

True Families

Gateway to Heaven

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Foreword

With great pleasure we present to you this selection of passages from various speeches delivered by the Reverend Dr. Sun Myung Moon.

Jesus Christ first appeared to Reverend Moon while he was praying on a Korean mountainside when he was sixteen years old. On that Easter Sunday morning, Jesus revealed to him that the time had come to consummate the work of establishing peace on earth, and that the key to peace was to build God-centered families.

During the next several years, God revealed to Reverend Moon His original purpose of creation, the circumstances surrounding the human Fall, and His efforts through history to restore humankind to the original purpose of God. Many secrets of the Bible were revealed during this period. Notably, Reverend Moon came to know and to inherit the true love of God and to appreciate the importance of establishing “true families,” meaning families that practice true love and are directly connected to God, our Heavenly Parent.

Reverend Moon promised to fulfill God’s purpose and has tirelessly worked his entire life to accomplish it. For teaching this new message he was imprisoned six times. He was misunderstood and persecuted in Korea, and later in

America, by those who saw the tremendous growth of his congregation and the impact his teachings had on others. Nevertheless, Reverend Moon, now 90 years old, has never wavered from his commitment to God.

Reverend Moon has influenced the lives of millions of people around the world with his teachings about God's suffering heart, the nature of God's true love, and the holy sacrament of the Blessing, that is, a marriage blessed by God and connected to God's lineage. He teaches that all people, regardless of their religious denomination, should unite in their love for God. Today a growing number of ministers of all faiths use his teachings to guide their congregations.

Reverend Moon also teaches that world peace can be established through interracial, intercultural and interfaith marriages. He has been promoting such marriages for more than 50 years. He even predicted in October 1975 that a future president of the United States, within his lifetime, would come from an African-American father and a white mother.

The teachings of Reverend Moon have been published in collections now numbering over 1,000 volumes. In compiling this booklet, we have taken material from Cheon Seong Gyeong [Heavenly Scripture], a large collection of excerpts taken from speeches given from the 1950s to the present. The selections are from Book Four: True Family and Book Five: Earthly Life and the Spirit World.

Please keep in mind that Reverend Moon speaks in

Korean; despite our best efforts, the English translation may be at times awkward and cannot completely convey the depth of his meaning. We hope that you will explore this book with an open mind. Our wish is that these words inspire you to think about and feel closer to our God.

May God bless you and your families.

The Editors

CHAPTER ONE

The Family Is the Basis and Pattern for the Kingdom of Heaven

1. The Pattern for All Relationships

A person is always situated in a context, relating to what is above and below, right and left, and front and back. This context determines his or her position. Your life will turn out better or worse depending on whether you properly create relationships with those above you and below you, with those to your right and to your left, in front of you and in back of you.

Whether it concerns issues in your family or problems facing the nation or the world, the same formula applies: we must deal with relationships to those above and below, on the right and on the left, in front and in back.

You as an individual are responsible to relate properly to those above you and below you, to your right and to your left, in front and in back. This is the case whether

you are relating to your parents or your children, to your husband or your wife, or to your brothers and sisters.

The same applies as you relate to the nation and world. Your family should take the lead in your nation to embrace families in the east and west and north and south, and encourage all families to do the same. Your family should embrace the civilizations of East and West and of North and South, and embrace all the people of the world as your brothers and sisters. This is the way to bring about one world family.

The family pattern applies to everyone. Each of you is situated within that pattern. When you live by its logic, you will be the starting-point of your family, your family can be the basis of your nation, and so on to the world, to heaven and earth, and finally to God. Everyone has the desire to be the center of the universe; moreover, everyone has the potential to fulfill that desire.

In this way, the concept of the family can be likened to the core of the universe. Heaven can be likened to parents in giving life to the earth, representing the children. The relationship between East and West can be likened to that between man and woman. For example, it is customary that when a woman marries, she goes to join her husband wherever he lives. This can be likened to the way the brightness of the east at sunrise illuminates the west and gives it the same value.

The same is true with sibling relationships. When the

oldest brother takes the lead in a task, the younger siblings join in to help.

Thus, we need to be in a parent-child relationship, a conjugal relationship and a sibling relationship. The challenge is how all three relationships can meet at one point. There should be just one central point. There should not be different central points for above and below, right and left, and front and back. If the central points are different, all the relationships will be off balance.

But when the center is aligned, then above and below, right and left, front and back, and their common central point add up to the number seven. A family that forms the number seven in this way is a family of perfect true love with God at the center, where all these elements form a complete sphere, bringing harmony and unity. From this perspective, the phrase “lucky seven” makes sense.

Since true love never changes, this central core will rotate forever without ever changing. This is how a family can realize the true family ideal.

Also, because everything is connected to the core, each position, starting with the core (one) and two, three, four, five, six and seven, will possess equal value. When the grandfather wants something, the grandchildren will affirm it and the sons and daughters will want it as well. Thus, three generations will share a desire for the same thing. The grandfather and grandmother, husband and wife, and sons and daughters will all align with the center.

When such love is present, then parents and children

form loving relationships and become one. Husband and wife build a loving relationship and become one. Siblings build loving relationships and become one. They are all one. Under what conditions can we say that these relationships make us one? They must be infused with the true love of God. God is the center of love. With true love at the center, parents and children will become one, husband and wife will become one, and all the brothers and sisters will become one. In this way, they all come to have equal value. (299-114, 1999.2.7)¹

2. Where We Experience Universal Love

What is the purpose of the universe? God designed everything in the created world as study materials to help His beloved sons and daughters understand and fulfill the ideal of love. This is why everything exists in mutual relationships. Look at the world of minerals: their elements interact in partnerships one to another. Atoms consist of protons and electrons interacting in mutual relationships. Without such interactions they could not continue to exist. Without motion there is no permanence or continued existence.

Nevertheless, the universe is created in such a way that all things of creation can have access to its central point – true love – only through human beings. (137-59, 1985.12.18)

1. For passages originating from *The Collected Speeches of Rev. Sun Myung Moon*, the citation is given in parentheses at the end of each passage in the order of volume number, page number and the date of the speech. Dates are in the order of year, month and day.

The world is the family in macrocosm. A family that has fully realized the ideal of love has an above (parents), a middle (husband and wife) and a below (children), right and left (husband and wife), and front and back (siblings). This is the basic pattern. All relationships of higher and lower can be likened to that between parents and children; right and left can be likened to husband and wife; and front and back to relationships between brothers and sisters.

What can bring all these relationships into unity? Can money, power or knowledge? These will never do it. Only true love can do it. This is the clear truth. Without true love, the family cannot have a spherical shape.

Why is it important for our families to have good relationships between parents and children (higher and lower), and between brothers and sisters (those on the same level)? They are study materials for developing our love. We take the lessons learned from our family relationships and practice them in the wider world.

How should we love? Jesus said, "Love your neighbor as yourself." What did he mean? He meant that when you meet an old man, you should treat him as you would your own grandfather. Treat women and men of your parents' age as you would your own mother and father, and treat young people as you would your own sons and daughters. As you treat the members your family, so should you treat all people of the world.

The world can be compared to an exhibition hall filled

with all different kinds of people. Some are older than you, some are the same age and some are younger. Some are ahead of you and some are behind, or to the right or to the left. The world presents you with all these different kinds of people. If you can love each of them with the appropriate kind of love, God will dwell with you in the midst of that love. (128-22, 1983.5.29)

What is the Kingdom of Heaven? It is where you love the people of the world as you love your own family. If you can do this, you will be a citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven. Your grandfather and grandmother, your mother and father, your spouse, your siblings and your children – four generations of family members – provide life lessons for you to deeply experience love. Citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven begin to experience the true love of the universe in their family. Therefore, your family is the foundation and the study material for learning life’s basic lessons. (129-98, 1983.10.1)

We cannot live without learning to be people of universal love. God has prepared textbooks and scriptures that teach us the way.² First He tells us: “Love your grandmother and grandfather. Your grandmother and grandfather on earth were sent to you as representatives of all your ances-

2. For example, Mencius 1.A.7: “Treat the aged of your own family in a manner befitting their venerable age and extend this treatment to the aged of other families; treat your own young in a manner befitting their tender age and extend this to the young of other families...”

tors in the spirit world. By loving your grandparents, I will credit you as having loved them all.” This is His pledge.

Next God says, “I hold your mother and father to be textbooks and models representing the countless mothers and fathers in the world. Therefore, when you show exceptional love for your mother and father, I will credit you as having loved all mothers and fathers.”

God also says, “I hold that when a man loves his wife, he represents all the men in the world and his wife represents all the women in the world. Therefore, when you love your wife, I regard it as though you have loved all women in the world.”

Then God says: “When you have loved your sons and daughters, I will credit you as having loved all sons and daughters.” In this way, our family is where we are trained to be people of universal love.

We rely on scripture to guide us in cultivating ourselves to love the world. After you have received this training, God will ask you: “Are you ready now to go into the world and love the grandfathers and grandmothers of the world as you love your own grandparents?” If you can confidently answer “Yes,” then you are surely capable of saving the world. (130-273, 1984.2.5)

3. The School of Love

God’s will is to realize the kingdom of love. To develop the ideal of love and expand it to make the entire globe

an ideal world of love, God set up the family as the school of love. There, people earn credits as they progress from the elementary grades all the way to university and a doctoral degree.

Expand the family, and you have the world. Look at the world, and you will find grandfathers and grandmothers, adults like your uncles and aunts, peers like your brothers and sisters, young people, and children. In the kingdom of love, people of all ages – the elderly, middle-aged people, young people and children – live together as a family, like your own family only with much greater dimensions and larger numbers of people. (147-281, 1986.10.1)

The family is the smallest unit for entering the Kingdom of Heaven and the school that provides its study material. It has all the levels: the grandparents' level, parents' level, husband and wife level, siblings' level and children's level. You can extend the love you have for your family members – your grandparents, your mother and father, your siblings and your children – to the people in the world at large who are of similar age. This is the way to extend your love to encompass all humanity. Only when you love all humanity with as much love as you give your wife and your parents, and care for the world as much as you care for your own sons and daughters, can your family inherit the Kingdom of Heaven. This is a wonderful truth. Live it, and you will have the special right to inherit all the power and authority of God who created heaven and earth. (143-285, 1986.3.20)

The family is a textbook of love. It is where we can obtain the right to be registered in the Palace of Peace in the Kingdom of Heaven after we die.

The family is the school of love. It teaches us how to live in the world, which is nothing but the extension of the family. There is a world of people who resemble your grandfather, a world of people who resemble your grandmother, a world of people who resemble your father and mother, and a world of people who resemble your sons and daughters. Hence, if you expand your family, you have the world.

If you love the people of the whole world as much as you love your family, and as much as you love God who cares for your family, you will be on the straight road leading to the Kingdom of Heaven. This is how you should understand the first commandment, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind,” and the second, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” If you love God and love humanity as much as you love your family, that’s the basis for everything. If you cannot do it, all the spiritual training you go through will be of no use. No matter how great your spiritual discipline as you follow the precepts of religion, you will fail all the tests if you do not know how to love God, humankind and the universe.

In the family there is an ordered process for experiencing love, like a course of training. The school that is the family is a microcosm of the world. Therefore, you can

expand on its lessons to love the world. God has given you the family where you were raised and where your mother and father live as the school where you are trained in the ways of love.

You love your wife, and rightly so. But if you can love your parents more than you love your wife, love your sons and daughters more than your wife, love humanity more than your wife, and love God more than your wife, then everything will work out well. This doesn't mean you should abandon your wife. If you love everyone this way, then everyone who received your love will also appreciate and honor your wife. Wouldn't that be a wonderful situation? The same goes for loving your husband. If you really want to love your spouse, this is the best way. (142-242, 1986.3.11)

4. Textbook for the Heavenly Kingdom

Every child should inherit the good fortune of his grandparents and parents. Why do we need grandparents? It is because they represent the past. Grandparents represent the living history of the past. Parents represent the present, and children represent the future.

How can one family encompass East and West and also North and South? How can it be the center of the whole universe? Its center must be true love. The center of the grandparents, the center of the parents, the center of the children and the center of God – in every case, the center is true love.

When you love your grandparents and respect them, you can inherit the past completely and learn about the world that has gone by. From your father and mother you learn about the present, and by loving your children you learn about the future.

What can you inherit from your grandfather and grandmother, and mother and father? You can inherit true love. You recognize, "Our grandfather and grandmother are old, but they are as one in true love. Our parents have become as one, too. Let's live the same way and inherit true love, which will give us a bright future." You should become absolute true families so that you can bequeath such love to your children, and thus secure your family's future.

The three-generation family can be likened to the universe. Representing the present and the future, such true families possess the very love that pulses throughout the universe. This is the love that we can also learn about by observing nature's textbook: the love between male and female in the animal world.

If your grandmother were suddenly absent, your family would feel distressed. If your grandfather were absent, it would be the same. The remaining grandparent just could not feel good about it. This earthly example indicates something about heaven. When a grandfather and grandmother have lived happily together on earth, after they pass over they will live happily together in the Kingdom of Heaven. If they separated, their dwelling-place would not be heaven. Likewise, a family can live together as a family in the Kingdom

of Heaven when the grandparents, mother and father, and children have been living harmoniously together on earth. Your loving relationships with true grandparents, true parents, true children, true families, a true nation and the true universe will qualify you to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. The model and textbook for the Kingdom of Heaven is the true family. (162-140, 1987.4.5)

The family provides us with lessons that enable us to establish the Kingdom of Heaven. Its lessons were created by God.

Any person living anywhere in the world can enter the Kingdom of Heaven if he loves every old man he meets just as he loves his own grandfather. A person who can love everyone he meets of his parents' age just as he loves his own parents will be welcomed everywhere. It is the same in every country. When he goes to the spirit world, he will transcend every boundary. Furthermore, a person who has the heart to regard all the young people of the world as his own sons and daughters will be able to travel freely throughout the Kingdom of Heaven. All the twelve pearly gates are open to him, and the regions in all four directions. Thus, the family provides lessons that teach us how to connect ourselves to the Kingdom of Heaven.

When you apply these family lessons to loving your nation, you will become patriots. When you apply these family lessons to the world, you will become saints. When you apply these lessons for the welfare of all beings in heaven and earth, you will become God's sons and

daughters – divine sons and daughters. This is a desire that every person shares. (137-78, 1985.12.18)

You must be able to embrace the sons and daughters of all races, and their grandsons and granddaughters too. This means you have to stand as true parents, with God's true love, and inspire your family to love all the world's people. By abiding in God's love and in a relationship with the original True Parents, you will be able to attain that standard of true love in your family. Only then can you enter the Kingdom of Heaven. (176-210, 1988.5.9)

5. Uniting the Love of Three Generations

The family that is connected through love and united in love can encompass past history, the present era and the future. Such a family has been God's greatest desire, and He has sought for it over the history of six thousand biblical years.

The original mission given to Adam and Eve at the time of creation was to establish such a family, where everything would come under the dominion of true love. No one would cut themselves off from a relationship if the love were inherent and absolute.

God did not want Adam and Eve to remain an individual man and an individual woman. He looked forward to the new family they would form through their union. This was God's primary point of origin in creating men and women.

You can enter the Kingdom of Heaven without any problem once you have established a true family. We need to live in this world feeling fulfillment from the love of God flowing within our family. Only this will enable us to transcend the snares of this world. (30-86, 1970.3.17)

To form the family realm of love, you must be absolute. As parents, you must be able to represent the past. As husband and wife, you must be able to represent the present. As the children, you must be able to represent the future. You should consider that to love your parents, your partner or your children is equivalent to God relating to the world.

When husband and wife and children have become as one body, they are able to represent the cosmos. They can instruct others to take their love as an example to follow, and teach their descendents to follow in their path. The place where they can make such statements, both to themselves and to others, and communicate the heart of heaven, is the homeland of the heart that will be remembered by all heaven and earth. (30-80, 1970.3.17)

What has God been seeking all this time? He has been seeking ideal object partners. He has been looking for people who resemble God and who possess the inner and outer aspects of His world of creation. What is the starting point that leads to such a result? It is the family. Nothing represents the universe better than the family. To be one

with our parents is to bring the past and present together. You can love the past by loving your parents, love the present by loving your spouse, and love the future by loving your children. In your family, you can experience the love of three generations. Your family is the core unit where these three kinds of love are concentrated. (30-80, 1970.3.17)

Then, where does life in the Kingdom of Heaven begin? It begins in the family, and not in some other place. The Kingdom of Heaven is nothing more than a three-dimensional expansion of the family; it does not exist separately from the family. Thus when you embrace your husband or wife, you should think of it as leading to the unions of all men and all women in the world. This is how in your family you can set the condition of having loved all humanity. This is the path you should follow in your lives.

When you love your parents, you are connecting past history with the present era, and you are paving a road that will let God come to you. This is the reason you must love your parents. To love your parents is to connect everything in the past to yourself who lives in the present, bringing together the past and the present so they become as one. Also, loving your own children connects the present reality with the future.

Unification Thought is the philosophy that extols such love and teaches how it can be practiced throughout eternity. (30-83, 1970.3.17)

6. Training Ground of the Heart

We cannot live disregarding the heart. Even if you were the president of a country or possessed all the authority in the world, you could not live without a place to express the joy in your heart. The president has people under his command, government ministers to serve him and followers to meet his every need, but they cannot fulfill the desire of the heart. Only in the family can you experience such fulfillment. Hence the president returns to his family, where he and his spouse can rejoice with each other and with their children. You should be able to boast to others about this joy. It is a joy that can only be experienced directly, not secondhand.

The same is true for God. Even if the whole world were restored, God could not be happy without a family. Therefore, God must have a family of His own. (25-86, 1969.9.30)

In the family, parents should be at the center. In educational institutions which represent society, teachers should be at the center. Your parents raised you from infancy and helped you develop physically and emotionally. What is school, then? It is a place where you are trained for your future role in society. As the family is the training ground of the emotions, school is the place where you can try out different roles and prepare for your future role in society.

But society is not the ultimate end. It is a stepping-stone to the nation. The nation has a leader. Why is it that people

want to see the president and be near him? Once people have learned all they can in the family and then in society, they desire to go on to the next level.

The president is the fruit of the third stage, following on the stages of formation and growth. A seed is planted and sprouts (formation), begins its cycle of growth, and finally the elements come together to produce a flower and bear fruit (completion).

In the course of our growth, we attend school to be educated to become people who can become important pillars of society and talented people who are needed by the nation. What is the purpose of our studies in school? It is training. The school is a place for training and experimenting. With training, you are not in the actual situation; it is a time of preparation. Be sure to prepare well.

What sort of training happens in the family? It is cultivation of the heart. Your heart is cultivated by the love at the center of the family. This prepares you in school to relate to your classmates with the same affection as you have for your own siblings. In the nation, too, you should relate to others with affection. The education you receive from your parents will be important for you in school and in the nation.

Parents should create a foundation of heart for their children and bequeath to their children everything having to do with the heart. Then they should teach their children to live as they have lived, giving them specific guidance on how to live in the family, in society, and in the nation. (180-

A family is not necessarily good just because it lives in a nice house in an affluent neighborhood. Even a family that lives in a humble house in a poor neighborhood can be a good family. A good family affords peace to all its members, who view their family as the center to which they want to link all aspects of their lives. In a good family, parents and children have a relationship of heart such that they live for each other. Their family serves as the original homeland of their dreams. It is the source of their motivation in all that they do in life. It is the foundation for their lifelong happiness. (29-17, 1970.2.15)

7. The Original Hometown

The family home is a good place. Why is it good? It is good because it is where my mother and father have lived. It is good because it is where my elder sister and elder brother have lived. It is where my younger brother and younger sister and where all my relatives have lived. This is why every human being feels a yearning for his or her hometown. People feel more deeply about their hometown than they do about their nation. A Korean will love the nation of Korea and want to live in Korea. But even when he is in Korea, there is one place where he will yearn to return to. It is his hometown.

Our hometown! How can we describe our hometown? It is the place where our hearts are entirely lifted up in four directions and in three dimensions. What is that heart? It

is the ties that bind us in love. Above us, we are bound in love to our mother and father; as right and left, we are bound in love to our spouse; and below us, we are bound in love to our sons and daughters. We are bound in love to our relatives in these three dimensions. This is the heart of the original homeland.

People treasure above anything else this originating point of their happiness, where true love is at the center. This is the reason they cannot help but feel a yearning for their original homeland. Then, where is God's original homeland? Where do you think God's original homeland is on the planet Earth? This is a question we need to consider.

Since God is the God of love, He must surely have prepared a starting point on earth where He could reside. So where is this starting point? To answer this question, we need to understand how God prepared that starting point.

God wants to reside in the place where He first formed His family. What kind of place is that? It must be the place where a son of God dwells, a man who truly understands that God is his Father. In other words, it is the home of God's only-begotten son, who can be the vessel for the entirety of God's love. Also, it is a place where a daughter of God dwells, who can be the vessel for the entirety of God's love. Where that son of God and that daughter of God marry and complete their family, that place is the starting-point of God's original homeland. (23-151, 1969.5.18)

If you could dwell in that original homeland, who else should be there? All the people you miss should be there. Your parents should be there and your brothers and sisters should be there. All your friends and relatives whom you have longed to see should be there. Moreover, they should not be the sort of people that you would want to see just for a moment. You would want to spend eternity with them and never grow tired of them. This is the kind of world we need to establish. This is the Kingdom of Heaven, which religions are seeking for in this age. (23-81, 1969.5.11)

We long for our original homeland because this is where we find the people who are closest to us: our parents, our brothers and sisters, and our relatives. These people will always guide us. Whenever we visit, they will welcome us just as they did in the past. When we face difficulties, they will show sympathy, console us and receive us with joy.

It is important to realize, however, that although you may return to your original homeland with a heart of longing, if people do not welcome you on your arrival, then your intense heart of longing will vanish and you will turn back with feelings of deep regret. You need to have people there who will welcome you. (23-80, 1969.5.11)

8. The Cosmic Ideology

All things start from one, divide into many, and ultimately come together again as something larger. One

divides into many, and the many unite again into one. Then that greater one divides again, and they recombine into an even larger unit. This process repeats continuously.

Families exist within this process of continual division and recombination, yet the form of the family never changes. In the family a husband and wife meet, build a relationship as two people, and become one. The clan brings many families together as one. Clans combine to form a tribe, and tribes combine to form a nation. The family, however, is always at the center. The horizontal world develops as an expansion of the family.

This is why no society can do without the family. If family conflicts are not resolved, we cannot solve the conflicts plaguing our world.

Once a family is restored, then through that family we can fulfill the ideal of a unified cosmos. The cosmos includes the spirit world (heaven) and the physical world (earth). Heaven and earth can be compared to a person's mind and body. Mind and body must become one.

Just as a subject partner needs an object partner and vice-versa, a man needs a woman and a woman needs a man. The union of a man and a woman leads to a family. God's foundation of love will not be attained except through the family. (26-189, 1969.10.25)

The cosmic ideology teaches that we should first unite our mind and body, next form a family that embodies God's love, and on that basis we can connect the spirit

world and the physical world – the cosmos. The character *ju* (宙) in *cheon-ju* (cosmos) refers to a house or a home. We thus understand the term “cosmic ideology” to mean that unity in the cosmos – between the incorporeal world and the corporeal world – is rooted in unity in the family.

What does this have to do with us? Everyone needs a family. If you cannot be united in your family, you will have no place to stand in a united cosmos. The family serves as the ultimate standard for fulfilling the cosmic ideology. If you cannot sing songs of peace and praise the happiness of your family, you will be miserable, both on earth and in the spirit world. (26-189, 1969.10.25)

Where does the task of building the Kingdom of Heaven begin? It begins in our families. Our philosophy for establishing the Kingdom is family-centered. In the word *cheon-ju* (cosmos) the character *cheon* (天) means heaven and *ju* (宙) means house or home. Thus the phrase *cheon-ju ju-eui* (cosmic ideology) literally means the ideology of heaven’s family.

Everything in the 66 books of the Bible is God’s word expressing His earnest desire for an ideal family. Consider, what is the earnest desire of every man? It is to have an ideal wife. Also, every person born a woman has the earnest desire to have an ideal husband. She may earn the highest academic degrees and command influence over world events, but her deepest desire is still to meet an ideal man. She wants to meet an ideal man whom she can love

and with whom she can give birth to sons and daughters filled with blessings. This is the root of happiness. The ideal of the Unification Church does not lie anywhere else. It begins in the family and concludes in the family. (26-103, 1969.10.18)

What kind of teaching is the cosmic ideology? It is *chambumo ju-eui*, the ideology that teaches us to be true parents. These teachings uphold the way of life where we relate to others with the mind of a parent. This is the way of life in our home, the way of leadership in the nation, and way each of you should conduct yourselves as individuals.

Had human beings not fallen, Adam and Eve would have brought the teaching that would have spread all over the world. The ideology of the original unfallen Adam is exactly the teaching about how to live as a true parent. It is the teaching about how to live as a father and as a mother. There is no higher teaching than this.

This is the reason the Unification Church must link matters of the heart with the heavenly ideology. Heart is cultivated through the philosophy of true parents and is practiced within the framework of the original ideal family. As long as connections remain to families that have internalized this philosophy, the Unification Church will not perish. (26-201, 1969.10.25)

CHAPTER TWO

Love: the Basis of Human Life

1. Why Are People Born?

Which came first, life or love? You can argue for either answer. But which do you think really came first? Love came first. The Primordial Core of the universe must have emanated love prior to creating existent beings. Otherwise, existent beings would have no value. (143-277, 1986.3.20)

At the very origin of things, which came first, life or love? Can you discern the answer? Love came first, then life. Since what comes second must surrender to what comes first, it is natural that people give their lives for the sake of love. This helps us understand the true way of life. Since love gave birth to our life, we should walk the path of love and ultimately die for love.

The purpose of human life is to establish a love that can be welcomed by the macrocosm, not merely the microcosm. It is to live, to love, and to die participating in the

universal love that is recognized by God, the angelic world, all things of creation, and our parents. (83-164, 1976.2.8)

Human beings do not choose to be born. Are we born by our parents' desire? No. We are born by God's desire. We are conceived through the love of our parents, which represents God's love. Each of us was created as a new life by the love of our parents, which represents God's love.

Love has the power to create the whole. Each of us was born as a central being of the entire universe, receiving all the love in the universe. The highest purpose of life is to be born through love, be raised in love, live by love, and leave behind a legacy of love. In our family we should live by this love, which is at the very center of the universe. Then we become people of the greatest value. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1063, 1978.9.21)

It is important to understand why human beings are born. We are not born for the purpose of attaining vast knowledge or political power. We are born because of love and for the sake of love. What makes love so great? Love is the fountainhead of life.

You were born out of your parents' love. You were not born from your parents' desire for money or knowledge. Because you were born from love, you should bear the fruits of love. This is why you need to have children. A man and a woman each becomes complete when they

become one as husband and wife and then have sons and daughters as their object partners.

Human beings cannot exist apart from love. Each of us lives on the foundation of love. Everything in creation originates from God's love. Since all things that exist have love as their foundation, it follows that human beings, as the center of the created universe, must also have begun from love. Since we were born from love and mature through love, it follows that we cannot live separated from the realm of love. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1062, 1988.8.20)

2. Life in its Original Form

What is the cause of human existence? That cause is love. Then, what do you think is the purpose of human life? It is to fulfill the ideal of love. Human beings are conceived through love, so our purpose is to perfect love. First we should form a foundation of love in the context of our family. Then we should expand it and connect it everywhere, making it complete.

Since the beginning is love, the end is also attained through love. For this, a man and a woman begin a relationship, become one in love, and expand their love to connect with everyone around them: front and back, right and left, above and below. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1064, 1986.1.3)

No matter how firmly we have determined to become an absolute being and live for an absolute purpose, it will be for nothing unless we are happy. Our daily life should be joyful.

We may live for the sake of a certain purpose. Yet once we achieve it, some new, greater purpose may appear that makes the earlier purpose seem insignificant. On the other hand, what is this most precious thing for a man or for a woman? It is love. Love is the key element needed to experience happiness.

Therefore, no matter how lofty a person's purpose may be, if he fails to establish a love that can take dominion over purpose, once he attains his purpose he will not be satisfied. So he will embark on another purpose and in the end not be satisfied with that either. Thus, purpose is limited. It cannot stand above love. (29-130, 1970.2.26)

What are you living for? Some people say they live to eat. Some people say they live to work. Still others live without a purpose. What are you living for? Declare that you live for love; that is the most excellent answer.

We are born as the fruit of love, we spend our lives loving others, and eventually we return to the eternal love of God's bosom. This is the original vision of human life as God created it. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1064, 1982.4.26)

A person is born in love and raised in love. Then he or she leaves the love of parents behind and seeks out a love of a partner, which is the love of another dimension. We can say that children's experience receiving love from their parents is formation-stage love, and spouses' experience receiving conjugal love from their partner is growth-stage love. However, no matter how much love a husband and wife receive from each other, it is only when they have children that they can be completed in love. That is why couples naturally want to have children. Parents' experience of receiving love from their children is completion-stage love.

Going through the stages of receiving parental love, conjugal love and children's love is fundamental to human fulfillment. They constitute the path to fulfilling God's original ideal of love that He purposed at the creation. (48-12, 1971.8.31)

Love gives birth to life. A man is born from love, is raised in love by his loving parents, meets a loving wife and loves her, and then dies in that love – this is the course of human life. In this original vision for human life there would be no sorrow or pain. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1065, 1982.10.29)

Originally, God designed the focal point of the universe to be the place where every type of love combines into one. God's vertical love and human horizontal love would come together in a comprehensive way that involves parental love, conjugal love and children's love simultaneously in an all-encompassing union. This would become the focal point of the entire universe. Every cell in the universe would turn in its direction.

All the spirits in the spirit world would turn and focus on this point. They would protect it and not allow anyone to invade it, since if it were destroyed it would be catastrophic.

This focal point needs a certain structure to maintain itself and preserve its integrity. In the teaching of the Unification Church, this structure is called the four-position foundation.³ (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1066, 1982.10.29)

3. The Nutrient of Life

You shouldn't forget that while you were a fetus, you not only received nutrients from your mother, you also received love from her. Similarly, while you live on earth, you not only receive physical nutrients from nature, you also receive love from God. Love is an essential nutrient for life. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1066, 1984.4.24)

3. The four-position foundation is the Divine Principle's term for the four-fold structure of a God-centered family, composed of God, husband, wife and children. It is called "the fundamental foundation for the life of all beings." (*Exposition of the Divine Principle*, p. 25)

Just as plants absorb sunlight as an element of life, people take in love is an element of life. Our dearest wish is to live eternally in circumstances where we can love and be loved. This is the hope of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth and the Kingdom of Heaven in heaven. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1066, 1986.3.20)

The paths that men and women walk are for the sake of love. We each have a path to travel, and it is a path of love. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1066, 1984.4.24)

We travel this life to obtain love, to keep love, and to create an environment of love. A woman puts on cosmetics or gets a massage for the sake of love. Our wants and our work are all for the sake of love. We willingly endure hardships and press forward in order to obtain precious love. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1066, 1982.4.26)

From the moment we are born, we receive parental love. As long as our parents are alive, they will love us at each stage of our lives, through childhood, young adulthood and middle age. Having received parental love as we grow up, in time the horizontal love of husband and wife is bound to blossom within each of us. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1067, 1973.4.16)

What is marriage? It is like a school where men learn things they did not know about women and women learn

things they did not know about men. When all the grades are A's, then the husband and the wife will be happy.

Raising sons and daughters is like going to another school, this time to learn about loving the world. Your children are your connection to the future. They are given to you to provide you with lessons about how to relate to the future world.

Acts of filial piety toward your grandfather and grandmother, or to your ancestors, have the purpose of enabling you to be educated by the spirit world. All your ancestors are connected to you through love. Love is the central line that links grandfather and grandmother, husband and wife, and sons and daughters. As blood circulates through the human body, these links enable your ancestors in the spirit world going back even ten thousand generations to circulate up and down and communicate with you, their distant descendent. The spirit world, like the universe as a whole, is organized according to connections of love.

Everything submits to the order of love. This is why people say that becoming a servant of true love and a slave of true love is the greatest happiness. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1067, 1985.10.4)

4. What Is God's Love?

You should discover God's love. How can we characterize God's love? It can be compared to a warm spring day, with white clouds gently floating in the sky, shimmering

waves of warm air rising from the ground, and insects flying to and fro. Ants are crawling in and out of their nests, exploring the ground. Pussy willows are in bloom by the stream. Frogs sing new songs of spring, bees swarm and butterflies flutter about. Lying in the grass, you feel a happy, sleepy intoxication come over you. You feel like resting there forever.

This is just how God feels when He finds His ideal partner. God likewise feels as if He were in a beautiful flower garden, with butterflies and bees flying around. When imagining this, do you feel good or bad? Dull-witted people may not be aware that God has feelings. But truly, He feels good.

When you run into someone whom you are pleased to see, you grasp his hand firmly and shake hands. When someone greets you joyfully, saying, “Wow, it’s been a long time!” and shakes your hand firmly, does it make you feel good or bad? [Audience: “Good.”] If anyone says it feels bad, go ahead and kick him!

Do you like it when someone grasps your hand firmly? [“Yes, we do.”] You mean you *want* to like it. How can you say for sure that you like it? You have to know the person to like it. If the person is a stranger, how can you like it when he grabs your hand? But if he is someone you are fond of, then when you grasp each other’s hands, you don’t want to let go.

You young ladies here, think of how it will be when you are married. If your husband loves you, you feel as if you

don't need anything else in the world. You want to live your whole life staying by his side. I enjoy watching a man and woman holding hands, especially when the man's hand is as rough as a cow's front hoof. We enjoy seeing scenes like that in the movies. But if the woman were to say to the man, "Oh, you have such pretty hands," the man would be offended. This is how it is.

Love is eternal. Love is not two; it is one. It is two becoming one. When a man and a woman become a couple and love each other, they are bonded together. Of course this does not happen literally, but in heart. In fact, they reach a level even higher than this; they touch God's love. If you live with God's love, will you become one or not? Think about it. You are destined to become one. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1068, 1970.12.22)

When a man and a woman fall in love, they experience all sorts of wonderful things. But if you could taste the profound experience of God's love, you would find it incomparably greater than any worldly love. When a person has really tasted God's love, no amount of difficulty or sorrow can defeat him. He dwells in a realm of absolute freedom. Such a realm truly exists; the question is how to find it. (39-240, 1971.1.15)

God's love can basically be divided into three major types: parental love, conjugal love and children's love.

God's love is the core that fills them and unites them all.

(173-278, 1975.11.23)

5. Inheriting Love and Bequeathing Love

A glorious new morning will dawn on the day when God assumes a physical body. Even more glorious will be the moment that He has a son and a daughter through whom He can experience the love of husband and wife. Still more glorious will be the moment when He can love His grandchildren. The day God can love His grandchildren will be more glorious than when He can love His son and daughter.

How do you think God explained to Adam about the joy He felt at the moment He created him? Was it enough to say to Adam, "This is how happy I was"? People can only understand the joy of parenthood when their first baby is born and they become new parents themselves. Likewise, we can only understand God's happiness at the creation when we give birth to our own sons and daughters. When children are young they can't comprehend parental love, but they come to understand it later in life when they have a family and begin raising their own children. Then they understand, "So this is how my parents loved me when they were raising me." Therefore, the day your child gets married is a day of glory, and the day your child has a child of his or her own is a day of glory. (Blessed Families and the Ideal

Kingdom, vol. I, 936, 1978.1.22)

You need to know God's love. How can you really know it? First you need to experience the love of your parents and learn to express your love for them in acts of service. Next, you need to experience conjugal love with your spouse and learn to express your love by serving him or her well. Next, you need to experience what it is like to love your children and know how they love you. You will learn that to be a parent you cannot just give orders to your children, but must learn to understand and serve them as well. This is the way you learn about God's love. Until you have cared for children like this, you are still incomplete and will not be able to truly understand God's love.

Without having the experience of raising your own children, you cannot begin to fathom how much God has loved human beings, His children. Similarly, until you have experienced life as a husband, you cannot know God's experience of loving a woman as His wife, and without the experience of being a wife, you cannot know God's experience of loving a man as Her husband. Although you may already know what it is like to be a child of God, you cannot truly understand God's parental love until you become a parent yourself. Therefore, to become a true parent who knows God's love, you need to have sons and daughters. (133-138, 1984.7.10)

Parents want their children to be married because they want to bequeath to them all their parental love. When the

parents die, they leave behind their substantial selves with their descendants. This is why we need descendants.

Love continues forever. Since love is the highest human desire, everyone has their arms outstretched wanting to inherit it. When parents have bequeathed their love to their descendants, they can stand proudly before God when they arrive in the spirit world.

It is in the family that love becomes complete. We say that the path to the Kingdom of Heaven runs through the family, because the family is where we can realize the realm of oneness of love. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 937, 1978.9.21)

The principles that we should follow can be seen in nature. Seeds are sown in spring, in summer plants reach their full growth, and in autumn they bear fruit. Winter is a time for storing up seeds for next spring's planting. Likewise, when you go through winter-like harsh times, you should put things in order and carry the essence of the new seed of life deep within your heart. Only then will you have seeds to plant again when spring returns.

Having thus equipped yourselves, you will be prepared to become parents and bear sons and daughters in your likeness. You will know to raise your sons and daughters to follow the same principles as you do. (26-158, 1969.10.25)

Why do people feel sad when they do not have sons and daughters? It is because they cannot complete the circle

of life. When you see birds feeding their young, you recognize the deep love of the mother bird. People generally like children more than adults. While they show polite respect to adults, they demonstrate warm affection to children. You can realize how much your parents loved you when you have your own sons and daughters and raise them.

Everyone should get married, have children and raise them. This is the only way they can know both children's love and parental love. It seems that many people these days avoid having children. They hesitate to have children because children may limit their freedom to marry and divorce. But when people fail to establish the four-position foundation, they cannot go to the Kingdom of Heaven. This is because they do not fully know God's heart of love for human beings. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 937, 1982.4.26)

6. Seeking the Center of Love

Human beings are born in love, raised in parental love, and grow up as they extend their love horizontally to relatives and friends. A stage in the development of horizontal love is completed when they meet a partner of the opposite sex and grow together as a couple. In their conjugal union, the couple represents the love of heaven and earth. The fruit of that love is the children they bear. Children are the result of love, born from the core of the heart.

Those children, born from a man and woman who share love based on deep heart, create a path for the parents that will take them to the central point of love. When they follow this path to the center, they will meet God. By having children as fruits of love, human beings come to deeply experience the love by which God created human beings and all things. By loving their children with the same love that they had received as they grew up, they can have a deep experience of the parental heart of God.

The love that parents pour out to their children is not materialistic love. It is an intrinsic love. Though everything in heaven and earth may change, the love that parents give their children will never change. In every time and place parental love is the same.

By becoming a parent and loving your children, you will understand and deeply experience how God has been loving human beings, His children. Through the experience of being a parent and loving your children, you will feel to your bone how much your parents have loved you.

This is why people revere their parents even more in their old age and fulfill the duties of filial piety to lovingly care for them. If you do not have the heart to do this, you are not qualified to be parents, and your love towards your children can only be considered hypocritical.

We need to feel and understand how much God has loved us. We can do this by becoming parents ourselves and loving our children. This will enable us to love God with greater sincerity.

In this way, it is natural that we should love our elderly parents more than we love our children, and love God more than we love our parents. This is the order and law of love.

As was stated, human beings are born in love and grow through their childhood years receiving parental love. But once we grow to a certain level, our parents' love alone is not enough for us, and we begin to expand our love horizontally to include love among siblings and relatives. This is because as we mature, we want to receive all the love that exists in heaven and earth.

In particular, as we enter the years of adolescence, we begin to crave the love of the opposite sex. By giving and receiving love with someone of the opposite sex, we are able to enter a new and comprehensive realm of love. It is here that for the first time we are able to set out in search of the center of love.

The cosmos has a spherical shape. By the give-and-take of horizontal love with our partner, we begin to revolve together. The relationship traces a circular shape, the first step in forming a sphere. Next, having chosen a partner of the opposite sex and shared love, we bear the fruit of children. By the give-and-take of love with our children, we begin to revolve on a vertical axis. This vertical love when combined with the horizontal love creates a three-dimensional spherical realm. At the same time it establishes a center – the center of love.

The center of love that emerges out of this spherical

motion created by these love relationships is the core of existence of the entire world of creation. It can be likened to the Sun, around which the Earth continually revolves and which provides for its existence. The center of love possesses infinite force, which enables the motion of love around it to continue forever. This center, which arises within a sphere of love, is the dwelling-place of God.

All created beings that exist in the world are given birth and exist by virtue of God's love. They all seek the center of God's love. God is the furnace of love. (126-245, 1983.4.24)

7. The Three Ages of Human Life

Human beings spend time developing in their mother's womb before they are born. They live on earth for a certain period, and then die. Prior to birth, the fetus spends about ten months⁴ in the mother's womb. While it is in the womb, it has limited freedom. It develops by receiving nutrients from the mother through the umbilical cord. About all it can do is straighten and bend its fingers, open and close its mouth, and wriggle its feet. Nevertheless, for the fetus, the mother's womb is a world of freedom and the entirety of its realm of life.

After ten months, the fetus is born into the world as an infant and begins to grow. Now its world is the wide earth and human society. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1071, 1983.4.24)

4. Ten months by the lunar calendar are equivalent to nine solar months.

Love is the purpose of human existence at every stage. The fetus was conceived in its parents' love. It develops in the mother's womb, the bosom of its parents' protection and love. After birth, the child doesn't know any better and so may wet her bed, but the parents will not blame her for it. Parents' love is such that they do not recognize ugliness as being ugly. Their love enables them to digest everything joyfully and without complaint. When a child reaches maturity, at around twenty years of age, he or she should meet an eternal partner in love. That is when he or she is engrafted into a higher love, whose measure is to live for the sake of the other according to the principles of Heaven. Continuing their life course, the couple has their own children and gives love to them.

Thus throughout our life, we can experience the greatness of God's love. We do this by participating in completing the substantial realm of God's love that exists between God and us, His object partners. (143-285, 1986.3.20)

Human life in the world can be compared to the life of a fetus in its mother's womb. It is our hundred-year sojourn in the womb of our Mother Earth. Just as the fetus is ignorant of the world outside the womb, people living in the earthly world are ignorant of the reality of the incorporeal spirit world that awaits them after death. They only have a vague sense that a world after death probably exists.

Yet just as the human world exists in the fetus's future, even though it did not know about it while in the mother's

womb, even so the spirit world exists in reality regardless of our beliefs or feelings about it. Yet since the world after death cannot be perceived by our five physical senses, we must overcome our disbelief through religious faith. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1071, 1983.4.24)

Human beings pass through three ages in the course of their life: the water age, the land age and the air age. Don't animals and all things live in the water, on land, and in the air? For human beings to stand as the lords of creation and be qualified to have dominion over all things, we must exist as a complete life form, more complete than any other creature.

To be the lords of all creatures at home in the water, we are given an age when we live in water. Next, during the land age, we exist as the highest being among all the land animals. It follows that we must also have an air age. But human beings do not have wings. Without wings, how can we fly? We should be able to fly higher and farther than any bird or insect. Then what should we do? This cannot happen as long as we are in a physical body. No matter how high we jump, we cannot get far off the ground.

Yet because human beings are the lords of creation, and because we stand in a reciprocal relationship to God, who is a spiritual being, we need to have the same stage of operation as God. It is well known that light travels 300,000 kilometers a second. Human beings can travel even faster.

We will have this capability in the air age, when we live as a spirit. (112-202, 1981.4.12)

This world in which we live is not all that exists. There is also the spirit world. What sort of place is this spirit world, where we dwell after we die? It is an eternal world, filled with the air of love. Your physical life is a time of preparation for life in the eternal world of spirit. (140-121, 1986.2.9)

8. Training to Be in Rhythm with the Spirit World

The spirit world is a place overflowing with the elements of love. On the earth we breathe air, but in the spirit world people live by inhaling love. The love you give and receive in the spirit world is not secular human love. It is true love. (145-267, 1986.5.15)

When you go to the spirit world, this is what you will find. Those who are well-endowed with love for their parents, brothers and sisters, spouse, and children – that is, those who experienced deep love in their family life – enjoy great freedom. They can go anywhere without restriction. On the other hand, those who did not experience love on earth are narrow-minded, and in the spirit world they find themselves isolated and alone, with no freedom whatsoever.

The love between parent and child is a vertical relationship, the love between husband and wife is a horizontal

relationship, and the love among siblings is a relationship that circles and surrounds. These three relationships differ from one another. Therefore, only when you experience deep love through each of these three mutually distinct interactions on earth can you circulate freely – vertically, horizontally, and in a circle.

For example, a person who did not taste parental love because his parents died early is in a rather tragic position because he is missing an important experience of love. Likewise, those who did not experience the conjugal love relationship of husband and wife, as well as love in the family, live a destitute existence in the spirit world because they lack those crucial life experiences where they were supposed to develop their love. Those who had no brothers and sisters on earth will also be in an impoverished state in the spirit world, because they lacked the opportunity to develop that dimension of love. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1067, 1977.1.1)

There is a reason why we need to get married. We marry to have the full experience of parental love, conjugal love, and children's love. Such experiences are necessary because the spirit world is filled with the air of these loves. The reason you need to have a family is to train yourself to be in rhythm with the spirit world. Those who go to the spirit world without these experiences of love cannot follow the rhythm there. It will be as if they are missing a

nose to inhale the air. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 1067, 1977.4.3)

You are born from your father and mother. On a more fundamental level you are born from God, who made you by employing your father's seed and your mother's womb. God is your True Parent. You will find Him by first knowing the love of your physical parents and then experiencing the universe as your parent.

Relating to your physical parents is just a temporary stage. In time you will greet the moment of your death; it is a jubilant time when you will go to meet your True Parent.

You will meet your True Parent in a place overflowing with His true love. This is the Kingdom of Heaven in heaven, where the atmosphere is composed of love – parental love. It is not a love for oneself; rather, it is an unconditional, giving love in keeping with the principles of service and sacrifice. To make the grade there, you must love humanity and love the universe. Life on earth is the training ground for you to develop such love. (105-108, 1979.9.30)

Do you know how important your life on earth is? You only live it once. It is a brief moment that only comes once. Compared to the expanse of eternal life, earthly life is but an instant. It seems too short. Therefore, during this moment we must look beyond our physical life and prepare ourselves for the spirit world. (207-99, 1990.11.1)

CHAPTER THREE

The Original Vision for Love between Man and Woman

1. Bringing Joy to God and All Creation

A man and woman may love each other, but is their love in accord with God's will and the criterion He requires? Is their love in accord with the model of love that exists in the mind of God?

If the first man and woman had become one in love based on the love of God, then they would have become that universal model of love. God surely desired that human beings display such love. The man and woman surely wanted such love from each other. It would have been true love, the very core of the universe. It would have become the standard by which all love is measured. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 335, 1983.6.5)

God's love and human love are the same in their essence. Love is the power that strives for oneness. Why does a man long for a woman, and a woman long for a

man? It is because only through a woman can a man possess God, and only through a man can a woman possess God. In other words, when a man and a woman become one in love, God is in the midst of them. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 336, 1982.4.26)

Remembering that God is the source of the duality of male and female, whenever men praise the beauty and worth of women, or women praise the merit and honor of men, they should give even greater praise to the magnificence of God. (25-277, 1969.10.5)

When a woman whom God loves is in a man's heart, and a man whom God loves is in a woman's heart, and the two love each other even as they praise God together, God is delighted with their love and all creation rejoices. Heaven and earth rejoice to see them embracing, for it is precious in their sight.

When that man and that woman embrace each other in mutual affection, the entire universe enfolds them and supports them. This is the original vision of God's creation. It will be realized in His ideal. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 334, 1969.2.4)

God's original design was that each man should meet a woman with whom he can rejoice, and each woman should meet a man with whom she can rejoice. More than this, their budding relationship should bring joy to God and all

things of creation. Then, all creation will be mobilized for this couple and want to receive their dominion. Birds will sing for them, and butterflies will flutter and dance with joy. God will rejoice, people will rejoice, and all of creation will rejoice.

Had the first human ancestors started off history by fulfilling this original plan of God, the world today would be the ideal world that God originally envisioned. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 336, 1969.2.4)

2. Men and Women Are Born for Each Other

For what purpose is a man born? He is born for the sake of a woman. This fact cannot be denied. Likewise, a woman is not born for her own sake, but for the sake of a man. A woman who does not come to a clear understanding within herself that she is born for the sake of a man will encounter problems in her life.

God, the Great Administrator of heaven and earth, established this principle within His Principle of Creation. We cannot enter the world of goodness, truth, happiness and peace, or the world of love and ideal, unless we follow this principle. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 338, 1975.1.16)

Every woman is born to one day join with a man, and every man is born to join with a woman. This is the highest truth. By following this principle we can find the realm of

blessing. Deviating from this highest truth constitutes the highest evil. (21-201, 1968.11.20)

Men and women are physically opposite. While women tend to focus on one area of life, men often work in three or four arenas at the same time. Women are more likely to enjoy staying at home, and men are more likely to enjoy traveling the world. Their characters are opposite as well, with men ordinarily more subjective and women more responsive. How can these opposites become one? They can become one through love. Love also brings human beings and God into oneness. (38-255, 1971.1.8)

Why is a man born? He is not born to earn money, gain political power, or pursue academic learning. He is born for the sake of a woman. Men have larger physiques for earning a living not for themselves, but to support the wife and children.

A man's sexual organ and a woman's sexual organ are different. For whom do they exist? A man's sexual organ does not exist for his own satisfaction. It exists for the sake of a woman. Likewise, a woman's sexual organ exists for the sake of a man. Have you ever thought this way? This is not something to laugh about and then forget. (143-275, 1986.3.20)

What is the symbol of the love between man and woman? Where is their love consummated? It is their sexual

organs, by which they become one flesh. When the man and woman love each other, their sexual organs become the channels through which their minds and bodies completely merge.

The man's sexual organ is not his, and woman's is not hers. The man has what belongs to the woman, and the woman has what belongs to the man. Men and women are not born for their own sake. They should know clearly that they are born for the sake of their partner. (132-146, 1984.5.31)

What are men and women born to do while living on earth? They are born to love each other. For this reason, God, the Great King of Wisdom, switched the ownership of their love organs. A man has a sexual organ, but that does not mean he is its owner. The same is true for woman. Those who act carelessly, employing their sexual organ with no regard for its ownership, will be judged for having violated love. If men knew that they will face a dreadful punishment according to this strictest of laws, how could they dare think about other women instead of their own wives? Conversely, how could wives think about other men besides their own husbands? (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 340, 1986.3.14)

3. Men and Women Need Each Other

Every person without exception absolutely needs love. Isn't that right? To have love, an absolutely necessary

element is another human being of the opposite sex. A man needs a woman and a woman needs a man. How much do they need each other? They need each other more than they need Korea, more than they need the world – even more than they need God.

If there were no women, the entire human race would perish in less than a hundred years. A man may boast that he has the power to rule the world, but if there were no women, all would be gone within one hundred years. So women are absolutely necessary. (25-180, 1969.10.4)

When we say “human beings” we mean men and women together.⁵ No man should be without a woman, and no woman should be without a man. A man does not choose to be born as a man; neither does a woman choose to be born as a woman. Only after we are born do we discover that we are either a man or a woman. (67-267, 1973.7.22)

Men, when you were born, were you aware that there are women in the world? Suppose a man is born and later finds out that there are only men; would he not feel bad? And if a woman is born and later finds out that there are only women, she too would feel bad, wouldn't she? Yet at the time a woman is born, does she or does she not have any awareness that men exist? Although she was born without this knowledge, the One who gave her birth knew it.

5. The Chinese character for “human being” (人) is made with two brush strokes, one longer and one shorter, like a man and woman leaning on each other.

The reason she is born as a woman is because somewhere there is a man who needs her.

Likewise, the reason I am born as a man is because somewhere there is a woman who needs me. We are each born for the sake of someone, and God has knowledge of it. (37-19, 1970.12.22)

A man cannot find fulfillment without a woman. Even his relationship to God is not complete until he is connected to his human counterpart, his wife. Human history has been miserable because men have failed to understand that they absolutely need a woman to love and care for. Conversely, women have not understood that they absolutely need a man to love and care for.

True love can only be experienced on the foundation of an ideal relationship between a man and woman. A man and woman who are absolutely committed to uniting in true love can attain such unity through single-minded devotion. When they have achieved absolute oneness, God dwells in their midst.

God would not like to see a husband and wife joined in true love separate, so He made the absolute love of man and woman eternal. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 340, 1986.8.20)

God is all-knowing and all-powerful, but if He is alone, these absolute attributes have no meaning. Similarly, a man may be handsome and possess a fine physique, but

these things have no meaning if he is without a woman. A man who lives fascinated by his own good looks and physique leads an ugly, worthless existence. It is a problem that so many men have sunk into such narcissism; it is one reason why history has been full of tragedy. God's providence works to change and improve the world immersed in such self-centeredness. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 341, 1986.8.20)

4. Love Comes from Your Partner

I cannot realize love by myself. Where does love come from? Love does not come from me, but from my spouse. Since love comes from my spouse, I must bow my head and serve her. This is the origin of the heavenly principle of living for the sake of others. We must live by this philosophy. It means, when someone worthy and precious comes to me, I must honor and serve her in order to receive her. (143-277, 1986.3.30)

I may have love in my heart, but when I am alone it cannot manifest itself. Love does not appear when a man is alone. It only emerges when he is with a woman who can be his partner in love. Only when you have a partner to love will you experience love springing up in your life. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 342, 1982.10.29)

We know that parental love is good and conjugal love is good, because these genuine loves are not self-centered. Love is not something I can make for myself; it is something my partner gives to me. Keep this in mind. Love comes from your husband and from your wife, from your sons and daughters, and from your brothers and sisters. Love is not self-made. Your spouse gives it to you. Therefore, who is the owner of love? Your spouse is the owner of love. (34-331, 1970.9.20)

Where did we say love comes from? It comes from your partner. Think about it: if your wife neglected her appearance and always had a mean expression on her face, your love for her would recede. On the other hand, if your wife takes care to make herself pretty and always approaches you with a lovely smile, your love for her will develop more quickly. The way your love functions is determined by your partner, according to the way she presents herself: her speech, her beauty, her scent, and so on. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 343, 1982.10.29)

What is the starting-point of love? The starting-point of love is not “I.” The word love implies a relationship. Even the most handsome man cannot know love if he is alone without a partner.

“I love you”: these are words that Satan has been exploiting. The truth is, I cannot create love. You may think that

you do, but there will be no progress in the future unless that mindset is totally dismantled and transformed.

Wives have been putting themselves at the center, and husbands have been putting themselves at the center, both wanting to be served. This mindset destroys relationships. Since love does not start from me but from my spouse, if I am to possess that love I must serve her and live for her sake. Love requires patience and self-sacrifice.

From this perspective, there is no path anywhere in heaven or on earth to overcome the satanic world except by following the principles of love centered on God. That is why God is holding tightly onto love.

Therefore, love is the basis for the Buddhist virtue of compassion.⁶ Likewise, love is the basis for the Confucian virtue of benevolence.⁷ Compassion and benevolence are realized only in the context of mutual relationships. (46-35, 1971.7.18)

5. The Harmony of Love

Man symbolizes heaven and woman symbolizes earth. When the two become one, they represent the natural harmony of heaven and earth.

Men and women are different. Men's muscles are rugged and women's are smooth. Men have beards while

6. *Jabi* (慈悲) is the Korean Buddhist term meaning loving-kindness and compassion. It describes a mind of sympathy rooted in understanding the equality and interdependence of all beings.

7. *In* (仁) in Korean or *ren* in Chinese may be translated as benevolence or humanness.

women do not. Women's voices are high and men's are low. Yet we see their contrasting features fitting together well as harmony unfolds between them.

We may liken them to the human body: the right side and the left side complement each other to form a whole structure. The two halves are bound tightly together.

Ladies and gentlemen, do you like only things that are high or only things that are low? Or do you prefer a pleasing balance of high and low that creates harmony? Estimating from the line formed by the horizon, fish live below the line while mammals and birds live above it. Women menstruate once a month, like the ebb and flow of the tides pulled by the moon. In breathing we inhale and exhale. Likewise, a man and a woman need to establish a line of balance and create harmony.

People like to go to amusement parks with their rides that go up and down, because their motion duplicates the motion of the universe.

Which do you think is more pleasing, men socializing only with other men, or men and women socializing together? Men and women together is better, because it better reflects the harmony of the universe. We should live in step with the beat of the universe, the universe that promotes harmony through the harmony of yin and yang.

(Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 344, 1984.5.31)

When a man and a woman create loving harmony, they initiate circular movement. When a man and a woman love

each other and become one flesh, and then bear the fruits of love, God descends to them, they ascend towards Him, and they meet in the middle. They form a sphere with God at the center and begin spherical movement. Out of that divine center, family members can make relationships in all directions.

At the center of the sphere, love's harmony is realized, and life emerges and grows. The center of the sphere is the basis for equality between the sexes and for the philosophy that family members should hold all things in common. This is so because the power of love is there. Love is the force that embraces all the interactions in the universe.

(Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 345, 1982.4.26)

For human beings, love is eternal. It is one, and can never be divided. Once a man and a woman are joined in love, they are to live together for a lifetime and then eternally even after death. They are two persons, but by revolving in oneness with each other they become as one body.

When the two people become one, they revolve with God to form a four-position foundation of love. This is the ideal realm of love. Only true love dwells there; false love cannot invade. When a man and woman are blessed by God and achieve this perfect unity, God comes to them freely.

In the four-position foundation of love, the husband and wife will grow to love each other with their hearts by

loving each other with their bodies, and when they love each other with their hearts, their bodies will follow. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 346, 1984.1.1)

6. Enraptured by True Love

What is the most sacred thing in the world? It is true love. True love begins with God. Since God exists, there can be no other way to happiness than the path of true love. God truly desires that we travel the path of true love, for without doing so we cannot come into the presence of God. We have to understand this point.

God wants to see, hear, eat and touch through love. As for human beings, if we were to receive God's kiss of love, our joy would be so great that we would feel as though we might explode from the inside. To rejoice like this is God's only desire. He is not the sort who rejoices to have diamonds or jewelry. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 381, 1986.8.20)

The human body has five senses. We feel and become aware of true love through the impressions of our five senses. If our eyes are directed toward true love, they take on the color of true love and are intoxicated by true love. How beautifully those colorful, intoxicated eyes shine! Think about how enchanting our smiling lips would be. Try to imagine the intense beauty we would experience as

our five senses, intoxicated in true love, moved in harmony toward God.

Yet when God is all alone, He cannot experience the joy of such beauty. God can experience joy only by perceiving beauty in a partner. It was for this purpose that God created human beings.

How would God feel as He observed a handsome man and a beautiful woman absorbed in each other's eyes intoxicated in true love, kissing with lips intoxicated in true love, their hearts singing the melody of true love?

If Eve had possessed such true love, God would have wanted to journey through every corner of her world of heart. He would have desired to find out for Himself just how wide and how deep was the world of heart of this beautiful Eve. God would have wanted to dwell throughout both Adam's and Eve's world of heart, a world more beautiful than the heaven and earth that God Himself created. You can be sure that God much prefers to travel within the world of heart of a person of true love than to travel the length and breadth of the universe. Adam's and Eve's world of heart and true love was to be such that God would never want to leave.

What would have happened if, after God created human beings, He had plunged into their true love and lost Himself in that love? What kind of world would we have today? God would dwell in our midst. We would live in oneness with God, and create a world filled with joy and beauty.

God is completely responsive to human beings. If true love had been perfected in the human world, God would be living in our midst, totally enveloped by true love. He would have no second thoughts about it. God's nature is such that He is completely happy with anything that happens within the realm of true love. Likewise, if human beings were living in this world of true love, their entire lives would be happy and free from regret. In such a world there would be no history of warfare, no grief, and no misfortune. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 383, 1986.8.20)

7. The Natural Way of Love

Here is a story from my childhood. One day I caught a pair of birds and tried to make them kiss each other's beaks. To see them kiss, I put them in a cage, fed them, and watched them. I did it out of a child's desire to see them love each other and sing happily together.

This was an experiment done out of curiosity to understand the principles of nature. I continued this experiment, which I now understand to have been quite naughty.

It was only much later that I came to understand that love happens in natural settings. Sincere love occurs naturally, in a most natural setting. Only after a long observation did I come to this correct understanding about love. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 353, 1986.1.3)

If we want to regain the lost value of love, does it help to pursue a university education? Most likely we would only accumulate knowledge, become individualistic and come to worship at the altar of materialism. Just as Korean bean soup tastes right only when it is served in an earthenware bowl, so we can find genuine love only by the discipline of training our character.

The flower of world civilization blossoms on the basis of artistic harmony. For example, roasted ribs should be served on a platter and Korean bean paste soup should be served in an earthenware bowl to bring out the proper taste of each dish. Once you grow accustomed to the rough, deep and refreshing taste of Korean bean paste soup, you will never forget it no matter where you may go.

Likewise, once people become used to the earthy, deep, relaxing taste of love, they will always keep their taste for it. However, just as we easily tire of instant foods that are usually heavily sweetened, if we could obtain love easily and anywhere, like instant food, we could not call it true love.

(Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 354, 1986.1.3)

Love does not deepen because you bathe in a fragrant bath. I would say that the love of a couple living in the remotest countryside, who wash themselves in cold water before going to bed, is purer, longer lasting, and ever deepening.

A couple that brushes their teeth before kissing is not experiencing natural love. The toothpaste smell prevents

them from tasting the unique smell of their partner. When I look at people who brush their teeth before kissing, I don't know whether they are trying to taste love or taste toothpaste. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 354, 1986.1.3)

When you meet someone you like and you fall in love with her, you want to embrace her and kiss her. This is a natural instinct between the sexes. Previously you may have explored your surroundings and made relationships with its places and creatures in order to develop feelings of affection for the universe. It was natural for you to do so, as a stage on the road to finding your one partner of love.

When we relate to each other in accordance with the ideal of partnership – with each man relating to one woman and each woman relating to one man – there will be no acts or incidents that violate the order of love. A society that upholds the order of true love will emerge only when men and women join together on the basis of the ideal of partnership. (Blessed Families and the Ideal Kingdom, vol. I, 355, 1981.1.13)

CHAPTER FOUR

Our Course of Life

1. The Purpose of Creation

God does not have a body. God created with the intention that all things would represent His body and that Adam would represent His face.

Originally, God was to be the spiritual focal point and Adam was to be the physical focal point. These two focal points were supposed to generate two axes that would meet at a 90-degree angle: the first is God's purpose of creation, and the second is the purposes that people desire.

Had Adam and Eve not fallen, then representing the face of God they would have occupied the positions of father and mother eternally in the spirit world; yet due to the Fall, this was not possible. Had there been no Fall, everyone could have gone to heaven simply by attending their parents as though they were attending God. (119-109,

1982.7.4)

2. Why We Are Born

The world we live in is round: the sun is round, the earth is round and the stars are round; even our mouths are round. Everything has an inherent round aspect. In fact, every interactive pair in the universe relates by means of one entity revolving around the other. Such interactive pairs form a spherical shape through maintaining a relationship with the greater whole.

Why, then, are we born? We are born to beat in rhythm with this vast universe. Ocean waves lapping against the shore lap against our hearts as well. Gentle breezes sighing serenely lull our hearts into serenity. Flowers in bloom release rich fragrances and stir the fragrances in our hearts. (104-122, 1979.4.22)

To be born in love, raised with love, to live with love and to die with love makes us grateful for our birth, our life and our death.

You came to be born because you participated in a moment when your father and mother expressed the utmost love for each other. You were participants in that love. Since you were born out of your parents' love, you can consider yourself to be the flag of your parents' love, which they planted at your birth.

Your flag flutters to express love. We are all meant to live for the sake of love throughout our lives. You should wave the flag of love for your mother, wave the flag of love

when you see your father, and wave the flag of love for your siblings. (103-258, 1979.2.25)

3. The Importance of the Moment

Your body cannot be sound and whole unless you have a continual foothold on life, able to absorb whatever nutrients may come your way at any time. This is the way of all living things in the natural world. The turning points of life depend not what happens over a long period of time, but on how you deal with a single moment.

People who ignore the moment can fail to obtain something precious. They cannot become great people. They cannot inherit God's throne and crown. To make each moment shine, you should exercise care with each word you utter, each action you take, and even each thought you think. Deal with life and solve its problems, believing that how you deal with the day-to-day challenges of life will remain to determine your connection to the world. The only way to gain ultimate victory is to do well in each moment.

Meeting the challenge of each moment will make you a victor. The same applies if you are fighting for an historical victory or even a cosmic victory. Those who know the infinite value of one bright shining moment and live accordingly can become great people, even saints, even God's sons and daughters. A single moment can deter-

mine whether you are on the path of life or death. (31-218, 1970.5.31)

Scripture tells us that we should first seek the coming of the Kingdom of God and pray that God's will be done. Yet the more important issue for each one of us is how I as an individual can move forward in unity with God's will.

Consider this current hour; how can we spend it in such a way that it becomes entirely one with God's will? That is far more valuable than just sitting there hoping for the Kingdom of God to appear. Therefore, we should use this hour to create the conditions that will enable us as individuals, as well as our families, tribes and nations, to inherit and accomplish God's will. This is the way we can make a place for ourselves in God's coming Kingdom. Thus the question is this: How do you spend this one hour – if you are given an hour – to make God's will your first priority within the context of your daily life?

The way we spend each moment of our life is a very important issue. Looking at the history of the providence of restoration, four thousand years elapsed from Adam's family through Noah's family, Abraham's family, and Moses' family down to Jesus' family. Yet each of the failures that prolonged the providence did not happen over the span of, say, a year. In the case of Adam and Eve, their fall was not something planned out and put into action over the span of a year or a decade or several decades. Their mistakes happened in a flash. Yet the failure of that one

moment had consequences that have persisted through eons of time. Considering this, we can understand that a single moment can have a great and terrible impact.

Due to the failure of that one moment, countless people who walked the path of righteousness in the course of history had to undergo untold suffering. Due to the failure of that one moment, many nations could not follow God's will and fell into the abyss of destruction. They became part of a gigantic offering of indemnity that was required because of that one moment. When we understand this, we see that each hour we just let tick by can be fraught with terrible consequences. Even though the Kingdom of Heaven is eternal, it does not exist apart from what we do in each single moment.

Eternity does not begin when we die. It begins from the moment we understand God's will. From that moment on, if we interrupt our relationship with God's will for even an instant in time, it can create an abyss that interrupts our walk with eternity.

Therefore, as you walk the path of faith through the course of your life, do not procrastinate by deferring your providential responsibilities from this year to the next, and then to the year after that, or from your 20s to your 30s, or from your 30s to your 40s, or from your 40s to your 50s. You should not live like that. If you persist in your secular lifestyle, you just might end up dying without having lived for the sake of God's will for even a single day. In that case, how can you possibly go to the Kingdom of Heaven?

It doesn't matter that the country you live in is blessed; you will have no place in the Kingdom of Heaven if you were unable to live even one day by a victorious standard. You may face one crucial day or one crucial year in your life when, if you fail the test, the consequence will be that you cannot enter eternal life. Thus, while it is not wrong for believers to spend their days dreaming of eternity, it is far more important that they actually join in God's work to eradicate evil and become the standard-bearers of goodness in the real world.

Consider that Adam's momentary lapse resulted in eons of anguish. Consider Cain and Abel, who were supposed to dissolve the anguish of their parents, demolish the wall between the brothers and create the starting point for family unity. It only took a moment for Cain to murder Abel, yet that brief incident destroyed the providence of restoration that Abel had been elected to lead.

Noah had toiled 120 years to build the ark. But when the time came, God issued the command, "Call the people to come into the ark, for the day of My judgment has come." The people had only one brief moment to follow this order and receive the blessings of the eternal God. Those who did not were drowned in the deluge.

In Abraham's case too, God's promise that his descendants would be "as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sands on the seashore" was bestowed in just a single moment. Abraham's sacrificial offering did not require decades but merely a day's work. The time it took him to

cut the animals for the offering and place them on the altar was not more than an hour. Yet the way he spent that single hour bore the seeds of life and death, blessing and curse, for subsequent history.

Today's believers should not be anxious over the coming judgment in the Last Days. Rather, they should be anxious about how they can take each day that God has given them and devote it to the will of God. They should be anxious about how they can link their lives to God's will. (37-217, 1970.12.27)

4. Adam and Eve Grew from Infancy

How did God create Adam and Eve? The Bible says He created them from the soil, but what kind of soil was it? Where did He begin? Which part of the body did He create first? We should not think that God created Adam and Eve as adults. He created them as babies. We know that every existence attains maturity after passing through three ordered stages of growth. Adam and Eve were no exception to this logic. This leads us to the notion that God must have gone through the experience of a mother who conceives a child in her womb, gives birth to it, and then nourishes it. Logically, Adam and Eve must have begun as infants and then entered the growth stage. Had they not fallen, they would have continued to the completion stage. This is natural law.

What was Adam and Eve's infancy like? We must

proceed from the concept that the invisible God nurtured them as babies. Their origin was in the realm of the formless, and by passing through a certain process they entered the world of form. (225-198, 1992.1.20)

5. The Path of a Victorious Life

Since the society, nation and world in which we live are far from ideal, all manner of suffering happens. Good and evil are at cross-purposes. If we take a random sample of a hundred people, we would find that each of them is jostling for advantage in an “every man for himself” struggle within their circumstances as they cope with the demands of their daily lives.

Consider that in ordinary life, most people lack the confidence that the tasks they planned in the morning can be completed by the end of the day. People who have a wider range of responsibilities need proportionately greater drive and determination to bring their daily work to a successful conclusion. If their determination and drive are below par, their day will not be success. A series of such bad days can turn into months, and months into years.

Our situation also makes it difficult to meet monthly goals. To be successful, we need enough drive and determination to overcome all the complicated situations and circumstances we may encounter during the month. If that drive and determination are missing, our efforts that month will not be successful.

Having a successful year requires that we equip ourselves with a fighting spirit, with an inner drive strong enough to thrust aside all the challenges of each and every one of its 365 days. We can then celebrate a victorious year. If we live one year like this, and then the next, and continue in this way, it will eventually add up to ten, twenty and thirty years. Over time it becomes the path of a victorious life. (31-30, 1970.4.12)

No person living on earth can escape the constraints of time. It is true today, and it has been true throughout history. Individuals, families, tribes, peoples, nations and the world all move within the limitation of time.

People everywhere have goals they strive to attain. They focus on their goal for ten years, twenty years, thirty years, seventy years, indeed, their entire lives. The greater our goal, the stronger our inner commitment needs to be if we are to accomplish it. We need to have an inner determination that surpasses the difficulty of the goal, and maintain it without faltering through the allotted span of time. Otherwise, the goal will elude us. (31-149, 1970.5.24)

6. The Central Teaching of Religion

You may not know of the reality of the spirit world, but God has given me special grace to have clear insight into that unseen world. Digging into the root of that world, I found its principles to be quite simple. In the spirit world,

only those who lived altruistically, in line with God's universal principles, can enter the higher realms. The realm that is entirely structured along these lines is the ideal Kingdom of Heaven.

Heaven is humanity's original homeland. Today we are exiles from our original homeland and dwell in the fallen world. Yet we still seek our original homeland, and we are destined to return someday. But as we could not find the way back by our own efforts, God in the course of history has laid out paths for our journey.

That is why God has raised up various religions. God set up each religion as a training ground to equip people for one of these paths appropriate to their race, culture, customs and traditions. Taking into account the diverse cultures that exist throughout the four corners of the earth, God set up various religions as the training grounds for equipping all humankind to become eligible to return to the original homeland. As people progress upward along these paths toward higher ground, God is leading humanity to converge toward a unified religious world.

In all religions, what is the central teaching that guides people to the original homeland? It is to live for the sake of others. The more highly developed religions emphasize this principle. Thus they teach their adherents to be gentle and meek, to place others above themselves and live for their sake, and to serve others sacrificially. These teachings serve to instill discipline in us, so that we can abide by the laws of the Kingdom of Heaven. (78-117, 1975.5.6)

7. The Highest Goal of Life

As we walk along our life's path, where should we be heading? Our destination is to possess God's love – to be owners of God's love. To possess the love of God is life's highest and final goal. Everyone, men and women alike, should take the path to this destination.

Our life path should be a journey to the God of infinite love. Of all the ways that human beings live, this is the loftiest path. On that path we may face life-and-death situations even ten times or a hundred times, and we may have to continue the search even after we die, yet we never stop searching for the love of God.

What is our greatest desire? It is to possess God's love. You may have met God, but if you did not discover a love that is even more precious, then you have not made God your own. Therefore, you must strive to possess God's love. Once you have love, there would be no problem even if God were not with you.

When we possess God's love, God's love becomes my love and my love becomes God's love. The internal and the external become one for the first time. A nation based on such love would be an ideal community. There would not be upper and lower classes.

When we dwell in that place of love, we feel that everything under the sun is good and exists for our sake. God's love has that quality. Therefore the heavenly world, the

Kingdom of Heaven, is a world filled with love. This is our final destination. (39-210, 1971.1.10)

8. Our Wrong Birth

People in today's world boast of their social status or family background, all the while unaware that they were misbegotten at birth. They do not know that they were born from the love, life and lineage of Satan, the enemy of God. This is a serious problem.

Due to the human Fall, all people have been born from Satan's love. Satan's love has been passed down through the generations to their parents and then to them. Satan's blood is flowing in the life of every mother and in the life of every father, and that blood now flows in each of us. Each of us is a fruit of these three.

For this reason, each of you belongs to the lineage of Satan. To put it another way, Satan's blood is running through your veins. Therefore, Satan propagates his "ideal" fruit in the natural course of things. Meanwhile, God strives to redeem those same men and women and transform them into the pure and wholesome men and women of His original vision.

Your beginning was in Satan's love. You were born from his lineage. Your starting-point was wrong. Since you came from the wrong starting-point, you must return to the correct starting-point.

Where is that correct starting-point? How far back do

we need to go? We need to go back to the origin. As we originated from false parents, we need to return and start anew from true parents. How serious is this? It is imperative to inherit God's love, life and lineage afresh.

That is why, when you receive the Blessing, you undergo a ceremony for changing your lineage. Just because it is a Unification Church ceremony, you should not think of it as some ordinary ritual. It is like a wonder drug, an antidote to restore the dead back to life. You must believe in it more than your own life.

The mistake our first ancestors made was so serious that it caused the suffering of countless people throughout the course of human history. People have paid a ghastly price for having perpetuated illicit love in the fallen spiritual and physical worlds, with far-reaching consequences for individuals, families, societies, nations and the world. Knowing this, we cannot commit that same mistake again. Never again! (216-109, 1991.3.9)

9. Eternal Life

Eternal life does not refer only to an eternal existence in the spirit world. It means living for eternity in the bosom of God's love. God created each individual to live with Him in a relationship of Lover and beloved, Subject partner and object partner. You are the beloved of God.

God cherishes the ideal of true love more than He values Himself. Although God is the absolute and eternal center

of life, His ideal is even more eternal, and the center of that ideal is true love. Love is realized with a partner, and the partner of God's love is you.

Love has the power to bring two individuals into oneness. Love can unify a nation. When two people are in a relationship of true love, they will accompany each other through any situation. The same applies to your relationship with God. When you live this way, you can inherit God's entire fortune and even His entire heart.

I went through a miserable course to discover this reality, and now I stand on its foundation. It is sublime and lofty. I would not exchange it for anything in the world. It is an amazing grace. Because God and I love each other in this way, He lets me stand in the same position with Him, where we can share true love for eternity.

The spirit world is in a different dimension from this limited earthly world. We cannot move freely within these mundane confines, but as the spirit world is a realm of higher dimension, you can do anything there; you can even leap across time. You can have whatever you desire anytime and anywhere, so long as your desire is motivated by love. We were originally created as eternal beings. If on earth we become people of true love who enjoy an eternal relationship with God, then when we go to the spirit world, we will enjoy such freedom.

The first standard of life is the criteria of good and evil, the second is the original starting point, and the third is eternal life. (216-115, 1991.3.9)

The Spirit World and the Earthly World

1. Prayers

“Beloved Heavenly Father, I thank You for Your grace. You have protected me through all my struggles from my youth up to this day, as I fought to prevent Heaven from suffering any shame or humiliation on my account.

“I have learned that among all the good things on this earth, there is nothing more precious than to connect to Your original heart. Enable us to yearn infinitely for that relationship, knowing that when we truly experience Your love, we will have no regrets even if we are deprived of everything in this world.

“Let us prepare today on earth for the day of our birth into our third life in the heavenly world as liberated children, endowed with the right of freedom.” (49-308, 1971.10.17)

“Loving Father, we know that in order to greet the new spring, the relationships in our lives must be harmonious,

that we might be completely absorbed in You. Only then can we greet the spring season and bloom as beautiful blossoms. Let us not be pitiful souls who, when asked whether we have ever greeted a spring season in our lives, are unable to reply in the affirmative.” (32-37, 1970.6.14)

“Father, we recognize that if we lack the heart to attend You and bow down humbly to You, we will have no relationship to You in the eternal world. Open the doors of our hearts to feel Your heart; let us today hear Your voice welling up from the depths of our hearts so that we may regain our lost selves. Help us to appreciate Your historical course of toil and trouble to find each one of us, that we may humbly bow our heads before You.” (4-280, 1958.9.14)

2. Understanding Death

On the earth we have parents, teachers and relatives, and in the course of our lives we make relationships with them. In the spirit world the situation is different. In the spirit world, people are in different realms according to how much they live for the public good, with the most public-minded people closest to God who resides at the center. Those in a higher realm cannot descend to a lower realm, and it is difficult for those in the lower realms to ascend to the higher realms.

Human beings were created to become complete while on earth and then pass over into the spirit world. Hence,

there is no provision for returning to the physical world once we enter the spirit world. We live just one life, and then we must die.

Our lifetime on earth is too short. Life is too short. Even a lifespan of eighty years is too short. It is not even eight hours in spirit world time. That is why the power of true love is great. True love transcends time and space, and moves at a speed that is beyond our comprehension.

(205-65, 1990.7.7)

Without a doubt, the spirit world exists. It surely exists. We were born from the spirit world, and when we die we must return there. There is an interesting word in Korean, toraganda, which literally means “to return” but also means “to die.” Where do we return to? Not to the soil in the cemetery. To return means to go back to one’s place of origin, and we didn’t start out in a cemetery. To return means to go back through the vast expanses of history, back to its most distant origin.

For a person to return does not mean that if he was born as a Korean he returns as a Korean. Although you may be a Korean when you die, your path of returning is not a Korean path. We all return to the original world that brought forth the first ancestors of humankind. What does this mean? It means that since we were made by our Creator, we will return to the place where our Creator resides. That is where we originated, so that is where we return.

The universe is replete with things in circular motion.

When the snow on the mountains melts, it flows through many streams down narrow valleys, into larger rivers, and then enters the ocean. Once in the ocean, it evaporates and returns to the mountains as snow, thus completing its cycle. Everything circulates. In a similar way, we return.

When we return, where do we wish to return to? We wish to go back to a place where we can be higher, a place where we can be happier. No one wants to become smaller. Therefore, it would not do to return to the physical world, where the laws of motion dictate that all things diminish through activity, and where all motion slows and eventually comes to a stop. (141-269, 1986.3.2)

We live in this world, but it is not the only world that exists. There is also the spirit world. This earthly world and the spirit world are not two completely separate worlds. They are connected as one world.

Then, where is the place where we are to go, the place where we are to live? We are on earth now, living in our physical bodies, but we are moving toward the eternal world.

Ordinary people are born into this world, pass through their youth, reach their prime, and begin the downhill slide into old age. They end their lives like the setting sun. People who know the existence of the spirit world, however, realize that their lifetime on earth is but a fleeting moment compared to the eternal world that awaits them after death. Knowing this, they spend their lives on earth

wisely, preparing themselves for the world of eternity. (140-121, 1986.2.9)

Death illuminates the meaning of life. Who knows the value of life? Not those who have lived comfortably. But those who have risked their lives know it well. When people are hanging at the intersection of life and death, they cling to God and implore Him, and many times they are shown the value of life. (74-242, 1974.12.31)

Should we or should we not welcome death? We should welcome it. If you are about to die, and someone asks you what you are dying for, you should be able to answer: "I die for the sake of God's true love." You discard your physical body to participate in the realm where God's infinite love is always active. You leave the earthly world for God's world of love.

To die is to be born in God's love. Yet people clamor in their death throes, "Oh, I'm dying!" Death should be a moment of joy. It is the joyful moment when you pass from a realm of limited love to the realm of infinite love. Therefore, the moment of death is the moment of your second birth.

Which do you think God rejoices over more: the day of your birth in a physical body, or the hour of your second birth into the infinite world as a son or daughter of God whose every action is for the sake of love? You might wonder why I talk about such things. The truth is, you

cannot establish a relationship with God unless you liberate yourself from the fear of death. (116-172, 1982.1.1)

3. The Three Stages of Life

During the course of our lives we pass through three stages: formation, growth and completion. We pass from the realm of water in our mother's womb to the realm of living on planet Earth, and then we pass on to the aerial realm in heaven. In other words, human beings go through three periods: the period in the womb when we live in water, the period that begins at birth and continues for up to a hundred years when we live on the earth, and the period when we fly in the heavens. (116-174, 1982.1.1)

Human beings are born from waters deep within the womb. During their period of gestation they live in water. Inside the mother's womb, the fetus is floating in fluid. It lives by way of the umbilical cord connected to its mother's body, through which it draws in and expels fluid.

How does a fetus take in nourishment? It is supplied through the navel. The navel functions as its mouth. So, do not be disdainful of your navel. Pat your navel and say, "Belly button, thanks for your hard work a long time ago." Pat your navel often; it will be good for your health. Do it as an exercise. If you exercise this way often, it will make you healthier. Even when you sleep in a cold room, if you cover your navel, you won't get diarrhea.

During your time in the womb, your navel was your mouth. At birth, a new orifice for breathing opens at a place above the navel. What is this second mouth? It is the mouth you use for eating. At this point, what is done with the umbilical cord attached to the navel? It is cut off.

While we live in the world of air, our spirit self is attached to the physical self and feeds off the physical body, similar to the fetus in the womb feeding off nutrients supplied by its mother. When the physical body grows old, the spirit self discards the physical body and goes out on its own. This is its second birth, now as a person who can relate to the eternal God, the Father who is spirit. Physical birth and this second birth occur in accordance with the same fundamental principles.

Once the child is born in the earthly world, it gets acquainted with its mother and father. The earthly world is where we can share love with our mothers and fathers. In a similar way, we must eventually be born a second time into the spirit world, where we can share love with God, our Parent. He will connect us to the boundless world of spirit. (299-69, 1999.2.4)

After coming out of the womb, it is not enough just to breathe air. You have to develop your love by receiving elements of love. It is not enough just to eat food. If you live only to eat, you will begin to die. There is something more essential that you need to fill yourself with during

your life on earth – the second stage of your life. What is it? It is love. You must renew your character with love. (139-214, 1986.1.31)

Love is what you need during your earthly life. Why do you call a child who lives without the love of mother and father an “orphan”?⁸ It is because that child is deprived of the love that can connect him eternally to the spirit world. For the same reason, we feel pity for people who live alone without marrying. (139-214, 1986.1.31)

Dying occurs when the spirit breaks free of the organs of the physical body, including those that had functioned in the second kind of breathing. From that time forth, the spirit subsists by breathing only love elements. The internal self had been developing the ability to engage with these invisible love elements on earth through experiencing parental love and conjugal love. That is why, just as an embryo should develop in the womb in accordance with God’s laws and principles in order to be born as a normal baby, we must grow in the earthly world in accordance with God’s laws and principles so that we can be born as a fully functioning spirit self. (299-69, 1999.2.4)

Dragonflies during their larval stage swim in the water at first, then crawl about on land for a while. Then they fly around, preying on bugs that they never would have

8. The Korean word for orphan, *go-a*, literally means “isolated child.”

imagined eating when they were crawling about on land. They fly about freely; the whole world is their stage.

There are many insects that go through three stages of life. Insects in general have wings. During their life-cycle they pass through the stages of living in the water, on land and in the air. What about human beings, who are called the lords of creation; do we have wings? We have a set of wings of a higher dimension.

Death is the blessed gateway to our second birth. What is the meaning of death? Earthly life, the time of living in air, parallels the time when we were swimming in the womb. The air is like our swaddling-cloth; we are eager to take it off. Death is nothing special; it is merely birth into the third stage of life. That moment of transition is what we call death. (299-71, 1999.2.4)

4. The Central Point between the Two Worlds

I imagine you must be very curious about the spirit world. The many religions of the world provide paths for us to seek eternal life, the world where we can live together with God eternally in the good regions of the spirit world. For religious people, attaining that world is their life's goal.

However, what has become of religion today? It is on the decline. In this modern age people think that religion is only for the weak; it is unnecessary for everyone else. They think that religions were created by people to push morality. Even Christianity, the central religion,

has declined. America is the representative of the world's Christian nations, yet people who grew up in American Christian homes have lost their faith and are living each according to their own way.

Christianity upholds heaven, the dwelling place of God, who is the Lord of the universe and Source of all good. Why are so many Christians abandoning their religion? There are three reasons.

First, people do not have a clear understanding of the reality of the spirit world. Human beings have the innate capacity to compare and would abandon a bad situation in favor of a better one. If they knew that the spirit world contained higher-dimensional realms of greater value, they would certainly seek them out. That is original human nature.

Second, people do not truly know God. Our connection with God was severed as a result of the human Fall, and we have lived ever since as orphans.

Third, people do not understand the centrality of love. Love is what connects us to God and also to the spirit world. Even though many people believe in God and the spirit world, if they do not understand that the eternal world is ruled by love, they may well abandon their religion.

Where love abounds, you are happy. It doesn't matter whether you are promoted to a high position or demoted to a low position or you just stay at your current level; in whatever state you are, you are content. Does a wife dislike her beloved husband if he has a higher position in society

than her? Does a husband dislike his beloved wife because she comes from a lower class than him? When you are one with each other you can go anywhere, from the bottom to the top or from the top to the bottom, or you can just stay where you are. There are no limitations. It is based on this concept that many people in the world say, "This world can become one. There can be unity among all peoples. We can build a world of peace." (91-140, 1977.2.6)

God and His love should be at the center; it is the same for the spirit world and the physical world, for spirit beings and physical beings. But people in their fallen state as we usually know them do not have God as their center.

The relationship between the physical self and the spirit self is different from that between mind and body. The mind is not the spirit; spirit world exists in a different dimension. In speaking of the spiritual and physical worlds, we understand that they relate based on God's love. For these two worlds to unite as one, God must be involved. Were it not for God's love, the spirit world would not exist. It is by God's provision that we can have a home there.

People may think that mind and spirit are the same, but this is a confused notion. Due to the human fall, the mind does not have a relationship with the spirit world. To better understand this, think of the mind of fallen human beings as analogous to a person whose body has no bones. Its form is like a boneless body.

The spirit self is composed of a body-like element and a mind-like element. The mind-like element of the spirit self is immersed in the spirit world. It always maintains a relationship with God. Therefore, if you do not make a relationship with God, this mind-like element will not form in your spirit self.

Understand that spirit and mind are two different things. The mind of fallen man has no relationship with God. God has left it. God can neither relate to the fallen mind nor exercise His direct dominion over it.

Your mind changes, going one way and then another, but the spirit world and spiritual beings are not like this. They set one eternal goal and move steadily in its direction. Why is this so? It is because they stand on God's side. But the mind that resides within us fallen human beings is constantly vacillating.

I'm sure you know this from studying the Principle, but what is the spirit mind? It is what unites our mind and spirit and moves them toward a higher goal. When our spirit mind becomes one with our conscience, centering on God, it motivates us to become our ideal selves. Therefore, without the spirit mind, we would be unable to find the inner root that enables us to live in proper relationship with the spirit world and experience true love.

When the spirit mind sprouts within us, our body rejoices. Everything we think, say and do follows the promptings of our spirit mind. Then everything begins to unite spontaneously. The biggest problem for human

beings has been the conflict between our mind and body. However, when spiritual energy resides within us and causes our spirit mind to germinate, our mind and body spontaneously become one.

Unless we experience such a revolution occurring at the root of our selves, and unless we discover the origin that can rectify everything from that root, we will have no way to attain the ideal. Without a motivating cause, there can be no result. The purpose of religion is to implant a spirit mind within us. The many religions with all their different forms and doctrines all exist to cultivate the spirit mind. (91-142, 1977.2.6)

God in His majesty decreed that the spirit world and the physical world must be united. However, because true love was not established, the spirit world and physical world could not become one. This resulted in the separation between mind and body. Also, because true love was not established, there has been separation between religion and politics.

Where true love is present, everything comes together as one. Everybody is linked together, from the individual to the family, society, nation, world and cosmos. We have to make this a reality with our own hands. Otherwise, we cannot inherit God's original Kingdom in heaven and on earth. How do we establish resonance between the spiritual and physical worlds and make them one? It is with true love. (216-106, 1991.3.9)

5. Know the Spirit World

Eighty percent of the world's population does not know about the spirit world. Even many believers aren't sure whether the spirit world exists, or even if God really exists. But the spirit world does exist.

Imagine a wealthy person who willingly invests his entire fortune to build a garden of happiness for himself. With that in mind, we can surmise that God, the Creator of heaven and earth, made enormous effort to create His dwelling place – the spirit world – to be a world of beauty beyond imagining. You could gaze at even just one tiny part of it for a thousand years and never grow tired of it.

The world's most prized possessions are nothing compared to the things in the spirit world. Therefore, I have no desire to accumulate possessions on this earth. If you were to force me to say which I prefer, I would say that this earthly world does not conform to my purpose, and I would rather live in the spirit world. (15-154, 1965.10.7)

People generally do not think about the spirit world. They think only, "I am alive because I was born. I serve my parents because I live in their family. I will live just the way my parents lived." What are such people's central concerns? It is how they can eat and earn a living. They consider food, shelter and clothing to be the most important things in life. Most people's main concerns are how

to support themselves, how to feed themselves, and how to clothe themselves.

Of course, people also uphold the principles of morality and the obligations within human relationships that enable them to develop their character as individuals and find satisfaction together. However, the norms of morality differ from one nation to another. Moral standards and social systems vary among world's diverse cultures. In this light, we recognize that there is a huge difference between the original standard that God originally envisioned for humanity to attain and the norms of ethics and morality that people adhere to today. Yet, these must be made the same.

Where is it that we are supposed to go, having been born and lived out our lives on earth in keeping with the original standard? People are not clear about this. For this reason, people are doubtful about the spirit world and are not certain whether God exists.

However, people who have studied the Principle clearly know that the spirit world exists. They do not just believe it; they know it. Why is this? They know it through countless spiritual experiences. The members who labored to construct the global foundation of the Unification Church went through a course that included many spiritual experiences. If you learn the Principle, I am certain that you, too, will have experiences such that you will no longer be able to deny the existence of the spirit world. (140-122, 1986.2.9)

Once we know the Principle, what should be our path? We must follow the path that God desires for us. We must follow the path to fulfill God's will. What is God's will? First we must follow the path to fulfill God's will for us as individuals. Next we must follow the path to fulfill God's will for our families. God has also set up paths for the society, the nation, the world and the spirit world. I am the expert on this. As you follow these paths, you will see for yourself that the spirit world definitely exists. (121-146, 1982.10.24)

Why is it important to acknowledge that God exists and that the spirit world exists? Some people may think, "Even if God exists, He has nothing to do with me," but they are wrong. To say, "Even if the spirit world exists, it has nothing to do with me," would be like a person who, satisfied with his family, claims that he doesn't need his country and doesn't need the world.

But since there is a God who is greater than us, and since there is a spirit world that is greater than us, we want to have a relationship with these greater entities. Just having a relationship is not enough. What do we do in this relationship? We should strive to become one. We should move in step toward the same goal. (104-119, 1979.4.22)

The Apostle Paul's experience of seeing the third

heaven became the driving force that empowered him in his missionary activities for fourteen years.⁹ You, too, need to have such experiences. This also holds true for me. (27-128, 1969.11.30)

I don't fear death. What made me this way? Love did. It doesn't matter how many times I am put in jail; I can digest that. My experiences of God's love have enabled me to digest and overcome the opposition that surrounded me. To this day, I am overcoming every adversity with my own hands. (202-27, 1990.5.1)

6. How We Should Relate to the Spirit World

The spirit world is equivalent to the angelic world. Today's world is in the same position as the world at the time of Adam and Eve. God created the spirit world before creating Adam and Eve.

The satanic world came into being because the spirit world went against God's will. Therefore, today's fallen world can be restored only after the spirit world welcomes God's will. Similarly, the Lord cannot come to the earthly world unless he first subjugates¹⁰ the spirit world. That is why the Unification Church has worked until today to bring the spirit world to natural surrender. Hence, the

9. 1 Corinthians 12:2

10. By "subjugate" Rev. Moon means to bring the opponent to voluntary submission, winning him over by love, service and sacrifice.

spirit world must help the Unification Church. (25-233, 1969.10.4)

Where is the spirit world? It is within your bodies. You walk around carrying the spirit world on your shoulders, attending it. So there is no escaping it. (162-116, 1987.3.30)

The spirit world exists. It exists for the sake of this world, and this world exists for the sake of the eternal world.

People question, “Where in the world is God? Can God be in this world? Where on earth is the spirit world?” I say, God’s dwelling place is the spirit world. (117-307, 1982.4.11)

If our life simply ceased after seventy to eighty years on earth, then we would not really have any problems to worry about; but as we continue living eternally it is a different story. Since the spirit world exists, and you will go there after death, what will you take with you when you go there? The way to be assured that you will have good rapport with the spirit world is to practice true love during your earthly life. The spirit world is vast. You have no idea how vast it is – a world without boundaries. (187-285, 1989.2.12)

The contemporary interest in electricity and space exploration helps accustom humanity to the ways of the ideal world of love. We can say by analogy that the spirit world is a world filled with the electricity of love. The electricity of love makes everything possible. For this reason,

in the spirit world we can govern the form of existence through the structure of our thoughts.

The spirit world is a place that values eternal elements. It is a world of harmony, where everything is filled with love. Thus, the universe goes into operational mode with just a push of the love button.

What is God's Kingdom on earth? It is the place where we can open all the valves of love. Then what about the Kingdom of God in heaven? It is the place where we can open all the valves of true love.

As long as you maintain a loving heart, when you tug on the rope of love, everything will come to you. When you release the rope, everything will go back to where it came from. When you pull the rope sideways, everything moves sideways. You can steer the universe any way you like. It does not resist, but moves automatically.

Thus we can understand the meaning of the concept that the spirit world is filled with the air of love. If the God of love, who with the loving heart to feed all humanity at once and make them happy, says, "Let there be food!" then food will appear.

In the spirit world you eat the food of love. People look at each other with eyes of love. There are no words to express the mystery of the spirit world. The more you hear about it, the more you want to hear. There is no concept there of being sleepy or tired.

The spirit world is the place filled with the electricity of love. These days, people try to link everything to love. Why

is that? It is to be in tune with the spirit world. The spirit world operates in this way, and people on earth inevitably respond to it. They cannot escape from its influence.

When you see me in your dreams, I appear to you through the waves of God's love. For that to happen, you cannot be asserting your ego. You have to become like pure gold, which has a very low resistance. There can be no self. In this state, you create a vacuum. When there is a vacuum, you can create a realm of resonance. (112-16, 1981.3.15)