

Rev. Hyung Jin Moon speaks at Second Broadcast of Original Substance of the Divine Principle

Ariana Moon
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Rev. Hyung Jin Moon gave a keynote address titled "Marriage, the Family and Good Sex," which tied together the teachings of the Divine Principle with the concept of "absolute sexual morality."

The national effort to educate 13,000 faith leaders in the Original Substance of the Divine Principle (OSDP), initiated in 2011 under the direction of Rev. Sun Myung Moon, culminated on Saturday, December 15, 2012, with an OSDP seminar broadcast from the New Yorker Hotel in New York, NY. According to Rev. Dr. Michael Jenkins, president of the American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC), the goal of 13,000 participants by the close of 2012 has been fulfilled.

“This last broadcast was the culmination of the investment that we had made, particularly in 2012, in raising up Christian pastors to be the presenters and in having these programs based on local levels and real demand,” said Rev. David Rendel, chief of Operations at Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity (HSA-UWC). “In 2011, we had a very clear goal of educating 3,000, so we did a lot of mobilization. In 2012, it wasn’t so much that we were mobilizing people; instead, we offered the programs on the local level, and as a result, participation seemed more natural. This last program was particularly great, because we had all types of people there – young, old, couples with their children, whole families. In New York, we initially set up the room for 200, but we had to keep adding chairs.”

The ballroom in New York saw approximately 300 guests. In Washington, D.C., the Beach Room Ballroom at the Washington Times building was packed with more than 120 participants, more than twice the attendance at the broadcast on December 1, 2012.

“It was a victorious conclusion,” Rev. Rendel said to Unificationnews.com, adding: “Certainly, the empowerment of clergy with the Divine Principle is something that will continue. There is no national follow-up plan, because we want our movement to be empowered on a local level, but we hope that we have provided members with enough tools to initiate and continue OSDP lecturing as part of their ongoing education for Christian pastors, new guests, new members and Blessed families.”



Approximately 300 people attended the OSDP seminar in the New Yorker Hotel, which was broadcast to centers nationwide.

The OSDP program on Saturday began at 1:00 p.m. in the Crystal Ballroom of the New Yorker Hotel. Dr. Michael Jenkins, chairman of the American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC), welcomed attendees to the “Kingdom Building Live Broadcast” in the New Yorker, and then all joined in song – “I am a Friend of God” and “Trading My Sorrows.”

The OSDP seminar featured three 30-minute lecture sessions, each of which was opened by a praise song

and followed with a 10- to 15-minute break. For session one, Dr. Luonne Rouse of New York presented “Marriage and Responsibility in the First Family (Principle of Creation)”; for session two, Minister Tanya Edwards from Philadelphia presented “What Went Wrong in the Garden with Adam and Eve? (Fall of Man)”; and for session three, Bishop Michael Sykes from East Orange, New Jersey presented “What Happened with John the Baptist and Jesus (the Mission of Jesus)?”

“We really tried to combine great elements of both the Christian world and the Unification world,” said Rev. Rendel. “The content was Divine Principle, the speakers were of Christian background. The praise music that we used was from a Christian background, but it was music more focused on God than Jesus. This time, we had a choir composed of local church people and young Unificationists, so there was a lot of excitement in terms of music and the spirit it generated.”



Clergy and Unificationist leaders, standing with Rev. Hyung Jin Moon and his wife (center), received certificates that signified graduating from the OSDP workshop in the New Yorker Hotel.

According to many attendees, the “highlight” of the event was the concluding keynote address “Marriage, the Family and Good Sex” by Rev. Hyung Jin Moon, president of the Unification Church USA, who tied the content of the Divine Principle with the concept of absolute sexual morality, or “absolute sex.”

“Rev. Hyung Jin Moon explained how sex has played a major role in human history and how, because of the Fall of Man, sex became Satan’s domain,” said Rev. Rendel. “That’s why it’s been problematic throughout history. What people need to understand is that God gave sexuality to us not just as a means of procreation, but also as a way to experience the ultimate intimacy, not just with each other, but also with God. It’s kind of a revolutionary concept.”

According to ACLC activist Alain LeRoy, the Bay Area Family Church in California hosted 170 participants, including 12 guests and four pastors. The guest speaker was Rev. Dr. Michael Balcomb, vice president of HSA-UWC, who had spent the weekend visiting church families in San Diego, Oakland and Sacramento, California.

“Rev. Dr. Jasper Lowery, who has already attended three OSDP seminars and visited Las Vegas to support church efforts, presented the ‘Mission of the Messiah’ lecture for the first time,” reported LeRoy. “Guest Bill Richie, who had traveled to Korea together as part of the 172 clergy that the late Rev. Sun Myung Moon had summoned, was presented his 172 Appointment Certificate by Pastor Kevin Thompson and Dr. Balcomb. A special feature of the Divine Principle Seminar was the fact that Dr. Balcomb allowed 12 participants from our audience to give a ten-minute presentation on the Divine Principle.”