

Sermon by Rev. Jun-seok An 'Let us Become the Owners of True Love by Inheriting from Our Heavenly Parents'

Brussels, Belgium, 3. January 2016



Good morning everyone. It's so nice to see you! First of all, I want to wish you a happy new year and to have many blessings for this new year.

Before starting my sermon, I would like to introduce my wife. (hand clapping) We came together with 2 Korean sisters and I would like to introduce them too. One sister is a friend of my wife's. The younger one is a daughter of my friends who is studying now. I think it is very significant to have the beginning of this new year in Brussels because this is the capital of the European Union, right? (laughter). I wish all of you and your families, all brothers and sisters in Europe, and all brothers and sisters from all over the world a great year 2016.

This morning I want to share with you about the motto True Mother has given to us. [Rev. An gives the motto in Korean.] Do you understand it? God is the creator, right? We have been told to practice true love, to become, to be true love. We are inheriting true love. It is important for us to have a motto so that we have something to focus on during the whole year, centering on a speech True Father gave in Korea on 16 January 1975 about living for the sake of others.

All second generation are born after 1975, right? This is a long time ago. This speech was and still is so important. It was given after Father had left America where he was speaking in 21 cities about God's hope for humanity from 1973 to 1974. In each city Father spoke 3 times. The Washington monument rally was attended by 300,000 people. There was also Yankee

stadium. After having all these important speeches all over America Father came back to Korea and gave this very important speech in 1975.

Father says we all yearn to have love, happiness and peace. Is there anyone who does not want this. Every person in the world really wants to have this. Not just love but true love, true happiness, true peace, not just temporary but eternal true love and eternal, ideal, eternal true peace. But is there anyone who believes this? Nobody believes we can have eternal true love and peace. Why? Because we are living in a world which is really struggling. There is no peace. There is struggle. But we know we are all trying to have this. Father says if you think about human beings who want to find eternal true peace we have to start from the absolute, unchanging, eternal being. This is God. If we want eternal true love, peace and happiness we have to find it with God.

If we look at the whole world is there anything which does not change? Can you find anything which is not changing. Everything is changing. Even ourselves. I was a member in the past and Aidan was my leader. This was in 1981. We were very young. But now we have changed and one day we will go to the next world. Everyone changes. We cannot find anything which is not changing. There once was a small boy playing with ice but after a while this ice disappeared. He said: "Daddy, the ice has disappeared." But the ice had not disappeared, it had changed. After some time playing he came back and said also the water had disappeared. Did it really disappear? No, it was not gone. It had just changed. So everything is constantly changing, is it not? So if we do not know science we may say like the child that it disappears. But it is not gone. It has just changed.

People may say when someone died that she or he is gone. But they are not gone. They have just changed for a different stage. That is why the Greeks were thinking that everything is changing, that there is a law and principle of changing. But people were thinking everything is always changing so this is not the reality. This cup for instance will change anyway, so you cannot say this is the reality. People were thinking about what is changing and what is not. Water, ice, evaporation are changing. But is there

anything that does not change? What do you think? What about the chemical structure? H₂O can evaporate, can be liquid or can be ice. And yet it always stays H₂O. Even though it is constantly changing, the composition does not change. So, even if it seems to change all the time, it does not change. We also change, we become old and we will die. But there is something in us which never changes. What is like H₂O for us? It is true love. All over the world we dream of true love. We want to live in a world of true love. A true love relationship will not change. Love does not change. Father is saying the thing which is never changing is true love. We have to find true love in God, not in us.

So, the next question we can ask is "Who then is God?"

Can we understand God? How can we see God? True Father says we have to find true love, true happiness in God. How can you find eternal true happiness in God? DP says that we have to find God, the Creator in the creation. Even though we cannot see God, we can see God through what He made. Just as we can find the wishes and hopes of the artist by means of his masterpiece.

DP says that we can find God in ourselves. God created Adam and Eve. So, we must find God in ourselves. We can see that we have some goodness and evil. We understand that goodness comes from God and evil from Satan.

What is goodness in ourselves? Father said if we ask young people whether they want to have a husband or wife who is superior or inferior, what will be the answer? They want to have a better wife, who is better than themselves. A better husband, a better wife. When you are young and you want to choose your spouse, do you want to choose somebody inferior to you or better? If I ask anybody of you, you would answer that you want somebody who is better, right?

Moreover, when a man and woman marry and have their first baby and you look at the baby's face, compare it with the mother's or father's face and say the baby is more beautiful than the father or mother, you will see a smile on the face of the parents from one ear to the other. Is this true or not? If anybody says your baby is more beautiful than yourself the parents are so happy. Normally, if your friend is more beautiful than yourself, are you happy? You are never happy. But when your spouse is better than yourself, and especially when your baby is more beautiful than yourself, you are happy. So you should wonder where this is coming from? All the parents want their children to be better than themselves. Does this come from God or from Satan? From God. So, we can

understand that God wants us to be better than Himself. This is what Father says. Many religions say that we are the servants of God. Nobody thinks that we, human beings can be better than God. Actually God wanted Adam and Eve to be better than Himself. This is amazing. How can it be otherwise that all people want their children to be better than themselves?

We know God is eternal and unchanging. God is the origin of the principle, the origin of the truth, the origin of the world. God is the origin of the ideal, of happiness. We say God is omniscient, omnipresent and omnipotent. We believe God is the origin of true love, true happiness and peace. We believe God wanted human beings to be better than Himself, and to have eternal true love.

However, when we look at the world, there is no true love anywhere. Everything is relative, nothing is absolute. We have to understand that originally we have to be eternal, unchanging beings. We can be the ones who can have eternal true happiness.

Now, we have to ask how we can be the person who can be eternally and truly happy and how can my family have eternal true love? That is the question. The answer is by practicing true love. What is this? True love is living for the sake of others. Why? Did God create Adam and Eve so that they have to serve him? We know God created Adam and Eve to have an object of love. If God wants to feel joy, He needs to have an object of love. Without an object of love how could He have joy. He created Adam and Eve as His object of love. Did He do that for that they would serve and worship Him? Do you think He created Adam and Eve for this? No. Why? If God had created Adam and Eve as His servants, they could not have become better than God.

How can a servant be better than his lord? This cannot be. God created Adam and Eve as His children and wanted them to be better than Himself. Just as we want children to be better than ourselves. Therefore, God created us as His children.

God created Adam and Eve for the sake of others. What would happen if God had created Adam and Eve for His sake? If God had created Adam and Eve for His sake, human being would never have the idea or character to want their children to be better than themselves. Father says if God had created His object partner to live for the sake of Himself, every being in the position of subject partner would also have made the object partner to live for themselves. Parents would have wanted their children to serve them and spouses would have wanted their spouse to serve them. Would this lead to happiness? What would have happened with the relationships between

husband and wife, between parents and children, between God and human beings? Father says that if this had taken place unity would have been impossible. The relationships would have been blocked. Everything would have been divided. God and humankind would have been divided. Parents and children would have been divided, husband and wife would have been divided. Brothers and sisters would have been divided. All relationships would have brought us unhappiness.

So, what is needed to become happy? The way is to live for the sake of the others. To practice true love so that we can connect to others and find eternal true love and happiness. Now we understand that we have to live for the sake of others. Father says we have to become owners of true love by inheriting from Heavenly Parents. What is true love? Living for the sake of others. We have to clarify who are the others. There are so many people. In how many dimensions do we live? Two, three or four dimensions? Father says every person lives in relationship with above and below, right and left, front and back. Therefore, a person's position is defined by what is above and below, right and left, front and back. The same formula applies for the family, the nation, the world.

We are living in 3 dimensions. What are these three dimensions? [drawing on the white board.] We cannot live in just 2 dimensions. We need 3 dimensions in our relationships. Above are the parents, below are the children. Right and left are husband and wife, front and back are younger and elder brothers and sisters. You also have friends and so on, but this is the basic frame. When you talk about a relationship, there are many angles and so it become a sphere. A family becomes a tribe, a nation and the world. Jesus said: "God is like a father." That is the reason why he was killed. How can you call God your Father? True Father says God is our Parents. Father says the family is the fundamental unit of true love. This is the reason why we say we are the Family Federation.

So, all the ideals have the context of the family, not religion. Eternal true happiness has the context of the family. Is there any nation that has the concept of the family?

When you say nation in Korean, it is like a family. Nation has to have the concept of family. Nation is the extension of the family. How do you apply family in the nation? The king has to be like a parent and the people have to be like children. Can you be happy if the children are suffering? Can the parents just eat all delicious things when the children do not have anything to eat? No, the king should not eat when the people are suffering.

The same is true for a company. If the employees are suffering and I am rich and have a lot of money, can this be? No, a parent's heart wants to share. Parents would bring food and all kinds of things to the employees to share. This is similar to parents who eat less so to be able to give to the children. Likewise, the boss would want to have less in order to give more to the employees. Then the employees would really respect and appreciate the boss. Also the people of the nation would really appreciate the king and queen who are living for the sake of the people. Would that not be the ideal nation? Is this not the ideal company? There would be no room for conflict or communism.

All has to be the extension of the family, which is the basic unit. The family has to be extended to all the other structures. The central person has to connect to God who has true love and so everything becomes ideal. We can then speak about the ideal world. We speak about one world under God. God becomes our parents and we all become brothers and sisters. This is what Father says. The ideal family is what God wanted Adam and Eve to achieve. God wanted Adam and Eve to become true husband and wife living for the sake of others, by inheriting God's love and then to love each other and live for the sake of others, to have children and love their children just like God loves Adam and Eve. When they become parents they have a common base with God. God is parents. When Adam and Eve become parents they have a common base and they can have a give and take with God. Adam and Eve can become like God.

However, they were not married yet, they could not become like God, there was no common base. How can you understand your parents? Only by becoming parents yourself. They could have understood how joyful God was when He created Adam and Eve and what were His expectations towards them. So, we can understand that living for the sake of others and the fundamental relationships we have with our objects of love starts in our family.

We should also understand what is the way to live for the sake of others in the family. Who is the most important? Who is in the most important position? The parents. They are the ones who gave us life, who sacrificed for us. When we were born we could not walk. Normally the animals can walk when they are born. But human beings cannot. We just cry. We absolutely depend on our parents to survive. We cannot understand how much parents sacrifice. We are so much indebted to our parents. The parents have true love. They want their children to be better than themselves. If we cannot understand parents how can we understand True Parents. And if we

cannot understand True Parents how can we understand Heavenly Parents, God.

How to live for the sake of the parents? This is not just a concept. We have to find the way of living for the sake of parents. I ask the young people why they do physical exercises sometimes? To be fit and healthy. Is this for the sake of other? No. Then what is the way to live for the sake of others?

If you think of the reason why you exercise, why you take care of your body and your health, it is for that your parents should not have to worry about you? Because when you are sick they are very worried, which make them suffer and they cannot sleep. That is the reason why you do exercise.

Why do you study? To find a good job to make a good career. Is this for the sake of the others or not? (Laughter) So, you can understand how our thinking is fundamentally wrong. It shows that our culture everything is centered on the individual.

That is the most important thing. The reason why I'm studying is to make my parents proud of me. Do you understand? It is not because I want to have a good career, a lot of money and a good and easy life. Look at Hollywood, where there are so many couples with a lot of money. There are the most beautiful women and handsome men. But in magazines we read about their divorce and troubles. This feeling of love does not last. But parents are happy to have children even though they have to sacrifice so much.

I will now read Father's words. If you ask me to describe True Parents the answer would be that they are people who are born for the children or live for the children and would die for the children. If you asked God what is a True Parent, He would answer the one who is born for the children, the one who is going to live for the children and the one who is dying for the children. Is this to live for oneself or living for the sake of others?

The other way around: I have to think in the position of children.

What are true children? The same position of the true parents. They are born for the parents, they live for the parents and they would give their life for the parents. Such children can become true filial children. How much did you make your parents suffer? Even if you have to die for your parents, you have to be grateful. Even if you die for your parents 1000 times, this is not enough. That is what I heard and learned from my father when I was 5 years old. You cannot learn this at school. The most important things you do not hear about at school. And yet this is very important.

Ok, first husband and wife. Father says, a true husband feels he is born for his wife, he lives for his wife and is willing to die for his wife. The wife can say her husband was the owner of true love, the true ideal and the subject partner of true peace and happiness. Is this correct? The husband who is born for the wife, who is living for the wife and who can die for the wife is a true husband. And vice versa. That is what Father says. I want to be happy with my wife. If I am not happy, if I marry my wife for my happiness, then how it will end? In up times it is ok, but what in down times? You don't feel happiness with him or her. What is the reason to keep going? We are blessed couples. Do I think I am born for my husband or wife and that I can die for my husband or wife? If we have that kind of mind, if we can live like that, we can experience joy and happiness at high and at down moments, on sunny and on rainy days. Of course, this does not mean we always live a good time.

What about the nation? When applying this formula to the nation of Korea, what kind of person would be the true patriot? We say we have to be the true filial sons and daughters and we have to be patriots. It is mentioned in our pledge. We pledge it every morning. And we are determined to be patriots. But what is it to be a patriot? It means we should become like Yi Sun-chin. You heard about Yi Sun-shin from Father, right? You should try to see the movie if you can. It would take too much time to explain. But anyway he was born for the nation, lived for the nation and in spite of many difficulties he gave his life for the nation during the war. He gave his life for his king and for the people. That is why he is a true patriot.

What about the world level? Father says if you want to apply this principle to the world level, and you ask who has been the greatest of all the saints in the course of history, we would answer right away that the person who, more than anyone else, lived and died for the sake of humanity is Jesus Christ. He is the greatest saint in history. If you imagine you get a nail in your hand on the cross, you cannot think about anything. But Jesus was praying to God for the people who were killing him. Father, God, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing. If you feel the pain, you cannot pray for that. Jesus' love was greater than his pain on the cross. Therefore, he could pray. So Jesus was born for the sake of humanity, Jesus was living for humanity, Jesus died for humanity. Therefore, Jesus was the greatest saint in history. So we can understand the standard of living for the sake of others.

You may tell me you speak about happiness, but living for the sake of others means a lot of suffering, sacrifice etc. How can you speak about happiness? But I can say if one lives really a life for the sake of

others, eternal happiness and true happiness come. True happiness is not external happiness, it is not the happiness of the physical body but the happiness of our mind, our spiritual being. That is the point. Even though we sacrifice and live for the sake of others, our body will suffer, but the original mind is really happy. That's why we can say that by living for the sake of others, both God and we can be eternally and truly happy.

I can say this because I am thinking about my mother. My mother had 6 children. Her situation was extremely difficult. She was so poor and did not have anything. Korea was more poor than African people at that time. GNP of Korea at that time was of \$68 for all year. Can you imagine? She made an incredible sacrifice. If we say mother, automatically I shed tears. When I think we were sleeping in the arms of my mother. Remembering this I also let my children sleep in my arms. But I could not stand it even 5 min. It was so difficult. So painful. Then I was asking my mother how she could do these things. I tried to do what she did in the past but I could not stand it for 5

minutes. How did she do this. My mother answered that she was too tired to feel pain.

She said later that was the time she was so happy.

As a Korean, every time you go back to Korea I can see Korea is changing. It is developing so quickly. I can see all this. But I can say that the time we were poor we were happier than now. Now these Korean people don't have love. Brothers and sisters are fighting because of money and possessions, inheriting property. Everybody is really suffering even though they have a lot of money. I can really feel I was very happy. Still I feel happy, exactly when I think about my mother. And when I think about her tears are coming in my eyes. Yet I feel happy.

So true happiness is coming when we practice a life of living for the sake of others. That is what I am trying to say. We really have to have that idea, live by this idea and educate people towards this idea. Without this there is no joy and happiness, no hope, no ideal.

Thank you so much.