

## A Matchmaking Service versus Divine Principle Blessing Preparation Workshops

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*A Divine Principle workshop for those wishing to take part in the Blessing Ceremony*

Mr. Fuji (fifty-two) is single. He is working hard at studying the Divine Principle as he prepares to receive the blessing. Dr. Fuji's mother began studying the Divine Principle before her son.

During this time, when she told us that her son had not yet married, we realized that she was worried about him. We decided to focus our first efforts on guiding the son to receive the blessing, so I went to meet the son directly. The son had been a registered member of a secular matchmaking service since his mid-thirties and had also been meeting potential marriage partners on his own initiative, but he had been unable to find a suitable one. Mr. Fuji had desired to get married to make his mother happy, which is why I told him, "If you do

wish to receive the marriage blessing through the Family Federation, you must first study our teachings, the Divine Principle." Dr. Fuji agreed and has been studying since last January.

He had doubts about things he could not see with his eyes, such as God and the spiritual world, but he said it would not hurt for him to learn about them. He had a reasonable attitude about studying these topics. In the beginning, in respect to marriage, he would say, "If there is the possibility of getting married, I want to increase my opportunities." However, the Family Federation's idea of marriage moved him as he learned about it and his purpose became clearer. "I don't simply want to get married," he said, "I want to get married so I can give joy to my partner."

As Mr. Fuji studied about God and the Divine Principle at the education center, he continued to meet marriage prospects through the matchmaking service. As it happened, because the women's motivations for getting married appeared to be for their own happiness only, these did not work out. He told me this and I replied, "God has definitely prepared a partner for you, so let us focus on the marriage blessing." After that, he declined introductions from the matchmaking service. He formally began the documentation process to prepare for the marriage blessing and became an official matching and blessing candidate. He also happily offered the blessing donation and participated in the new member praise service.

At the end of August, Mr. Fuji participated in the "Youth Blessing Exchange" in District Six. He was the oldest person at the meeting. Mr. Fuji had the attitude that if there was someone that would choose him, in his heart he was willing to accept anyone. However, the circumstances were difficult and no woman had come up to speak to him. As the event was nearing its end, Mr. Fuji began to feel that it would not work out this time. He was preparing to give up when a woman who wished to meet with him appeared. He said, "I was very surprised, but also happy." This is how Mr. Fuji came to court this woman, who is three years younger than he. His mother was very happy and said, "I had been thinking it would be nice for him to meet a woman who has had many experiences in life, and I hope they will be happy together."

It is now only the beginning but even the process of meeting a perspective spouse is difficult, and I am confident that God guided the woman to speak to him. Mr. Fuji has expressed gratitude to God and is studying the Divine Principle with even greater intensity. He provides encouragement and inspiration to other people who are studying.