

# **Testimony / autobiography of Wouter and Susan van der Stok including Margo (Moes) and Frank van der Stok (Gromoes and Grootvader)**

June 15, 2014

Abbreviated testimony drawn up on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014, in all humbleness and gratefulness, of my life experiences with my beloved Heavenly Parents, True Parents, good ancestors and spirit guides, spiritual and physical parents Frank and Margot van der Stok (testimony incl.), spouse Susan van der Stok – de la Querra and our spiritual and physical children and grandchildren by Wouter van der Stok, born on a Sunday morning 5<sup>th</sup> May 1940 as the second child of five children in the present Djakarta, Indonesia, married on 8<sup>th</sup> August 1964 in Cape Town, South Africa, confirmed by the first Blessing of 35 previously married couples by True Parents on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1976 at Belvedere, New York and sent as part of the first pioneer missionary couple to South Africa by the Dutch Unification Movement's Leaders on behalf of our True Parents on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1970 together with our three physical children.

## **1). My earliest period ("springtime" from 1 to 20 years)**

My earliest recollections of life were strong impressions of water, sound and light (later confirmed by my mother as the visit to a big waterfall when I was about 18 months old) in the area then called Batavia, Dutch East Indies and listening to my mother's voice singing me to sleep at night. While growing up in the turbulent times of World War II, the war only really hit my mother, three years older brother Johan and myself from the end of 1942, when our family was interned in various Japanese concentration camps on the island of Java for the next three years and my father spent three years interned in Japan.

All of us survived miraculously and returned very ill to the Netherlands and lived there in my grandmother's house in Laren from Jan. 1946 till Sept. 1947 when we returned to Indonesia (where my father worked for a shipping line, the KPM) until Jan. 1950. Then we went once again back to Holland, as my elder brother Johan had a very serious accident in Switzerland. From that time on I received my High School education in Holland (Gymnasium B) and finished my subsequent studies at Nijenrode in June 1961. During my High School years my older brother and I lived, from my 14<sup>th</sup> to my 17<sup>th</sup> year, for three years with good friends of my parents, while the rest of our own family, my parents and two younger brothers and one sister, went to Indonesia for three years. For the first time in my life I experienced the taste of living in "paradise" on my parents' and brothers and sister return to Holland in 1957, receiving clear parental and siblings' love. It was a time of very great joy and gratefulness which stayed with me the rest of my life. Looking back with hindsight one might consider the first 3 year period in the concentration camp as preparatory indemnity on the physical level and the second 3 year period in my teenage years as preparatory indemnity on the spiritual/emotional level.

At age 9, when listening to my mother reading every night from the very spiritual book "De kleine Johannes" I developed a longing to one day also become one of the "soldiers" of the army of light. When I was 12 years old, as I noticed that my parents had a very loving marriage and wishing for the same myself, I asked my mother how I would know what girl to marry in the future as there were so many girls, to which she replied that God would show me when the time came and I would then know. During my 17<sup>th</sup> year, having attended the Dutch Protestant Church's teaching for some time, I felt the importance of following more closely Jesus' footsteps but was not clear how to put this into practice. For some time I became a deacon for the youth section of the Church. While following the faith of my parents, I also received guidance from them about the reality of the spirit world and the interest one should have in and respect for other Churches, Religions and Cultures. My father taught us the importance of honesty, to finish whatever we started and not to repeat the same mistake again. While generally being a quiet person during my teenage years who loved to read many books of all kinds, including the Bible, I also experienced the joy of participating in different sports, initially mainly running, field hockey, table tennis and later on in life squash. These have remained with me over the years strengthening both the spiritual and physical sides. Just before finishing my studies, I became interested in living for a few years in South Africa with the aim to then globe trot to South America, Asia and other parts of the world to travel, meet people and different cultures. At that time I started to hear a voice telling me that I would meet my future wife in Cape Town but did not give it too much attention.

## **2). My adult period ("summertime" from 21 to 40 years)**

Through efforts of my father I managed to get a job in a Commercial Bank in Johannesburg where I arrived in August 1961 and stayed for a year with a family of Dutch origin and four sons who really helped me to adjust to living on my own in a foreign country, as I initially missed my family so much. After one year I again was pulled to Cape Town, supposedly the most beautiful city in the world, and started to work there for the local branch of the same Bank. About the third day after my arrival at the Boarding House I stayed in, a nice friendly girl with the name of Susan, who also stayed there with a few other young people, brought me a cup of coffee which gave me the courage to ask her a few weeks later to be my partner to the annual local hockey club dance.

From that day on, for at least about 2 or 3 months, I heard a very clear and strong voice telling me in my head on a daily basis that this girl was to be my future wife and I should not disappoint her. I was convinced that this was Heavenly Parents' way of showing me and I remembered what my mother told me when I was 12 years old. Interestingly enough, after our marriage in 1964, I regularly experienced so many countless times over the years, that whenever I saw a nice looking girl (whether in Africa, Europe,

America or Asia) and even though there were no bad thoughts involved from my side, a picture/photo of my loving wife appeared before my eyes, smiling with head held slightly to the one side, on a bridge across one of Amsterdam's canals, taken originally during our first visit there in 1963. I still treasure this spiritual phenomenon with deep gratefulness!

Now looking back on our lives and the extraordinary road we took, I can more readily understand why my Heavenly Parents chose this very special person to be my beloved spouse, the love of my life. The next few years we were very happy as our family grew, first with our daughter, Wanda, in 1965, then with our son Frank in 1967 and finally in 1968 with our daughter Sanet. During those years my knowledge of business, finance and economics increased as did my interest in various spiritual roads – later on I thought that this was perhaps to prepare me for what I would meet in 1970.

After I returned to South Africa with my fiancé in 1963 from a visit to my parents in Holland, having introduced her to my family there, my older brother Johan left for the USA where he eventually met the Unification Movement and really joined in the Washington Center in Dec. 1965. He subsequently went back to Holland around 1967 and witnessed and gave Divine Principle lectures to our parents, brothers and sister in Holland, who also agreed with the spirit and aims of the lectures. After my wife and I arrived with our three children, aged 5, 3 and 1 year, from South Africa on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1970 in Holland for a three months holiday, we both heard the full 12 chapters of the Divine Principle lectures (as the last of our family) in 7 evenings in Dutch, which was very understandable for me but not so much for my wife Susan, being used to the Afrikaans and English language. Already after hearing the third chapter, the Mission of Jesus, I realized the Mission of our True Parents but afterwards, especially through the History of Restoration, everything became even clearer and each night I almost could not sleep, realizing that here, for the first time in my life, almost all questions I ever had were answered and placed on the table like a spread out deck of cards. Excitement and enthusiasm bubbled up in me and a wish to bring this message to South Africa -- I felt great support from spirit world. Later I was told by my mother that, some months previously, she experienced such terrible migraines for over six weeks, that at the time she almost wished to die. Seeing my quick understanding and full acceptance of the Divine Principle in such a short time made her think that her previous suffering was perhaps some indemnity for this. The next two years our whole family of seven persons was directly involved in the Unification Church.

It was only much later that I understood some of the significance of the indemnity paid/support given by our ancestors. (Note: in 1998 during the 40 day workshop at Jardim, Brazil, True Father said that all of us present were only there because of the support of our ancestors). We received that encouragement afterwards throughout our mission period and beyond, often with a feeling that we did not deserve it (almost like being "thieves"). From that time on a multitude of beautiful, encouraging dreams started to guide us our whole lives. The following is a brief resume, like a diary, of our missionary activities, originally drawn up as a report to our True Parents via the local Regional Director at the time, John Brady on 12.3.1982.

**Brief resume of the history of the Unification Church in South Africa as noted by Wouter and Susan van der Stok on 12<sup>th</sup> March 1982.**

Arrival from South Africa in Holland by Wouter and Susan van der Stok and 3 children, Wanda 5 years, Frank 3 years and Sanet 1 year old for a 77 day holiday visit to Wouter's physical family.

7.5.1970 start of teaching the Divine Principle by Wouter's physical parents to Wouter and Susan; continued each evening for 7 evenings.

13.5.1970 Conclusion heard and accepted. We were very excited and eager to learn more. During the next 10 weeks most of the time was spent in studying the Divine Principle and Master Speaks series and visiting and staying in Centers in Essen, Germany, London and Amsterdam and Utrecht, Holland. As preparation for the coming mission in South Africa Wouter fasted three times for a period of four days each. Tests written by both on the Divine Principle knowledge in Amsterdam and were passed successfully.

19.7.1970 official appointment by the Leaders of the Dutch Family, Teddy and Pauline Verheyen, at a meeting of the whole Dutch Family, of Wouter and Susan as missionaries to South Africa.

21.7.1970 Wouter and Susan and family departed from Holland to South Africa.

22.7.1970 we arrived in Johannesburg, South Africa's biggest city feeling lonesome, being the only ones knowing Divine Principle in South Africa, Africa and the whole southern hemisphere at that time, but also a great challenge.

24.7.1970 arrived by train in Cape Town. The South African mission was started by Wouter immediately setting out that same afternoon to climb Table Mountain (having fasted 24 hours and no drinking) to say a special prayer on top. As a condition and encouragement for people to ask questions our Church's lapel symbol was worn constantly, even at work. A further condition was one week to fast one day and the next week 3 days, continuing 88 weeks. Teaching of Divine Principle to Susan's relatives and friends started straight away. For the first 3 months accommodation was poor, living with the five of us in one room with Susan's parents. Start made immediately to translate Divine Principle from Dutch and English into the Afrikaans language. My sister Gieta helped a lot in this connection from Holland.

29.7.1970 visit to minister of Dutch-Reformed Church (very strong in South Africa), well known in South Africa, to explain about Divine Principle – felt he was possibly in a John the Baptist position. He promised to read the Divine Principle

exactly 40 days after our arrival in Cape Town Susan's 14-year old youngest brother Johan heard all Divine Principle and the Conclusion and accepted. Wants to study more, started also one day fasts and is getting up at 05.00 a.m. in the morning with Wouter. Translation of full Divine Principle into Afrikaans is finished. Sent to the Dutch Family to assist with typing on stencil for future multiplication on duplicating machine. Money sent to Dutch Family to help in raising funds to send four Dutch members to 777 couples blessing in Korea. Starting to translate some of the Master Speaks series into the Afrikaans language.

15.9.1970 motorcar bought with Bank loan finally arrived 40 days after being ordered (car was sent to the wrong city!), should be a great help in the work for God. More people are studying the Divine Principle

9.10.1970 exactly 77 days after our arrival in Cape Town, after much searching and many setbacks finally found a good house to serve as our first Center in Bellville.

21.10.'70 after 40 days of problems finally managed to purchase secondhand stencil duplication machine to print Divine Principle books, witnessing pamphlets, etc.

2.11.1970 moved into the first center, where we are now free to invite people for lectures and to advertise from. The Dutch Family helped us initially typing the stencils and printing the first 20 copies of each Divine Principle chapter. Big sign placed in the front window to invite guests, lighted during the night. Press releases handed for the first time to the local newspapers. In line with the examples set by the Dutch and other European families, we are making our Church known as the "Unified Family". The first member found in South Africa, Susan's youngest brother Johan de la Querra, moved into the Center together with us.

17.11.'70 more people came for lectures to the Center. The first 5000 pamphlets have been printed, inviting people to our Center, on our own duplicating machine, in both official languages, English and Afrikaans..

22.11.'70 Wouter and Johan handed for the first time pamphlets out in Cape Town's main street, Adderley Street. Regular weekly reports are being sent to Teddy and Pauline Verheyen in Holland and much encouragement is received from Pauline's letters.

15.12.'70 after giving out pamphlets for seven nights in a Cape Town that is full of Christmas lights (thousands of people are flocking there to watch them), we had the first small response of someone who 'phoned to enquire and wanted to come and listen with his brother. Apart from handing out handbills we also started to put up hardboard notices in white with True Father's red symbol and "Unified Family" underneath, nailed high up against trees and lampposts all over the Cape Peninsula so thousands of people will see the sign and name and recognize these when they receive a pamphlet. Forty copies received from the Dutch family of the twelve 1965 Masters Speeches.

30.12.'70 over 30 notice boards have been put up now and about 12.000 pamphlets have been handed to people, placed in post boxes, under the windscreen wipers of cars, etc. and we noticed that the Unified Family is already becoming known. Twice we, that is Johan and I, delivered pamphlets also till early in the morning: once till 03.00 a.m. and on Christmas eve until 02.00 a.m. the next morning. From 8<sup>th</sup> December we have been handing out pamphlets each night.

13.1.1971 first report sent to Mrs. Won Pok Choi in Seoul, Korea with photos. Last week three new people came to the lectures in response to the handbills handed out and two days ago five people.

21.1.1971 another 2 new people came last week Friday, 2 again on Monday and yesterday 2 in the afternoon and 4 in the evening. Susan had to give the first chapter in the kitchen while Wouter was giving chapter 2 and 3, the Fall of Man and the Mission of the Messiah in the lounge.

Another two persons have now heard all the Divine Principle and the Conclusion. Since our arrival in South Africa over 30 people have come for lectures. While delivering pamphlets last night a dog rushed out and Wouter was bitten. This has probably happened to many other members and may still happen many times in the future: small indemnity payment.

21.2.1971 letters were received from the Theosophical Society and the "Citadel of Truth and Beauty" asking for more information about our Church. Susan and Johan joined Wouter in one of his 3 day fasts.

about 35.000 pamphlets have been handed out since we started our campaign on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1970. Only two new ladies came to listen to Divine Principle, one is spiritually gifted.

15.4.1971 another 3 people have now heard up to the Conclusion but unfortunately, on Good Friday, Johan left our Center at his own request to go and stay with his parents again. He is still very young (15 years) and going to school. As a condition started to climb Table Mountain (Wouter) each Sunday

morning, altogether 7 times, even on those days where it would mean climbing on the third day of fasting, praying on top. Different kind of handbills were now handed out. Letter received of encouragement from a Christian Science Church follower.

last week a person came to the lectures clearly guided by spirit world, as he is open spiritually and all the time saw someone guiding him to us. The English chapters are now also being put onto stencil for eventual use on the duplicating machine, as we found that people like to receive the individual lectures after listening to them. Through Mrs. Choi asked if True Parents might possibly want to visit South Africa.

6.6.1971 report sent to the Dutch Country Leader giving our annual report for the European Conference to be held in Austria end June 1971. Lectures have been given to about 50 people so far since we came to Cape Town with Divine Principle, 70.000 handbills have been handed out and 40 hardboard notices put up all over town with the Unified Family name and emblem. Eight persons have now heard Conclusion.

3.7.1971 about 450 English and Afrikaans letters have been sent with chapter I, the Principles of Creation, to all Ministers and Members of Parliament as well as all ministers of religions and Archbishops, etc. The little response received was generally friendly to neutral. We are switching tactics now: instead of mainly handing out pamphlets, more time is spent on direct witnessing, visiting meetings and also witnessing on the university campus.

19.9.'71 placing regularly small adverts in the newspapers to invite people to our public lectures. Some of our pamphlets have been translated into the Xhosa language. Started now also in the evenings to go door to door to hand people Chapter I for reading and paying 20 cents, as we felt that maybe if some money is given it may encourage people to read them. Since early August about 360 have been taken. Eight day fast was started by Wouter to find new members, Wanda and Susan had operations in hospital. For the first time two African (Black) persons came for lectures.

24.10.'71 We put the two smallest children, Frank and Sanet in a creche during the mornings, when the eldest Wanda is going to school, so Susan can then go out for witnessing, etc. Visited an Anglican priest several times and told him about Divine Principle and left him reading material during his over 60 days fast for justice in South Africa. He also wants to unite the religions.

14.11.'71 Many adverts placed in the newspapers again and we now rented a room in the center of Cape Town to make it easier for people to come to the lectures during lunchtimes and after work.

5.12.'71 A university student has heard the Conclusion and accepted and moved into the Center. Translation of the Divine Principle into Xhosa (African) language has been started by an elderly minister. Regular articles have been sent to "The Way of the World" and "The Weekly Religion" in Korea. Chapter I, Principles of Creation, has been printed in Xhosa and handed out via a contact at the Bank Wouter works for (100 items).

25.12.'71 Heard from the Dutch Family that True Father and True Mother have left Korea and are at present in the USA, while a visit to Europe is at hand, to which Wouter and Susan will also be invited. Getting up from now on at five o'clock every morning until we leave Cape Town for this great event to pray for True Parents' worldwide trip. A 65 year old lady with spiritual healing gift is studying Divine Principle

16.1.'72 The Divine Principle has now been completely translated into the Xhosa language and we are busy printing them. Johan, Susan's youngest brother, wants to move back into the Center again and Shannon (the university student) is giving his first lectures and finished his first 3 day fast. Last Monday seven Colored people came for lectures to the little room in town.

5.2.1972 Shannon has unfortunately left the Center. His father is a Methodist minister and strongly influenced him, but he is still coming regularly for lectures. Tried again to obtain an import permit to import the air guns for hunting from Korea, but unsuccessful so far as we must be a company and there is not enough finance as yet to establish this. Trying to register our Church's emblem/symbol with the State Heraldicus. We would like to start a small shop and do import/export business.

17.2.'72 The Leaders of the Dutch family asked Wouter and Susan to come to Holland about mid-March '72 as our True Parents will be visiting Europe around end March. The necessary travel and financial arrangements have been made with the Bank. Obtained one month leave from work and found homes for the 3 children who will stay behind. A brief article was sent to Korea about the possible role of finance in the New World. Wrote to the British Family's Leaders to thank them for their monthly publication which we regularly receive. Heard the news that True Father will be speaking publicly in London on 20<sup>th</sup> March 1972 and thereafter in Essen, Germany!

14.3.'72 Arrived via Luxemburg back in Holland for a one month stay. Had the great privilege to see our True Parents for the first time in Essen, before and during Father's public speeches in Essen, Germany and afterwards during their brief stay in Amsterdam. Listened to lectures on Divine Principle given by Rev. Young Whi Kim and met many old and new brothers and sisters. We witnessed both in Germany and in Holland and learned many new things.

30.4.'72 Susan finished her first seven day fast. After our return to South Africa all three children became ill. We received many enquiries to our many pamphlets which were distributed, also from some New Age groups. Finally, after about 18 months, managed to sell a plot of vacant land which we owned. Bought a new duplicating machine as the old one could not be repaired any more as it did some very heavy duty.

7.5.'72 Johan, Susan's brother, moved into the Center again and is working hard. Advert placed in the Sunday times for the Writers' Contest about the Mission of Jesus. Some responses received. We also sent out circulars direct to various writers. Hundreds of stickers (small ones) put up all over Cape Town to advertise our lectures. A Railway Police Constable came to see us as we were not allowed to stick these on the station but after explaining, it was alright. We gave him part of Chapter I on the blackboard. The two smallest children are going to a crèche again and Susan is witnessing in the mornings.

30.5.'72 Johan is studying regularly with us and giving many "trial" lectures and also joined Wouter in witnessing trips to the University of Cape Town. Some students came for lectures and also Susan's oldest brother. Printed about 1.000 chapters II and III in English and Afrikaans. Put up many stenciled invitations on the university campus. Many more enquiries received from all over the country in connection with the International Writers' Contest.

18.6.'72 Wouter, Susan and Johan are each fasting 7 days for new members to come in. Johan is now much stronger than before. We are continuing with our witnessing activities, especially amongst the students.

16.7.'72 We had 500 big posters printed with our Church's symbol, name and address and "A New Way of Living for a New Age", putting them up in strategic places to invite people to the lectures.

2.8.'72 Sent the Introduction and Chapter I, Principle of Creation, which we had translated into Russian and printed 10 copies, to the Dutch Family's Leaders, after a lot of delay. We are very sorry that Johan left us again. At Father's request we are selling, apart from the loose Chapters, also the full Divine Principle books. Copies of the Russian translation (done by a local expert) have been sent to Korea. Sent the money received from the sale of the plot of land to the Dutch Family to assist them financially.

2.9.'72 Finally, after trying for a year, sold the house in Bellville as we feel that, by moving to Cape Town it may be easier for people to reach us for lectures. The profit on the sale is to be sent to the Dutch Family at their suggestion as they have very heavy expenses at present having bought the big Center at Bergenaan-Zee. Still sending the full Divine Principle book out to many persons on a "library" basis. Some good comments received. Trying to get invited to the University of Cape Town to give talks there – continuing our witnessing campaign there.

1.10.'72 Susan and Wouter finished a 7 day fast again to speed up the finding of a spiritual child. Getting up at 04.00 a.m. in the morning to say pledge and pray. A young South Korean captain of a fishing vessel was brought to us by Susan's oldest brother. Gave him the Divine Principle book to study. I visited various meetings of the local "Jesus people".

2.11.'72 Chapters II, III and IV translated into Russian and printed – 12 copies sent to Holland. New Center found in Cape Town itself. As Wouter's present employer, Nedbank, was not prepared to give a 100% house loan for an "old" house, had to change employment after 11 years to Trust Bank, who are willing to assist. Handing out many new Introductions to students just before they finish their studies by the end of this month.

10.12.'72 We finally moved to an old house about 15 minutes' walk from the center of town.

A lot of restoration work has still to be done such as plumbing, painting, building, carpentry and electrical work. We hope to have the Center ready for God's Day 1973. All 3 children had the measles just before we moved. Did twice 3 days and once seven days "liquid" fasts.

17.1.'73 Started to go out again in the evenings door-to-door with pamphlets and chapters. Since the beginning of this month I started a new job. The two oldest children are going to school again after the holidays and Sanet is going to a crèche so Susan can go out in the mornings.

16.2.'73 some new pamphlets were printed and handed out. Sent the money from the sale of the previous house to the Dutch Family. Still wearing our Church's symbol at work and wherever we go. Started to advertise and invite people for correspondence courses, had some enquiries. Put up many of the big posters with our new address all over town and drove with our car, stuck full of posters, on Saturday morning through the town making a lot of hooting noise as part of our advertising campaign.

25.3.'73 wrote to the University of Cape Town enclosing the Introduction and Chapter I, asking if we could give lectures for the Department of Extra-mural Studies, especially as regards Comparative Religions. Our request will be submitted to the Board but this year's courses are already full.

7.4.'73 our duplicating machine has done excellent service and thousands of pamphlets were printed and handed out, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> chapters sold and given away and many stickers and posters put up at regular intervals. As the city is very quiet in the evenings, we mainly go to the University residences, flats and houses. Notwithstanding this, the attendance to our lectures has been poor lately.

13.5.'73 received invitation from the Dutch Family for Susan to come over to Holland for training. As the 3 children are too small to be accepted in a Boarding School, they will after school go to a crèche while Wouter continues working. Starting to save for Susan's trip.

3.8.'73 Susan leaving for Holland on her own for training. After completion of 40 day period asked her to come back again because of problems. Moes (Wouter's physical and spiritual mother) came back with her to assist in the dispensation of Heavenly Father in South Africa. This 40 day period was the most difficult one of my life – heaviest spiritual/emotional indemnity since we started 3 years ago.

26.10.'73 more people are coming to the lectures and studying than before. A middle aged couple heard up to the Conclusion and is coming over regularly.

1.12.'73 Wouter resigned from work in the Bank to work full time to look for spiritual children. We started to print brief booklets, mainly a brief version of chapter I, for which we receive donations of 20 cents each. Started to go on the streets with these where we previously mainly went door to door (about 6000 chapters sold so far). Sometimes Susan is joining Wouter, but most of the time Moes is.

21.1.'74 the "selling" of the booklets is going very well, a few thousand so far. We are not handing out the mass production numbers of pamphlets anymore. A young Colored brother was found, Patrick Norton, who is coming regularly. By far the majority of booklets are taken by Colored people. Although since the beginning of our missionary work in South Africa our church was made known as "The Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity", "Unified Family" for short on the pamphlets, since our return in April 1972 we followed the overseas Families and made our church's shortened name known as "Unification Church".

14.2.'74 after helping us for five months with the Dispensation in South Africa, Moes returned to Holland. Both she and Wouter's physical and spiritual father in Holland paid much indemnity (he was told by True Father on one occasion that he had paid enough) during that period of separation (my father stayed behind in Holland to continue to look after Evelien, another member's little daughter) and we are very grateful to them! As True Father asked in Europe that all foreign missionaries go to Belvedere, New York for training, Teddy Verheyen from Holland invited Wouter to go too.

21.2.'74 Wouter leaving for training in New York, while Susan is staying behind with the three children. Money for the trip had to be borrowed. Very difficult training course – minimum percentage to pass two Divine Principle tests is 80%. After passing, followed by a 3 weeks fundraising test, making on average net US\$80 per day for each week, but the final week the goal was changed to every day not less than US\$80. Conditions were successfully finished on 24.4.1974. Was very privileged to meet True Parents several times during the stay at Belvedere, once spoken to directly by True Father: "where is our missionary from Africa?" when he asked me questions during a meeting of all participants outside with True Father standing on "Father's Rock". Assisted for 3 days with restoration (physical work: painting walls) of part of Barrytown Center, which was then just coming into our Church's possession.

The final test, namely finding 3 spiritual children in 30 days, was permitted to be Completed in the foreign country concerned (in Wouter's case South Africa – this was only successfully completed in Dec. 1975). At Belvedere Wouter met his physical older brother (and spiritual grandfather) Johan again after 2 years, who as missionary to Indonesia also came for training. I missed my physical family very much but, because of all the activities, not as badly as during Susan's previous 40 day training period in Holland.

2.5.'74 after 70 days absence arrived back in Cape Town again. Following inspirations received, it was decided that for a third separation period condition the three children, Wanda, Frank and Sanet would go to Holland to stay with their grandparents from mid-May 1974 to early Jan. 1975 to enable Wouter and Susan to devote more time to witnessing, etc. which can now be done on a full time basis. As income was very low, decided to move from the existing rented premises to cheaper accommodation in a suburb nearby, Gardens, where through a miracle we received the possibility to rent a small house for R55 - per month, but still centrally situated.

30.6.'74 after receiving written notification that Mr. David S.C. Kim of Belvedere, Tarry Town is now responsible for all overseas missionaries, sent him our first report. Susan went back to work to help Wouter continue with his full time missionary work while also some small income came from the "sale" of Divine Principle booklets. Started to sell ginseng tea on a very modest scale, mainly to shops. Visiting professors at the universities and lending Unification Thought and Divine Principle Study Guides. Two new persons are now studying Divine Principle

31.7.'74 Following the USA example, we now use more and more the name One World Crusade. Approached the various newspapers again and continued to witness, lecture and fundraise by way of the booklets.

31.8.'74 Wrote to all the schools in the greater Cape Town area, sending some of our church's literature, asking for opportunities to give lectures. We felt very strongly that it would be good if also a representative from South Africa could help for the big meeting on 18.9.1974 at Madison Square Garden. Discussed the matter deeply with Johan de la Querra, Susan's youngest brother who already felt moved for quite some time to come back to the Family again. It was finally agreed that he could go in early

September until end October, also for training at Belvedere, and thereafter for 2 months training with the Dutch Family to become stronger. Johan gave some financial assistance from his own funds to help pay for the trip. We are now regularly getting Colored people coming to the lectures.

2.10.'74 Wouter had to start work in the Bank again after an absence of 10 months working full time for the Church, as the financial situation is getting very difficult with the cost of overseas travel for the 3 children to Holland, Johan to the USA and also for possible new members whom we publicly invited to be trained overseas after hearing and accepting Divine Principle and briefly working with us.

31.10.'74 our new activities resulted in 2 new Colored sisters joining us who are however unable to live in the Center but actively working outside on the streets, one full time (Rosalind Oliphant), witnessing and "selling" booklets and handing out pamphlets inviting people to the lectures.

30.11.'74 the first substantial Ginseng Tea consignment, fully paid for, arrived in Cape Town. One Colored sister, Rosalind Oliphant, will leave on 17.12.1974 for Holland for a few months' training amongst the Dutch Family. Various new persons, mainly Colored, are coming to study, while Patrick Norton, who first came in January this year, is still coming to us very regularly.

30.12.'74 Johan de la Querra came back after 2 months' training at Belvedere, helping with Madison Square Garden and doing the 7 day fast at the United Nations, and 2 months with the Dutch Family, bringing back our 3 physical children from Holland after their stay there for 7.5 months. Unfortunately, Johan only stayed with us for about 3 days after coming back.

31.3.'75 the Ginseng Tea business is slowly developing but at this stage still mainly to various shops and department stores. Built up a good relationship with a professor in Theology at the University of the Western Cape, who came once to our Center with 5 students. Rosalind is staying longer with the Dutch Family to get more experience.

30.4.'75 about 3 days ago the new missionary from Germany, Mechthild Mathias arrived in Cape Town as the first of the three missionaries from the USA, Germany and Japan. We moved to a new Center in Vredehoek, Cape Town which gives much better accommodation and can only be afforded by us because of generous Bank assistance with the Bond repayments. This new Center is also centrally situated in Cape Town and easy to find for guests.

4.5.'75 Rosalind arrived back in Cape Town after more than 4 months training with the Dutch Family and moved into our Center to work full time as Church member.

15.5 '75 John Brady, the new missionary from the USA arrived in Cape Town and after only a few days both he and Mechthild left for the Johannesburg area to start their mission there. During Mechthild's 14 days' stay in Cape Town she found a French nurse, Josi Ambrosini who has since heard the Conclusion.

7.6.'75 letter received from the Japanese missionary, Kazuo Yokoi – since replied to. Assisted to obtain his visa for South Africa. Rosalind is quite regularly bringing guests (mainly Colored persons) for lectures. John and Mechthild have now found a base in Pretoria, starting with VOC work. Sent 5 VOC books at their request.

2.7.'75 we met the Japanese missionary to South Africa, Kazuo Yokoi and the Japanese missionary to Botswana, Seiichi Mizawa. It is good to see how Father is now working on a world wide scale to bring the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth, through so many good missionaries, going to strange and foreign countries.

8.8.'75 assisted Mechthild and John with visa forms. Unfortunately Yokoi-san had to leave South Africa again because of visa problems. Since a few months now we have been using a yellow VW kombi with the words One World Crusade printed on the sides in black for all our Church work and it is giving excellent service. Lately started to show different Christian religious movies to various groups when we also give a brief talk about our work and aims. We have had audiences from between 40 to 100 people and received some good responses.

15.9.'75 first Ginseng Tea shop was opened in Cape Town called "The House of Ginseng" which will be managed by Susan. From 25.8.'75 we have been giving public lectures at a hall in Heideveld every Monday night, also showing a good movie occasionally. Three missionaries arrived, Fritz from Botswana and Gail and Hanna from Malawi, who had some problems and will for the time being stay with us.

29.9.'75 letter of support for the Austrian Family sent to Austria's president at Father's request. Reply was received dated 11.11.1975. As part of our public lecture/advertising campaign gave a brief talk and showed the movie "The Ten Commandments" recently in a hall at the Colored community to which over 500 people came.

11.11.'75 Gail and Fritz and Hanna left Cape Town again. We are still continuing with our weekly meetings in Heideveld apart from the other activities.

26.11.'75 Dawn Golding arrived unexpectedly in Cape Town from working with the New Hope Singers in Japan. She joined our Church in 1970. Received a movie from the British Family's Leaders about their

various activities which we can use very well for our members. Many persons are coming to study now. Johan de la Querra moved into the Center again yesterday.

2.1.1976 last month Patrick Norton and Gerald Chong moved into the Center and we closed off 6 months of showing religious movies and giving lectures at a small Heideveld hall. God's Day was celebrated with our brothers and sisters from Pretoria who came all the way down. Dawn Golding left with them to work in Pretoria. Johannes Erasmus moved into the Center. Many persons are coming for Divine Principle lectures, mainly Colored people.

31.3.'76 Mr. Song, Itinerary Worker for Africa came to visit us with brothers and sisters from Pretoria. The Constitution of HSA-UWC was signed on 8.2.1976. Wilhelmina Claasen joined our Church.

5.4.1976 first public fundraising action was undertaken which during the following weeks was greatly extended and intensified with good success, in the Cape Town area. The Constitution of One World Crusade was signed, in which name we do fundraising and operate to the outside world.

15.9.'76 a good training and living Center has been found and purchased in a Colored area for our Colored brothers and sisters. The members are working very hard in restoring the Center both inside and outside: it has about 12 rooms. Apart from 6 full time Colored members, we now also have a full time black member living and working with us. The fundraising action continues to bring good fruits, necessary to save the deposit to pay for the new Center.

15.12.'76 Our member Patrick Norton had some trouble fundraising in a legal respect and we had to pay a R40 fine to the Court. The membership of the Cape Town Family now consists of 6 A-members, 2 B-members and 10 C-members.

22.12.'76 our True Parents gave Blessing in Belvedere, New York to 35 (previously married) couples, including Wouter's physical and spiritual parents Frank and Margot van der Stok and Wouter and Susan van der Stok.

20.1.'77 during end October and now again the same sister was attacked – advice asked from N.Y. Headquarters. Four new Colored sisters want to move in.

5.4.1977 exactly a year after we officially started fundraising, we finally received a building society mortgage bond (after having tried six others for many weeks) for the Wynberg Center.

30.4.'77 for the first time we went with a blackboard to a big public place, the Parade, to give an early morning lecture on Chapter I. The response was reasonable. The International Federation for V.O.C. has been registered with the attorneys on 8.12.'76.

3.10.1977 finally, after over a year of hard work and efforts from all members, the Wynberg Center was finally officially registered in the name of our Church as its first major property. Although many guests came regularly, also over the weekends, we still have only 8 full time members in the Centers. The fundraising activities are being switched from door to door more to street fundraising with very good results. Our aim is to build up at least three Centers in Cape Town, for White, Brown and Black members because of our special situation here.

7.12.1977 different forms of fundraising have been tried with some success: more direct selling to various shops and department stores, etc. of special granariums (thanks to the knowledge passed on to us by our Johannesburg brothers) and hessian dolls, made by our members.

31.1.'78 after our special 40 day witnessing and praying condition quite a few good persons came and some have since joined. Good contacts are usually followed up by personal visits from one or more of our full time church members to their homes where after they are brought to the Center for lectures and fellowship. We are trying to overcome racial prejudice by bringing God's word and doing many projects together such as lectures, meals, sports, fundraising, etc. Although we have two Centers in different residential areas (one in a White and one in a Colored area), we have a combined supper each night and at weekends with sometimes over 30 people and combined study meetings and fellowship. This system has worked quite well under Heavenly Father's protection.

10.2.'78 Wouter joined in a three day meeting given by Lady Dr. S.W. Kim at our Johannesburg Family's Center.

6.4.1978 Gerty Saul left for a 40 day training period in New York. Our present situation is 12 Center members, 5 home members and 50 associated members. This month 32 new people came to the lectures. We often have to teach in 3 or 4 different rooms in 2 and occasionally 3 different languages. An important decision has been made by the Government that churches may hold inter-racial religious meetings at Church buildings or members' homes. The income from the shop The House of Ginseng is very little compared to the members' monthly fundraising actions.

30.4.'78 during April over 30 new persons came to the lectures resulting in 8 new home members who all heard the Divine Principle Conclusion, with 3 very positive. Susan van der Stok is expecting a baby in November 1978, which will be the first blessed child in South Africa. However she had some physical



trouble before and 2 days ago had a serious setback and lost a lot of blood, but the baby is safe, for which we are of course very thankful. She is still in hospital.

10.5.'78 Wouter and Susan and 3 children moved to Johannesburg with two members Wilhelmina and Catherine due to a change in work conditions. Gerty Saul is now the Center leader in Wynberg.

**The following testimony was sent to Rev. J.W. Kwak in New York via South Africa's Central Figure, John Brady in Johannesburg as asked by our True Father dated 8<sup>th</sup> January 1979.**

### **1). Myself and the past**

I was born on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1940 at Djakarta, Indonesia and lived there till 1945. For 3 years, from 1942 to 1945, my mother and three years older brother, Johan lived there in various concentration camps under the Japanese during World War II. In 1945 our family, seriously ill, went back to Holland where we stayed with my grandmother and where I went to school till 1947, when we moved back to Indonesia again.

When I was 10 years old, my older brother had a very serious accident in Switzerland and our whole family, except my father who had to remain behind for his work, returned to Holland, where I continued my studies till my 21<sup>st</sup> year, when I emigrated in 1961 to Johannesburg, South Africa.

There was another period of 3 years, from my 14<sup>th</sup> to my 17<sup>th</sup> year, when my parents and brothers and sister returned to Indonesia, except my older brother Johan and I, who stayed in Holland to continue our studies while we lived with another family. Emotionally and spiritually this was a difficult time for me, missing the love, support and guidance from my parents very much, as we always were and still are a close family. However, on the return of my parents to Holland in 1957 I really felt for the first time the great difference as between Hell and the Kingdom of Heaven, because of this tremendous love, joy and happiness I experienced of living with my parents again.

Although our religious upbringing was Christian (Protestant), my parents were open minded and we learned many things about spirit world and other ways of life, also through reading many books on many different subjects. After one year working for a Bank in Johannesburg, I asked for a transfer to Cape Town as I would like to see more of South Africa but also because I had a strange feeling, actually already from the time just before I left Holland, that I would meet my future wife in Cape Town. When I was much younger, I asked my mother once hoe I would know which girl would be the right one for me to marry, because I had seen how happy my parents were and it was very important for me to find the right partner and happiness, but there were so many girls in the world. My mother's reply was that God would show me.

This is what I strongly felt happened when, within a few days of my arrival in Cape Town in 1962, I met my wife Susan, a South African girl. The next few months there was a constantly strong voice inside me telling me not to disappoint this girl, although she was 3 years older than I. In 1963 I took Susan with me to Holland to meet my parents, and we were married in Cape Town in 1964. Until May 1970, when we heard the Divine Principle for the first time, we had a normal, happy family life and 3 children were born, Wanda (daughter), Frank (son) and Sanet (daughter). But all the time, from the age of about 16 years, I felt the urge to follow and live like Jesus lived, bit didn't know how to put this into practice from day to day.

On 5<sup>th</sup> May 1970, my 30<sup>th</sup> physical birthday, our small family arrived back in Holland from South Africa for a 3 months' period of long leave. On the third day, 7<sup>th</sup> May, my physical parents started to teach us the Divine Principle in the evenings and we heard everything in about 7 nights. Although chapter I and II were interesting, it was chapter III, the Mission of Jesus that really opened my eyes and gave me the answers to so many questions. The History of Restoration made me feel so excited, because here was the key to mankind's struggles and the history between God and man! After hearing the mission of Jesus I already felt and started to ask questions if Mr. Sun Myung Moon wasn't perhaps the Lord of the Second Advent. Because of the indemnity paid by my ancestors and physical family (my older brother Johan, who accepted True Parents Dec. '65 in the USA, fasted for 12 days for his physical family and my mother had severe migraines for a about 6 weeks long before we came), I could accept True Parents immediately and at that time our whole van der Stok physical family, consisting of my parents, four sons and a daughter, had already accepted the Conclusion.

After 77 days and much studying, Holland's Country Leaders at that time, Teddy and Pauline Verheyen, sent Susan and me with our 3 children (aged one and a half, three and five years old) back to Cape Town to start as pioneer missionaries in Africa, especially South Africa. Initially the members who came did not stay very long (7 months was the longest period), and only after 1974/'75 was a stronger core finally built up in Cape Town of only Colored members.

In 1972 Susan and I went for a 6 week training period to Holland (the children stayed behind), where after we had the great honor and blessing to meet our True Parents for the first time in Essen, Germany and afterwards again in Amsterdam. My first impression of True Father was of a tremendous force of (will) power but also great sadness and love. During August/September 1973 Susan went again for a 40 day training period to Holland, while I stayed behind with the 3 children and in February 1974 I myself went to Belvedere, Tarrytown for a 70 day training, where I passed the Divine Principle test and 3 weeks

fundraising test. On my return to South Africa in May '74, we sent our 3 children to stay for seven and a half months with my physical parents in Holland to give us more time for church work, which I did then for 10 months full time, having left my job at the Bank.

After 30.4.1975 the 3 missionaries came from America, Japan and Germany and started to work in Pretoria and Johannesburg, about 1300 km. to the north east of Cape Town. After Mr. Song's visit end March '76, we started public fundraising, but before that, on 8<sup>th</sup> February '76 the HAS-UWC was officially established. In Sept. '76 the first Church property was bought at Wynberg, about 20 k. from Cape Town, as a residence and Center for our Colored members. On 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec. 76 Susan and I were happy to be blessed, together with 34 other couples (including my physical parents) by our True Parents at Belvedere.

The work in Cape Town showed thereafter a slow but steady growth, while the number and quality of the members increased until, at our departure from Cape Town in May 1978, there were about 12 members living in the Center and over 30 B and C members. We were very sorry to leave our mission there, as there were many plans, but in the past Heavenly Father, True Parents and the brothers and sisters have taught Susan and me many valuable lessons for which we are very, very grateful and also for the opportunity we had of being of some use in the great plan of man's restoration.

## **2). Myself and the present**

In June '78, after we came to Johannesburg, we heard about the new missions our True Parents had allocated to the 3 missionaries and us, with John Brady as Central Figure and us as spiritual advisers. It took us some time to adjust to the new situation, as the 2 members who came with us from Cape Town had to go back (after a successful 40 days with us) and we were not allowed to continue building up another Center with members. We were very unhappy, as we wished to give so much but could not, and because we were used to an active center life. However, we felt that, by giving everything (physically and spiritually) we should become more united with John as Central Figure, while we also waited for our first blessed child to be born on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1978, who was really a miracle baby, as Susan almost lost her twice. We were overjoyed to receive her from Heavenly Father and also very happy with the beautiful name, Hanna Han, which Rev. Kwak gave her. In Dec. '78 we discussed with John Brady how we could be more effectively used, apart from giving advice, in God's providence and we are awaiting the outcome.

## **3). Myself and the future**

If it is Heavenly Father's Will, we would like to continue to work in South Africa and preferably in Cape Town, which is a more spiritual city than Johannesburg and where our house in Vredehoek is also situated near the center of the city, only 20 minutes' walk for people to come to the lectures. We could then possibly send the new members eventually on to the Centers in Johannesburg or Wynberg. In other words, we would very much like to become more involved and have the chance to do more for God's providence.

## **4). My physical family and home church and myself**

The relationship with my physical family has already been mentioned under point no. 1) above. Although our whole family worked for God's providence from 1970 to 1972, my younger brother Erik-Jan fell away in August '72. We are still praying for him, but he got married in Dec. '77 and has a baby daughter. His relationship to all our family members is good, he reads the Dutch Family's monthly magazine regularly and by way of visits and discussions we still try to bring his family back. My older brother Johan was blessed with Elke Klawiter in 1969 in Essen, my sister Gieta was blessed with Chris Olson in February '75, my physical parents and we in Dec. '76 while my youngest brother Frank hopes to join the coming blessing.

I visited Holland for 3 weeks in November '78 and, as my physical parents are getting older (68 years), we asked John Brady if they could perhaps come to live with us in Cape Town, so they would not have to live on their own or later in a senior citizens home. No home churches are as yet established in South Africa, as the Family here is still small (about 20 members). Of Susan's family, her parents and 3 brothers heard part of Divine Principle in 1970, but only her youngest brother, Johan de la Querra, accepted True Parents in Sept. '70 and lived in the Center, but left several times. In 1974 he went to Belvedere for 2 months and worked on the Madison Square Garden project, where after he also worked for 2 months with the Dutch Family. We are sorry to say that he left several times and is now married and has a baby daughter, He still accepts True Parents and the Divine Principle and they both want to hear everything early in February '79 when they come to visit us here in Johannesburg for a week. Our relationship to all our other physical family is good.

## **5). My mission country and me**

As South Africa is a country of many different races, each with different backgrounds, cultures, religions and languages, one could write about this subject for many weeks, which is why this is a very interesting country and we love it and its peoples very much. Out of a total population of about 26 million, some 80.000 are Malay (Muslim religion, living mainly in Cape Town), about 700.000 Indians (Hindu religion, living mainly in Durban), 1.5 million Coloreds (mixture between whites and blacks, Christian religion, living mainly in and around Cape Town), 4.5 million whites (Christian religion, living mainly in the

cities, language 50% English and 50% Afrikaans), and about 19 million black people, consisting of some eight nations with each its own language, geographical area and some different skin colors and build. The majority of the black people is poor and lives in the countryside villages and towns, from agriculture. The majority of the other races lives in the cities and is wealthier.

The South African cities are modern with many technically advanced industries. The country's relative prosperity is mainly built on the mining and export of many minerals, such as gold, diamonds, silver, chrome, copper, platinum, uranium, coal, iron ore, etc. Agriculturally this is a self-sufficient nation and quite a lot is even exported, mainly maize, sugar, fruit and wool.

The customs and traditions and family life of this conglomerate of people represent the East and the West as well as Africa itself. The religious attitude of the various Black nations is a mixture of Christianity and the ancient belief in ancestors and spirits. In the countryside it was common for one man to have more than one wife, who would work for him, even on the land, but he had to pay "lobola" (big wedding gift) to his father in law. This can be very expensive and because of the (Christian) Western influence, especially in the cities, this old tradition is changing. Young people often refuse to pay "lobola" and marry only one wife, although the South African system of "guest workers" to get labor unfortunately also encourages adultery, because the wife and family often have to remain in the "homeland" in the countryside while the husband works in the city.

Education, which is compulsory for Whites, Coloreds, Malays and Indians is not yet compulsory for the Black people, but the educational standard is slowly improving. While the Coloreds speak mainly Afrikaans (sister language of Dutch), the majority of the Blacks and Indians speak their own native languages and some English. Much work remains to be done in this country to guide it back to God's Heavenly Kingdom.

## **6). The world and me**

Although we live in this southern part of Africa, through the newspapers, magazines (and TV for the people outside our Family), radio, letters and personal visits a strong contact is maintained with the rest of the world. As I lived the first 10 years of my life in the East (Indonesia), then 11 years in the West (Holland) and now 17 years in the South (South Africa), and because my physical parents always taught us to be world citizens, I was very fortunate to be able to learn to like and love people of all races from an early age.

Because of my work in the Bank and especially since joining the Family, through witnessing, fundraising and lecturing to people of different nationalities and races, our understanding and love could develop much deeper and wider, based on Heavenly Father's love and True Parents' love, example and guidance. I realize however that there is still a very long way for me to go to love people more and to improve my fighting ability to help change this present world from Satan's dominion to God's dominion.

## **7). Spirit world and me**

Up to the time when I met the Divine Principle in 1970, my knowledge of spirit world, obtained by listening to my physical mother, reading many books on the subject, etc. was a bit hazy. Since hearing the Divine Principle this changed and not only my knowledge, but also my personal experiences with spirit world became very real and concrete. Many, many and experiences happened, often daily, by way of dreams, inspirations, guidance (of myself and others), visions and occasionally through messages passed on by spirit mediums. We learned quickly that spirit world not always helps but also blocks the way of ourselves and others. Often however we very clearly felt the protection. Love and guidance of good spirits and we are very thankful for their assistance, comfort and encouragement in all our work.

## **8). The Kingdom of Heaven and me**

Since hearing the Divine Principle many dreams came my way in which I could feel very strongly love and happiness, as if this was a foretaste of the Kingdom of Heaven. Sometimes, when lecturing or singing or in some other group activity, I could experience a sudden joy and up lifting with the same feeling and realization of what the Kingdom of Heaven on earth would be like. These moments were very precious to me and more and more we are allowed to see how True Parents' blueprint and work are really guiding us step by step to the concrete Kingdom of Heaven on Earth. We only wish that we could become better instruments and channels for Heavenly Father to speed up the spread of the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth which our True Parents formally declared in 1977.

## **9). Heavenly Father and me**

Before hearing Divine Principle, my relationship with Heavenly Father was warm and close, but mainly as that of a small boy of say, seven years old, continuously asking his father for help and presents, but seldom comforting and helping his father because of ignorance and the thought that, as Heavenly Father was so mighty and powerful, He needed nothing from little me.

This did change dramatically on hearing the Divine Principle and all of a sudden the world seemed desolate and a heavy burden pressed on me, especially when we returned to South Africa with the Divine Principle in 1970. Through feelings of sadness, loneliness and tears Heavenly Father was teaching us His

Heart. Before leaving Holland, I met Heavenly Father very unexpectedly. It was on my physical father's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday on 4<sup>th</sup> July 1970 that I went out in the afternoon with the Dutch Family's evangelical team, handing out pamphlets and shouting through a megaphone, on top of a VW kombi bus, over and over again that the Kingdom of Heaven had started in Korea. It cost me quite a lot of effort to overcome my natural shyness, but afterwards it felt like a great personal victory. That night, after having given my testimony to the Dutch Family, I had an experience, almost like a vision or dream, of meeting Heavenly Father, who surrounded me like a tremendous ball of love from all sides and intuitively explaining some things to me, while at the end I also felt, like a promise, that we would meet again. Through the Divine Principle and personal experiences, I was very fortunate to learn gradually more about His Heart and Will, but I also know that I have not shed enough tears for Heavenly Father yet.

### **10). My testimony of 1978**

The year of 1978 started with great promise as, right in the first week, two new members moved in (they are still there), followed by another two in February and April, while many new people came regularly to the lectures. It seemed as if, in the last few months we were still in Cape Town, it was busier than ever before! Especially at weekends we had often more than 30 people sitting around the dinner tables and sometimes up to five different lecture rooms were used at the same time and lectures given in 3 different languages!

End February we got a cold shock however as the Bank I work for forced me to go to Johannesburg to work at their Head Office, Advances Dept. This meant leaving our mission station at Cape Town, where we had worked for 8 years, and, except for 2 members who went with us, leave almost all the other members behind.

In mid-February, Lady Dr. Kim arrived in Johannesburg and gave us much inspiration and guidance for 4 days, as well as some personal advice for Susan, as we had been blessed in Dec. '76 but no child was born yet. Then, on True Parents' day 1978, we could tell everyone the good news that Susan was expecting a baby, the first blessed child in South Africa. In the next two months Susan almost lost the baby twice: the second time was serious and the specialist doctor gave Susan in the hospital only an 50% chance to give birth normally.

This is of course now something of the past, but thanks to Heavenly Father's protection and the prayers of all our brothers and sisters, our little daughter Hanna Han (beautifully named by Rev. Kwak), although born six to seven weeks prematurely, is now a healthy and heavy 3 months old baby! A beautiful present from Heavenly Father!

In June 1978, after we came to Johannesburg, we heard about the new missions our True Parents had allocated to the 3 missionaries and us, namely John Brady as Central Figure and us as spiritual advisers. It took us some time to adjust to the new situation, as the 2 members who came with us from Cape Town, had to go back (after a successful 40 days with us) and we were not allowed to continue building up another Center with members. We were very unhappy, as we wanted to give so much but could not, and because we were used to an active center life of lecturing, fundraising and witnessing.

However, although very lonely, we felt that, by giving everything (physically and spiritually) we should become more united with John as Central Figure, while we also waited for our first blessed child to be born on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1978. In December '78 we discussed with John Brady how we could be more useful, apart from giving advice for God's Plan and we trust that a new way will open up soon to put that into practice. We learned many things in 1978, but most of all never to give up hope and to trust Heavenly Father and True Parents and to confidently continue to go forward in 1979!

Mansei, in our beloved and heavenly True Parents' Name,

(signed)Wouter van der Stok

### **Herewith some additional observations**

- From starting our mission in July 1970 my prayer was basically, to be allowed to at least help one person to come closer to Heavenly Father's Heart, then my mission and life would not be for nothing. One of the aspects that Susan and I felt would be of continued support for our mission and to "survive" spiritually was that we decided to live as brother and sister from the start until our, hoped for, Blessing by True Parents. Although True Parents had decided for previously married couples to live as brother and sister for a minimum period of 7 months before the Blessing, in our particular case, as we did not know when we would be invited for our Blessing, this then lasted for about six and a half years until our Blessing on 22.12.1976. In addition, having been married for six years previously and with 3 physical children and living in the same house/bedroom, it was quite a challenge! Many years later, in a very vivid dream, Jesus appeared to me and called me "his descendent" as I remained faithful all my life to my one beloved spouse which I was then told, unfortunately, even after the Blessing not all members manage to do.

- In July 1971, after finishing the first year of our mission in South Africa, the almost continuous waves of feeling down became much less. I learned to control these by working extra hard for Church work as soon as I felt these waves come crashing down.

- In March 1972, before meeting our True Parents in Essen, Germany for the first time, I dreamed/ had a vision that I would be extremely grateful if I could just, right at the back of everyone else, get a glimpse of our True Parents. The next day, when our True Parents actually arrived at the airport, to my great surprise, all of a sudden I was allowed to keep open a small gate for them to walk through to the waiting leadership! Afterwards, at a general meeting of the complete European membership, each National Leader and his/her members were asked to stand up and give a half bow to True Parents, who sat on the podium with relatively stern faces. Especially the main nations had many members. After all nations had finished, right at the end my physical sister Gieta called to the (organising) Leader of the German Family "what about South Africa"? He seemed surprised but did then call "South Africa" whereupon only 2 people stood up, Susan and I giving a half bow and all of a sudden, like the sun breaking through the clouds, our True Parents gave a beautiful and long smile. To see them happy: some things/situations one never forgets!

- In April 1972 True Parents, after their visit to Essen, decided to travel to Amsterdam where they stayed in the Titiaan Street Center. Sitting in the lounge with our True Parents were about 20 or so members, including our van der Stok family of seven persons. True Father said at the time that we were fortunate to be able to sit so near to him in one small room like a real family, as in future thousands of people would come to listen to him and we would only be able to see him from afar. Gifts were offered to True Parents and Susan and I gave copies of Divine Principle translations in Afrikaans and Xhosa and a nice iron candle holder to hold 4 candles in the 4 position with a glass oval in the center, into which True Father jokingly peered. In the end the presents were to be kept in a special place in the Center and it was then that the Leaders of the Dutch Family informed True Parents of the wish of my physical parents to sell their house and to donate the money to the Church: what should happen to the money? True Father directed that it should be used to buy a good Center for the Dutch family (later Susan, in a dream, saw the Center, the present Glory House in Bergen aan Zee and, as far as I can remember, my physical brother Frank was also involved in locating it in the end). To our great surprise, True Father then announced that our whole van der Stok family (probably minus older brother Johan and wife Elke who were already blessed in 1969) would be blessed by True Parents and that would be the greatest event of the year, being a complete family (for the first time). He still mentioned this, he said, even though it would normally not be done in advance because of Satan's possible interference. As I almost could not believe my ears, later on I asked the National Leader's wife who confirmed that she heard it too. Unfortunately, after having worked in the Church as a whole family for over 2 years, later that year one of my brothers left the Church and this announcement was never realised. Still, my sister Gieta was blessed in 1975 with Chris Olson, my physical parents and Susan and I were blessed in Dec. 1976 and my youngest brother Frank around 1980.

- Some, perhaps, interesting snippets of information: 1). Jan van Riebeeck's (the first official Dutch settlers' leader in 1652 in Cape Town who amongst others. brought with him Christianity) wife's maiden name was "de la Quellerie" while Susan's maiden name is "de la Querra" (bringing the Divine Principle). 2). Apart from Jesus starting his public ministry aged 30 followed 3 years later by his crucifixion, we see this pattern repeated also in other cases. In my case we started our public ministry when I turned 30 and at 33 I experienced the most difficult time of my life ever when Susan went for 40 days training to Holland in 1973. 3). The Dutch were in charge in Cape Town for about 150 years since 1652, followed by the English from about 1800 directly or indirectly, then local people. In our Church we seem to have followed a more or less similar pattern?

In 1980 I was shown in a dream how eventually in the future, after quite a few years, my relationship with the South African Church's leadership would be bridged and improved, which did actually happen during our next 3 years' stay in Johannesburg from 1990 to 1992.

### **3). My middle aged period ("autumn" from 41 to 60 years)**

As the Bank I worked for did not wish to transfer me back to Cape Town while both Susan and I felt strong inspiration to return to Cape Town, I resigned from Nedbank and in early March 1979 started to work for Trust Bank, Cape Town. As we could not sell our house in Vredehoek, we had to let it for a short period and so fortunately could very easily move back in. It was then decided by John Brady that almost all the Wynberg members would be moved to Johannesburg but later on a certain, relatively small, number of members, were rotated and still stayed in the Wynberg Center. During the next few years, although still some new members came to listen to the Divine Principle in Vredehoek, these went sooner or later either to Wynberg or Johannesburg. We tried to give support in that way and also to the various Central Figures who came and went in the Wynberg Center.

After a discussion with John Brady in 1980 we started, for the next few years, to invest in fixed properties with the aim of selling these after a few years at a profit and so contributing to the Church's finances. Eventually we landed up with 5 houses and 1 flat apartment which were all let. Unfortunately, as the interest rates in South Africa unexpectedly increased from 12% to 25% in a short time and no long term mortgage bonds were available in South Africa at fixed the interest rates, the interest costs increased beyond the rental income and we had to start selling almost all properties during the next few years.

In August 1980 Susan and I and the 4 children went to Holland as my physical (and spiritual) father became seriously ill. He still saw little Hanna who was then one and a half years old, and went to spirit world, amidst all his children and grandchildren, 40 days after the start of his illness. I had felt a strong

wish to receive his blessing before passing over, which he gave to me 3 days before leaving this world. True Father mentioned to my brother-in-law Chris Olson at the time in the USA that his passing was due to his old age.

At Rev. Kwak's advice a sort of Seunghwa ceremony was held for him at the time although slightly different from later ceremonies. During the early 1980's I was asked to be the Church's public spokesman in South Africa but after objections from the Bank I worked for Rev. Kwak preferred me to step down. All along over the years I used my social status to promote and protect the Church.

In 1983 our senior Church sister, direct assistant to John Brady, Doreen Swarts went to spirit world in a car accident travelling from Johannesburg to Cape Town. A beautiful Seunghwa ceremony was held for her in the Wynberg Center. In 1984 our oldest daughter Wanda, after she had finished her High School studies, went to Johannesburg to attend a Divine Principle workshop where her heart was touched and she decided to work full time for our Church: she continued to do this very successfully for the next 10 years – Susan and I were very proud of her and grateful for all her contributions, but especially thankful to Heavenly Father and True Parents who made this possible! When our children were growing up, we were somewhat strict (no dancing or going to parties and boyfriends/girlfriends etc.) but tried to make up a little by encouraging them to play sports and transporting them, such as field hockey, karate, badminton, squash, ice rink skating, running. In 1985 the Wynberg Center was sold and the sale proceeds sent to Johannesburg. During the 1987 to 1988 period we joined two African Missionaries' general meetings in Harare and were part of the experience (confession, etc.) with the spiritual Second Self of the African Heung Jin Nim, who also visited our home in Cape Town just as True Parents had done in 1969, visiting my physical parents' home.

In autumn 1988 Susan and I visited my mother in Holland with 10 year old Hanna for about 3 weeks to meet our physical family, including my brother Frank and wife Elaine who came over from the USA with their one year old baby daughter Fjaere. From 1988 onwards both our son Frank and daughter Sanet joined Wanda in working full time for the Church for about 2 years or so while we moved into another house in Stellenberg, Bellville. Wanda went to Korea early in 1989 and was blessed with Markus von Euw on 12<sup>th</sup> January 1989, Markus, originally from Switzerland, had worked for the Church mainly in the California area for many years. Wanda remained thereafter to live and do church work in Korea the following three years and eventually settled down in San Francisco where they had 4 children. While on a visit to our family in Johannesburg my physical mother, Moes, gave the following testimony to brothers and sisters in the Center at John Brady's request. As she spoke Dutch, I did the translation to English.

**Testimony of Mrs. Margot "Moes" van der Stok from Holland (Blessed 22.12.1976) given at Johannesburg, South Africa on Sunday morning, April 22<sup>nd</sup> 1990. Moes will be 80 years old next January. Three of her children were Blessed by True Parents and she is the grandmother of 11 Blessed grandchildren.**

"I was the fifth child of a fairly large family consisting of seven children in Holland. Because I was the fifth child things were easier for me than for the other older children (I came from a Protestant family). My mother was actually Orthodox Christian Protestant. My father initially wasn't all that religious but later during the marriage he became more interested in religion and eventually served as an Elder in the Church. So our parents were strict, almost like restrictions in the local Dutch Reformed Church. No sport on Sunday, not even by bicycle could we go to Church. We had to walk to Church. We as children didn't like it so much.

When I grew up – in my adolescent years – I became interested in other churches and occasionally went to the Roman Catholic Church. Even though my parents were strictly Orthodox they didn't create big problems. Eventually when I became 17 years old I met my future husband. My fiancé was not so religious and although his grandfather was actually a Minister of Religion, he himself and his family were not so religious and didn't go to church regularly but through me and my mother he went to church and followed certain classes in religious schooling..

I met my husband when he studied Tropical Agriculture at a school in my town – because he wanted to go to Indonesia before the Second World War. We met because his school was in the same city where I lived. As it was a very bad time economically speaking (it was after the Big Depression in the Thirties), even though he had studied to join the Tropical Agricultural plantations there was really no job for him, so he eventually joined a Shipping company. Because of the bad economic situation in the Netherlands, actually all over the world, my husband had to go on his own to Indonesia and in the interest of those who don't know, it is quite a long distance from the Netherlands. My fiancé had to go ahead of me for three years so we were separated even while we were engaged for three years before we could get married

After these three years we were married (in 1936) in the Netherlands, but during the time while he was on his own in Indonesia, he met a religious group called the Oxford Group. The present name is the Moral Rearmament, which is a worldwide religious organisation.

After he came back to Holland, before we got married, we both studied the Oxford Group teachings and also went to Birmingham in the UK. The Oxford Group has got four absolute standards. They teach that participants should try to reach those standards. The four standards are absolute unselfishness, absolute love, absolute honesty and absolute purity. Another important

point of that group is that every morning before they start the day the members have a brief religious coming together and apart from reading the Bible, they are also supposed to open themselves up and, almost like a confession to a certain extent, discuss matters with each other. The aim is that if you have something against someone, to honestly open up and discuss problems. On that basis, that foundation, our marriage was started. And then we both went to Indonesia and eventually had five children.

My eldest son Johan, was born in 1937 and the second son Wouter was born in 1940, on 5<sup>th</sup> May. That was just 5 days before the Second World War started in the Netherlands, which was on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1940. In Indonesia the war started later because Japan came to the war later and it was only during 1941/42 that my husband was interned as a prisoner of war by the Japanese. The women and children also went to concentration camps, children under 10 years of age could stay with their mothers in the women's camp, but those over 10 years old had to join the men in the men's camp. We never heard anything about where our husbands or men were all those years, which was about 4 years.

Before my husband could kill anyone (he had to join the Dutch army in Indonesia to fight in World War II against the Japanese), before it came to a shooting war, he was one day sitting on the back of a motorcycle, when the driver made an accident and my husband's leg was broken (I think in two places) and he went to the military hospital. By the time he came out the war was over. It was a very brief war, so he did not actually kill anyone. Then he went to another city high up in Java, Bandoeng, and we also went there. We didn't actually have many clothes because we thought we were going to stay there for a few weeks and not for 3 or 4 years, which it eventually turned out to be.

We didn't actually make preparations for a long stay, so we never put our faith in food, for an accumulation of tins of food, which many people did. When people heard that they were going to concentration camps, they bought as much food as they could and tins to last them a long time. Later on, when the food ran out, with that, to a certain extent, their faith also ran out because they put their faith in tins of food. We however had no food and therefore you might say that our faith was replacing the food and, even though it was a terrible time, still we never complained to heavenly Father.

Before we went to the concentration camp, I met some friends and one of those friends was really a very good spiritual medium who could pass on messages from spirit world. There I learned about spirit world because she taught us many things about the reality of spirit world and messages being passed on by guides, etc. Also while we were in the camp we met many people who believed in different philosophies like anthroposophy, theosophy and other philosophies. But because they were not really based so much on Jesus, we did not stick to that too much. During that time and also afterwards it was always a very important point for me that when Christ would come again, how would I, as someone who is not so clever, be able to recognise Christ when he would come again?

In the camp there was not enough food and the food you got there was of very poor quality, like soup and maybe one potato for ten people, something like that. So there were not enough vitamins, people became ill, and I also became very ill and often almost died. But every time somehow we stayed alive. During that war while in the camp, I tried to teach my two sons not to hate people like the Japanese or for that matter the Germans in Holland, in other words, not to hate the oppressors. In about August 1945, the Japanese were defeated by the Americans and only then I heard that my husband was still alive. He was actually shipped from Indonesia to Kobe in Japan, where he had a terrible time in the camp to work almost like slave labour in a factory.

My husband was there but his elder brother, Erik, was there too and it was very strange that they could stay together in the camp throughout the war because it was the policy of the Japanese to immediately separate family members so they could control them better. But they were very fortunate in that the whole period they could stay together. Just towards the end of the war (the last few months), my husband's elder brother became ill. He was not so ill, but he still had to go to hospital because of course people did not get enough food and he was very weak. When freed by the Americans, my husband was shipped to Manila in the Philippines and there one day he heard from someone that his elder brother had died in hospital and also that his father died some years previously in 1942, which of course he never knew or heard about. And also the third thing he heard that same day was that his wife and 2 children were very seriously ill in hospital. Because of the bad food, or actually almost no food that we received for many years, our bodies were not strong, so we got many serious illnesses. For a few months we stayed in hospital in Indonesia and then, because we were so ill, we got on the first available military hospital ship (the Willem Ruys) back to Holland where we also stayed a couple of months in hospital because we could not keep any food down. We had dysentery, typhoid and eventually also pneumonia and all kinds of illnesses because our bodies were not strong enough.

Because his wife and children were almost dying every time, my husband got permission to leave the Dutch Army, while still in Manila in the Philippines waiting for orders and he was discharged and quickly came to Holland. That was in January 1946. We were reunited as a family end February 1946. Later during that year of 1946 we again took up our ties with the Oxford Group

which then started to be called Moral Rearmament. Many things happened afterwards. We went back and forth to and from Indonesia and a couple of times my husband and his family had to be separated. Because of the economic situation, very often my husband had to go ahead. As a matter of fact, often we did not see each other for many years.

Many of our children almost died on different occasions. Like my eldest son: when he was 13 years old he fell from a 3 or 4 meter high wall on his head and was unconscious for many weeks and it took six months for him to come back again. Afterwards he had a problem remembering things. Also my daughter, when 9 years old almost died when she had problems with the intestines and also the youngest one Frank almost died when he was born. Every time our faith was tested and also many people from the Oxford Group in different countries prayed for us on all these occasions. It was almost as if they had to go to spirit world but somehow were given back again.

Wouter finished his studies in Holland in 1961 and emigrated to South Africa and then two years later in 1963, my eldest son Johan immigrated to the USA, where he met the Unification Church in 1964. He accepted True Parents in December 1965. Though letters Johan started to write about this "strange" movement which he had joined and his letters only gave certain details. We did not understand very much and we thought it was a very "strange" sect and therefore almost decided that my husband should fly to America and see what was going on. But then we decided against that because Johan was already 27 years old and he was old enough to make up his own mind. Exactly 4 years after my eldest son left for America, that is in September 1967, he came back to Holland with Miss Young Oon Kim, who was of course one of the Pioneer Missionaries sent in 1960 by Father to the USA. She was then going on a tour in Europe. She stayed in our home in Holland for 4 days and we also received a gift from her, a beauty product. At that time the members were supporting themselves in America by selling these beauty products door to door.

Already in 1965, the first missionary from the United States was sent to the Netherlands to bring the Divine Principle to Holland, but there were not so many members as yet. When Johan and Miss Young Oon Kim went on a tour through Europe they met Doris Orme in Italy. The first missionary Teddy Verheyen paid quite a lot of indemnity because he was living in a very old boat and the rain came down the side. It was not a very good accommodation for Miss Young Oon Kim to stay there. That is why she stayed at our house. When they went on a tour through Europe Doris Orme, before she was blessed in 1969, was asked to go to Holland to help with mission work there. Doris, the future wife of Dennis Orme (who was the Church Leader in England for many, many years), stayed with us for about six months to teach us the Divine Principle, even though Johan, my eldest son who fasted 12 days to bring in our family is, of course, our spiritual parent.

He brought us into the Church but still Doris explained much about the Divine Principle and its teachings to my husband and me. Even though she was speaking in English (sometimes very fast and also the words were not easy to understand), still we understood the core of the Divine Principle message and we accepted our True Parents in November 1967. During that time, because we wanted to join the Unification Church, we felt that we should resign our membership of the Protestant Church. Because my husband was an Elder in the Church it caused quite a bit of consternation and the Minister and all the other Elders came to visit us to try and talk us out of it. Even though they all tried their best to re-convert us back to the old Church again, none of them, the Minister or any of the Elders, took time to study the Divine Principle more deeply to investigate it, which is something very sad. And also my relatives, apart from my own physical family, never really studied the Divine Principle.

In the beginning we received many revelations and dreams about True Parents, that they were the Messiah and I was always surprised that I was allowed to know this, and why me out of so many people? We first met True Parents in 1969. First in London in England and then there was the Blessing in Essen in Germany where Johan was blessed with Elke Klawiter, a German sister who actually came from America and was also sent to Europe to do missionary work. Eight couples were blessed in Europe and together with the couples in America and Japan, altogether forty three couples were blessed in 1969. That is in the Far East, United States and Europe, altogether forty three. That was in March 1969. It was the first Blessing in the West.

At that time the Unification Church Families in Europe were very small and after the Blessing in Essen in Germany, True Parents went to Amsterdam to spend the night and the following Sunday morning at about six thirty we got a telephone call to prepare very quickly a traditional Dutch breakfast because True Parents were going to visit our house. Already there was at that time a Center in Amsterdam with about 4 members altogether and to prepare everything for our True Parents we had previously given all our food, groceries, etc. to that Center, so actually we had nothing at home, absolutely nothing on that Sunday morning. All the shops were still closed! We had to knock the owner of the grocery shop out of his bed through the back door to get us coffee, butter and cheese as True Parents wanted a typical Dutch breakfast. You can imagine how excited we all were. There were basically five guests from overseas, that is True Parents, the late Mr. Eu, Miss Young Oon Kim and Mrs. Choi. They came to our house to have breakfast and we also could invite one or two guests (friends or ours).



One of the guests was an elderly gentleman and True Father gave some words, a short speech and also answered questions. Afterwards True Parents wanted to have a drive through the Dutch landscape. My husband was then the chauffeur. He was driving for True Parents through Utrecht, Rotterdam and The Hague. Mr. Eu, who was then the President of the Unification Church of Korea, had a tremendous back problem (backache). He paid a lot of indemnity as some of you may know. But also he could sing very well. So in the car, my husband said later, he sang so beautifully during that trip through Holland.

In May 1970, the year thereafter, Wouter, his wife Susan and their three children came to Holland from South Africa on a 3 months' visit and in less than one week they heard the full message of the Divine Principle from my husband and myself and we were overjoyed when they accepted True Parents. In July 1970 they returned to South Africa as Missionaries, sent by the Leaders of the Unification Church in Holland. In 1973 my eldest son Johan and his family were sent from Holland as Missionaries to Indonesia, while my only daughter Gieta went to the USA and later to Japan as part of the One World Crusade team. My youngest son Frank also spent many years in the Unification Church in the USA.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1976 my husband and I were Blessed by True Parents (together with 34 other couples), including my second son Wouter and his wife Susan who were previously married in the outside world. Certain numbers played a big role during our lives like the number 3, and then 12, 21 and 40. Four years later, in August 1980, after 44 years of marriage, my husband passed on to the spirit world. Before Miss Young Oon Kim and Johan, my eldest son came in 1967 to Holland, my husband and I joined a group called the Rosecrucians, a philosophical/religious group which we studied for a long time but exactly 40 days before Miss Kim came, we had an experience. The experience was that while busy with a candle in some sort of ceremony, all of a sudden a tremendous bang happened in the house. The house shook and I was very, very shocked.

I ran upstairs to see whether the house had collapsed or what had happened. I took this to mean that we should not continue and I was crying very much and decided not to continue with these Rosecrucians' studies. I then cut off all ties with the Rosecrucians and a friend of mine who was also in that movement could still come but no more talk of about Rosecrucians. That was exactly 40 days before Miss Kim came. Also it was exactly forty days from the day my husband became ill until he went to the spirit world. Many other examples of the Divine Principle numbers took place in our lives: 3 years in the concentration camp, 3 years separation before we got married and things like that. There is of course much more to tell but time is running out. Apart from the divine Principle message and the dreams, the first God's Day (that was on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1968) ceremony was passed on to Doris by Miss Young Oon Kim (details on how to celebrate) and that made a big impression on us. That was the first Church celebration we attended while Doris Orme stayed with us during these 6 months. We did a lot of witnessing in our home village of Laren but though all our five children joined the Church, people thought we were crazy. Except for the neighbour's son Reinier van Hofslot who accepted and joined the Church, and eventually was blessed, nobody else came.

I also once met True Father himself on a staircase. Father was coming down and I was going up. The staircase was a very narrow one and I was not really looking because normally of course you would stand back and bow, but he was very friendly and smiling. It was during the time of the Blessing in 1969. In 1970, we sold our house in Laren and went to stay in rented accommodation in the south of the Netherlands, in Zeeland. The sale proceeds of the house we gave to the Church in 1972 so that they could buy the Glory Center (the Dutch Unification Church Headquarters), which is almost like a small castle in Holland. It was only a small deposit at that time because the house was very expensive and the Dutch Family had to work very hard to pay off that house. Many years of fundraising activities were done. But that was the starting point to get the deposit together for that big house. It was almost like a goal for the Dutch Family to raise funds to pay off these instalments. When we were staying for two years in that village in the south of the Netherlands we made many conditions like walking around the island seven times. It is a big island. About thirty or forty kilometres (the circumference). Notwithstanding all these conditions nobody really joined the Church that time. In 1972/73, we went to live at Glory House to assist with the church work. True Parents have over the years been there several times. Thank you very much for your attention. May God bless you, I love you all."

End 1989 I was transferred from Cape Town by the Bank on promotion to Asst. General Manager International Banking Services, Corporate Division at its Johannesburg Head Office to be in charge of all the nationwide regional offices and at the peak of my banking career was asked by Rev. Kwak (as suggested by John Brady) to come to Korea end 1990 to discuss the possibility to give financial/economic/business lectures and advice worldwide to all the international mission nations' directors and business leaders. We decided then that I should resign from the banking world after about 30 years and work full time for this new mission. Visits of different duration were made during the next 12 months to Japan, USA, Greece, Zambia (more than once), Ivory Coast/Liberia, Mexico (where my brother-in-law Chris Olson was the Regional Director), Argentina/Uruguay, the Netherlands, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand and monthly economic/financial bulletins issued to all the mission countries' leaders. This mission came to an end when, after a year, my financial monthly stipend was discontinued which I thought was a pity as I had high hopes, which I also suggested to Rev. Kwak in writing, of forming part of a very small advisory/auditing team to give advice to all the Church's

businesses worldwide, some of which were losing a lot of money.

Around that time I was introduced via John Brady and an American sister to Dr. Bo Hi Pak to work for his department in Hong Kong in connection with the Kumgangsan (Diamond Mountains) tourist project in North Korea which previously was discussed by True Parents during their visit to the North Korean Leader Kim Il Sung. The aim was to eventually establish a special zone, like in China around Hong Kong, to create work for some North Koreans and open up partially for foreign tourists: hotels, airports, apartment blocks, harbours, cable cars, etc. would be constructed. To start that project a group of about 20 advisers from Australia, Hong Kong, France including myself with a Dutch passport was invited to visit the Kumgangsan region in North Korea for about 3 weeks in July 1992 for a fact finding tour of the country. No USA or South Korean passport holders were allowed in at that time. It was a very special and to some extent dangerous experience. Afterwards we worked for almost nine months in Hong Kong on an explanatory book and a big mock-up of what the area in the end should look like. Unfortunately, at that time, it was not implemented.

In the first half of 1993 our family moved back from Johannesburg to our house in Stellenberg, about 20 km. from Cape Town and subsequently for 3 months I was allowed to write a financial/economic book with as title "Into the 21<sup>st</sup> century: how to become and stay a successful nation". Its purpose was to assist North Korea (perhaps the more so after translation into the Korean language?) with a potential change over into a new economic period. Around that time our first spiritual daughter Rosalind Oliphant left South Africa to join her blessed spouse in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (previously Zaire) permanently.

From July 1993 until about mid 1994 I was asked by the National Leader of the Netherlands, Wim Koetsier, to assist with the business side of our movement in that country and to help re-organise the financial side of both the spiritual and business sections. Subsequently from 1994 to about 2001 I became involved with supporting the production and selling of porcelain and ceramic artefacts and ornament animals of Porcelain Patches, the art and craft business originally started by Susan already in 1982 while we were still living in Vredehoek, Cape Town. From mainly working with my head I now learned to work with my hands, a challenging experience. It was during those years that our Heavenly Father appeared to me in a vivid dream (as a different man from our True Father) with the Book of Life, when also the importance of unity with one's central figures, John and Frieda Brady, was explained.

On 25<sup>th</sup> August 1995 our son Frank was blessed with Diana in Korea and subsequently they had four beautiful children in England: daughter Cindy, son Chris, son Alex and daughter Laura. In June 1998 our first spiritual son and Susan's youngest physical brother Johan de la Querra and his wife Antoinette were blessed in Brackenfell, a town near Cape Town. Susan and I joined Markus and Wanda with their little children Gabriela and Garith in a 40 days' workshop at Jardim, Brazil in autumn 1998 with about 2000 other members where we not only studied True Father's many speeches given in the past but had the very great privilege to listen directly to many speeches by True Father who stayed with us some days and in the end were allowed to have a beautiful photo taken, as a couple, with our True Parents. During the workshop all participants were asked by Father to give a really good donation for the Providence of at least US\$16.000. Initially we gave US\$1.600 as a symbolical gesture but during the following year, especially after receiving encouraging dreams, Susan and I decided to give the balance of US\$ 14.400 to make up for the total asked for.

In Sept/Oct. 1999 Susan went to visit Wanda for a few weeks to assist with the birth of our grandson Jonathan and during 1998/99 I was asked by Seino-san, the Managing Director of Nigeria Online in Lagos, Nigeria to become its official financial consultant while Johan de la Querra became the Marketing Director which lasted until about 2004. It was also from 1999 onwards that the Providence of Ancestor Liberation and Blessing was started by True Parents via the efforts by Dae Mo Nim (later known also as Hoon Mo Nim) at Chung Pyung, initially for the first 120 generations of ancestors and subsequently extended to 240 generations. Although some confusion occurred over the years because different members of our extended family were involved in the donations and the administration at CP had its own problems, during the next 12 years or so we managed to a large extent to reach the target set, with the assistance of our son Frank.

#### **4). My senior citizen period ("winter" from 61 to .....years)**

Susan attended in April/May 2001 the sisters' 21 day workshop at Chung Pyung with our daughter in law Diana, followed by Frank and myself for 3 days where after we received the Second Blessing at CP. Frank and Diana stayed on in Korea for another year while Susan continued her trip to stay with Wanda and family in San Francisco to assist with the birth of our granddaughter Anya in July and I returned to Cape Town, where (for me apparently for the last time) a condition was made, with the whole Cape Town Family at the Center, for 120 full bows daily for 40 days. During the following years, until about 2005 I continued to give Divine Principle lectures and Sunday sermons and HIV/Aids prevention lectures at schools, etc.

Amongst others because of the tithing on stipends received by Johan de la Querra and myself for our work for Nigeria Online and fundraising by brothers and sisters, a deposit was raised to buy a Church Center in Grassy Park which there after was renovated by combined efforts. Afterwards I was asked by the National Messiah from Japan to be the Church Treasurer, which I fulfilled for a number of years. Unfortunately, later on, because of that responsibility, I became aware of sometimes not ideal allocation

of funds, in my opinion, by the local leadership for different purposes and I decided to resign. In 2003 our daughter married and had a son and daughter. In August 2004 my physical and spiritual mother went to spirit world at the age of 93 years after a brief illness. I received during my whole life but also specifically in my missionary work so much invaluable support from both my mother Moes and my spouse Susan, without which my life's activities surely would have turned out quite differently!

During the following years, until Jan. 2013 we concentrated on the Liberation and Blessing of ancestors for both Susan and myself, which, as far as we are aware, included Father's side, Mother's side, Grandmother Father's side and Grandmother Mother's side from one to two hundred and ten generations, all four of our physical parents and all physical brothers and sisters and spouses of both my physical parents. Also included were other friends and relatives: Oscar and Nellie Woldringh, Donald Wright, Alwyn Smith, Alta de la Querra, Maria de la Querra, James de la Querra, Kobus van den Heever. In this case too, I received much inspiration, joy and love from spirit world including from specific persons involved on a "before" and "after" basis which made all these efforts very real and worthwhile.

In 2006 we decided to start making all the necessary arrangements to immigrate to the Netherlands, having once more received guidance by way of many dreams (in one case the late Mrs. Won Pok Choi, who played the role of True Father's spiritual mother while on earth, appeared to tell me to "sit up straight as you are going to get a new mission"). This was easier said than done and was more difficult than we imagined, but in the end we arrived in Holland in October 2007. One very important consideration of our big move was to be nearer to our physical children and grandchildren, which worked out well. One night I was surprised to meet Nelson Mandela (who was then still very much alive) who came to thank me. Since 2008 I was fortunate to have been able to give (guest) lectures and coach third and fourth year students of the Hanzehogeschool (a Dutch college) on a part time basis until now, thanks to the help from our daughter Hanna, who, after graduating from the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen in May 2010 with a MScBA in Business Administration, specialising in Strategy and Innovation, has been teaching herself full time at the same Hanzehogeschool.

A few months before True Father's ascension to spirit world he appeared to me in a dream and, to my amazement, embraced me and I had the feeling of already then being prepared for what was to come. In early 2013 we had the great privilege to celebrate the first Foundation Day of our Cheon Il Guk with the Dutch Family and in August 2013 we heard the great news that Markus and Wanda's eldest daughter Gabriela, our eldest grandchild, after she turned 18 years and graduated from High School, joined the Generation Peace Academy (GPA) team of our Church for two years, at first in New York and afterwards travelling to many other parts of America, thereby following in the footsteps of her ancestors. All four grandchildren have been attending Church workshops/summer camps for quite a few years now in California and Alaska.

While it is gradually getting later in our "winter time" (one medium described it as "driving on empty") I pray that somehow Susan and I may still be able to assist, even if only on a small scale, the further development of our Cheon Il Guk. It is my great hope that this testimony, notwithstanding the many mistakes made by me, may be of some benefit to our spiritual children, grandchildren and other descendants as well as our four physical children, ten beautiful grandchildren and future descendants.

IMON, Wouter van der Stok.