

FATHER VISITS BARRYTOWN

June 8, 1990

(Students and staff gather in Father's dining room.

Translator: Mr. Dong Moon Joo)

Father asks how many Juniors are here - "please raise your hands. How many of you know how much I visited the Seminary in the beginning? In the beginning I visited here almost every day for almost three years. So you know that I have loved this place and you so much.

...Do you have any questions for Father? (Stephen Stacey raises his hand: "Father, to look through your eyes and see things with a parental heart is very difficult, how do you see things so clearly?") You must get help from the spiritual world. If you want to have a good connection with the spiritual world you must know that true love is the key.

I know that many of you students are studying hard at the Seminary, but don't ever believe that earthly knowledge is superior to knowing the spiritual world. Earthly knowledge can rule over the moment, but knowledge of the spiritual world can rule over eternity. So you not only need different kinds of knowledge of practical matters or academic knowledge, but you need to express more mystical experiences in your life...

Today in American and European societies cultures are breaking down. You should be clear why you study theology - what is it good for? In order to diagnose today's religions and societies; that is the main reason why you study theology.

I am mostly concerned about you, about what you will be doing after you graduate from the Seminary. I am finding out that seminarians want to "go away" or "go up".(to study more) You must suffer and sacrifice more, "go down" so that you can make a foundation to jump up to a higher level. You should "resurrect" through a serving and sacrificial life, otherwise there is no hope.

...Since I gave you a chance to study theology, I had much hope for you. I waited to see what you graduates from UTS would do... I would like to gather all the Seminary graduates in one place so I can see what they are like.

...There are thousands of people who are dying each day of starvation in the world. Did you ever suppose what you would do (or feel) if you were the fathers or parents of those who are starving or dying? I'm thinking that rather than you going out to establish or pursue a spiritual life that I'll send you out to save those who are starving and dying physically. If you really dedicated your life to taking care of people who are starving and dying, don't you think that you could then save them spiritually?...

You should clearly understand the concept of a true spiritual leader. You should attempt to take some kind of difficult and sacrificial mission first - a life of hardship or danger - to serve through suffering and persecution first....The people that are dying from starvation, with no one to take care of them, are also dying spiritually.

...You cannot find the real "heavenly world" by trying to go "straight up", you must go to the "depths of hell", before you can go up to the real heavenly world. Why does the Bible say that you must "...lose your life in order to save it...?"

...You have to understand clearly why I have you study here. It's so that in the future you can dedicate yourselves and restore a thousand or more people. Why did I set up the Seminary? To include more people in the future in salvation, that is why, that is the purpose. I have wanted to count on you seminarians to do it.

...What is the purpose of your physical lives? It is so that everyday you can try to conquer or get rid of your physical evil or sinful passions. As you do this your spiritual life will be raised up.

...To save the world - not only America - is the reason that I built this Seminary. Now you understand why I try to really stir you up, to get you upset. Father has been crying out all his life, going a sacrificial course in order to try to save, not merely this nation, but the entire world. But I need manpower, I need people to save America. That's why I want to "push you down" - to make you strong.

...So I have to lean against you, otherwise how can you grow strong and survive the satanic world? How do you feel? (Good!) Without the strict word that I give you, you wouldn't feel so good. But when you hear this "word" you feel very good.

...Put yourself in the most lowly or humble place like you were actually being sent to the African jungle. You have to travel through the "8 stages" for seven years. Does everyone understand the meaning of tribal messiahship? To go the difficult way is not a natural inclination for you, it's not an easy thing, is it?

...Rather than complaining about your own environment, you mustn't do that, but put yourself in the lowest place you can find to serve and suffer. How much you can connect to true love should be your goal. The American modern tradition is to look for "enjoyment", to always be in a comfortable place. You have to be different. How about it, can you do it?" (Yes Father!)

(Unofficial notes by Shirley Stadelhofer)