

FFWPU Europe and Middle East: U.S. Members of Forbidden Church Flood Tokyo

Knut Holdhus
May 4, 2026



More than 150 second-generation followers of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#) from the United States visited Japan and did street preaching near JR Shibuya Station. Damien Dunkley, President of the U.S. [Family Federation](#), is pictured on the afternoon of April 29, 2026 in Shibuya Ward, Tokyo, Japan.



[Sekai Nippo](#)

As a display of international solidarity, 150 young U.S. followers of Family Federation rally in Shibuya, Tokyo for religious freedom and support for persecuted and socially excluded fellow believers in Japan

Tokyo, 29th April 2026 - Published as an article in the Japanese newspaper [Sekai Nippo](#). Republished with permission. Translated from Japanese. [Original article](#).

About 150 U.S. Followers Protest "Dissolution" of Family Federation, Call for Religious Freedom

by editorial staff of [Sekai Nippo](#)

In front of the famous scramble crossing near JR Shibuya Station, second-generation followers of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#) from the United States walked back and forth across the busy intersection holding panels reading "#Help Our Church", while offering prayers for religious freedom.

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A 28-year-old man who came from the United States said,

"The [decision](#) to dissolve [the [organization](#)] is shocking and hard to believe. Members in Japan are devotedly active around the world, including in Africa. I hope people in Japan will come to better understand these efforts."

Preaching on the street, Demian Dunkley, President of the U.S. [Family Federation](#), declared,

"Even if our buildings, money, and positions are [all taken away](#), what can never be taken from us is our hearts."

His remarks drew loud applause from the onlooking crowd.



American and Japanese members of the [Family Federation](#) at Shibuya, Tokyo on April 29, 2026

Prior to this, U.S. followers, together with groups such as the "Second-Generation Association for Protecting the Human Rights of Believers" - headed by Nozomi Kojima (小島希晶) - held a panel discussion within the ward.

When a male U.S. believer asked Kojima what kind of impact the street activities might have on the church and society, Kojima responded,

"In Japan, the [Family Federation](#) is often seen as a very small and problematic group. The fact that as many as 100 people came from the United States is surprising in itself. This event will help change the image that Japanese people have."



An American pastor street preaching in Shibuya, Tokyo on 29th April 2026

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In [article on X](#), The Monarch Report, an X account that functions as a media outlet dedicated to promoting "narratives aligned with" the [Family Federation](#), wrote on 29th April,



American and Japanese members of the [Family Federation](#) at Shibuya, Tokyo on 29th April 2026 0

"More than 100 members of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#) travelled from across the United States to Tokyo to stand with Japanese believers and to defend religious freedom in Japan.

The visit, organised in approximately two weeks, brought American second-generation members and pastors face to face with their Japanese counterparts at a moment when Japan's [Family Federation](#) has been stripped of its legal status as a religious corporation.

The centrepiece of the visit was a public talk session held on 29th April 2026, hosted by the Second-Generation Society to Protect Believers' Human Rights and livestreamed under the title 'Talk Session Between Japanese and American Second Generation and Experts'.

The format paired three Japanese second-generation members with three American counterparts on stage for the first time. 'We had no time to coordinate. We are meeting face to face for the first time right now,' the moderator said as the panel opened."

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Kingdom Is Here And Advancing: Bishop’s Tribute

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In tribute to Mother Han, American bishop congratulates the newly blessed couples as on

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Blessed couples as an expression of the Kingdom of Heaven advancing



From the large international [Marriage Blessing](#) ceremony for 2,100 couples in Gapyeong, South Korea on 2nd May 2026. Screenshot from live transmission by Peace TV.

A congratulatory message by Bishop Nancy Rosario, Senior Pastor of Church of God's Children in New York, USA, and US Co-Vice Chair of the ACLC Women's Ministry, delivered 2nd May 2026 in Cheongshim Peace World Center, [Gapyeong](#), South Korea on the occasion of celebrating the 66th Anniversary of the [Holy Wedding](#) of the [True Parents](#) of Heaven, Earth and Humankind and the First Anniversary of the [Entrance into the Cheonil Sanctum](#) in the Cheonwon Temple, and the [Marriage Blessing](#) ceremony for 2,100 couples.

See also [2,100 Couples in Global Blessing Ceremony](#)

Good morning, everyone. It's a beautiful day. You all look beautiful.

So I say, distinguished guests, honored clergy, beloved brothers and sisters from all around the world, Grace, peace and blessings be unto you.

Congratulations on each bride, each groom, soon to be husband and wife. I have been married 40 years, and we have eight daughters and two sons. I don't know if I'll throw that blessing onto you, but take it if you want it. So, I know the joys of having your children be married. And today, each and every one of you have truly brought joy and uplifted [True Mother](#)'s heart by celebrating and participating and being part of this holy [marriage blessing](#).

So I want to applaud all of you and our [True Mother](#).

I know at this moment, her heart must be filled with joy, knowing that her mission is going on.

And remember this day forever. Today we gather on a profound day of historic significance. We celebrate the 66th [Holy Wedding](#) anniversary of the [True Parents](#) – so you have that to follow – and the first anniversary of the [entrance into the Cheonil Sanctum](#) in the Cheonwon Temple. So you know you're going to remember this day forever.

This is not merely a commemoration. It is a divine milestone in the unfolding [providence](#) of our Heavenly Parent. From the beginning, Heavenly Parent has longed to dwell with his children.

And though history has been marked by separation and struggle, the [providence](#) continued patiently until fulfillment.

Throughout the history, [God](#) has always moved through chosen vessels, men and women set apart for sacred purpose. And you are part of that.

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*Some of the couples at the large international **Marriage Blessing** ceremony for 2,100 couples in Gapyeong, South Korea on 2nd May 2026. Screenshot from live transmission by Peace TV.*

We recognize that heaven has entrusted missions across many generations. And we honor one who has been called as a **begotten daughter**, entrusted with a divine assignment for her time.

That fulfillment began to take visible form in 1960 through the **Holy Wedding** of the **True Parents**. Their union was not simply a **marriage**. It was a **providential** covenant restoring humanity. Restoring humanity back to the heart of **God** and opening the way for families, nations and generations to walk in what? In **true love**.

And from that foundation, the holy **marriage blessing** has gone forth to many, many, many nations, including our previous speaker who performed it in his beautiful country of Africa with over 200,000 people present, while **True Mother** gave the blessing. Amen.

And this holy **marriage blessing** is calling families into covenant with **God**, restoring the sacred purpose of your love, and establishing the building blocks of peace for generations to come. And that generation is your children that will come after to receive your blessing.

So today we honor **True Mother, Hak Ja Han**, the entrusted one whose life stands at the center of this continuing **providence**. She has walked a path marked by faith, by endurance, and an unwavering devotion to **God's** will.

She has advanced the **providence** with bold clarity, proclaiming the **Cheonil-guk [Kingdom of Heaven]**, establishing the Heavenly Parent's Holy Community, and calling humanity beyond the boundaries of religion, nation and culture into unity.

Even now, as we are all here, in the face of misunderstanding and opposition through all her life, her call has remained concise. She has never wavered from her mission. She says not division, but alignment with the covenant – alignment with the covenant of **God's** kingdom on earth.

And we recognize this as a moment to observe. It is a history. It's not just a moment to observe. This is a history for each and every one of you to understand.

And now, just as we, some of us, study Abraham and the twelve tribes of Israel, you now have a new commitment. So we too must study the history of the Han family, not casually, but with spiritual discernment. That is your duty from this moment on.

And the reason for you all to study the history of the Han family is so that we may recognize the movement of **God** in our time, in your time, in your children's time, and align ourselves, align yourselves with that history.





Sacred site: the [Cheonwon Temple](#). Here, prayer vigil at night. Photo: [FFWPU](#)

And now we stand in a new era. The [entrance into the Cheonil Sanctum](#) of the Cheonwon Temple doesn't mark just a place, but a reality, that our Heavenly Parent is dwelling among his people.

You see, the [Kingdom](#) is not distant. It is here. And it is advancing.

So today we stand not only as witnesses, but as participants. And so we align ourselves. We align ourselves with heaven's purpose. We align ourselves with the call to unity. We align with the covenant that invites all humanity into one, one family under [God](#). Praise the Lord!

On this historical occasion, we especially honor [True Mother](#). As it is written in the book of Esther, "And who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this." (Esther 4:14)

Well, we now know that she has come to the [Kingdom](#) for such a time as this. Yes, we recognize our [True Mother, Hak Ja Han](#), as the entrusted one in this generation – a chosen vessel carrying a [providential](#) mandate to advance heaven's work on earth.

And now that continues to be your responsibility today. And through this work, a call, her call, has gone forth across the nations. And do you know what that call is?

That call from her heart to yours is – she says –

"Come, all who are divided, be made one!
Come, all who are scattered, be gathered!"

She says,

"Come, all who are searching, be restored as
sons and daughters of the Most High!"

And I thank [God](#) for being one of them.



Standing in for [Mother Han](#): Reverend Lee Gi-seong (이기성) and his wife Jang Yun-jeong (장윤정) sprinkling holy water on couples at the large international [Marriage Blessing](#) ceremony for 2,100 couples in Gapyeong, South Korea on 2nd May 2026. Screenshot from live transmission by Peace TV.

So today, I tell you, we're not merely celebrating. We are recommitting our lives. We recommit ourselves to the work of peace. We recommit ourselves to lives of [true love](#).

Each one of you have been brought here with the objectivity of [true love](#). And pass that on to your children, your children's children, to build a legacy, the legacy of [Mother Han's](#) calling. We recommit ourselves to unity in a divided world.

divided world.

And in this sacred moment, we will lift up with all of you a prophetic intercession, a prayer of a prophetic intercession, we say,

“Heavenly Parent, Sovereign Lord of all creation, we acknowledge this appointed time of fulfillment. Let every nation align with your divine order. Let every heart be awakened to the reality that the gates of heaven are open. We declare that what has been spoken in accordance with your will, it shall be established. We speak restoration over families. We speak healing over all the nations. And we speak unity where there has been division.”

And today, all of us will boldly declare that the era of [Cheonil-guk \[Kingdom of Heaven\]](#) is not coming. It is here. The [Kingdom of Heaven](#) is not distant. It is unfolding right before our very eyes.

And to [True Mother](#), we say – praying that she will see this – “Thank you, thank you for your unwavering faith. Thank you for your victorious love. Thank you for leading humanity into a new dawn. You have carried Heaven’s burden. You have walked Heaven’s earth. And you have opened a new season for humanity.”

Let the earth hear it. Let the heavens bear witness that the gates are open. The [Kingdom](#) is advancing. Heavenly Parent is dwelling among his people.

So congratulations! Congratulations! Congratulations on this occasional, beautiful day of remembrance because it is the day of their 66th [Holy Wedding](#) anniversary and the first anniversary of the [entrance into the Cheonil Sanctum, God](#) dwelling among us.

May Heaven continue to guide and strengthen this [providential](#) mission to all through all of you! Thank you for making [Mother’s](#) heart uplifted and joyful today.

Blessings to all. [God](#) bless you.

See also [2,100 Couples in Global Blessing Ceremony](#)

Featured image above: Bishop Nancy Rosario delivering her message in [Gapyeong](#), South Korea on 2nd May 2026. Screenshot from live transmission by PeaceTV

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