### FFWPU USA TribeNet: Heavenly Tribal Messiah Blessing Officiator Handbook and 40 Day Devotion Journal

Melissa Santana November 4, 2024



Hello!

Thank you to all who joined us on our last TribeCall!

As was mentioned we have two documents that we want to share with all of you as you are preparing to bring couples to the Cosmic Blessing.

First, we have the <u>Updated Heavenly Tribal Messiah Blessing Officator Handbook</u> You can use this handbook to help you as you work with your Tribe Couples. Access to this handbook does not mean that you and a Blessing Officator. you must pass the certification process to become a Blessing Officator Access to this handbook does not mean that you and a Blessing Officiator. You must pass the certification process to become a Blessing Officiator.

Additionally, we are giving all Heavenly Tribal Messiah's access to the <u>40-Day Devotion Journal</u>. This is the journal that can help you and your Tribe couples who are working to complete the 43 journey. Additionally, we are giving all Heavenly Tribal Messiah's access to the 40-Day Devotion Journal. This is the journal that can help you and your Tribe couples who are working to complete the 43 journey.

Just a reminder, the TribeCall this week will be postponed to next week November 12. Please remember to vote tomorrow!

Thank you all for your hard work and dedication!

See you next week!

Melissa Santana

HSA Evangelism Team evangelism@unification.org This Book Belongs To

### The Heart of God

A 40-day devotional journal for blessed couples

### **HOW TO USE THIS JOURNAL**

#### **Daily Devotion**

Meditate and pray over scriptural passages about the heart of God.

((

Man becomes complete through woman's love. Woman becomes complete through man's love. Man perfects woman, woman perfects man. They become one through true love.

### In that place, two lives come together as one, with love at the center.

### **Today's Prayer**

#### **Application**

Make time to pray with or for your spouse daily to invite God

into your relationship.

Today, my spouse asked me to pray about

for them ...

Day / /	
---------	--

#### **Reflection**

Record your reflections and experiences, and share what God is

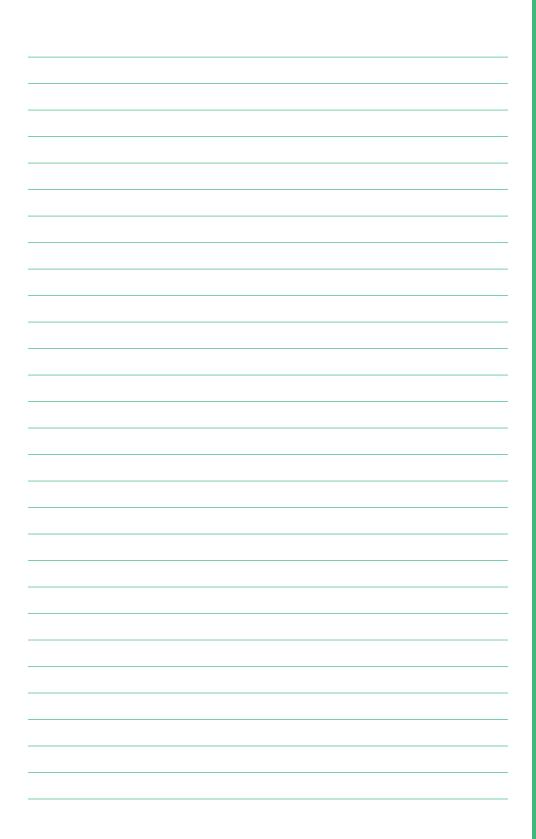
teaching you with your spouse.

Today, we went... I felt... I noticed...

### God's Heart of HOPE



God, our Heavenly Parent, longed to be embodied in Adam and Eve. Their marriage was to be the ultimate expression of God's love, and their children, born of that love, were destined to expand God's family infinitely. All people were meant to delight God and delight in God's true love.



"

Once Adam and Eve had attained perfection, God would have blessed them in marriage and He would have become one with the body of Adam and Eve.

Their becoming one in true love would have allowed God to have an embodiment on earth, to have an object partner, and to form a family. ))

Day	/	/

### Centering on love, heaven and earth, man and woman, God's life and human life, God's lineage and human lineage are united.

Because Adam and Eve would have represented the invisible God in the flesh through their lives, God's presence in the human world would have been substantially manifested in the child, husband and wife, and parents. Through Adam's family, God wanted to have His lineage realized in our families. The love, life, lineage and conscience of the invisible God should have been one with the love, life, lineage and conscience of the visible God in humanity. This unity is realized through marriage.

))

Day	/	/

"

Man and woman were born from love. Thus, marriage is the way for each of us to reach perfection. In order to become perfect, we each need an object partner.

The reason we get married is because each of us is only half of the whole, only half of the world.

>>

Day	/	/

## **C** The love I value above my life is not my own; it belongs to my partner.

That's why a man's wife is the owner of what he possesses, and a woman's husband is the owner of what she possesses. We face each other as owners. ... We are talking about ownership based on love, love that makes all the cells of your body come alive.

>>

Day	/	/

"

Loving one another as brothers and sisters sets up the foundation for conjugal love. This path restores three types of love that God had no opportunity to experience: sibling love, conjugal love and children's love. When you harmonize these three types of love in your family, you can give and receive God's love.

### Within the family we strive to realize God's ideal of creation.

Day	/	/

((

The invisible God, who is the root of love, resides at the center of Adam and Eve's wedding, and heaven and earth unite as one. Their wedding ceremony means that the Heavenly Parent and the earthly parents are united as one, centering on love.

### The place where God can reside is the place where man and woman become one. >>

Day	/	/

# **C** Husband and wife have to be the high priests responsible to protect love.

A couple becomes the high priests who protect love. They are the high priests who pass God's love on to the next generation.

))

Day	/	/

The marriage Blessing is for the sake of God and the world. With the Blessing, you can love the world and, as the representative of the world, love the person who is closest to you. ...

#### Marriage is training to love the world. It is also the path to obtain the qualification to love all people.

Until now, love was restricted to the family; it was between you and me, and thus it was cut off in all directions, and crumbled like sand. ... On the other hand, we do not just stop at making a connection between you and me. We go further: We make a connection with the world and between heaven and earth. From here, the kingdom of heaven will be established and the new lineage will start.

>>

Day	/	/

"

When you are united as one in love, you can say God belongs to me. It means that everything that belongs to God is mine. In this way, I can make mine the God who created heaven and earth. This is the highest standard of human desire. I can also make all things in heaven and on earth mine. Therefore, I am in the position of a prince or a princess.

Getting married means to inherit the authority of the monarch in the kingdom of heaven, standing in the position of a prince or a princess.

Day	/	/

((

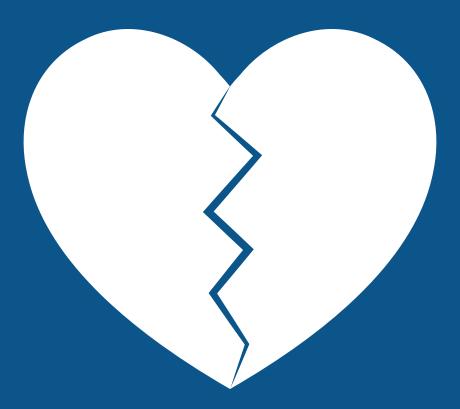
The first human beings should have grown to maturity while building a foundation of love for God that they would not have exchanged even for the entire universe. ...

Had the first human beings done this, they would have become the standard of love for all existing beings and for all things of creation in heaven and on earth.

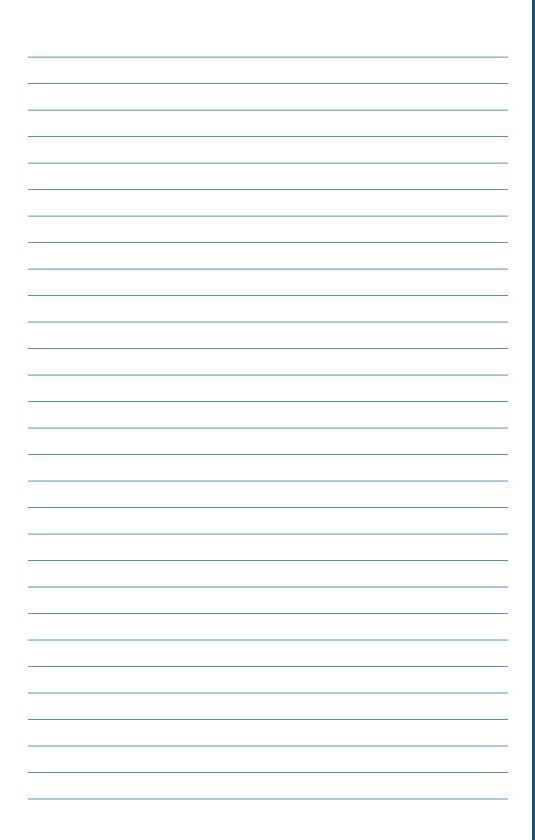
Then, any being that connected to their love would have been able to reach that standard.

Day	/	/

### God's Heart of GRIEF



When Adam and Eve fell away from God, his heart and hope were shattered. God lost his children, who no longer reflected his love or hope. Violence and chaos became the norm, as relationships formed for reasons other than selfless, true love. Heartbreak became commonplace.



"

Adam and Eve, who were the ancestors of all human beings, fell due to false and immature love. Based on self-centered love, the archangel intervened in their relationship and caused the Fall. As a result, God was in exile and Adam and Eve banished. By introducing a love connection that was not permitted by God, humankind came to bear original sin.

### It is the enormous responsibility of humankind to remove this original sin.

Day	/	/

God's era, in which He hoped to complete His Will, disappeared without a trace because of the Fall. The Fall brought fundamental destruction to the place where He had created all things in hope. Everything that He had planned, the realm of His ideal object partners of eternal love, was violated and destroyed at the root. How sorrowful God must have been when Adam and Eve committed the Fall and disappeared from His presence. They were to have been God's ideal partners, embodying God's pure original love.

### How bitter God's grief must have been over losing them.

Day	/	/

# **C** The pure love of Adam and Eve as True Parents should have been passed down eternally through their lineage.

However, Adam and Eve married without establishing a pure lineage, so we have to restore the absolute lineage, the realm of absolute ownership, and an absolutely pure heart through the Blessing.

))

Day	/	/

God's enemy deprived Him of His throne.

### Unable to become the God of glory, He was left to preside over a history of sorrow.

Although God most certainly is the King of His kingdom and King of the universe, He has been treated with contempt, as if He were dead. Meanwhile, all His beloved children were violated and the planet Earth became the enemy's playground.

Day	/	/

### **C** As a result of the Fall, God became the Parent who lost His children.

Is there any father or mother who delights in his or her own glory while their children are in prison? It is the same for God; it fills Him with endless pain.

))

Day	/	/

"

God created everything in the universe for human beings, but as a result of the Fall, God had to hand his children over to Satan's authority.

From the moment He lost His beloved object partners, God, the Lord of true love, became infinitely lonely.

))

Day	/	/

### **C** God and human beings should be together for eternity.

Can we imagine God's pain and indignation when the first human beings separated from Him? Can we comprehend His bitterness and sorrow?

>>

Day	/	/

"

God wants His partners of love to be better than Himself. His beloved partners are none other than us, human beings.

Nonetheless, we lost that privileged value and instead came to struggle throughout our lives. How miserable God must feel when He looks at us!

He thinks, "They were meant to be My direct children, inheriting My love, My life and My lineage. But now they are struggling as victims who moan and lament in pain and wander in despair until the end of their lives."

))

Day	/	/

When you are comforted by someone who has more reason to be upset than you, you can find some consolation in that.

> However, God has no one to comfort Him, because He has more grievances than anyone in the world.

Day	/	/

((

Adam and Eve lost their foundation to establish absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience to God when they entered into a false marriage.

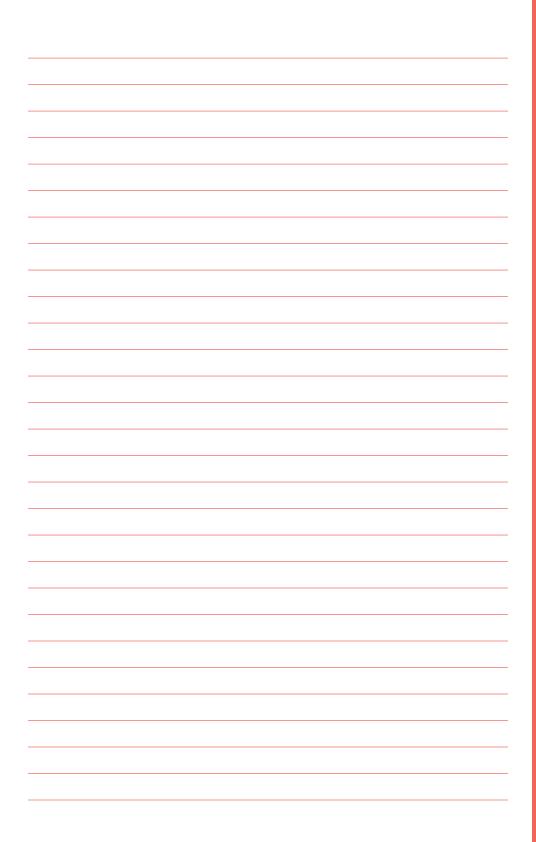
As a result, they turned their lineage upside down, lost their realm of ownership, and their family came to ruin. Thus, the restoration of lineage is needed.

Day	/	/

### God's Heart of PAIN



After the Human Fall, God's sole effort and desire was to find the man and woman who could reconnect humanity to God's heart and recover the beautiful world of true love. Through the ages, the enemy has defied God, fighting to retain dominion and blocking the appearance of this true couple.



"

Human beings became thoroughly degraded through the Fall, which blocks them from returning to God.

However, God is alive and He feels sadness when He looks at humanity. This is why He sent the Messiah to this world.

))

Day	/	1

((

God will create a united world by establishing the order of love in the family, the nation, the world and God through the Messiah on earth, who demonstrates the example of good character. ...

As re-creation is being realized, the world is becoming one and Satan's evil world is giving way to the heavenly world.

>>

Day	/	/

"

How did God continue His providence of salvation for tens of thousands of years without becoming exhausted? It is not because He is all-knowing and almighty.

It is because He has been walking the path of love for the sake of His beloved sons and daughters.

))

Day	/	1

"

God is the alpha and the omega. A knot of bitterness remains in the depths of His heart. How can He resolve it?

#### This has been God's deep, inner anguish. Under these circumstances God has carried out the providence of restoration to this day.

The spirit world transcends time and space; hence, even the sorrow of six thousand years ago can persist forever throughout the realms formed by the ages of history.

>>

Day	/	/

It is the power of love that has enabled God to triumph over a path of tribulation,

### feeling as if a thousand years were just one day.

Day	/	1

"

Is God deserving of pity or not? Many people doubt that the all-knowing and almighty God needs to be pitied.

#### However all-knowing and almighty He may be, nothing can alleviate the shock of having lost His beloved children.

If there had been a way for God to find relief from that shock by Himself, He would not have had to suffer through a six-thousand-year course of history.

>>

Day	1	1

"

God knows the state of people who sin. He cares about humanity rather than Himself. He comes in sorrow to sorrowful people, in suffering to suffering people, and in sympathy with those feeling victimized and angry.

#### How much have you empathized with God's situation?

))

Day	1	1

If you have ever experienced the joy of devoting yourself as a true offering, you will never forget that experience for the rest of your life.

> With the passage of time, more and more people will recognize and respect you for your offering. The breadth and depth of your offering will increase, and you will be ever more deeply connected with the infinite Origin. When you have such mystical experiences, you will recognize that God's sorrow has not been merely momentary, but has continued up to the present day.

))

Day	1	1

"

You should know that for tens of thousands of years, even millions of years, God has cried out for us, "My son and my daughter!" Have you ever ardently called out to God, "Father!" until your throat becomes hoarse and your tongue dry, until you cannot breathe and your eyes cannot open?

How earnestly have you struggled to embrace that standard, which is that of the Subject of life? Your character is measured in proportion to your efforts to do this.

>>

Day	1	1

"

Because humanity was born from false parentage, unless a love connection emerges that is from true parentage, this original sin cannot be removed.

In order to remove the false love and original sin that were sown by false parents, True Parents must create a new foundation of love.

>>

Day	1	1

# God's Heart of NEW HOPE



In our time, God has prevailed and a True Adam and a True Eve have finally appeared. They have engrafted a new generation to God's lineage, commencing a new era of hope. These newly engrafted people who have rekindled God's hope are called "blessed couples."



((

Originally, if Adam and Eve had reached the perfection stage in the Garden of Eden, they would have received the marriage Blessing. However, due to the Fall, the marriage Blessing centered on God was not realized. Therefore, God had to work through 4,000 years of history to raise up the Israelites, to whom He sent the Messiah. He intended to give the marriage Blessing at the time of Jesus, but again the marriage Blessing was not realized. As a result, the providence of the Blessing had to begin anew at the advent of the Third Adam, upon his laying a successful foundation in the nation and world. The marriage Blessing of the Third Adam was a historic event.

From the creation of the world until then, there had never been a time when God's love, life and lineage were tied together.

))

Day	1	1

# **C** Love begins with investment. True love begins with the act of giving.

This is a universal principle. ... The heart of a man wanting to marry a woman and of a woman wanting to marry a man comes from the universal force.

Day	1	1

# C People do not need to study in order to know how to love.

When a man and woman marry, they don't need someone to teach them how to behave on their wedding night. In the world of insects there is no sex education, but they know very well what to do, and human beings are the lords of creation. There is no one who is incapable of conjugal love, so no education for that is necessary. If God had made men and women to need such education in order to love and become complete, then God would not be omnipotent. Without a need for sex education, you know the way of love. By practicing it, you obtain a qualification that can transcend heaven and earth, the whole world of creation.

Day	1	1

"

Your organ of love is more important than your brain. The origin of true love is not in your brain. The origin of true lineage is not in your brain. Where is that origin? It is in the reproductive organ.

# Everything is in the reproductive organ. ... It is the original palace of love.

We find also the root of life and of lineage residing there. This is the most precious place, not only in the human body but also in the world and throughout history. Without it, the multiplication of humankind would be impossible.

Day	1	1

# C There is only one true love. The first love must be that which unites one husband and one wife.

There absolutely must be only one true love. This is what absolute sex means. Absolute sex will eliminate the attraction of "free" sex.

Day	1	1

"

When a husband enters his wife's room,

# he steps into the chamber of the only queen in heaven and on earth.

Likewise, when a wife relates to her husband,

# she steps into the palace where she attends the king. ))

Day	1	1

"

The place where the husband and wife make love is the palace of joyous union. When they are in that place, they are not envious of anyone's royal throne or heaven's citadels of happiness.

# It is this way because this is where everything begins. >>

Day	1	1

((

A husband and wife should always be together as one. Whenever they go somewhere, they should sit together, not separately. They should be able to resonate with each other at any time, day or night.

# Other than married couples, no one else can have such a relationship.

Day	1	1

"

When you blessed couples embrace and love your babies, you should keep in mind the purpose for which your children were born.

# You need to understand they were born for God, out of your relationship with God.

Even though you may be intimate with your precious husband or wife and share secrets together, your relationship is not of your own design. You were brought to each other while walking on the public path of the heavenly Principle. God was involved in tying you together.

>>

Day	1	1

"

The dividing line between happiness and misery is determined by how close and how intimate our relationship is with Heaven. An individual can bear with his or her own downfall but will not accept that the family goes to ruin. A husband needs his wife more than anyone else in the world, and a wife needs her husband more than anyone.

Therefore a husband and wife must always encourage each other, support each other and become each other's companion in life.

Day	1	1

# REFERENCES

CBG= Chambumo Gyeong§= SectionCSG= Cheon Seong Gyeong¶= Paragraph

1.	286-017, 1997.07.01, CBG, Book4, Chapter1, §1, ¶5
2.	286-017, 1997.07.01, CBG, Book4, Chapter1, §1, ¶5
3.	222-098, 1991.10.28, CBG, Book4, Chapter1, §1, ¶16
4.	140-290,1986.02.14, CSG, Book 3, Chapter 2, §3, ¶15
5.	35-243, 1970.10.19, CSG, Book3, Chapter 2, §3, ¶12
6.	222-098, 1991.10.28, CBG, Book4, Chapter1, §1, ¶16
7.	144-227, 1986.04.24, CSG, Book 3, Chapter 2, §3, ¶23
8.	037-108-9, 1970.12.22, CBG, Book4, Chapter1, §1, ¶22
9.	222-100, 1991.10.28, CBG, Book4, Chapter1, §1, ¶20
10.	149-240, 1986.11.23, CSG, Book1, Chapter4 §3, ¶23
11.	035-215, 1970.10.19, CBG, Book4, Chapter1, §1, ¶2
12.	127-019, 1983.05.01, CSG, Book1, Chapter4 §3, ¶21
13.	269-096, 1995.04.08, CBG, Book4, Chapter1, §1, ¶3
14.	105-199, 1979.10.21, CSG, Book1, Chapter4 §3, ¶18
15.	343-197, 2001.01.29, CSG, Book1, Chapter4 §3, ¶19
16.	343-197, 2001.01.29, CSG, Book1, Chapter4 §3, ¶19
17.	149-240, 1986.11.23, CSG, Book1, Chapter4 §3, ¶23
18.	211-209, 1990.12.30, CSG, Book1, Chapter4 §3, ¶24
19.	29-294, 1970.03.12, CSG, Book1, Chapter4 §3, ¶25
20.	269-096, 1995.04.08, CBG, Book4, Chapter1, §1, ¶3

- 21. 082-115, 1976.01.01, CBG, Book4, Chapter1, §1, ¶9
- 22. 082-115, 1976.01.01, CBG, Book4, Chapter1, §1, ¶9
- 23. 109-281, 1980.11.2, CSG Book1, Chapter4, §2
- 24. 29-294, 1970.03.12, CSG, Book1, Chapter4 §3, ¶25
- 25. 109-281, 1980.11.2, CSG Book1, Chapter4, §2
- 26. 35-88, 1970.10.4, CSG Book1, Chapter4, §2
- 27. 9-231, 1960.5.29, CSG Book1, Chapter4, §2
- 28. 29-294, 1970.03.12, CSG, Book1, Chapter4 §3, ¶25
- 29. 184-219, 1989.1.1, CSG, Book 1, Chapter4, §2, ¶11
- 30. 035-215, 1970.10.19, CBG, Book4, Chapter1, §1, ¶2
- 31. 215-273, 1991.02.21, CBG, Book4, Chapter1, §1, ¶ 1
- 32. 219-186, 1991.08.29, CSG, Book3, Chapter2 ¶31
- 33. 266-231, 1995.01.01, CSG, Book3, Chapter2 ¶42
- 34. 203-105, 1990.06.17, CSG, Book3, Chapter2 ¶29
- 35. 282-326, 1997.04.07, CSG, Book3, Chapter2 ¶38
- 36. 261-222, 1994.06.19, CSG(2), Book11, Chapter4, §2, ¶17
- 37. 240-316, 1992.12.13, CSG(2), Book11, Chapter4, §2, ¶19
- 38. 67-061, 1973.05.20, CSG(2), Book11, Chapter4, §2, ¶14
- 39. 67-293, 1973.07.22, CSG(2) Book11, Chapter4, §2, ¶16
- 40. 27-087, 1969.11.26, CSG(2), Book11, Chapter4, §2, ¶20

# 2024 HTM BLESSING OFFICIATOR HANDBOOK

January 1, 2024



# WELCOME!

Welcome to the 2024 HTM Blessing Officiator Handbook!

The Marriage Blessing Ceremony ("Blessing") was initiated by Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. Through this ceremony, they are establishing the standard of True Parents by working beyond races and religions to unite all people into God's family. The Marriage Blessing is a cleansing of past mistakes and an opportunity to make a new commitment in marriage as a Blessed Family.



Blessing Officiators play a central role in the Blessing Ceremony. They stand in the position to represent God who is the Heavenly Parent. They also stand in the position to represent Father and Mother Moon in the position of the True Parents.

As the True Parents, Father and Mother Moon were given the authority to bestow God's Blessing on all couples who are willing to receive and uphold it.

Starting in 1997, True Parents invited Blessed Couples to become Blessing Officiators who would be qualified to conduct local Blessing events in their own nations. Unlike Cosmic Blessings (officiated directly by True Parents), which are open to all, the local Blessings, called "Heavenly Tribal Messiah Blessings," are exclusively for couples who are already legally married, as well as legally-married widows and widowers 60 years and older and single individuals 60 years and older.

#### Handbook Contents

Click on the title of each section below for immediate transfer to that section. Click on the "Return to Contents" text at the bottom of every page for immediate return.

Welcome!	. Page 2
Purpose of the Blessing	. Page 4
Blessing Officiators	. Page 5
Blessing Guidelines	. Page 7
Officiating the Blessing	. Page 9
Blessing Documentation	Page 15
Becoming Blessed Central Families	Page 16

# PURPOSE OF THE BLESSING

The Blessing is not a manmade institution. It is an inspiration from Heaven, the fulfillment of the Divine purpose that God, our Heavenly Parent, intended for the first ancestors of humanity, Adam and Eve. In Genesis 1:28, when God Blessed Adam and Eve to multiply, He revealed His intention to Bless them in marriage.

The Blessing was to have passed from generation to generation where the human family founded on God's Blessing would have fulfilled God's purpose of creation, a world of goodness and peace.

However, as depicted in Genesis Chapter 3, God's intention was derailed and from that tragic beginning the entire human family has suffered.

'What was lost as a result of the Fall? First, the ideal world of true love was lost. Second, the ideal family of true love was lost; in particular, the husband and wife of true love were lost. Third, their sons and daughters of true love, the first grandchildren of God, were lost. These are God's three kinds of sorrow." *True Father* 

Today, the purpose of the Blessing is to restore marriages back to God. When marriages are restored, families, communities, nations and the world can become whole.

### **Using This Handbook**

This Handbook serves as an official online reference for Blessing Officiators with step-by-step instructions on conducting Blessing Ceremonies. It can be easily viewed on computers as well as mobile devices.

The language depicted is recommended and can vary as long as all of the procedures are completed. Adjustments can be made when Blessing groups or individual recipients, as well as widows, widowers and singles aged 60 and above.

# **BLESSING OFFICIATORS**

To become Blessing Officiators, a couple is to submit the <u>Blessing Officiant Application</u> <u>Form</u> for approval from their FFWPU Subregion Director. When approved, they will receive this Blessing Officiator Handbook for self-study and completion of a "<u>Refresher</u> <u>Quiz</u>". After submitting the completed quiz, they will be emailed a "Certified Blessing Officiator Certificate" valid for one year from the date of issue.

Once completed, there are two additional qualifications:

- 1. Have a heart and attitude that are in alignment with God.
- 2. Be familiar with all the steps of the Blessing process, understand their significance, and be able to guide the Blessing couples with confidence and clarity.

As Blessing Officiators give the Blessing, they need to value it as God does through appreciating the sacrifices that were made in order to make the Blessing possible, and, in representing God and True Parents, cultivate a heart of humility and repentance.

When God bestows His Blessing on a couple, it is the historic moment of great joy for God and the couple as they are welcomed into God's family.

### **Certification Qualifications**

- 1. Be currently Blessed in good standing (Unification and Clergy couples).
- 2. Have attended the Unification Theological Seminary or another seminary, and/or completed a Divine Principle 7-Day Program.
- 3. Be familiar with the steps involved in the Marriage Blessing process, have a basic understanding of their significance, and be able to guide couples participating in the Blessing ceremony with confidence and clarity.
- 4. Submit a recent photo of your couple as well as Marriage Blessing documentation (Blessing certificate, Blessing photo or other document).
- 5. Complete the Blessing Officiator Commitment Pledge in the application form.

### **Certification Renewal**

The time period of certification is one year from the date of issue of the "Certified Blessing Officiator Certificate". It can be newed by reapplying.

### **Blessing Officator Commitment Pledge**

- 1. We pledge that we will be accountable to the members of the spiritual community of which we are members, and bring honor and glory to Heavenly Parent and True Parents.
- 2. We pledge that we can stand in a position of trust and responsibility as a Blessed Central Family of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification USA.
- 3. We will abide by the provisions of the Family Pledge.
- 4. We will practice the utmost integrity in the use of public money, assets and resources.
- 5. We will adhere to the teachings and principles of absolute sexual morality, and will remain faithful to each other, and abstain from any form of inappropriate behavior. We will refrain from the use of alcohol, drugs or other substances.
- 6. We will respect all people as the sons and daughters of God, listen respectfully to others and keep confidence, doing everything we can to avoid intentionally hurting the heart of another as we carry out our responsibilities.

# **BLESSING GUIDELINES**

## **Blessing Recipients**

Heavenly Tribal Messiah Blessings can be conducted with the following:

- Legally-married couples
- Legally-married widow/widowers 60 years and older
- Single seniors 60 years and older

Same-sex marriages are not permitted. Couple Blessings require the presence of husband and wife.

## **Blessing Environment**

Heavenly Tribal Messiah Blessings can be performed in either a group setting or singlecouple setting.

Group Blessings are usually performed in a church or event venue. An Emcee leads all couples through the program and Attendants assist the Officiators. Single-couple Blessings can be performed in any location, such as homes, workplaces and public areas. These ceremonies are usually simple and the Officiators direct the entire program.

Preparation for Blessings is important. All Blessings require the presence of Holy Wine, Holy Water, printed Blessing Vows and a chastening rod. Use of Blessing scarfs by the Officiators and Blessing recipients is often preferred.

Large group Blessings need several people to assist the Officators in conducting the ceremonies. Sets of twelve additional attending Blessed Couples wearing special robes are engaged to support the entry and departure of the Officiator Couple.

When possible, Blessing grooms should wear dark blue or black suits with a white shirt and tie. Brides should wear white or light-colored dresses or, when preferred, a beautiful wedding dress!

### **Blessing Steps**

Understanding the significance of the five core Blessing steps is important as follows:

#### Holy Wine Ceremony

Symbolic of belonging to God's family through "God's blood lineage".

#### **Blessing Vows**

Affirmation of being forever faithful as a couple, raising children to maintain purity in preparation for their marriage Blessing, and contributing to the work of creating a peaceful world through families of true love.

#### **Benediction Prayer**

Proclamation of the marriage Blessing before Heaven and Earth.

#### **Chastening Ceremony**

Repentance for the couple's misuse of love and commitment to end the history of abuse between men and women.

#### **Blessing Donation**

Expression of gratitude for receiving the Blessing.

## **OFFICIATING THE BLESSING**

The Blessing starts with the Holy Wine.



### What is Holy Wine?

The Holy Wine is made up of 21 ingredients representing all things, symbolizing the love of parents, the earth, the seas, and Heaven. The Holy Wine contains all the essential elements that stand for purity.

More importantly, we are able to receive the Holy Wine because of the victorious foundation of peace made by True Parents. This makes it possible for humankind to cut off from the original ancestral sins.

## Significance of the Holy Wine Ceremony

The original ancestors, whom we refer to as Adam and Eve, were supposed to become husband and wife with God's love in their hearts. However, due to their Fall, the order of love was reversed and they consummated their marriage with selfish love.

Adam and Eve's mistake was passed down to us through the blood lineage. The Holy Wine Ceremony signifies a rebirth that reverses that mistake. The woman goes through a process of being restored first, then gives birth to the man. Together, husband and wife are engrafted onto the original blood lineage of God.

## Administering the Holy Wine

When conducting the Holy Wine Ceremony, the Couple should face the Officiators with the wife at the right side of her husband.

Emcee: Now we offer you the Holy Wine. First the bride drinks half the cup, then offers the remaining wine to her husband. When you receive the cup, please hold it with two hands and offer a small bow with a humble heart. We begin the ceremony with a prayer.

- Opening Prayer
- Couple offers bow to Officiators
- An Attendant gives wine to Officiator Wife, and she gives it to Officiator Husband.
- Officiator Husband gives wine to (representative) brides. Brides bow as they receive with two hands (Attendants can give wine to other brides).
- Brides drink half the wine, then give the cups to their husbands. Husbands bow as they receive the cups with two hands, then drink the remaining wine. Husbands return the empty cups to their brides while bowing. Brides bow as they receive the empty cups, then give the cups to the Officator Husband (or Attendant) with a bow.
- Officiator Husband gives empty cups back to the Officator Wife who then returns them to the Attendant.



**Return to Contents** 

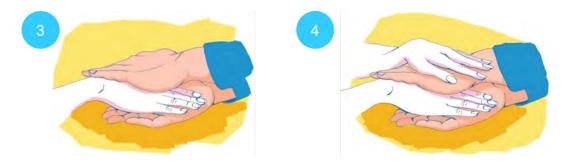
### **Sanctification Prayer**

Emcee: Now, we will offer a sanctification prayer.

- 1. Couple faces each other.
- 2. Bridegroom opens his right hand with his palm up. Bride covers the bridegroom's right palm with her right palm from above.



- 3. Bridegroom covers the back of the bride's right hand with his left palm from above.
- 4. Bride covers the back of the bridegroom's left hand with her left palm from above.



- 5. The Officiator wife (representing True Mother) covers the back of the bridegroom's right hand with her left palm.
- 6. The Officiator husband (representing True Father) covers the back of the bride's left hand with his right palm.



**Return to Contents** 

Emcee: Now, after the Holy Wine Ceremony, you stand in the position before the Fall (if you are single, it is an opportunity to keep your purity and prepare your heart and character for future married life). The Husband should now stand to the right of his wife.

Emcee: As a married couple, the Blessing Ceremony confirms an eternal bond between you as husband and wife, and commitment to true love and fidelity in your family.

#### **Holy Water**

Emcee: We will now sprinkle you with Holy Water. This is a symbol of purity.

Officiators sprinkle Holy Water over couples.



### **Blessing Vows**

Emcee: Now, we want to offer you the opportunity to make a new commitment in your relationship. If you agree, please respond "Yes" to the vows we are about to read.

- 1. As a mature man and woman, we pledge that we will become an eternal husband and wife who maintain the ideal of God's creation with absolute fidelity.
- 2. We pledge that we will inherit and maintain the tradition of the God-centered family and pass this tradition on to the future generations of our family and all humankind.
- 3. We pledge that as Blessed Parents we will raise our children to love God as their Heavenly Parent and educate them to be sexually abstinent until marriage.
- 4. We pledge that we will support all families to uplift these ideals beyond race, religion and nationality, by participating in the Blessing of Marriage introduced by Father and Mother Moon, helping to create the Kingdom of God on Earth and in Heaven.

## **Benediction Prayer**

Emcee: We will now complete the Blessing Ceremony with a Benediction prayer and *Proclamation of your Blessing.* 

Officators outstretch their arms and the Officiator Husband prays and offers the Pronouncement:

"Dear God, our Heavenly Parent, we are offering these couples (this couple) to you. We ask that through this ceremony we are removing the accusation of Satan from their blood lineage, and engrafting them into God's family. Heavenly Parent, please accept them as Blessed Families, and embrace them as your pure children."



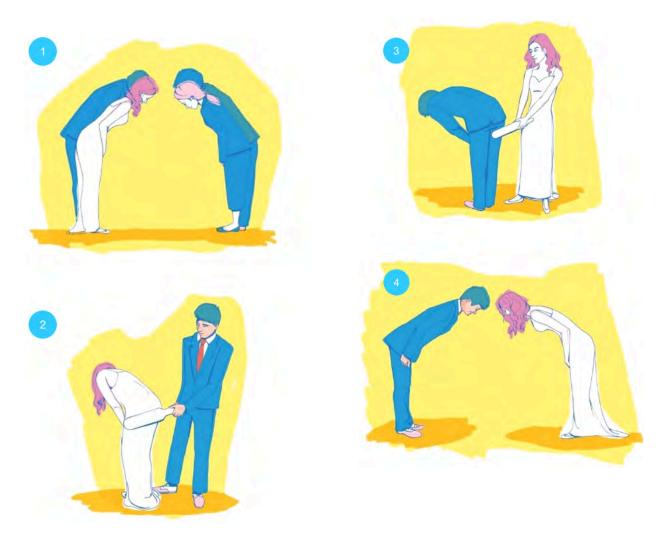
#### Pronouncement

Emcee: I hereby declare, on this [today's full date], before God, True Parents, and Heaven and Earth, that the couples who are attending this Marriage Blessing Ceremony, over which [Officiators' Couple Name] are presiding, have now received the Blessing.

#### **Chastening Ceremony**

Emcee: Finally today, we invite you to participate in the Chastening Ceremony. This is an opportunity to cut from any physical abuse, or misuse of love from the past. You may have hurt each other, or been hurt by others, either way, this ceremony will offer you a new beginning.

- 1. Couple bows to Officiators
- 2. Bridegrooms strike the bride's buttocks first, three times
- 3. Bride then strikes the Bridegroom's buttocks three times
- 4. Couple bows to each other.



## **Blessing Donation**

A donation should be offered by newly Blessed couples, senior widows/widowers and senior singles at the time of their Blessing as an expression of gratitude.

The minimum Heavenly Tribal Messiah Blessing donation amount is \$20. It is ideal for this amount to be paid directly by the Blessing recipient to the Heavenly Tribal Messiah spiritual parent. This donation amount will need to be paid by the spiritual parent when applying for eventual induction into the CheonBo Won in Korea.

# **BLESSING DOCUMENTATION**

Each Blessing event should be documented by the Heavenly Tribal Messiah spiritual parent through their account in the <u>Ragic</u> online record management system for use in follow-up and accumulating 430 Horizontal Blessings for induction into the CheonBo Won. They can use <u>this link</u> if they are a new Ragic user.

It's also important to save Blessing Donations received to supplement the \$20 Blessing Donation per recipient to be submitted when applying for CheonBo Won induction.

Blessing documentation is invaluable for spiritual parents as they develop deeper relationships with their Blessing recipients and lead them in the final two steps of the Blessing process: 40-Day Separation and 3-Day Ceremony. Once completed, these couples become members of God's family with new children born without original sin and raised as God's true sons and daughters.

### Learning More

"The physical and spiritual completion of Cheon II Guk on earth becomes possible when Tribal Messiahs fulfill their mission, passing on to each clan the Word, participation in the Blessing Ceremony and a lifestyle of living for the sake of others. Your clans would thereby establish the sovereignty of goodness and realize a world of peace, one great human family."

True Mother, September 16, 2012

Updates to the Handbook will be ongoing. Please check it often for new content.

Requests for additional information can be sent at any time to the TribeNet Support Team at <a href="mailto:evangelism@unification.org">evangelism@unification.org</a>.

# **BECOMING BLESSED CENTRAL FAMILIES**

The next opportunity for Heavenly Tribal Messiah Blessed Couples is to partake in the 40-Day Period of Abstinence and the 3-Day Ceremony to then become Blessed Central Families. This is the historic destiny desired by Heaven and should be guided by Heavenly Tribal Messiahs whenever they can. Following are basic descriptions of these significant conditions.

### 40-Day Period of Abstinence

This is a 40-Day period with no sexual relationship – what could be called sexual fasting. For many, this is the most challenging step in the Blessing journey. But it should be noted, according to those who have completed the journey, this is the step by which couples experienced the most powerful and profound transformation.

To make a change in our hearts that we know is needed, it cannot happen without effort and investment. Words are easy to say, especially the words "true love," but to put true love into practice by putting the greater good first requires real commitment and effort. And it is in these 40 days, when we make and sustain that commitment and effort, that we practice true love.

Through this 40-Day period, a couple makes a condition that enables them to reset the proper order of love that was lost when Adam and Eve sacrificed the ideal of true love in order to prematurely satisfy their personal desires. By putting their desire for sexual stimulation first, the ideal of true love that God wanted them to receive was cast aside.

During these 40-days, a couple sets the proper order of love by denying their desire for self-gratification and by turning their love towards God. In doing so they set the pattern of love that can create a greater future of goodness for their marriage relationship and for their family. This is the practice of true love, living for the sake of the other – for God's happiness, our spouse's happiness, the happiness of our children, and the creation of a better and happier world.

And there is a reason for the number 40. Historically, it has represented a period of sacrifice in preparation for a new beginning. We see this in Scripture – in the story of Noah in which the world went through a 40 day period of judgment by the flood. We see it in the 40 days that Moses fasted in order to receive God's Ten Commandments. We see it in Jesus' life when he fasted 40 days in preparation to begin his ministry. And we see it in Jesus' resurrection when he appeared to his disciples for 40 days in order to give them the power they would need to spread the good news throughout the world.

The purpose of these 40-day periods has been to make spiritual conditions that will allow Heaven to work, and for real change to take place. Even non-religious experts say that if a person invests themselves for 40 days they can end a bad habit and start a good one.

Through this 40-day period of abstinence, a couple paves the way for heaven to support them as they seek to transform their marriage into a marriage that embodies true love.

A <u>40-Day Abstinence Devotion Journal</u> has been created by Rev. Andrew Compton to provide internal guidance and education for couples during their 40-day journey. It can be printed and used by each spouse for daily empowerment and as a historic record.

### **3-Day Ceremony**

The 3-Day Ceremony, which is often three nights, concludes the ceremonial portion of the Blessing. During these three days the couple will begin anew their life of intimacy in a very special way.

The purpose of this ceremony is to substantially restore the position of the man and woman as members of God's family – as God's son and daughter. Unlike the Holy Wine Ceremony, which is a symbolic act, in these three nights the man and woman are to engage in the act of love. Each night will represent a stage in the restoration of the man and woman back to God.

The actual act that separated the first man and woman from God was the misuse of sexual love. It was a fallen act that was inspired by self-centered desires, desires that totally disregarded the ideal that God had intended for love. Just as that act separated the first couple from God, God is able to reverse that and reconnect with the couple by having them engage in three nights of love that are inspired by God and have as their foundation the fulfillment of the Holy Wine ceremony, the Marriage Blessing, the Chastening Ceremony and the 40-Day Period of Separation.

The Three-Day Ceremony is the final step in the Blessing Journey by which a couple leaves the family that was initiated by the human fall and are able to stand as a Blessed Couple, fully members of God's family. When they give birth to children their children will naturally belong to God's lineage as members of God's family.