

Behind the Scenes at Events Honoring the Memory of True Father

Kathy Rigney
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Special Emissary to Africa



Africa is very far away from everything. Many national leaders have no internet connection, so they have to go to a cyber café; and they don't have much money to spend on that. They may not eat three meals a day. It is a challenge for them to keep abreast of the rest of the movement, especially of Korea and the international headquarters.

Nonetheless, the king of Lesotho attended our World Summit conference in Korea. Lesotho is a small nation, surrounded by South Africa. The country has a very admirable king and queen. The king is a very dignified and educated man who wants to change his nation.

He came to our UPF World Summit because of national leader Darkwell Sakala and his wife. Darkwell is not originally from Lesotho; he was sent there from Zambia ten years ago as a pioneer. They live in a very poor house, eating perhaps just twice a day. They are too poor to send their children to school. They are holding on by the tips of their fingers. Yet they just go out and do outreach work. Somehow, they established and maintained a relationship with the deputy prime minister. They don't have a car to travel to the government offices, so they maintained this friendship from afar. They found a way. They sent me a message. I thought, is this real? We were seeking to invite heads of state. Could this impoverished couple really bring their king to the summit? So I went to Lesotho, and we went to meet the deputy prime minister. He took us immediately to meet the king. The king accepted on the spot to attend the World Summit.

This came about not through an invitation from the UPF International offices, or through the higher leadership in Africa. This came from the efforts of this young, very poor brother and sister. It showed me that when God is working, we can overcome any obstacle. King Letsie III was the star of the World Summit. He spoke very well, with great insight. He met the New Village Movement (*Saemaul*) people. They treated him like a king! He visited Samsung; the company invited him as soon as they heard he was in Korea.

The Korean government also got involved. As he was a visiting head of state, they had to take responsibility for him while he was on Korean soil. They took very good care of him, which saved us greatly in time and expenses.

Naturally, we desire to improve our national leaders' capacity to communicate with the worldwide movement, so they can know what is going on and can guide their nations in the right direction. Yet at the same time, there are stories like this, a miraculous story of a faithful brother and sister, who, despite enormous personal sacrifice and challenge, could bring such a person.

Sometimes we feel our own personal circumstances are overwhelmingly difficult. Sometimes we think our church needs to be better organized or needs to change this or that. Actually, our Heavenly Parent can work in any circumstance -- as he did through this very inexperienced brother. The king and queen of Lesotho, the stars of World Summit 2014, came because of him. When I visited Lesotho, I needed to stay in a hotel because we were going to meet the king and queen. I told Darkwell I wanted to visit their home and see their children. Going from the nice hotel to his home, which was so humble, and meeting his two blessed daughters, made such an impression on me. There are stories out there that our brothers and sisters worldwide need to hear. There are brothers and sisters living in such unimaginable circumstances, yet they come up with this kind of offering.

I believe this story can inspire and encourage members who are also facing difficult circumstances in other ways. Even though we may feel it is not easy to bring results, we need to understand that our Heavenly Parent is ready to work and make such results possible.