 50 years how they did for the sake of True Parents, for the sake of this country America, for the sake of the world.

True Mother mentioned to me America's debt to Europe. I was shocked. This was the first time I ever heard from True Mother that America has big debt to Europe. I thought maybe we have big debt to Japan, but I didn't hear about it like that. That means that True Parents are saying why our best leaders and best members, why our Unification Church is booming and True Parents called these European leaders to come to America for the sake of True Parents' providence and God's providence in this country America. Why do we call America God's blessed land? If not because of our ancestors, not because of the founding fathers 237 years ago. They risked their lives. True Parents said that this country America was prepared by God 2,000 years ago, not just 200 years ago. This is

the outcome of Jesus work in the last 2000 years. This is the message from True Parents; and, True Mother remembers the very long story and very deep story about European activities.

Have we heard of Mission Butterfly? Not just that they are flying, but they are flying in underground mission countries. One day one brother disappeared; the other day one sister disappeared in the church community. Everybody thought they left the church; however, they have a Mission Butterfly, an underground mission testifying in a communist bloc country about True Parents, about God's message. This is their mission. These European brothers and sister had this kind of mission, incredible mission. They risked their lives. We have this kind of our church tradition. And one of them is Reiner Vincenz. When True Mother remembered about Reiner Vincenz, She remembered about all kinds of elders, and leaders and brothers and sisters from Europe; and, for the first time ever, True Mother initiated this kind of Seunghwa Ceremony on a world level.

Every day she shared about this Ceremony. Last night at the dinner table, True Mother was remembering about sending Bishop Kim and Farley and Betsy Jones as representatives of True Mother to here and we must remember how much Reiner Vincenz glorified the Name of True Parents and the Name of Heavenly Parents.

So lastly, before I left Kona, we went out to lunch together with True Mother and after lunch, I thought she was going back to her home; but, she stopped by True Parents' favorite souvenir shop in Kona. Usually, True Mother and True Father know that inside the jewelry shop they have a pearl oyster, a place where you can break the pearl oyster (to get the pearl) One day's tour that place closed down because they went out of business, and then True Mother went to another place in the downtown area, a gift shop. She stopped by over there and called me close to her and we said 'Aloha! Aloha!' and then True Mother broke a pearl oyster. When True Mother broke this pearl oyster three pearls came out. Usually there is one. I have seen two; but I have never seen three from one pearl oyster.

Why did she do it? I'm thinking about Reiner Vincenz and his family. So, True Mother made a very beautiful necklace and said 'Please give this to Leena Vincenz.' (Applause) So I'd like to invite Leena and Jario and Barbara Vincenz to come over here and receive this present. And True Mother said that True Father very much loved about the pearl. Why? Because it never changes. Pearl never changes. If you go back to Scripture in Matthew, the pearl symbolized Jesus himself and pearls symbolized the kingdom of heaven. These three pearls are representing True Parents, True Mother said, this is representing True Parents and the Vincenz family (Leena smiles just then and has tears) True Parents and the Vincenz family become one. And always, always your dad did it as we testified with loyalty to Heavenly Parents and True Parents. Whatever True Parents said was so, he never discounted or negotiated but always moving forward with absolute faith so True Mother twice mentioned the representative of True Parents and your family. These pearls I've never seen before; but True Mother spent time for this and Jared you can help and put this pearl necklace to your wife. (Leena and her mother shake Bishop Kim's hand and Jario struggles with the clasp, Leena helps because he said 'It's very delicate' and he puts it on her and they take a lovely picture.)

So, this is True Mother's Heart and this message was True Parents' message. Let us love one another, brothers and sisters. This is our primary mission and we have to work out. Our community must come in unity, centering on True Parents. Once again, Reiner Vincenz thank you so much for your great work and your life lesson to everybody. So, your lesson will be going down from generation to generation. God bless you and God bless you all.

### **Michael Balcomb**

I've seen the clock creeping towards twelve o'clock and I know Reiner was a real stickler for keeping the time; but I would like to invite Jario back just to say a few words on behalf on the family, so Jario and Leena please come here, and then we will conclude together with Reiner's favorite holy song.

### **Leena Vincenz-Gavin**

Hello everyone,

I wasn't expecting that. Thank you. Everyone, I'd like to first just thank everyone on behalf of my mom and our family for all your support and love, your prayers; and, I'm just going to read what I typed so that I don't cry. I wrote, my dad, determined, man of faith unconditional, never gives up, pure committed, there. These are some words that come to my mind when I think of papa. There's so much I could share but I'll just take a minute. I always knew I was the daughter of a leader and I've heard many amazing stories; but, to be honest I wasn't thinking I fully realized just how special of a person, man of God, leader, counselor, friend my dad has been to so many until just recently. Reading all the comments the emails, on Facebook, the letters flowing in, I realized what an amazing legacy we are inheriting and that saying that the parents desire for their children to be better than them, I think, wow, I have a lot to live up to. So, we'll do our best in our lifetime. I think we have a lot of traveling and a lot of missions ahead of us maybe. I'm just really grateful and humbled to be my dad's daughter and my mom.

To Jario: You can read these words my dad had written once after they received me from the Nagai family.

"Even before she was born, I felt like a different person. I began to feel a different purpose in my life. My major purpose had been vertical and futuristic. I'm surprised how changed my perspective was after having a child. Now my life feels more rounded and whole. I feel that I can stand more strongly on the earth. I always felt confident in my faith and mission; but, before becoming a parent, I knew I would always come up against a limitation point. Now I feel I could go over any limit, without any hesitation. One of the greatest changes Leena has brought to our life is being on earth has so much value. Whatever we do here will never end but will be inherited by her and continue on in our lineage. This gives our life such purpose."

I'm honored to be your daughter Papa and we'll do our best to pass on your legacy, your dreams and hopes and your incredible trust and love for God, True Parents and others. Thank you papa and mama for all you've given me and I hope that you're okay that I am about to reveal a very personal soft side of him to you. I think it's beautiful and will add another layer of dimension to the already amazing person that you are.

When my dad was little growing up in communist East Germany and pro-active in the war, he didn't have a lot but his uncle gave him a special bear; and, he always tells us 'It was this big.' You can see on the poster he is in there with the bear, not quite that big but ... so he grew a special love for teddy bears, which some of you know, and some of you know he collected them, like there was a bear from Dr. Durst named Durstie and there's many bears, but there is one little one named 'Tulzie' ... I don't have it today, but my mom would actually pack it in his suitcase everywhere he went... and it had to be a little one... but in all his travels he took it with him and, actually, in the last couple days, couple nights, I put it in one of his hands and he couldn't move much, and that little bear stayed in his hand even after he passed... but he actually had these bears in my parents' bed and he made my mom say goodnight to them at night, and she didn't always like it, but... I just wanted to share that with you because I know many of you know him as a strong, determined German man, and he is, but at the same time he is actually very emotional and has a beautiful soft heart and I love you forever, and thank you.

### **Jario Gavin**

Thank you everyone.

### **Michel Balcomb**

Thank you very much Jario and Leena and now let us rise to sing Reiner's favorite song, the song of The Heavenly Soldiers...