

2007 International STF Assembly Address

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This address was given at the STF General Assembly which annually gathered STF members from around the world. This fifth and final Assembly, held in 2007, had particular significance in that it launched the Missionary Task Force (MTF), with its first class of missionary couples. This pure offering, of bright young couples committing their lives to carrying forth True Parents' mission in front of God, was the fruition of the STF program. True Parents have highly praised STF for its high standard and winning spirit.

The Special Task Force (STF) has been a program designed to cultivate leaders who would carry out True Father's messianic mission to restore all humankind. The STF program had been designed to include full time training before college, active involvement in CARP during college, and missionary training after graduation.

Ultimately, it was Hyun Jin Nim's hope that the STF programs would raise blessed children to fulfill their birthright as holy sons and daughters of Heavenly Father. To this end, STF was meant to be a seven year program that challenged its participants through hands-on experiences to own the vision of God and True Parents.

In addition, programs were created for all ages to foster leadership. STF was designed for high school graduates, Jr. STF for middle and high school students, iSTF for grade school, and MTF for prospective missionaries. Hyun Jin Nim's children have participated in Jr. STF programs.

Should I speak from behind this podium? Or shall I speak beside you, looking into your faces, shaking your hands, laughing and crying with you? It is amazing how God gives each person a unique character. God did not give me a character that can sit still, so I have no choice but to speak to you while moving about.



I feel good when I see the faces of the STF members. When I see your faces, I can see clearly how the blessing carries forth the vision to fulfill the will of God. When I look at your faces, I see there are representatives from America, Japan, Korea, and all over the world – but all your faces are the faces of true love. The face of true love is beyond race. The face of true love has two eyes, one nose, ears, all aligned to the center. From that face, light emanates spiritually. When you look at a person's face, you can see that person's soul. When I came here, and I saw your faces, especially the faces of the STF members that are up here in the front, I saw light emanating from you. That makes me really happy.

If I were to describe the kind of education you are receiving here, it is to live for the sake of others – education to live for the sake of others. How does the world educate you? It teaches you to be centered on yourself, right? It teaches you that “I” come first, before my parents, before my siblings. That Koreans come first before the rest of the world. Here, in STF we are teaching you to live 180 degrees opposite of this, to live for the sake of others.

How old is this student here? Seventeen? This student is beginning to blossom like a flower. It is important to care for a flower during this period, so that it will become a beautiful flower. You have to water it and give it enough nutrients, so that it can fully bloom and have beautiful color. Adolescence is the same way.

How old are the students here? Fifteen? Do you all want to go to STF? You have to be careful. I am the son of the “king of brainwashers.”^[1] However, I am not interested in washing your brain. Your heart, the power of living for the sake of others, is what I am interested in. More than brainwashing, it is heart-washing. Do you want to have your heart washed? [Yes]

You have great energy. These second generation here have power. Once you know the will of God, you cannot forget it. The only path you can walk with confidence, is to make God's dream, your dream.

The Meaning of Sabbath

What should be the topic of this speech today? [One family under God, Aju] Actually, the whole movement and the whole world are resonating with the dream of one family under God, Aju. The timing is right. This dream has been God's dream since the beginning of creation.

This is the seventh year of *Cheon Il Guk*. In one sense the number seven represents the number of completion and of rest, the Sabbath. At the same time it is not rest in the way we understand it, of relaxing. It is rest after hard work, looking at what you have created with an immense sense of satisfaction and gratification, and hope for what it can become. That is the meaning of the Sabbath. That is what the number seven means.

The first book of the Bible, the Book of Genesis, outlines the history of the creation of humanity and all things. It says that God created all things and humankind in six days, and on the seventh day He rested in holy Sabbath. He rested in holy Sabbath in celebration of what He created, and with the hope of what it would fulfill. As in all creative acts, in the process of bringing life, from the position of the parent you have tremendous hope, anticipation and a dream for what you are creating. There, in the beginning of time, in the beginning of creation, God had the dream of creating what?

The Motivation of the Providence of Restoration was True Love



God had a dream to create one family in which He could dwell as its center. That was His dream, a true family which would be the foundation and the basis of true love, true life and true lineage. The most important component, or fruit, of that dream would be the substantiation of the lineage representing His ownership over humanity.

Looking in the faces of His beloved son and daughter, God wanted them to be fruitful, to multiply children of goodness and have dominion over the earth.^[2] God wanted His son and daughter to be the inheritors of this dream, to be the owners of this dream. First they needed to be “fruitful,” by inheriting the heart of God – true love, living for the sake of others.

Yet, how did human history begin? God not only lost His lineage, He lost ownership over His sons and daughters. God was not able to substantiate the culture of heart rooted in true love, because His children were not able to be true individuals with true love. The process of the Fall was rooted in self-centered love, an infection that spread from Lucifer, to Eve, to Adam, and then to their children, Cain and Abel.

The first original family should have been perfected based on true love, true life and true lineage. Yet, Adam and Eve fell away from God, and although they were chased out of the Garden of Eden, God did not abandon them. Instead, He initiated the providence of restoration and re-creation. What was the impulse behind the providence of restoration and re-creation? How do you think God felt when He initiated the providence of restoration? “Oh, Satan took what was mine; I want it back.” Or, “I am the almighty, powerful God that sees these naughty kids. I am going to bring them back and give them a swift kick in the butt.” No, the providence of restoration started with the impulse of true love, living for the sake of others. That expresses God’s character.

What made the formula for restoration so difficult was that Satan, or those who represented the satanic side, needed to be naturally subjugated. That means they had to be willing to receive and give true love. What is the way to open the heart of someone who has been so consumed with himself/herself, so they can become a vessel in which God’s will can take hold? The only way is through true love, living for the sake of others. That was the impulse behind the providence of restoration.

The True Mission of Jesus and the Purpose of Christianity

Historically, we can see that God had prepared the foundation of Judaism and the nation of Israel for 4,000 years. He cleansed that foundation through the Mosaic laws. Yet Jesus gave a new gospel from a mountaintop – a literal and proverbial mountaintop – that was foreign to the ears of the people of Israel. When Jesus appeared among the Israelites, those who were prepared should have received him as the anointed and expected Lord. He should have been received not only for the sake of Israel, but as the one who would substantiate the will of God for the entire world.



What was that will? It was to establish a true family rooted in true love, true life and true lineage, and to substantiate the dream of one family under God. As he looked amongst the crowd, he said to them, “You have heard that it was said ‘an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.’” He was referring to the Mosaic laws, on which the nation of Israel and the religion of Judaism were grounded. And he said, “But I say to you... If someone strikes you on the right cheek, offer the other cheek.”^[3]

In his three short years of ministry, Jesus taught a new gospel. His words were rooted in the vision of humanity becoming one family under God. The first condition for this was to substantiate the culture of heart, rooted in true love, living for the sake of others. Tragically, Jesus could not find faith among people prepared to receive him, and therefore he was unable to completely fulfill his original mission. Jesus, once knowing the way of the cross had become inevitable, then began to speak of his second coming. It is upon that hope, that expectation of the second coming, that God prepared an incredible foundation for 2,000 years centering on the Christian faith.

What must be understood is that the religion of Christianity was not the goal of God’s providence. In the original sinless world, there would have been no need for religion. There was a need for religion because the Fall excluded Heavenly Father, and as a result humanity grew further and further away from God. With each passing generation, humanity came to be like foreigners to God, like children who did not know their parent.

To return to my point, after Jesus went the way of the cross, the Christian foundation was prepared for 2,000 years, on the promise that the Lord would come again. Christianity was not meant to be an end in itself. Jesus did not come to establish a religion, but to fulfill God’s original ideal and extend that to all humanity. Christianity was prepared to receive the coming of the Lord of the Second Advent. Therefore, millions of Christians in the world today are still waiting for the second coming of Jesus.

When I was on a 12-city tour earlier this year, I was able to speak to many Christian ministers. Those who know Christian theology realize that many Christians look upon Christianity as the bride religion, waiting for the groom.

From the outset, the disciples of Jesus struggled to understand and prepare for his second coming. To a great extent the message and content of the Christian faith was shaped by those, like St. Paul, who never met Jesus of Nazareth but only the resurrected Jesus. Therefore, Christian faith had to develop centered on the spiritual Jesus. Jesus came as the son of God, the second Adam, to fulfill God’s original ideal and create a substantial family. But because Jesus could not find faith on earth, God gave His only begotten son to open the way of spiritual salvation. Thus, Christians centered their faith on the spiritual Jesus and even came to worship him.

Christianity is known as the bride religion, but when the Lord of the Second Advent comes, will he be recognized and received by the prepared Christian foundation? 2,000 years ago, God had prepared a chosen people, yet they could not understand who Jesus truly was, what his mission was, and what God expected of him as His son. God’s dream of an ideal family has remained the same since the beginning of creation. At the time of the second coming, the Lord returns as the third Adam, to fulfill that dream through an ideal family on the earth centered on true love.

It is with this understanding of the original will of God and His dream for humanity, and the mission of the anointed son of God in the providence of restoration, that Father has explained that Jesus was not able to complete his mission. I have always been moved by my father’s deep love for Jesus. Many people have misunderstood him, but if you read his speeches from the early years of his ministry, in nearly every sermon he spoke with passion and tears about Jesus, and the painful course he had to walk.

It is vital to seek to understand from God’s viewpoint; that is why I constantly emphasize to our members that we need to have a vertical line with three points, not two. It must begin first with God and understanding His will and dream, then connecting God and True Parents and True Parents’ mission in light of God’s will. Then we can connect ourselves as a third point and understand our mission as blessed central families. Only with this can you create a true 90 degree angle to live a life with no shadows, and attain true liberation.



God's will must be achieved through a true family. That is why God's providence was prolonged for another 2,000 years, and on the foundation of Christianity, True Parents came. Yet, rather than being welcomed by the prepared Christian leaders, True Parents who carried the messianic mission, were driven into the wilderness. This is how the history of the Unification Church began. Was the mission of our True Parents to establish the Unification Church? No, it was not. The Unification Church was needed to recover the lost foundation so Father could embark on his true mission.

This year, the seventh year of *Cheon Il Guk* is a watershed moment in history. It is analogous to the seventh day of creation. This is a jubilee year, a celebratory year, which denotes a new history, an era that signifies the opening of the sovereignty of God. Through the process of restoration and re-creation, the time has arrived in which humanity can begin to substantiate God's dream on earth. The steps we are taking forward now are steps in creating a new history. I say unto you today, "Be bold, be proud, be confident as you engage the world, and share this dream of one family under God." That dream will come to resonate in the hearts of all people, just as it resonates in yours. That should be our confidence, that should be our passion, that should be our rallying call as we move forward from the seventh year of *Cheon Il Guk*, Aju!

STF Three-Year Course and MTF (Missionary Task Force) Program

How many of you have climbed a high mountain? When you stand at the summit of those high peaks – where the winds blow very hard and nothing can survive because of the climate – you are buffeted by the winds, you see the barrenness of the ground, all rocks, and you look deep inside within yourself. There you find humility, you find gratitude. That windswept lonely place will humble any man or any woman. At that moment, the only place where you can find solace and comfort is in the knowledge, that as a son or daughter of God, you are constantly in His embrace of true love. When you come down from those mountains, carrying such an experience, whatever trials you face, whatever challenges may come your way, you know that you do not stand alone.

Missionaries, stand up. These are the members of the Missionary Task Force (MTF). STF is a three year course, right? What is the first year course? [Fundraising] Why fundraising? In this world, money, power and position are considered to be the most valuable. They are all material things, are they not? If you want to walk the course of a spiritual life, you need to separate from the things that dominate this world. When fundraising, whatever you receive that is material, and from this world – through your hard work, internal conditions, blood, sweat and tears – you offer back to God. In this way you separate yourself from this fallen world.

What is the second year of STF? [Witnessing] How can you become the owners of the Principle? The only way you can be owners is if you teach. Not just through words, but through your life, through your level of attendance and tradition. That is why you witness.

What is the third year of STF? It is to be missionaries. These make up the three stages of formation, growth and completion. Going out into the world, you are representing God, True Parents and True Family as an extended member of True Family, living for the sake of the world and bringing about the dream of one family under God. This is your mission as true representatives of True Parents.



MTF members, face this way. There are 14 missionary couples here today. They are going out as couples. From now on, I expect all of you to go out as missionaries. Can you do that? The condition that I ask of these couples, irrespective of what nation they are from or family they belong to, whatever love they have for that family or for that nation, I ask that they have that same depth of love for their respective missionary nations. I asked them, "What will happen if I tell you to stay there, even after one year of missionary work, two years, three years? Can you build your home there, and adopt that nation as your home?" All these couples are willing to do that. What about all of you, can you do that?

Think about it. If the second generation, especially second generation leadership, have that kind of attitude and dedication to the dream of one family under God, do you believe that that dream will be realized in our time? If you carry that level of dedication and ownership as you create your families, and as your grandchildren also carry this dream, then God's providence will be realized in our lifetime.

Satan will not be able to reverse this momentum. This is a watershed moment. It makes me very happy to see second generation take ownership of God's providence. Actually, today is the seventh year of *Cheon Il Guk*, the seventh month, and the eighth day. Eight means new beginning. The significance of holding this STF Assembly on July 8, of the seventh year of *Cheon Il Guk* is profound. On this day, these missionary couples have received their respective missions through a lottery. This is a watershed moment in the history of our movement in terms of the second generation.

I know that many of you took time off from school, but all that is secondary. What is most important is that you become owners of this dream. We live at a watershed moment in time. We need to focus on building the dream of one family under God and spreading this message to all four corners of this world. That is the level of commitment you need to have in this age to realize the dream of one family under God.

Will you become the owners, the true owners of the culture of heart by realizing the dream of one family under God? Those of you who will make that commitment, raise your hands and say, Aju. [Aju]

Thank you.

Notes:

[1] True Father, Rev. Moon, has often been falsely accused of being a brainwasher. Hyun Jin Nim uses this term in jest.

[2] Genesis 1:28

[3] Matthew 5:38-39