

UPF Europe

10.04.02 (8th May 2014)

Sent to all Nations

U.N International Day of Families

Young Shik An

Dear Sub-Regional and National Leaders,

Warm greetings from London!

Please see below and find attached an important memo from Dr Walsh concerning the upcoming 'U.N. International Day of Families.

If you are planning to hold such an event in May or June please be sure to send me a written report about it as soon as possible thereafter, if possible with accompanying photos. This will enable our UN Office to give feedback to the relevant UN authorities about the impact of these events around the world!

Wishing you every blessing in all your efforts to expand and develop True Parents work through UPF!

Best rgds,

MARK BRANN

Secretary-General UPF Europe

MEMO FROM UPF INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT DR THOMAS WALSH

May 7, 2014

Greetings from UPF International.

Please be reminded that May 15 is the United Nations International Day of Families. In addition, 2014 is the 20th Anniversary of the International

Year of the Family. This occasion provides a very good opportunity for UPF to highlight one of our strongest capacities: strengthening marriage and family as a foundation for peace and human development.

We encourage UPF Regions and Chapters worldwide to organize programs during

May or June in cooperation with the UN International Day of Families and the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family. UPF will be organizing a program at the UN in New York in June on the theme of "Parenting and Human Development."

We hope many UPF Chapters will take this opportunity to develop the UPF network, and share the vision of UPF, with special focus on marriage and family.

Please submit reports to reports@upf.org

UPF has created a resource page on our website, <http://upf.org/idf-resources>

Thank you for your ongoing work for UPF.

Sincerely,

Dr. Thomas G. Walsh

President

Universal Peace Federation

UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION

MARRIAGE & FAMILY

PEACE INITIATIVE



UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION

*THE SIGNIFICANCE OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY AS THE
SCHOOL OF LOVE AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT*

The Universal Peace Federation (UPF) is an NGO in Special Consultative Status
with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations





MARRIAGE & FAMILY RESOURCES

Welcome to the UPF resource page for the Marriage and Family Initiative and the UN International Day of Families observances. Here you will find a variety of materials to help you create a successful program, including flyers, banners, program guides, and other resources.

[How to use this resource \(.docx\)](#)

Click on the tabs below to see the resources for each section.

-  [UN International Day of Families](#)
-  [Sample Seminar](#)
-  [Flyers, Signs and Banners](#)

Suggested Schedule

We offer two options for each session. You can decide which option works best for you; and it is fine to take Option A for one session and Option B for another session, just as you like. You don't have to follow the entire schedule, or have all the sessions, or have them in the sequence shown here. You can also substitute in your own content, and if you do, please let us know what you did and how it worked out. For more information or to discuss a proposed program, you can email UPF's Director of Marriage and Family Education, [Mrs. Lynn Walsh](#), or contact UPF's Director of Publications, [Mrs. Joy Pople](#).

Session 1: Introduction

Option A

Moderator Statement



Video in: [Español](#), [Français](#), [Italiano](#)

UPF Introduction Video download

English, Spanish, French, Italian

Full: [DVD ISO](#) (1.2GB)

Handout: [UPF Marriage and Family Statement](#)

Option B

Moderator Statement



Presentation: [UPF Recent Highlights](#)

Handout: [UPF Marriage and Family Statement](#)

Session 2: Benefits of Marriage

Option A

Presentation: [Benefits of Marriage \(Russian\)](#)

Why get married? Why stay married? This interactive

Option B

Presentation: [Promoting a Marriage-Friendly Culture](#)

Building on “The Benefits of Marriage” presentation,

session invites people to contribute their responses and promotes a vision of the family as the school of love. Research findings on the benefits of marriage to both the couple and their children are introduced and discussed.

Handout: [30 Reasons Why Marriage Is Important](#)

Handout: [National Divorce League Table](#)

this interactive session introduces strategies to promote strong and stable marriages. Group discussions stimulate people to make plans for additional ways their community and nation can support thriving, lasting marriages.

Handout: [Checklist for a Marriage-Friendly Culture](#)

Session 3: Family as a School of Love and Peace

Option A

Presentation: [Family as a School of Love and Peace](#)

The family is the primary human institution and is considered sacred by religions throughout the world. This presentation explores how people grow in love through family relations and learn to related with others as members of the broader human family. The World Peace Blessing is introduced as a public commitment to honoring the oneness of the human family.

Handout: [Religious Insights on Marriage and Family Group Discussion/Questions](#)

Option B

Presentation: [Solving Moral Confusion](#)

Universal values, expressed in the world's religions, guide our personal behavior and relations with others. Created in the divine image as male and female, we are called to exercise both freedom and responsibility as we grow in love. This presentation describes human sexuality, consummated in marriage, as sacred and the origin of love, life, and lineage.

Handout: [Religious Insights on Marriage and Family Group Discussion/Questions](#)

Session 4: Building Better Family Relationships

Option A

Presentation: [Really Listening](#)

Somehow we forget how different our spouse is from us and yet we want them to understand us or do things the way we would. If we want to bridge some of the gaps, the key is effective listening. But research has shown that most of us do not listen well (and many spouses would say the same). In this session we introduce some tried and true listening structures that promote empathy, deeper understanding, and emotional safety. These skills are practiced in this session so the participant can get a sense of how to bring these skills home to spark better connections.

Handout: [The Speaker-Listener Technique](#)

Handout: [Tools to Improve Communication Group Discussion/Questions](#)

Option B

Presentation: [Parenting Teens](#)

What to do when your teen's behavior is scaring you out of your wits? If the family is the school of love, parents are the teachers. How we respond when we are upset with our adolescent offers a challenging but important opportunity to teach about relationships and values. This interactive program gives parents opportunities to learn skills that build positive relationships with their children while modeling good communication.

Handout: [Parenting Teens Handout Group Discussion/Questions](#)

Session 5: Marriage and Family as Instruments of Peace

Option A

Presentation: [World Peace Blessing](#)

This presentation introduces God's original ideal of the family and how it was broken by the human fall that corrupted love and divided people from one another and their creator. The World Peace Blessings, instituted by

Option B

Presentation: [Marriage, My Spiritual Path](#)

Marriage provides us with the most fulfilling and personal challenge: how does one imperfect person learn to truly love another imperfect person? Most of us tend to think, "If he or she would only do this or be that, then

Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon, are central to their vision of bringing together the human family under God, transcending boundaries of religion, race, culture, and nationality.

Handout: [Sun Myung Moon on Marriage Group Discussion/Questions](#)

I would be happy.” However, when we see marriage as a spiritual path for our growth, the change in our perspective can be the change we are actually looking for.

Handout: [Marriage and Spiritual Growth Group Discussion/Questions](#)

Conclusion

Moderator's Remarks

Feedback



Additional Resources

 UPF Conference Presentation on Family as the School of Love and Peace

([English](#) | [Español](#) | [Français](#) | [Português](#) | [Italiano](#))

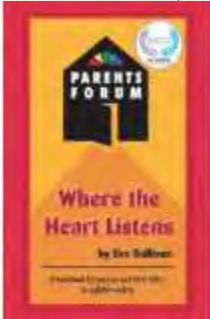
UPF flier on the World Peace Blessing ([Español](#) | [Français](#) | [Português](#) | [Italiano](#))

Print and distribute the [Declaration of the Civil Society on the Occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family](#)(2014). Read it aloud during the program and invite participants to sign it.

[Social Challenges of Same Sex Marriages](#)

Stephen Stacey

[Annotated Links](#) ([view as webpage](#))



Where the Heart Listens describes Parents Forum, a program based on thoughtful examination of eight original questions about family life issues. The workshops, designed by Eve Sullivan and Christine Bates, develop parenting skills and are suitable for various settings. While nothing replaces the experience of a Parents Forum workshop, *Where the Heart Listens* serves as a "workshop in your pocket" and can help parents, children, and all family members improve their communications skills.

[Purchase from Amazon.com](#)

Families Matter for the Achievement of Development Goals International Year of the Family +20



UNITED NATIONS



INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF FAMILIES
15 MAY 2013



UPF SUPPORTS THE OBJECTIVES
OF THE INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF FAMILIES

International Day of Families