

## Day 9: Our True Parents, Who Love Us

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At the beginning of this second week of the workshop, our focus shifted from deepening our awareness of God to deepening our awareness of True Parents. This made Yeon Ah Moon's and the Songs' visits yesterday particularly opportune, as they could each share unique perspectives on the life of True Parents and the roots of the Unification movement.

Today our newest lecturer, Rev. Kevin Thompson from the Bay Area Family Church, spoke about these themes as well. He gave two lectures on the early experiences of True Parents in order to help us better understand who they are, where they came from, and what they have done.

Many of us were very inspired and moved by Rev. Thompson's presentations.



One participant, Adam Gottlieb from California, shared, “A lot of what I’m hearing is that we should learn to love True Parents. I was a Christian before I became a Unificationist, and I loved Jesus -- I really loved Jesus -- because the message of Christianity is so simple: If you believe in Jesus, then you’re saved. We know with the Divine Principle that it doesn’t really work that way. It’s good enough for spiritual salvation, but not enough to have what we want.



So I used to really love Jesus and feel like he was really looking down at me and loving me, but I had a hard time feeling that about True Father, because he came with such strong conviction to change people and to change this world, teaching that we can’t just change by believing, we have to change by fixing ourselves. Since I came here to Global Top Gun I’ve been trying to embrace that idea, to *feel* like True Father actually loves me, and a song we sang together earlier really got me feeling how much True Father has gone through and how much he really, truly loves each one of us.”



Rev. Thompson is the third lecturer for our workshop after Gerry Servito and Christine Froehlich. So far we’ve learned something unique from each of our presenters: about the heart and nature of God, the ins and outs of a spiritual life centered on True Parents, and the historical foundations on which our



movement stands.

But our lecturers have shared something particularly precious with us as well. They have shared personal testimonies about their experiences with True Parents. They have so many stories about sitting right in front of both True Father and True Mother -- just as we've been told that someday, future generations will come to us and ask for our stories about True Parents.

True Parents have come alive for us in a new way -- their heart is clearer, their sacrifices and hopes more real, and their love closer than ever before.

