

True Mother's Speaking Tour

Japan

This is from a report given by Mrs. Won Ju McDewitt at East Garden, March 13, 1999 and is from Dr. Hendricks' notes.

A failure of Japan was indemnified by True Mother speaking in Korean in her speaking tour. Should she speak in Korean here in America? This time, True Mother's speech is more direct Divine Principle than before, when it was more social commentary. The staff felt that True Mother was the manifestation of True Father in heart and love.

(True Mother displays posters and flyers used for her tour in Japan, and articles.) There were a lot of spiritual phenomena during the tour. There are over 300 Korean church leaders in Japan. Posters for her speech were hung from telephone poles, covering the entire city. Media identified True Mother first as the wife of True Father, then as founder of WFWP. The point is

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New York City

by Rev. Eric Holt—NYC

Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon is currently on a world Speaking Tour. Originating in Korea and Japan, the tour landed in the U.S. on March 19, and on March 21, New York City's Manhattan Center prepared a warm welcome for this great lady of vision. The Manhattan Center has played host to practically every known "famous" person: from Einstein to Madonna and Pavarotti. And so it was that, on March 21, this magnificent woman of God, destined to be more famous than all of her predecessors, was due to speak.

As organizers, we were not quite sure what

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Mother speaking in Louisville, KY. Reports from the American Tour next month

USA Celebrates True Parents' Birthday

by Jorg Heller—NYC

On February 21st, 1999 (January 6th, lunar) True Parents celebrated their birthdays in Seoul, Korea. Rev. Joong Hyun Pak wanted to make a very special offering to True Parents on this very special day.

Rev. Pak had the inspiration that the United States of America, the nation with the strongest Christian foundation in the world and the Elder Son Nation in God's Providence today, together with Canada should congratulate True Parents in a unique and special way.

Rev. Pak asked all the regional directors to visit the religious, political and social leaders in their Regions

and tell them about True Parents Birthday and invite them to write a birthday greeting to True Parents. This greeting could be in the form of a letter with the official letterhead of the government office, a regular birthday card, or any available piece of paper. It was really the heart behind the greeting that was of importance, not necessarily the paper it was written on.

Rev. Pak felt that 2100 "congratulators" of the highest caliber on this North American continent should get inspired to wish True Parents long life, success and happiness.

We only had about ten days to do it and that was not much time. Many of us were wondering whether or not we could "pull this off." But our concern was unfounded. Everybody's

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Rev. Pak presenting the list of congratulators to True Parents

by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon

This is the text of the speech that is being presented on the worldwide speaking tour.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I am deeply grateful that you have taken the time from your busy schedules to help me make today's gathering such a success. Our theme for today is "The Path of Life for All Humankind."

Today the world is lost in great confusion and cries out in agony. We face endless conflict as individuals, in our families, in our nations and in the world. As individuals, we are confronted with inner turmoil between our mind and body. Our families are plagued with the moral decadence of our young people and the breakdown of family-centered traditions. Historical rivalries lead to distrust and even war among our nations, fanning the embers of uncertainty and hopelessness in the world. The solution to all these problems lies in experiencing an ideal love relationship with God.

Throughout history, humankind has sought to answer the basic question: Why are we born? Some have concluded that they were born for the sake of their country. Others have decided that they were born for the sake of their parents. Still others believe they were born for their own sake. People of faith believe they are born for the sake of God.

Yet, it is not enough to say that God created the universe for the sole benefit of human beings, or even for Himself. The creation of humankind involved the cooperation of many beings and elements. Although each had its own inherent purpose, they had to be aligned to initiate the creative process. God's purpose in creating, the angel's purpose in assisting, nature's purpose in providing the materials, and even the human purpose for being created must all be consistent. Each one must be pleased. There must be some common content that will be pleasing to God, to the angels, to the rest of creation, and to human beings themselves.

This common content must be something that gives greater happiness and joy the longer it is possessed. It should be something that, once we possess it, we would never let it go. It cannot be external in nature. It must be something internal and invisible. Things like knowledge, money and power are merely collateral conditions that are needed in people's lives. We are not born into the world for the purpose of possessing them. Such external things may exist in a reciprocal relationship with humankind, but only temporarily, not eternally.

God has no need for money. If Almighty God ever needed money, He could create as much as He desired. Also, we know that God is the root of all knowledge, since He created the universe through certain principles and laws. Fur-

thermore, the Creator God is the subject of power, so He has no need to seek power.

What, then, is this common content? It is something we cannot achieve through human effort alone. This is because human effort cannot control the fundamental origin of life. This content must be something capable of directing the motivation, course, and even final destination of each person's life.



After the Osaka speech

From this perspective, this common content can only be true love. Human beings are born in love and are destined to go the path of love. People even die for love. This shows that love is

more valuable than life itself. Moreover, we see that love precedes life. That is why people willingly offer even their lives for the sake of love.

Love is eternal. When human beings reach the state of consciousness in which they are able to love the universe, all the doors of the universe open to them. For example, I am just a tiny being occupying this space right here. But centered on love, I can reciprocate in relationship with a being of any size or magnitude. Let us say that God is an extremely large being. Then by the power of love, I can rise to a position reciprocal to that of the Absolute God. This is possible because love is an attribute of God.

Thus, a person who recognizes and keeps God's covenant of love can enjoy freedom anywhere in the universe. Such an individual, called by God to represent all humankind centering on this cosmic love, would be the Messiah. Jesus is that representative. We can never find this cosmic love without going through the Messiah. It is reasonable to say that all people on Earth will have to follow the Messiah. Jesus said: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). The meaning of this would be clearer if the word love were added: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life, and the love; no one comes to the Father, but by me."

Parents and Children

The Divine Principle of the Unification Church teaches that energy is produced when a subject and object become one. In a family, parents hold the position of the subject partner and children hold the position of object partner. Once they reciprocate in a relationship of love, they become one entity — a true family. This entity then becomes a new object, which can enter into unity with a larger subject. If God is that subject, then the parent-child unity becomes one with God. We can also say that when a perfect subject-object relationship is formed with God, centering on His ideal of love, God and humankind can exist in total oneness. When the realm of love between God and humanity becomes a reality, the light of love will shine throughout the universe as bright and constant as the sun.

Not only is each person a life-connecting entity in whom the lives of both parents are brought together as one, but we are also partners in our parents' love. We are one with their love.

Furthermore, we are one with their ideals, including happiness and peace.

Each person is connected to the life-line, love-line and ideal-line of their parents, and no one can sever these lines. Even God cannot sever them, nor can the universe. In fact all the forces of the universe work together to safeguard these lines. This is because the parents are the cause and the children are the result. The parents and children are one, centering on love. Cause and effect become one to form a substantial realm of love. This is a principle of the universe.

Three Stages of Life

Each person comes into the world through three sets of parents. The first parent is the material world. Elements from the world of matter combine to form each person as the center of the material world and as a complex material being. Thus, it can be said that these physical elements themselves are the ancestors who gave us birth. On the other hand, the material world is an extension of us. The universe is created so that matter can settle only in the ideal of love. It is only in the ideal of love that all cells can live in tranquility. But this is all ruined whenever a person becomes angry.

Our second set of parents is our physical parents. By giving birth to us, our parents gave us a particular form, and to this extent they are the masters of our lives. However, no matter how hard they may try, these parents cannot be the masters of our love.

The master of love is God. In this context, God exists so that love can be expanded into the entire universe and made eternal. Because God is the subject of love, He becomes the parent centering on love. That is why God is our third parent. So we have three sets of parents.

Human life can be divided into three periods: life in the womb of about ten months, a physical life of about a hundred years, and life in the spirit world that lasts tens of thousands of years into eternity.

If we look at our own faces, we also see three stages: the mouth, the nose and the eyes. These reflect the three periods of our lives. The mouth symbolizes the period in the womb, which is a world of material. The nose symbolizes the period on Earth, which is the world of humanity. The eyes symbolize the period in Heaven, which is the spirit world.

To the fetus, the aquatic world of its mother's womb is a world of total freedom. Interestingly, although it is constrained within the confines of the womb, the fetus feels completely free. In the womb, it can't stretch its legs as much as it would like, and the fetus relies on an umbilical cord to breathe and receive nutrients for survival since its nose and mouth are both useless in this world. Nevertheless, to the fetus, the world in the womb is one of complete freedom.

As soon as the baby is born, it begins to cry. At the same time, it starts to breathe through its nose and becomes linked to the second world, the world of air.

C A L E N D A R

MARCH

- 3 Shin Jung Nim's 16th Birthday (lunar)
- 10 Kwon Jin Nim's 24th Birthday (lunar)
- 27 Shin Won Nim's 11th Birthday (lunar)
- 31 Hyun Jin Nim & Jun Sook Nim's Blessing (1987)

APRIL

- 4 Jin Sung Nim's 37th Birthday (lunar)
- 7 42 Couples' Blessing (1989)
- 138 Previously Married Couples' Blessing (1989)
- 57 Single Blessing (1989)
- 10 1265 Couples' Blessing (1992)
- 11 Un Jin Nim & Jin Hun Nim's Blessing(1986)
- 12 36 Couples of the 2nd Generation Blessing(1986)
- 13 Shin Chul Nim's 7th Birthday (lunar)
- 16 Kwon Jin Nim & Hwa Yun Nim's Blessing (1995)
- Sun Jin Nim & In Sup Nim's Blessing (1995)
- 17 TRUE PARENTS' DAY (lunar)
- Sung Jin Nim's Birthday (lunar)
- 26 Shin Hwa Nim's 11th Birthday (lunar)

MAY

- 1 43 Couples' Blessing (1969)
- HSA-UWC Established (1954)
- 6 Nan Sook Nim's 33rd Birthday (lunar)
- 10 Jin Hun Nim's 36th Birthday (lunar)
- 15 36 Couples' Blessing (1961)
- 16 Day of the Love of God (1984)
- Ye Jin Nim & Jin Whi Nim's Blessing (1981)
- 17 Shin Bok Nim's 17th Birthday (lunar)
- 21 118 Couples' Blessing (1978)
- 24 Hyun Jin Nim's 30th Birthday (lunar)
- 26 True Parents' Blessing (lunar)

For All Humankind

As the baby leaves the womb to enter the world of air, the umbilical cord is destroyed along with the water sac and everything it needed in the world of the womb. With the death of these things, the baby is born into the bosom of its new mother, the planet Earth. Once born, the baby begins to eat with its mouth and breathe with its nose. The food we eat on Earth nourishes our physical bodies, but it does not contain the essential element of life. This life element is nothing other than love. Thus, while we are in this world, we also need to breathe the air of love. We need to inhale this air of love from our mother and father.

Growing in Love

A newborn baby automatically searches for its mother's breast, following the vibrations of her love. Whether she is beautiful or ugly does not matter to the baby. The only thing that matters is that she is its mother. It is a sacred scene manifested in limitless variety. We are born in love and we grow by receiving love.

Once we are born, our parents take responsibility to see that we become good human beings during our life on Earth. Our parents act on behalf of the world, the nation and the family to teach and provide for us. We receive material things and education from our parents so that we may become complete as individuals. Based on this, we then become linked to a horizontal foundation of love, which is marriage.

Parents take responsibility for us



Father giving the first speech in Seoul

until we marry. After marriage, we inherit the love shared by our mother and father. When we marry and start rearing our own children, we begin to understand how much our parents loved us and thus come to inherit parental love. In this way, the individual becomes capable of receiving and giving love completely. This is how each of us matures as a complete man or woman.

We are born and mature in the vertical love of our parents, and later we engage in horizontal love. This is the

only way we can find the integrated realm of love. Heaven and Earth together form a spherical world, covering all the dimensions of top and bottom, left and right, as well as front and back. When the vertical and horizontal love relationships are linked, they interact, revolve, become integrated, and finally emerge as a single center of harmony. Once the vertical love of Heaven

and Earth is firmly established as the axis internally and externally, then the need for horizontal love arises. This takes place during adolescence.

During adolescence, even the sight of an autumn leaf blowing along the ground can seem inspiring. Girls who used to be so reserved when they were younger suddenly start doing things to their hair, putting on make-up and trying on all sorts of clothes and accessories. Their interests expand as well. These are horizontal phenomena of love.

The Path of Life

When a husband and wife love each other, it symbolizes the planting of God. Parents represent God's original position. Here, the husband and wife each embody different sides of God. Also, each child is like a small God. Since God is the original entity of true love, when the various members of the family link themselves to true love, they become one body with God. Here, parents are the living embodiment of God representing Him. Husband and wife each represent God, and the children represent Him as well. Thus, three generations, centering on true love, stand in the position of God.

This is why all members of the family - parents, husbands and wives, and children - need true love. A family formed in this way, centering on true love, is the foundation for the Kingdom of Heaven. Unless we first establish such a foundation, the Kingdom of Heaven can never be established. This is the formula. The family is the center of the entire physical universe. People today do not realize that their family represents their country, world and universe. They do not know that their family is the center. Breaking apart a family is an act of rebellion against the country, world and universe.

Because a perfect family is the foundation for a perfect universe, a person who loves the universe as she loves her family can travel freely everywhere. In such a case, God, as the Parent of the entire universe, sits in the central position to these manifold relationships of love.

When a man and woman become one centering on true love, they form an ideal couple, and build an ideal family. By doing so, they stand in a position representing God and thus are connected to everything in the universe. If this happens, then all of God's possessions become theirs. Think how wonderful that would be! This is the reason we naturally desire to have dominion over all creation.

Men and women come together as pairs to build families, societies, nations and the world. Thus, the family centering on one man and one woman must be the model for the tribe. This tribe, in turn, must be the model for the nation. Families must strive to achieve the ideal family, tribe and nation. Therefore, until ideal families appear, ideal nations will never

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True Parents at the first speech of the tour in Seoul

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emerge.

God and My Family

Respected guests! The greatness of true love is that it enables us to become God's object partners and also enables God to become us. The Bible speaks of God being in us and Jesus being in us. This is similar to the idea that the parent is in the child, the grandchild is in the grandparent, and the grandparent is in the grandchild.

A grandmother and grandfather should bind their hearts together centering on their grandchildren. This is necessary so that the vertical line of love can have a beginning. Also, grandchildren must become one with their grandparents. Grandparents are in the same position as God, so we should attend them as we would attend God. Grandchildren will not be able to find the vertical axis of love without doing this.

After the formation of this axis, the horizontal expansion can develop. The horizontal can be connected to all directions, but the vertical has only one direction. The horizontal can turn North, South, East or West; it has a range of 360 degrees. The vertical can move centering on one point only and cannot be split.

Our first task is to create mind and body unity, centering on love. Then, we need to know how to love the spirit world, which is the vertical world centered on God. Furthermore, if in the future a central country emerges, we should love humanity centering on that country. When we love the spirit world and the whole of humankind by means of sacrifice, service and dedication, we can automatically become the central figures who can have dominion over the two worlds, and make them into one. Then God will surely dwell there.

The entire spirit world, combined with the entire physical universe, is called the cosmos. The spirit world and the universe yearn for the unification of the cosmos centering on true love. True love can unify the cosmos. True love can transform all families into ideal families and make them one. Thus, we can conclude that true love is the only thing that humanity needs absolutely, whether we are alive on the Earth or are in the spirit world.

We can conclude, therefore, that nothing in this world is more precious than a true person who possesses true love. As the highest being in creation, human beings are in a reciprocal position equal to God's. So human beings should be able to act even more quickly than electricity or light, which travels at three hundred thousand kilometers per second. It is our spiritual selves that make such a thing possible. The fastest action in the world is not electromagnetic waves.

In the world of God's original ideal, a person who has experienced true love has the ability and authority to possess instantly anything God wants.

People need to experience such a state while on Earth. One can rise to this position only if the physical and spiritual selves become one while establishing a love relationship with God, centered on the true family. We can feel God's love by loving our countrymen, the people of the world, and creation. Each of us, regardless of nation-

ality, must develop the heart to love people of all races. We should love not just people but even the smallest microorganism. This love has to spring naturally from within. When a flower blooms, its beauty and fragrance come naturally. The blossom of love has to bloom in the same way. The fragrance of love should fill the air naturally.

To do this, we need to receive the nutrients that make it possible for the blossom of love to bloom. In the same way that plants receive nutrients from the soil and sun, we receive nutrients through our physical body and spirit self. We receive vitality elements through our physical bodies, and then we receive living spirit elements through our spirit selves.

This is how we become beings who are totally equipped to love and how we develop the ability to fly anywhere. When this happens, the solar system and the entire universe become the stage of our activity.

The Next World

When we finish our physical life, we go through a second birth. This is called death. The place into which we are born this second time is the spirit world. We go into the spirit world and, on behalf of the entire universe, receive love from God, our third parent. That is to say, we receive ideal love. So in the spirit world, unification is inevitable.

In the spirit world, people breathe and live centered on love.

We are born in love, live in love, and give birth to sons and daughters through love as God's representatives. Eventually, we reach the resting place of love, and return to God so that we may live eternally in His presence. In other words, our lives begin in love, ripen in love, and are finally harvested as the fruit of love. When a person dies, he harvests the fruit of his love.

During our life, we receive the love of our parents, share love with our husband or wife, and give love to our children, bringing to fruition all the seeds of God's love sown in the internal world of love. Eventually, we harvest this fruit and go into the next world. So when we become completely one in love, we come to resemble God. If a husband and wife work together to complete the three stages of love and then go to the spirit world, they will exist as creators and lords in a reciprocal relationship with God, who is the eternal subject. That is what happens when a husband and wife die centering on love. We begin and end in God.

To die means to move from a world of land, where we crawl and walk, to a world where we fly freely. We pass through death in order to become qualified travelers who, with love, can enjoy the entire universe. That is why death is, in reality, a new birth.

The Suffering of God

Ladies and gentlemen, our life course is not a smooth path. This is because human beings fell. The Fall of the original human ancestors did not result in misery only for human beings. God, also, suffered misery. For this reason,

we do not dedicate our lives only to the accomplishment of the ideal world. An even more important goal for our life is to clear away the sorrow and agony in the heart of God, who is the origin of all life. Thus, when human beings finally attain happiness, then God, too, will be happy. God and humankind have gone through the course of history in the same situation, pursuing the same goal.

As a result of losing Adam and Eve, God has walked the most difficult path, a path that no one would choose to walk. Human beings, too, have walked this inevitable path of destiny brought about by the Fall, always hoping for the coming day of salvation.

Humankind's most fervent hope in relation to God is to become His sons and daughters. This is because no relationship is more intimate than that of parent and child. We were born when the love and life of our parents converged, and thus we represent their ideals. But words like love and ideals never refer to just one person. Life cannot be created by

one person alone, but must come from a love relationship between husband and wife. So when God created humankind, He created us to be the object partners of His love, His life and His ideals. This is amazing and incredible.

If I did not exist, my parents' love could not become visible. The love, life and ideals of my parents exist

in relation to me. I am the fruit of my parents' love, life and ideals. That is why the child's position is the most precious of all.

Had Adam and Eve not fallen, they would have been the children of God's direct lineage, and His royal descendants. That is, Adam and Eve were the prince and princess who stood to inherit the Kingdom of Heaven in the spirit world and on Earth. At the same time, because they were created as the objects of the invisible God, who is the subject, Adam and Eve were substantial beings who could receive His love. They were substantial manifestations of the invisible God.

It is the special privilege of a child of God to say, "God is mine. All that is His is also mine. Even His love, His life and His ideals are mine." It is up to human beings to recover this amazing and incredible value that was originally ours.

The Messiah's Mission

If God is the subject of love, who exists eternally, then the reciprocal partners of His love must also exist eternally. When I become one with God's love, God becomes me.

Had Adam and Eve not fallen, their bodies would have been the homes where God could dwell. They would have placed God at the center of their hearts and become entities of love, life and lineage who were unified eternally through true love. If they had done this, our mind and body would not be in conflict today.

The Fall meant that we inherited the

life and lineage of evil, centering on evil love. We were born from false parents. We, therefore, have to rebuild the lineage. We have to take the false olive tree and change it into a true olive tree. To do this, we should be grafted onto the true olive tree, go through at least three generations, and produce the fruit that becomes the true olive tree representing the original standard. Only then will fallen human beings be restored to the original state. That is when the Providence of Salvation will be completed.

In this way, God is trying to make human beings become children of the parents of goodness, centering on love that is one with Him. This is why He sends the Messiah to the Earth as True Parents. The Messiah is the one who comes to return the lineage of all humankind to God and establish the original ideal of creation.

Before seeking to excel on the world stage, humankind should have first excelled in the original family of Adam and Eve. Had Adam and Eve taken their places as lineal prince and princess before God, they would have been the most exalted among all men and women. They, however, fell and lost their entitled positions of the elder son and daughter, the crown prince and princess. This tragedy has remained throughout human history. That is why humankind has traveled a path of life in search of the positions of first son and first daughter so that we might recover God's true love.

If we are to receive His true love, we cannot live selfishly, centering on our own self. Instead, we should live for the sake of God and humankind as our brothers and sisters. The more a person sheds blood and tears for her brothers and sisters in place of her parents, the deeper, wider and higher will be the love she receives. This is the son and daughter we must become if we are to inherit everything from our parents. Every man and woman must go this path. Even if we have to face death ten times or a hundred times, we must continue our search for God's true love. This is the supreme path of life.

The Original Homeland

The Divine Principle of the Unification Church teaches that the Fall occurred when human beings left the realm of God's true love. Restoration means to return to that realm. When a person enters the realm of such love, he can merely look at his body and praise it tens of thousand of times. In that world, you know that your own body is one that receives God's true love. Words cannot express such joy. This wonderful world is called the Kingdom of Heaven.

Until now, people knew relatively little about the spirit world. It is a world where people are recognized depending on how closely they followed God's principle of existence - the principle of living for the sake of others. A world built on this content is the ideal Kingdom of Heaven.

This is the original homeland for which all humankind must search. Today, we live as fallen people who have been expelled from our homeland, so it is our destiny to return there. However, we cannot do this on our own.

God has worked through history to resolve this problem by establishing numerous religions in accordance with the different cultural backgrounds,

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JAPAN
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that it is legitimate to put True Father's name in the media again in Japan.

Some papers in years past refused our ads, but this year they all accepted. In each True Mother met many VIPs. They wrote good reflections. Normally the speech began at 1:30 p.m. In each city, they sold tickets; it was not free. They arrived at the auditorium early. The tickets were \$50 - \$70. So they made money through the tour. Each hall was packed, with no vacant seat and they had to rent extra rooms.

On March 3, True Mother offered all the donations she had received during the tour for a second generation scholarship fund in Japan. Healthy and sound children raising scholarship fund. Heung Jin Educational Trust Fund. It was written up by the Segye Times of Japan.

Japan is a female, hence can put makeup on its face. USA is the elder son, so cannot put on makeup. However, True Mother still wants to see a good turnout, and it will give her more energy.

At 1:30 p.m. the introductory video is shown, and it inspires everyone and prepares them for the message. During the tour, Rev. Jeung Og Yu's couple and President Otsuka's couple accompanied with high spirit. After the video, President Otsuka gave an 8 minute introduction. True Mother advised his appearance—selection of tie, too shiny nose. His 8 minute remarks were really inspiring, then a choir team sang Purple Rose of Sharon, composed by a member, then the Hallelujah Chorus, then True Mother marches to the podium in a beautiful suit with a big smile. Then everyone is so inspired.

As she enters, the backdrop is lit with beautiful colors, and she smiles with that kind of background. Also, they were able to transmit by satellite the event directly to Father at Cheju, during the 2nd half of the tour. Also, apparently, Father at Cheju was transmitted back to Japan.

True Mother's voice is so beautiful, and even more so when speaking Korean. Also it is easier for her to read the Korean and look at the audience. She takes command of the audience and

they are completely intoxicated by her, and True Father via satellite is also grinning ear to ear. Even Father would place his finger on True Mother's lips on the screen.

In one hour, about 30 rounds of applause.



Above, Kawaski City, below, Osaka

I came to fall in love with True Mother all over again. She is beauty itself. By the end of the speech, everyone falls in love with True Mother and the message itself. The audience naturally followed True Mother to the after speech celebration room for the next chapter.



At the end of the speech, True Mother leads three cheers of mansei, holding the Japanese flag in her left hand and FFWPU flag in the right. Mansei for God, True Parents and the region of the day.

It is cold outside, but she is soaked in sweat by now. Instead of cleaning up after departing, as soon as she leaves the room she goes to the celebration room to connect to Father, rather than cleaning up. True Father must be missing TM, but he must be so proud of her for carrying out the mission in his place. As she enters the celebration room, we

hand her the microphone and she can address Father, and he her, as they see each other on the screen.

Usually about 400-500 would be there. They will be seated there, somehow arrived before True Mother, and in tears, and True Mother enters talk-

ing to Father. Then the giving cake to each other via camera. Then singing including songs, gifts and testimonies from the VIPs. Then True Mother selects one couple, often President Otsuka's, to sing and kiss on camera. This is a new tradition. Then True Father and True Mother kiss, by placing each their index finger on the other's mouth on screen.

for this blessing and husband, and it is more valuable and I will follow True Parents to spirit world forever. Her heart is truly good, and she educated her children well. In the celebration room they approach True Mother and called her Omonim. Also, True Mother took Junko shopping in America years ago, and bought her a blueberry muffin, shared, fresh and delicious, and that True Mother liked it. So she practiced baking blueberry muffins, hundreds of times, to try to equal that quality, and she brought her muffins to True Mother at the speech, also 1,000 crane origami. She is planning a national testimony tour when her children get older.

I saw Father signing the book called CTA and Ideal Kingdom, 1,000 pages thick, including Father's prayer and reality of spirit world. Father signed 700 books that day, taking many hours, and at the tour they were given to successful leaders. The successful blessed wives received True Mother's hanboks. True Mother sent 103 of them to Japan, that she wore once. They feel as if True Mother is always with them because of that. They loan theirs to a successful sister who nonetheless did not receive one, and they wear for one hour and take a photo. And successful brothers get photographs with True Mother's hanbok on a chair next to them. And photo with True Mother while holding the book. A heartistic revolution.

The tour ended March 4, and we were scheduled to return to Seoul, but True Father said she should fly back that night to Cheju. Arrived at Cheju at 10 p.m., and Father welcomed her at the airport with a flower bouquet and welcoming hug. There were 1,000 Korean leaders there, and 11 pm - 2 am we celebrated with singing, dancing and reports.

I encourage all American brothers and sisters to pray and support True Parents so this speaking tour will be a great victory as well. ❖

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customs and traditions of various nations. He has done this so that human beings would have a path to lead them back. Religion is the training ground where we can cultivate the qualifications that enable us to return to our homeland. In accordance with the cultural background of each region, God is guiding us toward one unified

world of religion that can advance us to a higher ground.

Let us make the new millennium an age of true peace and true ideals in which people will practice the way of true love. I hope we will recover the value of true original human beings centered on God, establish true families, and live for others eternally, centering on God and the True Parents.

May your families and country be filled with an ever greater abundance of God's love and blessings. ❖



Tokyo \$699
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**REV. JOONG
HYUN PAK**

Rev. Pak is the Continental
Director of the Church
in North America.

AGE OF COSMIC

This has been a year of tremendous historical victories for God and True Parents. Following the celebration of the Holy Days held in Uruguay in January, True Parents came through North America and on to Korea to prepare for Blessing '99. Every victory gained has laid the foundation for True Parents' world speaking tour which is still going on and will lead to the opening of the heavenly kingdom.

The greatest victory occurred when President Kim Dae Jung of Korea responded to True Father's invitation to attend the *Segae Times* Tenth Anniversary Banquet held just days before the Blessing. He not only attended but he gave a 15-minute congratulatory speech and participated with True Parents in the traditional cake-cutting ceremony. He showed respect and honor to True Parents.

President Kim is Catholic. His wife is Methodist. The Blue House has many Christians on staff. They were not happy that President Kim was being supportive of Reverend and Mrs. Moon. But the president stood strong against public opinion. This was a great victory for Parents and it makes President Kim a historical figure indeed. Because we are approaching the year 2000, it becomes the peak of the Dispensation of Restoration. Having this particular victory was a most fortunate occurrence.

Of course, Blessing '99 itself was overwhelmingly successful, with 360 million couples participating, broadcast by satellite and internet. Actually, the final total of participating couples was nearer to 400 million. Unimaginable. As I reported in my previous article, the Korean Church was preparing the Olympic gymnasium for the Blessing, where many of the '88 Olympic sports events took place, but True Father said "No, use the Olympic stadium, not the gymnasium!" Imagine how the church leaders felt when they were given that directive. They had the responsibility to fill that huge stadium! And with less than 30 days to organize!

Well, I was at the Blessing ceremony, and all of you heard the reports—the number of overflow people that were left outside was in the thousands! I saw this myself. It was indeed a victorious event.

Christianity and Judaism

We already know about the amazing weather that day and how pleasant it was. Things work out when you are heaven-centered. Father has a plan, he has conviction, commitment and faith! Heaven and Earth will move to obey the command of true ownership. Even when we look back to the Old Testament times, we know that Moses and others had control over the weather when it was necessary. Again, Heaven and Earth will move at the command of a person filled with conviction and faith and with commitment to a heavenly plan. That person is a true owner.

We read the following story of Jesus in Luke 8:22-25:

One day Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's go over to the other side of the lake." So they got into a boat and set out. As they sailed he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great

danger. The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!" He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. "Where is your faith?" he asked his disciples. In fear and amazement they asked one another, "Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him."

It was a victory to have spiritual leaders from other faiths join with True Parents on stage at the Blessing to give their blessings. This interreligious spirit naturally has the potential to flow out to the world in the way of pulling into unity all of God's people everywhere. These spiritual leaders come because they already have outreach hearts and deep-thinking minds, desiring unity. And when they see that True Parents are successfully drawing millions of people to the Blessing from all walks of life, all religions, and all nations of the world, they have an even clearer view of what God expects of them and what God expects to have happen in the Universe. Judaism was well-represented by Rabbi Herzel Kranz from Washington, DC.

The land of Korea is indeed blessed. Even its fruits are large and delicious. Sometimes when people in America taste the juicy, sweet pears and apples that come from Korea, their comments remind me of the Old Testament story in the book of Numbers (ch. 13), when Joshua, Caleb and the others were sent by Moses to spy on the conditions in Canaan:

(17) ...When Moses sent them to explore Canaan, he said, "Go up through the Negev and on into the hill country. (18) ...See what the land is like...(19) what kind of towns do they live in...(20) What is the soil like...Do your best to bring back some of the fruit of the land. (It was the season for the first ripe grapes.)...(23) When they reached the Valley of Eshcol, they cut off a branch bearing a single cluster of grapes. Two of them carried it on a pole between them, along with some pomegranates and figs. (24) That place was called the Valley of Eshcol because of the cluster of grapes the Israelites cut off there...(25) At the end of forty days they returned from exploring the land. (26) They came back to Moses and Aaron and the whole Israelite community at Kadesh in the Desert of Paran. There they reported to them and to the whole assembly and showed them the fruit of the land.

I bought a book entitled *America's Real War* by Rabbi Daniel Lapin. I was told it will be a best-seller. In the book the author says that though America is a Christian nation, still they allow Judaism to exist peacefully side by side in this country without any persecution. However, he said that Judaism in America does not respect Christianity so much. That means we have religious warfare (disunity).

In America, we have warfare of all kinds: immoral and family warfare, political, cultural and racial warfare. America is a field of warfare. We must work hard to change this quickly.

If Christianity and Judaism can come together on the grounds of love and respect, we can learn from each other and go forward together, teaching true family values and building the Kingdom.

Toward Cosmic Peace

When we think of 'peace' we usually think of world peace. But True Father thinks bigger; he thinks in terms of cosmic peace. That is his goal. On their world speaking tour, True Parents are bringing the message of the path of life humankind must take, so that families of the new millennium can live in true love and happiness for all Eternity. But while Father's message is given on the Earth and for the Earth, he is thinking beyond the Earth, out to the Universe and the heavenly world of spirit where we spend Eternity. Father's goal is to reach the entire Cosmos. God wants peace to reign throughout the Cosmos. That is the scale of God and True Parents' thinking. That should be the goal and the scale of thinking for all humankind.

But in speaking in terms of world peace: two thousand years ago, God and the world were preparing for Jesus Christ, the king, and hence Pax Romana came to be. Rome battled with Northern Africa, with France and Germany, with Greece and Egypt, and they eventually conquered the Mediterranean Sea area. They established the *Pax Romana*, meaning that through political and military power, they forcibly brought the peace which needed to be in existence for the Christ-child to reign. Pax Romana was very materialistic and humanistic and very political. It was centered on Rome's military power.

When we think about America, we know that it is the window of the world. Numerous nations in the world look to America for "what is happening." When we travel to other nations, we can surely see some of America there, both good and bad. We can compare America to Rome two thousand years ago. While all eyes were upon Rome, Rome was "eating and drinking and making merry." Over-indulging in good food, selfish spending and prosperous living, and immorality. In America we have political and military power. So we can say that Pax Romana is repeated now in another cycle, *Pax Americana*.

In the letter to the Romans, St. Paul says in 14:17:

For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit...

This is the nation God prepared to receive the Messiah, the Lord of the Second Advent. Through its powers, America can maintain some sort of peace in the world. But God and the Messiah expect real peace, God-centered peace, to reign from within America so that its powerful influence will naturally flow out into the world. It must be turned around to be used by God. Genuine peace must flow from here, not battle skirmishes with other nations. We must become an example of moral living.

Media and money have become controlling factors. All the money powers are gathered on Wall Street. Like Rome, America is so materialistic. And the frightening thing is, people are becoming desensitized to all of this negative influence and immorality. This is so dangerous, because immorality is becoming the norm. America must clean up its immoral pol-

lution and become a clean nation. We know that God expects this Christian nation to be one of peacemaking, not mischief-making. But our peacemaking efforts must be centered on True Love and the True and Living God, not on seeking ways to make harmony just to co-exist with misdirected people and misdirected groups.

God and True Parents want to make America a nation of true love and sacrificial living, a nation of purity and peace that goes beyond religion, race and nationalism.

True Father concerns himself with the physical environmental pollution as well. He knows we cannot continue to live and breathe in a dirty world. For this, he has gone to South America and has literally rolled up his shirt-sleeves and pants-legs to become a part of nature and the environment, living with mosquitoes, snakes and alligators in the Pantanal, in order to create practical, workable solutions. This is how much God and True Parents love the world and the cosmos. They are working constantly toward making Earth and Heaven the places of purity, peace and happiness once and for all!

We ourselves must go back to a more simple lifestyle, one in which we can dwell with and appreciate nature. This will bring us closer to God and the wonders of His Creation. We have become people of greed. We are spoiled. We have come to expect things that we are not rightful owners of. We have to clean up our lives as individuals, as families, as a society, nation and world. Only then will cosmic peace reign.

We need cosmic peace! In these last days, the world is full of disease, mental illness, crime—brothers killing brothers, husbands and wives killing each other and their children, children killing their parents, wars and battles! Because there is satanic blood running through the veins of fallen humankind, evil spirits have gained control. Evil spirits take control of our tempers, our characters, our desires. Human energy is expended in the wrong way. Evil has reached a degree of such great magnitude!

Peace in Spirit World

Our ancestors in the spiritual world suffer under this evil bondage as well. Of course, some in spirit are good and bring help to us, but so many of them descend on us from the spiritual world and cause much trouble in our lives. We need liberation for ourselves and for the billions of departed ancestors as well. We need the Blessing and so does the spiritual world. We all need to be purified and filled with God's Holy Spirit. Only then will we have total peace on Earth and in Heaven, the entire Cosmos.

This applies to the President of this nation as well. In fact, how wonderful it would be if heads of nations could know these things and lead the people to righteousness and liberty. It would create goodness in the nations so quickly.

We need Chungpyung and the prayer intervention of our great mother Dae Mo Nim. We need the deliverance this can bring. We have so much in the way of remedy for our life and our spirit if we will only believe. But we should not only

PEACE

think of the results and benefits that are available to us; we need also to think of how we can sacrifice and dedicate ourselves for the Kingdom. We are fortunate that Dae Mo Nim will visit America soon. We have the chance to prepare ourselves well and to have the right mind and heart to receive the liberation that is available to us.

The spiritual world Blessings began with some key figures in 1995. Since then, millions have been blessed there. People from recorded history, those who dedicated their lives to God have been blessed as well as those in the lower realms of the spiritual world. What we call the Cain and Abel sides of the spiritual world have both been blessed. On Earth we have the Cain and Abel sides also. In the physical world many people are denying that there is even a God. How dreadful for the ancestors of these people.

Evangelist Rev. Billy Graham was quoted as saying that the greatest warfare going on in the world today is that between humankind and God. Many people say that God is dead. Many think He is living but do not apply His values to their lives. Well, Pax-Americana is certainly not the ideal from God's point of view. But those of us who follow the guidance of True Parents are aiming higher than the world when we speak of peace. We are aiming for Cosmic Peace—liberation of Cain and Abel, liberation of the physical and spiritual worlds, the entire Cosmos. This is a very exciting thing.

Judeo-Christian traditions and values are not working in America. Rather, in America, we have more of "Clintongate," which is a symbol of immoral living and encourages sexually immoral activity among our young people. Such a leader sits on the nation as a false king, clearly an image of fallen Adam. We have race crimes and even tragic incidences like the recent one in New York where four policemen sent 41 gunshots through the body of an unarmed man of another race. All of this present-day activity is clear evidence of the Cain and Abel generation, born of the fallen family of Adam and Eve. So Pax Americana is not the ideal peace which is needed, but rather we need God's peace.

From the city level, county level on to the state, nation and world levels, this struggle is ongoing. America is seeking to create pseudo world peace. Who is the true peacemaker of world peace and cosmic peace? The answer is: True Parents. They are God's embodiment of substantial Truth and Heart. True Son and Daughter of God, True King and Queenship of God, owners of God; they established a True Family; they taught True Family Values; and they are bringing forth the worldwide community of blessed families.

This interreligious, international, interracial worldwide movement has spread to 185 nations. A miracle. For that, True Father has led a total sacrificial life, never once thinking of himself. When he found himself in prison, he continued comforting God, choosing 3am as the hour to meet God in prayer, a time when he could be totally alone with Him. To comfort God's suffering heart has always come first in True Father's life. To give his life

sacrificially for God and humankind has been his lifestyle his whole life. How else could he have embraced the entire cosmos.

So how can we expect to create peace when we ourselves live anyway we choose, not

living sacrificially for others or dedicating ourselves to God as True Parents have? We have to seriously think how we contribute to world and cosmic peace. When we lay conditions to have our ancestors liberated, we are contributing toward cosmic peace. This is very important to think about. We are contributing toward cosmic peace when we liberate our ancestors. We are preparing for our Eternal Life. When we ourselves make the transition to the spiritual world we want to be going home, not roaming around like some lost wandering spirit in a wilderness. That is not cosmic peace. True Parents' teaching is a way of life. Like Taoism, the principle of a way of living. With True Parents it is a way of life throughout all eternity; living in harmony and peace with all creation, all humankind. This is true cosmic peace.

By the year 2000 and before True Father's 80th birthday (solar calendar) all people on Earth and in Heaven will have had the opportunity to be blessed. How wonderful.

Just 40 years ago, True Father blessed the first three couples, Rev. Won Pil Kim's couple, church president Hyo Won Eu's couple and Rev. Young Whi Kim's couple. How far Father has come from that time! Now True Father is planning the Blessing of 400 million unmarried young couples. True Parents cannot do that alone. Just the matching of this many people is overwhelming. Some of this will be done by many assistants of True Parents. It will be a collective effort under True Parents' supervision. And Father will no longer bless already-married couples. That is the responsibility of the Trib-

al Messiahs.

Father's Key Content

What is the main content of True Father's teaching?

- The establishment of the True Family movement of humankind.
- Interreligious and International Federations working together for world peace.
- Making our way of life one that attains individual mind-body unity, husband-wife unity, family unity, national, world and cosmic unity—all of which will bring world and cosmic peace.
- Living a pure life should be our way of life.
- Practicing a life of true family values.
- Living all our life preparing for Eternity in the spiritual world.
- Establishing the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth and in Heaven.

No matter what we scientifically study about the physical heavens, and no matter how powerful the telescope that is being used for explorations, the dimensions are nothing to speak of when compared with the spiritual world dimensions, which are higher than, bigger than, wider than, greater than the physical world. We are moving toward that place of eternal life. For this we must be peacemakers.

In Family Pledge #4, we pledge to build the cosmic family encompassing Heaven and Earth, which is God's ideal of creation, and perfect the world of freedom, peace, unity and happiness... For you and I, right now, this is available! This year! Imagine.

In Pledge #5, we pledge to strive every day to advance the unification of the spirit world and the physical world... We were created to be the mediators between the two worlds. Our mind belongs to the spiritual world, our body belongs to the world of material. Everyday we need to concern ourselves with mind and body unity, spiritual world and physical world unity.

In Pledge #6, we pledge to...perfect a family that moves heavenly fortune and

conveys Heaven's blessing to our community...In this year we need to give the Blessing throughout the world and liberate our ancestors from corner to corner in the spiritual world and give the Blessing.

In Pledge #7, we pledge to perfect a world based on the culture of heart, which is rooted in the original lineage, through living for the sake of others... We connect with the original blood lineage. We live for the sake of others and establish the culture of heart (*shimjung*).

In Pledge #8, we pledge to enter completion ...we enter the Completed Testament Age, to achieve the ideal oneness of God and humankind in love...liberating the Kingdom of God on Earth and in Heaven... This means God is in us and we are inside God. When disciple Philip said to Jesus, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." Jesus answered him: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father? Don't you believe that I am in the Father and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work..." (Jn 14:8-10).

If we live Pledge #8, we can also become the visible living God—we in God, God in us, just like Jesus and True Parents. This is the longing and desire of God. We are to be His true children, His physical, visible manifestations. God was inside the flesh of Jesus; Jesus was inside of God. The two were one ("I and the Father are one..." Jn 10:38). God is inside the flesh of True Parents; True Parents are inside God. This is how valuable they are; this is how authoritative they are. This can be our value and authority if we achieve the level which Jesus and True Parents achieved. They are our spiritual teachers and our spiritual standards. We ourselves can demonstrate the true father-like image, true mother-like image and true family-like image. With absolute faith, love and obedience.

We are not talking about 10 years from now, we are talking about today! This year! Here in this city of New York which is central to the nation and to the world, we are attending this Tuesday leader's meeting. We will look on this years from now and remember that we were making history. Our contribution to this meeting is something which should sober our minds.

Beginning in the year 2000 we can say good-bye to darkness, struggles and satanic culture. Such things will all be burned out. A New Heaven and New Earth will be in our midst. Purification and New Start. The peak of Jesus' ministry, the peak of True Parents' ministry. Two thousand years ago, Jesus died and was not able to fulfill the Kingdom of Heaven where purity and peace reigns. True Parents inherited the mission to complete the mission on Earth. So now, Jesus' mission and True Parents' mission is fulfilled. And don't let us forget the devotion of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Moses and all others down through the ages who were central people in the Providence of God. They too can now be fulfilled.

Christian and Jewish leaders are now beginning to call out for prayers for the Reverend and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon. This is a special year, 1999. This is the time to be hardworking, faithful, loving and obedient. If we are these things, it will be the time for miracles. Don't give up just as we are nearing the peak. Let's reach the top to be with God on Earth and in Heaven. ❖

International Speaking Tour

There were eight speaking engagements in Korea before Blessing '99 and Mother has already toured Japan. This is the tentative schedule for the remainder of the Speaking Tour.

March 19	Washington, DC	April 26	Australia
March 20	Louisville, KY	April 28	Kenya
March 21	New York City	April 29	Uganda
March 22	Norfolk, VA	April 30	Zimbabwe
March 23	Miami, FL	May 2	Benin
March 24	Columbus, OH	May 4	Brazil
March 25	Providence, RI	May 5	Uruguay
March 26	Philadelphia, PA	May 6	Argentina
March 27	Chicago, IL	May 7	Paraguay
March 28	Atlanta, GA	May 8	Chile
March 29	San Francisco, CA	May 9	Ecuador
March 30	Seattle, WA	May 10	Colombia
March 31	Minneapolis, MN	May 11	Costa Rica
April 1	Denver, CO	May 12	Nicaragua
April 2	Los Angeles, CA	May 13	Mexico
April 3	Portland, OR	May 14	Dominican Republic
April 4	San Diego, CA	May 16	Netherlands
April 5	Dallas, TX	May 17	Switzerland
April 6	Poughkeepsie, NY	May 18	Slovenia
April 7	Bridgeport, CT	May 19	Albania
April 8	Baltimore, MD	May 20	Romania
April 9	Detroit, MI	May 21	Slovakia
April 10	Boston, MA	May 22	Moldova
April 11	Fort Lee, NJ	May 23	Russia
April 12	Canada	May 25	Kazakhstan
April 15	Malaysia	May 26	Kyrgyzstan
April 23	Taiwan	May 27	Mongolia
April 25	Philippines	May 28	China ❖

Celebration of True Parents' Birthday

by Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak

This is from a memo sent out on February 23, 1999.

As with the victory of the Blessing of 360 million couples, the celebration of True Father's 79th and True Mother's 56th birthday was gracefully and splendidly held in Seoul. Being the birthday celebration held following the great success of the Blessing of 360 million couples, the preciousness and glory of our True Parents shone all the more brilliantly at this event.

The Main Pledge Ceremony was held at Hannam-dong at 7:00 am on February 21 (Jan. 6 by lunar calendar) and was attended by National Messiahs and leaders from around the world including leaders from Korea and Japan.



At the morning ceremony, Father emphasized that each leader should live their life with their focus set correctly both vertically and horizontally.

After the Pledge, there was a commemorative service at the Central Training Center at 10:00 a.m. attended by more than 7,000 leaders and Korean members. Father spoke with the title, "Let's Liberate Love Itself." Father emphasized a lot about the center of love that parents' love is formed through children, husband's love is formed through his wife and wife's love is formed through her husband.

Next, the congratulatory entertainment held at the Little Angels Art Performing Center became a meaningful one that returned glory and comfort to True Parents through various programs prepared by Korea with special guest appearances from Japan, Taiwan and the USA.

The International Leaders' Confer-



ence was held on Feb. 22nd at Hannam-dong attended by National Messiahs and leaders from Korea and Japan. At the morning meeting, Father emphasized a great deal on achieving the victory of the Blessing of 400 million cou-

ples of single men and women and the preparation for the World Culture and Sports Festival IV to be held in Seoul surrounding True Parents' Birthday Celebration in the year 2000. ❖

BIRTHDAY from page 1

response was just great. People were so delighted and even honored to have this unique opportunity to wish True Parents a happy birthday. Brother and sisters had so many good experiences.

Religious leaders representing twelve major religions or Christian denomination were among the well-wishers. This was of great significance, since True Parents have invested so much time and energy into this continent; it was so great to see the religious leaders respond so well. Many felt that Jesus had a lot to do with their response. Since Father has appointed him to spiritually take charge in North America, he is now much more at liberty to work with the religious leaders here.

But it was not just the religious leaders. Several Governors, Senators and State Representatives were among the well wishers. People from the Entertainment world, Educators and Community Leaders from all

walks of life participated in this blessing.

Pretty soon the flood of names that were reported to HQ's overwhelmed us. I had created a database to keep track of all these names and soon there were

five of us entering data simultaneously. I had bought two large and very beautiful leather bound presentation books but even with that, I began to wonder whether or not there was enough space for all the names.

Victor Matos, Piotr Sucharski, Dr. Hendricks, his oldest daughter Helena, and myself worked until the last moment to include as many names as possible in the list. Rev. Pak changed his flight plans from an early morning departure, to a late night departure in order to give us an extra ten hours to work. But when we realized that even this was not enough, Dr. Hendricks arranged with Rev. Pak to meet him at the airport on his way to Korea to hand him the books there. That gave us some more time, but when eventually we ran out of time, we had 2109 names on the birthday list. I am sure that this was no coincidence. We had a goal and Heavenly Father, Heung Jin Nim, Jesus Nim and the rest of the good spirit world helped us to fulfill it. However, we were not really finished, names were still coming in and it was impossible for us to add them to the list in time.

When Rev. Pak presented the birthday list to True Father, he was very happy. He signed the front pages of each book, as you can see in the picture. On Rev. Pak's return from Korea he urged me to add every last name that had been received late to the birthday list. In our Tuesday morning leaders meeting he explained about the significance it would have in the future for someone's name to be on the list. The two books containing the birthday list will be kept as an historical treasure. Future generations of those who signed the birthday list will be proud of their ancestors who had the vision, the heart, and the courage to befriend our True Parents during a time where most people in power would rather not be associated with them. The list now is complete and contains 2500 birthday greetings.

We all learned that the time has come, where we can be more confident, bold and brave to reach out to anyone at any time with God's truth and love and be welcomed and received with an open heart. ❖

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Empowerment 2000 Conference in Brooklyn

by Rev. Eric Holt—NYC

Rev. Dennis Dillon, minister, author and publisher of the New York Christian Times, is a man with a vision. During the last weekend in February, (Black History Month), Rev. Dillon spearheaded a 2-day holistic empowerment conference in the Brooklyn Marriott Hotel - "holistic" in the sense that the conference focused on family, health and wealth - concepts that are demonstrably inter-related. Under the umbrella of the New York Christian Times, a city-wide Christian newspaper published in Brooklyn and circulated in thousands of churches, Rev. Dillon brought together various Fortune 500 corporate sponsors, health organizations, churches and non-profit organizations, including Family Federation. Other familiar organizations included Ocean Church, Pure Love Alliance, etc. Participants in Blessing '98 at Madison Garden will remember Rev. Dillon as the spirited emcee for the family rally at that event.

Attendants at the conference were treated to sessions with various inspirational speakers, clergy, and experts in many fields. There were also several highly practical panel discussions on topics such as "family", "networking", etc. Over 100 exhibits adorned the ballrooms and hallway in the Marriott, including our own Family Federation table featuring a continuous-play video about the Blessing. Manhattan Family Church pastor, Rev. Chen Fong spoke in place of Bishop Joong Hyun Pak who became ill at the last moment. Panelists Robert Kittel (Pure Love Alliance) and Dr. Tyler Hendricks (Family Federation) gave presentations and engaged in a highly informative and educational discussion on the topic of "family" with,



among others, Dr. Gwendolyn Goldsby-Grant, a well-known psychologist and columnist for Essence magazine.

Our own NY Metro Family Church Choir (New Jersey, New York City/State) under the directorship of Francesco Santelli performed both days, and received a very warm welcome and response. Family Church Choir member, Christine Libon had this to say: "Over thirty singers from New York, New Jersey and the Unification Theological Seminary joined together under the directorship of Francesco Santelli to perform at this exciting conference. Musical selections of our Family Church



stating: when the battle is over we shall wear a crown in the New Jerusalem.

The grand finale came from the St. Paul's Community Baptist Church Choir, whose third number, *Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land* was phenomenal. Their director made a comment which warmed our hearts: 'We saw the Family Church Choir representing so many nationalities. Well, we'd better get ready, because that's what it's going to be like in the Kingdom of Heaven'. Amen! After worshipping, praising and receiving information, many choir members enjoyed browsing at various booths set up to celebrate African-American culture and the community."

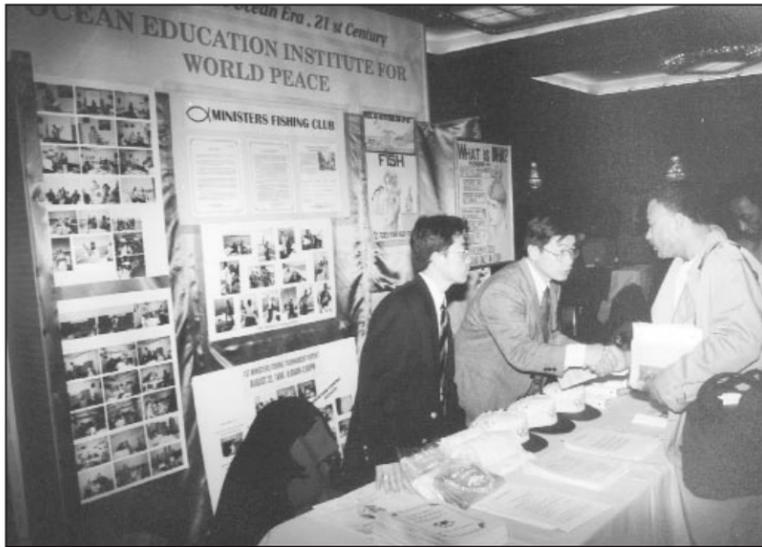
All in all, it was a well-organized and high-energy conference, aptly named "Empowerment 2000". Rev. Dillon is to be applauded for his "big-tent" approach to solving social problems, by involving as many organizations as possible (including several of our Family Federation-related organizations) in networking and synergistic cooperation. Many thanks to all choir members and volunteers, especially Rev. Yasuhiro Hori, Ken Owens, Lourdes Swarts, Barry Geller, Francesco Santelli, David Eaton, Shimoyama-san, Merlyn Velasco, Shizuko Kato, Francesco Santelli, and Rev. Jeong Phyo Hong ❖



Choir included spirited songs such as *If My People Will Pray* (based on I Chronicles 7:14), and *Ezekiel Saw the Wheel*, etc. We were thrilled to have as our accompanist Miss Shin Chun Wu, a masters degree student at the Manhattan School of Music, who performed marvelously on the Bald-

win piano. Inspiration flowed as we listened to the Antioch Choir performing an a cappella *Jerusalem*, with lyrics

"Empowerment 2000".



by Reverend Chung Hwan Kwak

This address was given at the World Conference on Preservation and Sustainable Development in the Pantanal, February 27, 1999 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Washington, DC

First please accept our deep and sincere gratitude to each one of you, not just for your contribution to this historic conference, but also for your life-long dedication to protecting and preserving this unreplaceable world treasure, the Pantanal.

We have been blessed with a place of endless beauty that is integrated into the world's ecology. It may have been safe in earlier times to take such a place for granted, but present conditions do not allow such luxury.

If we do not invest all our wisdom, expertise, and cooperation, this precious treasure will be threatened by all kinds of misuse and destruction. We must be vigilant every day, and it is your contribution of scientific study, environmental protection programs, and education, which are doing just that. I trust this conference is providing valuable information and relationships which will assist you in this great cause of protecting the Pantanal.

I am sure many of you must have been surprised by the conference sponsorship; including a university in the distant land of Korea, a university in Northeastern United States, and a major news conglomerate in the world's most powerful capital. What possibly could bring such diverse sponsoring bodies into a joint project focusing on yet another distant system, namely the Pantanal?

Let me explain how this conference came into being. The founder of Sun Moon university, and major supporter of the other organizations, Reverend Moon, asked me to organize this conference on the preservation of the Pantanal.

But who ever heard of a religious leader requesting a conference gathering foremost experts from highly specialized arenas of science, economy, and other human enterprises, which are always thought of as anything but religious?

Finally let me ask, what could a religious leader from Korea possibly know about a Latin American ecosystem like the Pantanal? It is hard to think of any world religious figure who has trod the narrow pathways to even get to the Pantanal.

Well, for those of you who know anything about Reverend Moon, the one thing we surely know is that he is not a typical religious leader.

I am sure many of you have read all sorts of articles about Reverend Moon by people who claim to be experts. Or perhaps you have heard friends or colleagues speak with great confidence.

If so, have you ever read in any article, or has any colleague ever told you that Reverend Moon (now nearly eighty years old) spent most of 1998 on the rivers in the Pantanal, virtually alone. He traveled on a small boat through remote areas where he had to duck his head to get through the tangled brush over the river. He traveled on this boat so late almost every night that he would rely on a flashlight to make his way back watching the red gleam in the eyes of the half-submerged caimans.

Well, if such supposed experts cannot even tell you what Reverend Moon

did just last year... what kind of expertise is that? What if you read an article on the Pantanal placing this wetlands system in Nepal? You would reject the article as nonsense.

No, I'm afraid that the story of Reverend Moon has not been well told. Many who claim expertise should be checked closely. You in the fields of science, economics and other refined areas have highly disciplined patterns of study and investigation of sources. You are well trained to avoid jumping at any old claim, presuming it to represent accurate knowledge.

The truth is that Reverend Moon's interest in the Pantanal, and his enormous investment in its protection and preservation are in every way a natural outgrowth both of who he is as a person, and what he teaches religiously.

In his heart, despite his world changing activities, Reverend Moon remains a boy from the farm. He continues to be informed by his original love for nature, his love for his childhood places where he would sit for days secretly watching a bird's nest to see the tiny chicks be born. And for times when he followed the tracks of a weasel on the winter snow throughout the night, so single-mindedly that he found himself several villages away, much to the alarm of his family and townsfolk. He wanted to understand where the weasel lived and where it was going.

It is only natural then that such a man eventually would gravitate to a world of original and pristine beauty like the Pantanal. And once having witnessed the rapture of its infinite wonder dedicate the full measure of his influence to preserve and protect this treasure from harm. And that impulse to protect this precious area means hard work.

If Reverend Moon knows anything he knows that no good comes from mere intentions. Good can only result from personal investment, heartfelt self-sacrifice, and systematic and principled actions. Reverend Moon believes that the Pantanal belongs to God, and that it exists to give joy and natural education to humanity. It cannot be abused or treated carelessly. Future generations must learn God's secrets from this vast ecology and wonderland.

Unfortunately, I do not have time here to explain more fully how Reverend Moon's religious teachings naturally led to him giving himself unconditionally to champion the careful and systematic preservation of

the Pantanal. I hope you will find time and the means to study his simple but profound teaching. If you understand it, you will see how his teaching naturally leads to environmentalism.

Briefly the Divine Principle explains that God created humanity to grow to maturity, receive God's Blessing in marriage, form an ideal family, and rejoice in God's nature. These three aspects of life are called the three blessings. No step can be overlooked, and trying to jump over one, results in disaster. The cause of damage to the environment stems from human immaturity, and deformed families. Such people do not have the sensitivity to love and protect nature, even though they may have the intelligence or skills to control enterprise. The corporate rape of fragile environments may be seen as stemming from the same sort of insensitivity as a cruel child torturing one of God's creatures. Neither could be possible if that child, and later that adult were raised in an atmosphere and family of True Love.

The only place we can inherit enough loving care and sensitivity is from mature and harmonious parents. This is why Reverend Moon's life-long labor is to erect and glorify True Families. And this is why his passion for environmentalism is a natural outgrowth of this life-long work.

So far Reverend Moon has taken up two projects to protect the Pantanal. The first is the International Family Education Center in Jardim which is just outside the Pantanal. Here he has plans to establish an elite education center where experts from all areas can teach the ideals of True Family, and thereby slowly elevate people from all countries to live as loving couples and raise children in a loving way, so that they can inherit a natural sensi-

tivity to God's environment and ecology. When this is done, it will be far more effective than external legislation trying to thwart fixed bad behaviors which lead to environmental violence.

Secondly, he has initiated a project in which all 185 nations take personal responsibility to protect and preserve a specific designated sector in the Pantanal. This is not a matter of land ownership or any such thing. Rather it is a matter of global stewardship, to guarantee that the pressing matter of preservation is not just left to chance. It will be at one and the same time a global support system, and a global watchdog to ensure that the pristine, environmental conditions are forever preserved.

This would best be served by the establishment of research stations from which scholars and environmentalists can monitor ecological conditions on a regular basis. These can be maintained by the World University Federation.

Also, he recommends nature exhibitions from these designated areas. These will show all the fascinating elements from that particular sector, through which the international community can be educated and have their love for nature sparked within them. After experiencing such an exhibit people will have a stronger determination to protect this precious area. Each nation's government and its appropriate ministries should assist with the creation of excellent and well thought out exhibitions of this kind. I hope you will support these ideas and proposals.

Thank you for your time and attention. Once again we are grateful indeed for your life's work, and we pray that God may bless all that you are doing for the Pantanal. ❖

Preservation and Sustainable Development in the Pantanal

Jardim: A 2nd Gen.

by Victoria Wilding Onishi—Vancouver, British Columbia

New Hope East Garden, the Jardim Ideal Family workshop site. Pictures don't even come close to capturing its beauty. Nowhere in the world are there skies more majestic and exciting, and the vegetation so vivid a green. In such a warm, beautiful environment, untouched since the time of creation, one's heart softens and becomes completely at ease. It can easily give of itself to the brothers and sisters during break-time and, like a sponge, it can naturally absorb every drop of God's words during Hoon Dok Hwe.

As the only Second Generation couple at the time, my spouse and I felt out of place in the workshop when we first arrived on Dec. 20 last year. But we quickly became a part of the family there. We both knew God had a specific purpose for us there. Through prayer and reflection, it was up to us to discover.

One thing I could see in myself while I was there was my own relationship with God. Having gone fundraising until a few days before arriving in Jardim, I had come straight off the front line in CARP. So I was used to an intense lifestyle where defeating Satan and meeting God was part of everyday life. But when I found myself at New Hope East Garden, it was all up to me to main-

tain a close relationship with God. Actually, without being in the CARP environment, I struggled to take initiative for my own life of faith. Then one day someone commented that life of faith is how much you attend God and True Parents in your daily life. These words hit me. So I made the determination to "always attend True Parents" that week, by always thinking they were by my side 24 hours a day. That was very late Saturday night. Then, very early on Sunday morning, we got on the bus to visit the National Messiahs' 40-day workshop site in Olimpo. After doing pledge on the bus, I had a dream of True Father. Father was being broadcast on TV. Our father was speaking from a podium, saying, "Husband should kyung-bae (full bow) to the wife, and the wife should kyung-bae to the husband." In the dream, these words moved me so much. Then True Father finished his speech and quickly walked off. I woke up. I felt so comforted by God. I had been accusing myself for many things, but God was telling me that He still loved me anyway and was showing me that He and True Parents are always with me. For the first time in a long time, I couldn't help crying tears of gratitude to God as I looked up at the clear night sky.

That was one experience through which I felt a closeness to God and True Parents. And there were many others. The trips we took to the holy

Jardim: The Abundant Life for Unificationists

by Michael Kiely—Jardim, Brazil

While a moderate house in the United States may cost \$70,000 to \$200,000 to build, in Western Brazil it may cost \$2,000 to \$3,000, and land is a near giveaway. No expensive home heating system is necessary, and locals don't use air conditioning because they construct their homes so that air passes through continually, creating a nearly perpetual, cooling breeze.

What's more, rice is dirt cheap, and beef costs only 40 to 50 cents a pound with the best beef going for twice that price. Vegetables and fruit grow easily here, and many crops are harvested two or more times a year.

If that sounds like paradise, indeed it is.

In this Western region of Brazil in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul where Jardim is situated, Brazilians can live for \$50 to \$60 per month and never have to worry about a lack of food.

What's more, water is available in abundance. Even in the event that there is no surface source for water, good quality well water is always available.

Tired of shelling out \$25 to \$50 in the States for a shirt? In Campo Grande, the state capital, shirts go for \$3 each, and other clothing is comparably priced.

Pollution is virtually non-existent. The air is clean and fresh to breathe. Clouds pile up in spectacular, three-dimensional displays during the day without a trace of smog, and at night, myriad bright constellations of stars appear to hang close enough to the earth that they could be plucked like ripe fruit. Each day begins with an intensely colorful, panoramic and ever-changing sunrise and ends with an equally stunning sunset. Also, a number of the rivers in the area are crystal clear; one can easily see the abundant fish in them. In fact, in one town,

Bonito, you can safely swim among the darting fish for a small fee.

Indeed, in the so-called Pantanal, a large wilderness area that includes Mato Grosso do Sul and parts of Paraguay, the abundant wildlife and numerous rivers in the region make this a hunter's and a fisherman's paradise. For those searching for natural beauty, waterfalls abound as well as many natural caves, often with spectacular crystalline formations centuries old.

For those who are tired of the rat race, who believe that there is another dimension to life than the 24/7 scramble to come out on top of the pile and live in the suburbs, there is an alternative. Brazilians work hard, too, but they take time out for an afternoon of soccer or an evening of samba, a typical Brazilian dance. They seem to know innately that they need to take time to develop warm human relationships. They also know that it doesn't take much work to afford to live well here.

The miracle is that all this beauty and rich natural resources have not yet been discovered by the tourist industry and by developers. So, life is cheap and enjoyable. A little money goes a long way. As one American living in the area said, "You don't have to be wealthy in America to live like a king here."

About four years ago Rev. Moon recognized that this little known region had considerable potential for building an international community where the world's different peoples, ethnic, religious and cultural groups could live together in harmony and create a model for world peace. That community, called The Kingdom of Heaven on Earth, started out less than four years ago as a few tents in the wilderness a half-hour's drive from Jardim, a little town of 20,000 people southwest of Campo Grande.

Now nearly four years later it has

been transformed into a thriving community and workshop center with a 2,000-person auditorium with sweeping arches, two large dining halls of similar architecture, six large classroom buildings, over a dozen air-conditioned residential buildings with a capacity of nearly a thousand people (with sleeping bag space for another thousand in as yet unused classrooms), a 440 kilowatt generator, and three water tanks with a combined capacity of nearly 200 tons. For anglers there is a well-stocked lake with a variety of catchable fish. Also, there are a number of large green houses for agricultural research, fruit and vegetable farms, an ostrich farm, a cattle ranch, a bee farm for honey production, an escargot (gourmet snail) farm and numerous other agricultural facilities and enterprises.

New Hope East Garden or simply New Hope Farm, as the facility is called, is the site of a series of 40-Day Ideal Family Workshops designed to prepare Unification families to register for and live in the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth. Rev. Moon has urged all unification families to participate in the workshop as soon as possible. Centered on daily Hoon Dok Hae, which is community reading of Rev. Moon's words, The Divine Principle and other texts, the workshops train couples in the practical aspects of true love and the rearing of blessed children. It provides them an opportunity to work out family problems and to deepen their life of faith in a setting of incomparable beauty. There are also a number of deep but practical lectures given by Rev. Yoon, the Education and Workshop Director and other staff members.

In addition to receiving a rich spiritual diet, families dine on a wide variety of locally grown, organic vegetables and fruit and generous helpings of local beef and other meat. Virtually all food is grown on Unification farms, and the fruit and vegetables are pesticide free. In short, the food is scrumptious.

As one Unificationist quipped, "I'm still waiting for the indemnity to start."

For most necessities or a snack during the breaks, there is a small store run by pleasant Brazilian Unificationists. The store has toiletries, diapers and baby goods, stationery items, gifts, food and sundry other items. It does not, however, sell Hoon Dok Hae sets, *The Divine Principle* or Dr. Lee's book. As a result of these ongoing workshops, a number of couples have already decided to move their families to the farm. For such families, there is a fully accredited multi-lingual elementary school with an international curriculum including music and the arts. Inaugurated this year, the school teaches Portuguese, Korean, Japanese and English as well as a combined Brazilian and Unification curriculum.

In addition, the Brazilian government has already approved the creation of a high-school in the facility which Rev. Yoon says will be comparable to the well-known and highly respected Eton School near London, England. The high school, he said, will have a capacity of 1500 students. "In the next twenty years, graduates of this high school will become world leaders," he predicted.

Both the elementary and high schools will emphasize moral education. "Twelve

to 18 is the most critical time in the growth of a young person," Rev. Yoon said, "so we teach them the right values during that formative period." If a person develops bad habits during this period, it is quite difficult for him or her to change them later on, he explained. So, the school will guide them in developing moral, other-centered habits that will last their whole life, he said. "We want to set a high standard for the second generation," he added.

He said that people usually decide "which way they will go" from age 15 on. "True Father had his first life encounter when he was 16," Rev. Yoon said. "When True Father was 16 he met God and chose his way," he said.

Rev. Yoon also said negotiations are already complete for the establishment of a university in cooperation with another Brazilian university. New Hope University, as the facility may be called, will develop its curriculum in full cooperation with Sun Myung Moon University in Korea and the University of Bridgeport in the United States.

Encouraging unification families to move to Jardim as "pioneers" before Rev. Moon calls on Unificationists to migrate en masse to Jardim, he said, "Life is cheap here; we will take care of school for your children, and we will create industries here," he said. He encouraged members to identify and contribute their skills to the building of the kingdom. He said this is the time for actively building the kingdom, and those who contribute now will be eternally remembered.

"Living in the secular world is very difficult for children," he said. "Competition helps your brain to develop but not your shimjung." Because competition in the secular world is "too severe," the development of shimjung is thwarted. "You have to enjoy your heart, you have to enjoy your life," he said.

He said that if you live in a developed country, especially in big cities, you have to fight and compete throughout your life, so you have no time to relax and enjoy life. That is not ideal; "the ideal world is the world of harmony," he said, where one should be able to enjoy life. We can learn something about this ideal from the Brazilians, who do take time to "enjoy life," he said.

Because this is still a pioneering project, there are some surmountable challenges for families who are considering moving here. The climate is sometimes quite hot; mosquitoes bite in the evening, and there are poisonous snakes. But air conditioning during the afternoon, bug spray and avoiding tall grass and night walks makes those challenges quite livable. One needs also to avoid drinking tap water, but there is plenty of potable water, tea, a local health drink called matte, ginger tea and coffee available.

For more information, please contact your National Unification Movement headquarters. In the United States call (212) 997-0050, ext. 272 and ask Betty Lancaster to fax you complete information on Jardim. There will soon be a New Hope Farm Internet website where the most recent information about workshop requirements, fees, transportation and packing lists will be available. ❖

Testimony

grounds such as Olimpo, Perdido and Salobra River and Hotel also helped me to feel a closer bond to True Parents. Riding in a motor boat up the Salobra River particularly left a lasting impact. At this very river, True Father would risk his life fishing from dawn to dusk as an indemnity condition before the '97 and '98 Blessings. Having been Blessed in '98, I felt like a salmon swimming up the river to its birthplace when I rode along this river with my spouse. As I touched the deep green water and felt the wind hitting my face, I tried to understand how much suffering Father had gone through in those waters, as he invested his sweat and tears to save the world. I felt a mixture of deep repentance for not doing more to support our Father, as well as gratitude for all that he has gone through for us.

The experience I had at the Jardim workshop is an experience which could



only happen there. Now that I'm back at home, I have tried to keep God and True Parents just as close through prayer and Hoon Dok Hwe. Although my spouse and I are probably the youngest couple to graduate from the workshop in Jardim, we still hope that our experience together there can be the seed for an ideal family in the future.❖

Facing the Modern-Day Goliath: Porn

by Gale Alves and Ina Conneally—
Newburgh, NY

The last gifts had been wrapped, cards written and cookies baked; now it was time to relax and enjoy the "season to be jolly." But it never turns out that way. No angels with good tidings descended this year, but bad news—through the news, of course. The article read: "Sex Business or Art Show?" and it was about a strip dance club which had just a few days ago opened its doors, here in our city, just around the corner, and even to minors!

With its seductive name "Lips" there was no doubt that this wasn't some kind of "exotic dancing" as it promised to be. No Caribbean folk ballet or such. The girls would all be naked, of course, dancing suggestively to thumping music, being tipped by their audience. The owner of the business had sneaked his way through several city ordinances, using a loophole in the law: "Lips" wasn't adult entertainment simply because it admitted minors if accompanied by their parents!

To us, that meant we would have to shake the Christmas mind-set off for now, go out and do something about it. It is always helpful in this kind of situation to be upset enough to get things done quickly. Protest was the only adequate response, so we quickly wrote up a press release and sent it to all the different newspapers, radio stations and TV channels in the area, announcing that a rally would be held in order that the sex business have its "lips" shut forever. On the day after Christmas, phone calls came in, one after the other, asking for more information, wanting to interview us—but who were we? As it had been with

another rally earlier this year, we appeared as two "outraged citizens," but this time it was useful to represent the neighborhood as "joint neighborhood associations." It wasn't all phony baloney, because both of us had made many efforts in the past to create a neighborly spirit through street parties and meetings promoting safe-



ty in our area, with local police officers present.

One radio moderator though, had his expectations set a little too high. He was disappointed to find out that there was no big name or organization behind this eloquent press release, written with the help of two church brothers—only two ordinary women, one feeling shy and the other awkward. Nevertheless, he had already gone ahead and invited the owner of "Lips" for a round-table discussion on air. He didn't feel confident to have one of us meet this "six-foot-tall gentleman who knows

all about his legal rights"—neither did we. But if there was no one else to confront him, one of us would be there, facing this modern-day Goliath—at least to voice some higher opinion on the issue, after all. We had also gained about 300 signatures from residents living close to the strip club, a petition drive to have that place closed down.

ter of belief or personal lifestyle, but a matter of great impact on the community as a whole. The owner didn't like that; he didn't really want to deal with that woman who had placed herself between that nice pastor and himself. After the interview was over, he shook hands only with his opponent, telling him that in his club they also had black girls dancing ("I'll bet you do," smiled the minister sourly).

That was the day before True God's Day, and it had been a quite exhausting experience. Nevertheless, it made us grow in confidence that even with our limited abilities we could be the "mouse that roared." By the way, didn't Moses have a speech defect also? After several other interviews, both on air and on TV, the day of the rally finally came. We had invited many ministers as well as residents to give speeches and to protest. We had, over the years, developed personal relationships with the clergy of Newburgh, so now it was time for them to respond and support the good cause. As it had been with the other rally earlier last year, the weather on Jan. 9 was so bad that we had to postpone the event until the following weekend.

On Jan. 16 the day finally arrived when all those "mice that roar" were able to come out of their holes. We were grateful for the support of UTS seminarians who were the first to arrive in front of "Lips"—we were grateful also for the generous contribution of protest signs, made by one sister. We unfolded a big banner reading "Residents and Clergy United—No Lips in the Face of Newburgh," and then Robert Kittel was the first to give a speech. Meanwhile, President Kim had arrived, as well as other protesters, a local TV station and two newspapers. During the hour we spent shouting slogans and giving speeches, about 36 people came together. Interestingly, this number matched with the number of signatures we gained during the petition drive: 360!

Media like controversy, people angry at something. The more noise, the better. Our speakers were able to fulfill that expectation, for everyone spoke strongly and with conviction against the opening of "Lips".

The rally had turned out well, but we both felt that—after having brought all those public-minded people together—we wanted to take another step together with our new allies.

Right now, we are in the process of forming a coalition which we call "Coalition for Family and Community." Our hope is that through this group we can move more freely and effectively for new events to come. We have committed people with us, including a Muslim imam, a city historian and Board of Education member, a county legislator, a Roman Catholic nun and a Latter Day Saint ("Mormon") activist.

Instead of having only our church come out, we believe that through the unity among different faith groups as well as community organizations, we are able to reach for higher goals and be a bridge of unification for people of conscience—even without name or fame, and only equipped with a slingshot.

P.S.: The strip dance club "Lips" is temporarily closed, pending a final verdict in March. ❖

Furthermore, the city council was already fighting its own battle legally, arguing that the owner had violated certain zoning codes and ordinances. But, as the radio moderator told us, we needed someone else—as we guessed, preferably male, substantial in flesh and spirit—to appear in the ring. It was by sheer luck (and divine intervention) that we found our name-and-fame helper: an African American minister with more reputation in the community than we could ever come up with. It was good, though, to have the interview together with our ally and to back him up with some statistics on how sex businesses had brought whole neighborhoods down in the past: crime rates had risen drastically, especially murder and rape. Probably the minister might discuss the issue in a religious way, so we were advised to throw in as many facts and numbers as possible; Jim Dougherty, a church member with a lot of first-hand media experience, gave us this valuable advice.

The night before the interview was spent with little sleep and a lot of anxiety. With butterflies in the stomach and numbers about crime increases, one of us made her way to the radio station. Together with the pastor and the club owner, three of us went inside the studio where the wrestling match was to take place. A TV station had arrived, too, adding to our butterflies. Each one of us was introduced to the audience on air, and then the two major opponents had their turns. The minister, single-minded and with a deep voice, repeatedly asked how a strip club could, in any way, add to the quality of life in our city; the owner, in turn, talked about his legal rights, as if he were the victim. Typically, in this situation (as we knew it would be) he made a point about "anyone's right to have their own belief. By the way," he said, "I was raised Catholic myself, but the greatness of the country lies in the diversity of believing." Now it was time to pop out statistics proving sex entertainment not merely a mat-

PLA '99 Tour: On the road in the United States

The Pure Love Alliance is happy to announce Pure Love '99! Following the tremendous success of the Pure Love '97 Absolute Sex National Tour through 26 US cities, and Pure Love '98 in Japan and Korea, we return to the United States this July for an exciting tour of the Southeastern states, a region we barely touched in 1997.

The provisional schedule is:

July 9 Arrivals

July 10-11, Orientation Miami Florida

July 12-15 Service Project in Miami

July 16 Rally in Miami

July 17 Visit to Disney World

July 19 Rally in Charlotte

July 21 Rally in Atlanta

July 22 Fishing in the Gulf

July 23 Rally in Mobile

July 24 Graduation Party

July 25 Departures

This tour promises to be even more memorable than last year. As well as several high energy rallies, a new feature will be an ambitious service program in the City of Miami. We expect to be joined by hundreds of volunteers and of supporters at every city along

the way.

Outings are planned to Disneyworld, and there will be sport fishing in the Gulf of Mexico, and other exciting recreational activities.

We are looking for a maximum of 200 tour volunteers. However, spaces are being reserved for European, Russian and Asian students and so participation is very limited.

We invite you to fill in and return the enclosed application as soon as possible. The fee is \$995, and a \$100 deposit is needed to hold your space. Under 18 requires parental consent, and all participants must provide own medical / travel insurance.

Checks should be made payable to "Pure Love Alliance" and sent to Pure Love Alliance, 305 Madison Avenue, Suite 1166, New York, NY 10165. All fees must be paid by June 1, 1999

The lower age limit is those who are 16 or above, as of July 1 1999.

Pure Love Alliance 305 Madison Avenue Suite 1166, New York, NY 10165 Tel: (212) 382 1634 x200 Fax: (212) 382 2005 web: <http://purelove.org> Email: pureall@aol.com. Minimum age 16. Space limited to 200 applicants. Fee \$995. ❖

PLA at New Eden Academy

by Mo Sook Park—NYC

On February 4th and 5th, the Pure Love Alliance held a two day workshop for the New Eden Academy in Bridgeport, CT. The theme was "Prepare or Party?" and each presentation dealt with how to best prepare to confront the peer issues of drugs, drinking and sex that all young people ultimately face, and to prepare for their future.

"Keeping purity requires more than just keeping your pants on," Teddy Hose, a freshman at Bridgeport University, explained during his talk on developing character. He emphasized that our character is the basis for our future. People with goals for their future, should make wise decisions to avoid living a let's party lifestyle.

Pure Love International, the video of the 1998 tour in Japan and Korea was shown. This inspired many of the young students to want to join the next tour later this year.

Mo Sook Park, who works in the PLA office in NY, closed the first day with a talk about self-respect and the importance of taking pride in oneself. She challenged the students be proud without being arrogant and to respect their families, and what they believe in and

go beyond peer and cultural pressures to do the right thing.

On the second day Harumi Kawamura, another University of Bridgeport student gave a special lecture on feeling "lack of love." She directly confronted the students with a reason why we would do anything for love. "Ideally we are all supposed to experience child's love, brother, and sister love, conjugal love and parental love to the fullest," she said. "Yet in reality many of us feel lack of love or even alienation. This feeling of alienation drives us to seek love, which is strongly connected to the issue of purity."

The four stages of love are meant to be experienced in a specific order, with conjugal or sexual love coming later, when we are fully mature. But because our culture pushes this kind of love so heavily, many young people get confused and seek sex when what they really need is to focus on building good friendships and connecting to their parent's love.

Keiha Kim moved the hearts of students with her own personal testimony. She shared her reasons why she chose to live a pure lifestyle and how family plays an important role in her life. Following her talk, Mrs. Kim did an activity with her students called "Titanic." Ten students were chosen



and given titles such as newlywed, professor, and five-year-old boy. The audience was then asked to choose five people whom they thought should be saved from the sinking ship in the last remaining lifeboat. The students ended up choosing the people whose titles clearly showed they were a part of a family. Through that activity the students learned how the family is really the center of all our lives.

"Comb Your Hair" was the title of the last presentation given by the PLA president, Mr. Robert Kittel. He pointed out that the main way we change

our appearance is by how we fix our hair. Our hair, being on the top of our head is for public viewing. Our mouth, nose, eyes, and ears are used to relate with the world. In a sense the human body is a model for the proper relationship between public and private. Our head is public and meant for others to see. Our sexual organs are private and meant to be reserved for only the most intimate and holy relationships. To close the students gathered along the shore at the Seaside Park and recited the Pure Love Pledge facing the shimmering water. ❖

Bridge-building on the Great Plains

by Rev. Michael Yakawich—Billings MT

We started our year off with a whack! That is, with a piñata whack, as we celebrated True God's Day 1999 on January 1 with a lot of neighbors in the community. It was a great chance to welcome old and new friends into the church, push away the pews, and celebrate. We had a brief talk on the value of the day; then we had a potluck buffet, songs, testimonies and even a magic show. Later, we had a piñata stuffed with candy for the children to break open. With 60 people attending (including children), most were guests from around the community.

On New Year's Eve, our church was invited to another church for evening service. We could share and sing together. I was invited to give the sermon about "True God's Day." Then, at midnight with my family, our members and the host congregation, we knelt in prayer. We were very grateful to share with our friends the dawning of 1999.

Some may ask "Why give so much testimony on your rural ministry? It is true that (inspiring) places like Chicago and New Jersey, for example, have so much to highlight. We do celebrate in their victories and learn from them. Also, I am confident that smaller churches in our ministry have also a lot to highlight. Like branches on a tree, some of our work may seem like small fruit or minor leaf production. Yet, as a whole tree, we make a very dynamic and powerful ministry nationwide and worldwide.

Our Japanese sisters have been working hard. They sponsored a program at the church, gathering other Japanese friends for the New Year. At that same time, an elder Japanese sis-

ter helped sponsor a program at the local YMCA. The local paper (*Billings Gazette*) reported, "Wounds of war find healing in Japanese-American marriages." It provided an opportunity for deeper dialogue and sharing of Asian and American traditions.

We have been challenged by the need for outreach to the neighborhood youth. Recently we have been doing a youth program for all young people in the community. Combining a talk on Principle and a fun event, each month we have been gathering church youth and neighbors for such events as making a manger scene out of cardboard, and painting it, as well as bowling, ice skating and movies. Now the young people are asking, "When is the next program?" and the parents trust us and are coming closer to our church through all this.

During the Blessing of 1999, our Bishop Rev. Weon Geun Kim challenged us to do a satellite hookup in a local restaurant or other establishment. This would save costs, for one thing. We tried first to approach the businesses we fundraise in.

One owner said, "Mike, I love you like my brother, but to show a marriage program in my business is hard to do! The customers would revolt!" Undaunted, we approached a local restaurant with a satellite. The manager was so inspired by the concept of showing and having a marriage program in her casino/restaurant! We prepared for the

program there, and she had no problem with it. Although we could not ultimately manage to get the live feed from



Above, the Youth Program, below, celebrating Blessing '99 at a local restaurant



Korea, we showed a 20-minute video from RFK '97 Blessing. Our guests enjoyed the video, the meal and the testimonies. During the Blessing toast, the management wanted to participate too! A number of customers joined in watching the video and program, since we were in an open room area. The manager came to me later and said,

"That was a great program. How can we do a better job next time?"

Finally, with Rev. and Mrs. Moon's birthday celebration, we could get our clergy friends, tribal leaders, community leaders and the local mayor to sign a birthday card. We also received letters from the governor, a state senator and a state representative. Of course, such directions are always challenging to fulfill. It was also a chance to see where we stand in the community; for that reason in particular it was a good experience. A close minister who first signed brought tears to my eyes. How wonderful these righteous men and women are—the John the Baptist figures of our community. Most inspiring was when a couple of prominent leaders, who were not so positive a few years ago, stated: "I cannot help but respect your church's work. You have continued to make good effort in our community. I figured you would have quit a long time ago. I see you doing good things in the community. I cannot help but sign this card." Some others even said, "It is my honor to sign and I am grateful to wish them a happy birthday."

So, here we are, the Bridge-builders to the Future, a tree with many branches all over the country. Each spiritual plank that we add to the bridge, each limb extended on the tree, will never be in vain. Some are fast growers, some are stronger, and together we build the bridge which enables all people to cross into the New Millennium. ❖

Interracial Sisterhood Ceremony Held in Bridgeport

by Eva Mackin—Milford, CT

The Connecticut Women's Federation for World Peace sponsored an interracial sisterhood ceremony at the Longfellow School in Bridgeport on Sat., March 6, 1999. Young girls from elementary to high school years volunteered for the ceremony,



Eva Mackin decorating

which was the first such event in Bridgeport for young girls. Twenty-six sisterhood couples from New Eden Academy, Bridgeport Hope School and the Longfellow School attended, and it was considered by all to be a great success.

The keynote speaker was Ann I., the principal of Bridgeport Hope School, who shared her experiences with an interracial mar-

riage and the prejudices she and her husband have encountered. There was a videotape of a bridge-crossing ceremony, which inspired everyone.

The MC was Kathleen Burton, a professor at the University of Bridgeport. Mideya Wright gave a warm address on behalf of the predominantly black Longfellow School, and Hye-Won Gehring gave the address on behalf of New Eden and Bridgeport Hope.

After a wonderful bridge-crossing ceremony there were refreshments, and several of the new sisters went to New Eden Academy with their new friends for the afternoon. This was a great experience for everyone. The event required com-



Two pairs of sisters and MC, Kathleen Burton, reciting the sisterhood pledge

mitment and dedication from all the schools and the Connecticut Women's Federation to make it possible.

"Beyond the dream a million voices join a million more in harmony, and walls fall down and mountains crumble, and we walk our many roads and we meet where we are free.

"Beyond the dream the world we

hoped for is clothed in all the colors, only the truth can see

"And like the leaves that shade the table beneath our family tree, we are sisters and brothers beyond the dream."

Mavis Staples, 1996

Eva Mackin is chairwoman of the Connecticut WFWP. ❖

WFWP-USA to Hold Convention in New York

by Karen Judd Smith—NYC

April 1999 marks the 7th Anniversary of WFWP. To commemorate 7 years of projects, programs, conferences, sisterhood ceremonies and speeches, WFWP-USA will hold its first annual convention in New York City on April 23rd and 24th. Invitations have already been sent out to over 6000 members and their contacts nationwide.

The convention will also be the setting for WFWP-USA's second annual "Woman of the Year" Awards. The awards will be presented at a special luncheon at the United Nations.

In planning the convention, the National Executive Committee decided to have the first days program at the United Nations, focusing on current women's issues such as women's health, female genital mutilation, trafficking of women and poverty.

Mrs. Motoko Sugiyama, President of WFWP-International along with Dr. Christine Durbak, founder and Pres-

ident of World Information Transfer will co-sponsor the first days program at the U.N.

The second day of the convention will focus on the development of WFWP leadership. There will be workshops and training facilitated by specialists teaching how to build up non-profit organizations. We are happy to announce that fifty percent of the cost of this very special workshop is being underwritten by a corporate grant.

We also offer this excellent workshop opportunity to leaders of other organizations knowing that the information will help many others in building their non-profit organizations. The topics will include fundraising, getting and keeping volunteers, getting the word out about what you are doing and other fundamental skills needed to build an organization.

But register quickly, we do have limited space for both days. We look forward to this great event. Any questions please call our National Office at 212-481-3922. ❖

Accommodation

	No.	Total
Mini suite	—	\$125
Single room	—	\$90
Double accommodations	—	\$45
Triple accommodations	—	\$30
Quad accommodation	—	\$22.50
Economy rooms (double occupancy)	—	\$30

Conference Fees

WFWP Member	—	\$75	—
Regular by Fax/Mail (by 4/16/99)	—	\$95	—
Friday Awards Luncheon (optional)	—	\$70	—

Join/Renew WFWP Membership

(Optional)			
Regular Member	—	\$40	—
Contributor	—	\$120	—
Organization	—	\$130	—
Sponsoring Member	—	\$1000	—

TOTAL ENCLOSED

To Register by phone, call Nadine at (212) 481-3922 by Fax, (212) 481-3922, or online at www.wfwpusa.org. For security reasons we need to register your name at the U.N. in advance. All registrations must be received at the WFWP office by April 15.

PROGRAM

Friday 23rd April

At the United Nations

9:00 a.m. Check in

9:20 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Welcoming

Remarks: Mrs. Motoko Sugiyama,

Vice-President WFWP International

How ECOSOC NGOs can be most

effective at the UN

Dr. Hanifa Mezoui, Chief NGO Office,

DESA

Trafficking: The Selling of

Innocence—A Video Presentation.

Excerpts from an award winning

video

10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Women,**

Youth and their Environment

Remarks by UN Officials

Dr. Gilda Glasinovich, Chair, Council

on the Status of Latin American

Women, STD's and Women's Health

Mrs. Rebecca Salonen, UN-Uganda

Godparent's Association, Changing

Unhealthy FGM Practices in Uganda

Dr. Peter Orris, Cook County Hospital

Dr. Martiza Tennessee, PAHO, Environmental

Degradation and the Health of Workers

Ambassador Betty King, Representative

of the U.S.A.

Questions and Answers

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Women of the

Year Awards Luncheon—UN

Delegates Dining Room

3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. **Environment**

and Emotional Health

Dr. Jonathan Lear, Author of the

"Open Mind."

Dr. Susan Vaughn, Columbia

College of Physicians & Surgeons,

NY

Keynote Address: Dr. Vamik Volkan,

Director of the Center for the Study

of the Mind, University of Virginia

Medical School

Questions and Answers

Saturday 24th April

At the New Yorker Hotel

7:30 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Plenary Ses-

sion: A New Look at WFWP—The

First Seven Years

Mrs. Motoko Sugiyama, Vice

President, WFWP International

Mrs. Nora Spurgin, President

Mrs. Sheri Rueter, Interracial Sister-

hood Project

Mrs. Kati Vigh-Brisbois, Romanian

Project

Mrs. Gwen Bair, Building WFWP in

Mid-America

Mrs. Karen Judd Smith, Secretary-

General

10:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Break Out

Sessions

Presentations by the Support Center

for Nonprofit Management

• Getting Known . . .

How to get the word out about your

organization

• Getting and Keeping People

Involved-

Members and Volunteers

• How to Ask for Money in Person

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Participant's

Lunch in the Crystal Dining Room

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Open Space

Problem Solving

Presented by the Support Center for

Nonprofit Management

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Break

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Break Out

Sessions

Presented by the Support Center for

Nonprofit Management

• Getting and Keeping People

Involved-

Members and Volunteers

• Getting organized . . .

What's really important

• Where's the Money? . . .

Targeting Appropriate Funding

Sources

5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closing

Plenary ❖

by Dan Fefferman—Washington, DC

While the US is generally thought of as having an excellent record with regard to religious freedom, recent developments in the state of Maryland set an ominous precedent indicating that the US may be following Europe's lead toward repressive measures and "Sec-tophobia."

The case in point is an act of the Maryland state legislature last year to create a "Task Force to Study the Effects of Cult Activities on Public Senior Higher Educational Institutions." The Task Force, which is currently in formation, is required to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor of Maryland no later than September 30 of this year.

The resolution creating the Task Force stated that "college students who become involved with cults undergo personality changes, suffer academically and financially, are alienated from their families and friends, and are robbed of the very things universities were designed to encourage..." It does not, however, define the term "cult" or name any specific "cults."

Opponents fear the Task Force will be used to stifle the freedom of speech and expression of adherents to new and small religions, the very groups that most require protection. They point out that in Europe, government anti-"sect" commissions have named such groups as Seventh Day Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses, Catholic charismatic groups and even the YWCA as "dangerous."

A student at the University of Maryland stated: "All freshmen at the U of M have to fill out a questionnaire in which they are asked about their religious preference. Will some of us who provided this information now be placed on a 'black list?' Is this Task Force going to tell us which religions are 'OK' and which are 'cults?'"

Civil libertarians agree. They point out that the Task Force is unconstitutional on its face. Identifying certain groups as "cults" singles them out as less than legitimate, and US courts have consistently held that this type of discrimination is not permissible under the Constitution's stricture that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion..." In addition, the guarantee of free exercise has been found in recent court cases (Employment division v. Smith) to mean that no particular religion or religions may be targeted by in legis-

lation.

The Task Force may also run counter to UN and other international covenants to which the US is a signatory. Recent UN deliberations have clarified that the right to freedom of religion applies not only to mainstream groups, but especially to smaller and new groups, the very ones targeted by the Maryland Task Force. According to an official statement of the United Nations Human Rights Committee adopted in 1993:

"Article 18 is not limited in its application to traditional religions... The Committee views with concern any tendency to discriminate against any religion or belief for any reasons, including the fact that they are newly established, or represent religious minorities that may be the subject of hostility by a predominant religious community."

U.S. anti-cultists have claimed the creation of the Maryland Task Force as a triumph that should be duplicated in states throughout the nation. Promotional literature for a "CULTINFO" conference in Stamford Connecticut in January giddily declared: "This encouraging development will energize you and show how you can use this tool in your state legislature."

Results of anti-"sect" commissions in Europe have been criticized for creating an atmosphere similar to the McCarthyist red scare in the 1950s.

In Germany, members of the Church of Scientology have been banned from membership in the major political parties. In France, a Unification Church center was bombed shortly after the government listed the church among 72 dangerous "sects." Members of minority religions in Europe have been denied employment and housing, had schools closed, have been passed over for employment, and even had bank accounts closed for no other reason than their faith.

The commissions have also been criticized for being wasteful. After months of investigation and substantial expenditures of money, a German official panel mandated to study "sects and psychogroups" concluded: "No generalized statements on the whole spectrum of new religious and ideological groups and psychogroups can be made. As a consequence of this fact, the Commission has decided to no longer use the term 'sect.'"

The Maryland Task Force demonstrates how a tiny force of misguided or intolerant individuals or fearful about "cults" can bend a state legislature's will by presenting one sided arguments and taking advantage of crowded leg-

islative calendars to push through its agenda. The above-mentioned CULTINFO conference literature states that the Task Force resulted from the efforts of one woman, Sandra Stephon, who became distraught after her attempts failed to convince her son to leave the International Churches of Christ, which he joined while attending the University of Maryland. "Hear the story of

Opponents fear the Task Force will be used to stifle the freedom of speech and expression of adherents to new and small religions, the very groups that most require protection.

how one angry mom took on the cults in the Maryland State Legislature and won!" the literature gushes, "Sandra has shown us a valuable weapon."

As for "taking on the cults in the Maryland State Legislature," when Maryland House Joint Resolution 22 was debat-

ed in the Appropriations Committee, the list of witnesses included nine proponents and one person who checked both "proponent" and "no position." Obviously, Mrs. Stephon and her allies in the Maryland legislature made no attempt to balance the debate. Both the House and Senate hearings on the resolution were stacked with "experts" from the anti-cult movement. No civil liberties groups testified, nor did representatives of the mainline religions who generally oppose such measures, nor any representatives of the groups who would be directly affected by the action.

Opponents of the resolution did not learn of its existence until it had already

passed the lower house and was within two days of passing the Maryland Senate. By that senators were rushing to deal with hundreds of bills before the close of the session and few had even the slightest idea of the resolution's contents. When the resolution about to be voted on in the Senate, the clerk misread its title as a resolution to study "cultural activities" rather than "cult activities" on college campuses.

The Task Force will consist of a panel of educators, politicians, parents and students. Some positions remain unfilled as of this writing, but critics worry that the commission is already packed with appointees recommended by anti-"cultists" and that no civil libertarians or scholars of new religious movements have been named.

To express concern or request more information, write:

- Governor of Maryland**
Parris Glendening
State House
Annapolis MD 21401-1991
- Speaker of the House of Delegates**
Del. Casper R. Taylor, Jr.
101 State House
Annapolis MD 21401-1991
- President of the Senate**
Sen. Thomas V. Mike Miller
State House, H-107
Annapolis MD 21401-1991
- Chancellor University of Maryland**
Donald N. Langenberg
3300 Metzert road
Adelphi, MD 20783 ❖

An Appeal from Friends of Tom and Kitty Wojcik

by Lynn Griner

The Wojicks served as missionaries in Russia and were, at one time, planning to go to Pakistan as national messiahs. However, last year, Tom nearly died because of liver failure and he could not get a liver transplant. Then, it turned out that his wife, Kitty, was able to save his life by giving him half of her liver. This was a very fortunate event for their family. There has been much rejoicing for them.

However, Tom is still very seriously ill. The medicine on which his life depends (because it keeps him from rejecting his new liver) is sickening him and he has, among other things, developed full-blown diabetes. He is exceedingly weak. Kitty has not yet recovered from donating half her liver, and she is infirm as well and will remain so for a good many more months.

The Wojicks are barely able to get through each day taking care of their six children. Tom must go three times a week for check-ups to a hospital in Virginia. The Wojicks once had a van, but they had to sell it at nearly a total loss, and their car is on its last legs.

It appears that the Wojick family will be dependent upon donations for some time to come. Although they are extremely grateful for what they have already

received, unfortunately, at this time, neither parent can work or fund raise.

Our community is not particularly affluent. However, if it were possible for many families to donate a small amount of money, such as \$10, each month for, say, 12 months, the Wojicks could hopefully get on their feet. The idea behind this donation is that there may be enough families in our community who can donate a small amount each month without sacrifice. Any donation of any size at any time would be very much appreciated, needless to say. The present need for money is real.

However, the primary hope is that a small, but steady, donation, beginning in March, of at least \$10 (or more, or less) will come each month from many families for about a year. This may be longer than is necessary. However, making a secure plan seems better than asking for too little and then confusing people by asking again. If the Wojicks somehow cease to need the money, we will get the word out right away.

If your family wants to give to this fund, please make your checks payable to THE WOJICK FAMILY FUND. Mail your contributions to Anna Mizani, 10606 Glen Wild Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20866. If you have questions, please call Lynn Criner at (301) 341-1140 email <lcriner@tidalwave.net> or Sarah Nishioka at (301) 731-8834. ❖

Boys

- Boys make noise, the noise of boys,
- Galumph and klopffing with their toys.
- They stomp and bang and roll and fall
- And hum and wail and sing and call.
- It doesn't matter which or what
- Or who they are or who they're not.
- They run and jump and crash and tumble,
- Shout and croon and cough and mumble.
- Once a monster, once a bear,
- A monkey here, a baby there.
- They leap and clap and zoom and fly
- And groan and squeal and laugh and cry.
- And what they will be if they can,
- A proud and handsome daddy man,
- 'Cause daddies grow from little boys.
- They get that way from making noise.

Rosalie Anderson

NYC
from page 1

Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon's World

would happen on the day of the event, and who would show up. Well - as it happened, the Grand Ballroom of the Manhattan Center was filled to capacity one hour before the program was scheduled to start! An overflow area in the adjacent New Yorker Hotel filled up too. A local newspaper reported that 3,000 people were there, (pretty close—anyway, who are we to dispute the fact-finding of the local media?!) Over half of those who came were first-timers, who had never heard Dr. Moon before. Our lonely pioneers in the Bronx, under the pastership of Rev. and Mrs. Esteban Galvan, brought 7 bus-loads of fresh faces (over 450 people). Hundred more came by bus, subway, etc., from Brooklyn, Harlem, Queens, Manhattan, Long Island, Westchester County, Rockland County, etc.



The speech at the Manhattan Center in NYC

At the VIP reception one hour before the start of the program, we were honored by the presence of several U.N. ambassadors, ministers, imams, educators, and government officials—over eighty in all. The atmosphere was light, joyful and full of expectation as we mingled among this who's who of New York City.

The day was not without incident. Just before the program was due to start water started to pour in like a waterfall from the ceiling on to the stage. Not the best time to do a cleaning! It turned out that the roof had been (unsuccessfully) repaired, and the heavy rain just poured in. The stage crew worked desperately to stem the flow of water and were fairly successful, although not entirely. The outcome was that, during Dr. Moon's speech, in addition to the beautiful blue lit floral back-

Hyo Jin Moon and Yun-Ah Choi were Blessed on February 5th in Seoul, Korea



Tour Comes to New York City

drop, there was a "special effect", namely slowly dripping water about 15 feet behind the speaker!

The program began with a spiritual extravaganza as local host Rev. Daryl Clarke introduced the 100-member St. Paul's Community Baptist Church Choir, clad in beautiful African robes. As they swayed back and forth, the deep spirit of their relatively subdued singing filled the theater. Then, emcee, Rev. Michael Jenkins introduced the invocator, Dr. O.B.J. Burson, pastor of The Holy Trinity Baptist Church, in Brooklyn, and an official in the National Baptist Convention. Following the invocation, Carmen Tancredi, an opera singer with the New York Metropolitan Opera, offered a rendition of a classical piece.

Warm welcoming remarks were offered by a U.N. ambassador, followed by an introduction by Dr. Tyler Hendricks, President of Family Federation. We were treated to a 10-minute video about Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, highlighting her many achievements for world peace, unification, and family values. By this time, everyone was on the edge of their seats as we waited for the entrance of the principal speaker.

Dr. Moon came on stage attired in an elegant green suit. She smiled beautifully, as she approached the podium to give her speech. Her 50-minute talk was punctuated by bursts of applause and "amens"—dozens of times, and at the end the audience rose to its feet in appreciation.

Dr. Moon spoke passionately about

the path which all humankind is destined to walk. Just what is it that we should pursue in our life? The thing that everyone needs, even God Himself, is true love. If we live such an authentic way of life, we can enjoy true freedom in this life and in the world to come. Each of us passes through three phases during our life: the time in the womb, out earthly life, and our eternal life in the spiritual world. We need to prepare now for life in the hereafter. How? By practicing love in the family and by living for the sake of others. There is nothing more precious than a true person who possesses true love. We need to experience such a life of true love while we are in this earthly life.

In the world to come, love is the air we breathe. In that world, if we have prepared well, we will have the ability to fly anywhere—on the wings of love! The unfortunate reality is that we are not living this way. This is all the more sad for God Himself, as our Creator—the One who had the greatest hope for His original children, Adam and Eve. The Messiah

comes to rectify this, as the True Parents, a substitute as it were, for fallen Adam and Eve. God and humankind are longing for the original homeland of true love. As we approach the new millennium, the hope of humankind and the hope of God rests with our establishing families of true love, where spouses are eternally in love and faithful to each other, where parents sacrifice for their children, where children piously return joy to their parents, their grandparents, and to God.

After Dr. Moon's speech, she was presented with several awards. A U.N. ambassador had prepared a special award which he presented to Dr. Moon.

Over 130 New York clergy offered a plaque honoring Dr. Moon. The New York Christian Times, through its publisher, Rev. Dennis Dillon, presented Dr. Moon with its prestigious "Front Page Award". Numerous letters, procla-

mations and awards were received (over 100 in all) from local Mayors, from the New York State Assembly, from U.S. Congressmen, and from various organizations. One Bronx residents' organization with over 100,000 members honored Dr. Moon as "The Lady of the Century"!

The program concluded with an excellent musical presentation from a group led by Rev. Philip Thomas, a well known performer in New York, and as they prepared to come on stage, Rev. Clarke announced the winners of the door prizes.

At the post-program reception with Dr. Moon, Rev. Moon, who had been listening to the entire program by telephone from South America, spoke with and sang to his wife! It was an enchanting moment when Dr. Moon sang a delightful English song for Rev. Moon. Others joined in and sang solos back and forth across the hemispheres. Rev. Dillon also sang. In the end, we can say that a great woman of God came and truly blessed New York. Hers is indeed a message for the new millennium. Families of true love are the gateway to happiness. Many people worked long and hard to make this a successful and memorable event, and special thanks are due to these many brothers and sisters, too numerous to mention. ❖



Celebrating in the "Victory Room" after the speech in Washington DC



The speech in Washington, DC

by Bento Leal—San Leandro, CA

On Friday, January 15th, the first Family Study & Fellowship Evening took place at our new Bay Area Family Church – it was a huge success. More than 130 parents and children attended that first evening and thoroughly enjoyed the study and fellowship. The attendance has remained high each Friday since.

The format is simple: At 7:30 pm, everyone gathers in the 2nd floor Fellowship Hall in a big circle to sing a couple of Holy Songs. Then, each person goes to their classroom by grade (Pre K-K, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, teenagers, adults) for Divine Principle lecture and discussion. Afterwards, everyone gathers back in the Fellowship Hall for snacks, drink and sharing together. By 8:45 pm, the program is over, but many people often remain much later.

By having the classes grouped by grade and age level, the education and atmosphere can really be directed and experienced in the most productive and meaningful ways by all the participants. All the families look forward to return for class and fellowship the following week.

The value of this type of family study and fellowship together as a church community is many-fold: 1) Each person has direct give and take with the Divine Principle, the Word of Life, 2) We study and fellowship within our various age groups, dealing with the Principle in age-appropriate ways, and 3) It's all done as families together – a real family night. In addition, one of our long-term hopes is that our Bay Area Family Church members will invite their non-church friends to attend. There are many parents in the world looking for wholesome places to bring their children; our Friday evening study fellowships can be a great answer for them.

The plan is to continue these programs each Friday evening starting at 7:30 pm.

If you haven't attended yet, please

come – you'll love it. Also, if you're interested to learn how to lecture, this is an ideal place to learn how.

Let's continue to attend and grow this wonderful program. This regular and direct give-and-take with God's holy word and each other is a most nourishing and fulfilling aspect of our lives, our couples, our families, and our community.

See you Friday evening! ❖

Photos:

1: Bento Leal with a packed room of eager seventh and eighth graders.

2: Myrna Lapres is teaching a song to first and second graders.

3: Introductory song with everyone.

4: Adult class with Pastor Kevin Thompson.

5: Bill Bechtel is teaching to Pre-K and Kindergarten children

6: Song practice with Brian Parnow for third and fourth graders.

Family Study & Fellowship Evening a Big Hit at the Bay Area Family Church



The Music Ministry of NJ FFWPU: Spring Recital

by Christine Libon—Clifton NJ

Cold, rainy weather did not put a damper on our spirits on the night of March 6 at Clifton Family Church Center. We thoroughly enjoyed the Second Generation's most light-hearted presentation yet. As host George Allen put it, "Tonight we have a chance to enjoy other people's children." The program displayed a variety of artistic expressions. It opened with Aurelia Derflinger, a student of the clarinet, performing a Shaker hymn, Scarborough Fair and a third clarinet solo.

Then the New Hope Chorale made an attempt at a multi-lingual presentation of songs from Spain, Japan, France and Korea. Though still in need of some tutoring for proper pronunciation, the diversity of musical styles and the challenge were appreciated. Poetry reading followed, given by Mika Gagné, Sunmarie Allen, Ariella Carvel and Sylvia Santelli. The selected poems came from Robert Frost, Edna St. Vincent Millay and Rachel Field. My own favorites were "I Asked the Little Boy Who Cannot See" and Farleon's musical setting of Joyce Kilmer's immortal "Trees" (truly a study

of trees rather than rhyme).

Reminiscing a bit, my dad always came to my childhood recitals and inevitably cried as he sat in the audience. Why do we tend to cry when we experience something especially beautiful? I suppose it is because we have

been deeply moved internally. Whatever the reason, Il Hwa (Cindy) Yokpore brought me to tears several times as she put her whole self into her performance of "My Heart Will Go On" from the movie *Titanic*. It caused my mind to center immediately on Heung Jin Nim.

Chris Alan Derflinger played "Seven Variation on the theme of *God Save the King*" without any sheet music before him. WOW! Now onto the New Hope Players' spoof of the news, weather and sports broadcasts, complete with commercial sponsors. It was a witty skit and well-acted in character. Next, came a cute, cute number from the sister and brother team Sunmarie & Karlsun Allen, "Anything You Can Do" from *Annie Get Your Gun* by Irving Berlin.

Music Minister and Assistant Producer Francesco Santelli remarked: "Many of these children have very special talents." Francesco's investment of time and effort was apparent. The group has been working together with him for several months and the children are involved in their own special classes to develop their talents. The Musical Angels children's choir has grown slightly larger; but, more importantly, the children are gaining in skill and confidence, as well as developing a supportive camaraderie amongst themselves while joyfully sharing in their artistic endeavors.

Special thanks are due to Rev. and Mrs. Hong, who produced this event and who act as loving parents to the entire NJ congregation. ❖



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UTS NEWS



Dr. Kelley and Dr. Winings

Practical Ecumenist Speaks at UTS

by Dr. Kathy Winings

Dr. Arleon Kelley, the former executive director of the New York State Council of Churches, spoke to students at UTS on February 24, 1999. Dr. Kelley was invited to address the issue of modern ecumenism for Dr. Winings' new class on Practical Ecumenism. In addition, Dr. Kelley spoke with faculty over lunch and then addressed the general student population in a special afternoon session.

Dr. Kelley offered his perspective of the state of modern ecumenism as well as shared with us his own spiritual and ecumenical journey. Having been raised in the "holiness" tradition, Dr. Kelley talked about his calling to God's ministry at the early age of 15. Since then, he has worked tirelessly to be faithful to that calling. An ordained Methodist minister, Dr. Kelley has worked throughout the United States as well as in the foreign mission field in such locales as Bangladesh, India and Nepal.

In his talk with the students, Dr. Kelley discussed the changes we are witnessing in our society and offered that he believes we live in a "post-industrial, post-modern, post-denominational, and post-Christian world today." For him, this means that families and individuals are no longer interested in denominational and religious labels but are seeking a spiritual home that meets their needs. That is why a major achievement of Dr. Kelley's tenure at the New York Council was the change from a traditional Council to a "community of churches" in which any church which calls itself "Christian" can join. He is currently working on a

special project which traces the history of local and regional ecumenism—a project close to his heart.

Dr. Kelley encouraged students through his testimony and responses to their questions, to become true to their faith and to find hope in the future because we are at a crossroads in history in which God is presenting new possibilities through newer churches and faiths such as the Unification Church. Students and faculty alike enjoyed this refreshing and inspiring ecumenical discussion and we look forward to many more such momentous events.

23RD ORATORICAL CONTEST Responsibility of the Blessed Family

Living for the sake of others was a predominant theme in the speeches presented by the eight finalists of the 23rd David S. C. Kim Oratorical Contest, on the evening of February 24th, 1999. The winner, Akira Ishiyama of Japan, drew vividly upon personal experience, and in a frank, often humorous manner, illustrated that living for the sake of others is the "indispensable responsibility of the Blessed Family."

His story took us to a pre-dawn, cold winter's morning with Akira delivering newspapers, a job he held in addition to his job at the iron factory so as to raise money for his seminary education. He came across a car stuck on the sidewalk. Not just any car, but a red sports car, with a mini-skirted, red-headed oriental young woman standing next to it. Not your normal damsel in distress.

Akira assumed the person was the girl's boyfriend and that they had been at play all night. Did such people deserve his help? The comparison between their sports car and his old, battered car did not help.

Akira's struggles intensified and he passed by. His sense of guilt increased. That is when he thought of Jesus' example of helping all kinds of people, the handicapped, the tax collectors, the prostitutes. He realized that saving people in trouble is the responsibility of the Blessed Family. Quickly he turned back and helped the woman (her friend was also a young lady) in a relatively short time. The two young women were sincerely appreciative and extremely polite, asking for his name and address. A couple of days later they visited his family with gifts and money.

The lessons Akira learned from this experience were many-fold: not to judge people only by their appearance; not to hesitate in spending time to help others, and the importance of serving others with utmost devotion and sincerity.

Akira's story has staying power, successfully fulfilling one of the criteria in judging the oratorical contest - that the audience comes away with something memorable. The judges reach their decision based also on the content, organization, delivery and persuasiveness of each presentation. In a way, all the participants were winners as they went through the process of creating and presenting a speech.

The other finalists were: Chris Antal, Yoshihisa Fujino, Maya Hazan (3rd place), Stephen Nomura, Victor Nyaarko (2nd place), Yasunori Ota, & Tom Tanemori

Distance Learning Courses Now Available at UTS

You can now register for the following distance learning courses at UTS.

- Divine Principle (BS 606), Dr. Andrew Wilson, 3 credits
- Unification Philosophy (PH 535), Dr. Keisuke Noda, 3 credits
- Unification Worldview (RS 536), Dr. Thomas Ward, 3 credits

The deadline to register for Unification Worldview is April 6th, the other two courses have open registration.

Please contact the Registrar, Mrs. Ute Delaney at utsregis@ulster.net or call 914-752-3012

Dr. Sallyann Goodall

The following is Part 2 of an interview with Dr. Sallyann Goodall, music specialist and educator from S. Africa. Part 1 was featured last month.

Dr. Goodall, coming from S. Africa, you must have a unique perspective on many issues, especially racial ones. How have you dealt with people of different cultural backgrounds in your work in music?

In S. Africa there is an interesting perception that music really changes people. During the apartheid years, musicians are thought to have genuinely brought some change in the country. So music is seen as quite powerful socially. That doesn't mean that schools value music any more, but in the culture as a whole it is seen as influential.

I consider music to be an incredibly powerful source that awakens a lot of energy in us. I figured that one of the most valuable things I could do in S. Africa was to use music to help peo-



Dr. Goodall

ple come together. It is not myself actually bringing them together, but using music as a means to show them that they can do it. My university started off as an institution for Indian students, so when I first came to the university in 1986 we had a 100% Indian student body. This has changed now to 75% black African, 20% Indian and 5% mixed cultural background. A lot of the teachers are White, so it's a very interesting and divergent population.

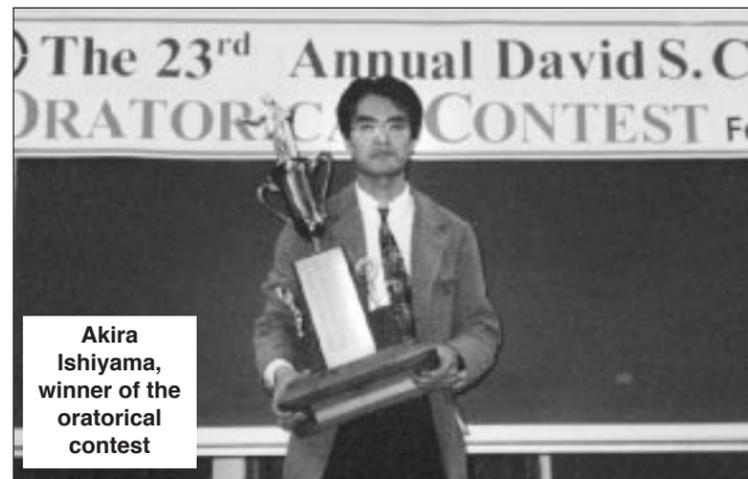
There are a few things I have found to be tremendously important in helping people negotiate cultural difficulties:

- The need to research where people are coming from musically. So I have some background in African and Indian music as an ethnomusicologist. I know the kinds of cultures they are from, and understand my own (European) culture from as objective a point of view as possible. Paradoxically, this has given me a greater appreciation for western art and music.

- Acknowledging that an important source of knowledge lies within the students. We began to ask them about their culture. This was quite a breakthrough for faculty, since generally professors think that they know, and that they are going to teach what they know to the students. But we had to realize there really was a lot we didn't know. Asking the students was very productive. They felt that they were able to represent themselves rather than us just deciding where they were at.

- Recognizing that people want the best in life. Usually difficulties in relationships occur from a relatively small misunderstanding or miscommunication.

see UTS on page 20



Akira Ishiyama, winner of the oratorical contest

He was thrown into emotional conflict and revealed the reasons for it in a disarming and self-deprecating way. Laughter from the audience indicated their identification with his struggles. Not only was he extremely tired from working so hard, it was a bitterly cold morning and he wanted to finish as quickly as possible. It would interfere with his schedule to stop and help. There was someone else in the car and

UTS from page 19

tion. When I am with people having crazy arguments with one another, I sit with them and try to unravel where it all started, what the perceptions were, and how it got off track. It usually turns out to be some cultural misunderstanding, that was very small, some body language or the way a person sniffed or blew their nose, or what they ate or the way they came through the door. Such things are often at the bottom of quite serious misunderstandings, which in my part of the world have the tendency to become violent. Because of my assumption that they want to reach a place that is good, and that they want to come together, I am able to convey that I am serious and I want to listen to them. I try to give them the space to actually speak about what the difficulties are.

• I also take people's work very seriously. People put tremendous effort into their studies, and it doesn't necessarily have anything to do with the teacher. Most students are not used to having a teacher who is quite as serious about their work as I am, and they really respond to having a teacher whose main interest in life is to give them a good educational experience. Having such a teacher who takes them, their goals and their pain seriously, enables students to be more serious about their own cultural roots. They can then understand the difficulties in their understanding of other people. Usually they are quite surprised and willing to come together.

• Another thing I have discovered is that when people do not belong to a certain cultural group they hold stereotypes which prevent them from getting to know people from those groups. Cultural stereotypes are incredibly strong and rigid, and it's difficult to change them. So as soon as someone realizes that a group of people, eg Indians, do not all have the same opinion about something, they realize that this rigid view is not a true picture of how people are. I think that a lot of the things that we do in the Unification Church help to break down those stereotypes, especially getting to know people personally. So my experiences from the Church are a tremendous help in my work.

From my work I have developed a different perspective on the work that our Church is trying to do. I feel that, on the part of the Church, far more serious consideration needs to be taken of where people are coming from culturally, what their understandings are, why it is that they think in a certain way, and how they perceive their own thinking. There needs to be so much more discussion about these things. I think the Church has a far greater contribution to make in this regard than it is at present giving to the world.

F.R.E.S.H. S.T.A.R.T.

by Stephen Manning

Stephen Manning has just completed his second trimester at UTS. He runs a health and fitness club and will be writing a monthly article about his program.

In this issue I will deal with "H" for HYDRATION. In simple terms,

WATER. We are surrounded by it, supported by it and kept alive by it. But most of us have little understanding of how important it really is. Lets look at some statistics:

- Over 70% of the earth's surface is covered by water.

- All life on the planet depends on the circulation of water in the ecosystem.

- Your own blood is comprised of about 90% water, - lose 10% and you will become seriously ill with dehydration, - lose 20% or more, and it could be fatal!

- All of the body's internal organs and their functions depend on the presence of enough water in the system, - from the heart and lungs, to the stomach and the bowels. A lack of water stresses the vital systems.

- Water speeds up your metabolism, that is, the rate at which your body burns energy (usually fat).

- Almost everybody does not consume enough water, thereby stressing their bodies unknowingly and unnecessarily. Headaches, constipation, fat and fluid retention, poor skin quality, - all can be symptoms of insufficient water consumption.

So, we can conclude that it is essential to consume enough water on a daily basis. The question is how much? How often? ..and when!

Water in the diet

The first thing we need to grasp is that water is the most important part of a healthy diet. *BUT, - it is not food!* Water is a cleanser and purifier. It flushes out the system. The kidneys, which purify the internal systems, for exam-

ple, rely almost totally on water in order to function. Water is essential for all the digestive functions, but taken at the wrong time, it can *interfere* with the process

When water is consumed alone, it does *not* trigger the digestive systems. However, every time I put 'food' into my mouth, enzymes (digestive juices) are released into the oral cavity, mixing with the food before it travels to the stomach. In the stomach, strong acids are released to mix with the enzymes, and advance the digestive process further. Now, what do you think happens if we pour pure water into this mix? It dilutes the acids, - often causing indigestion! The body then reacts by over-producing acid, which in turn can cause other problems such as 'acid reflux' or even stomach ulcers if these habits are prolonged.

The solution is simple. Drink lots of water daily, about 4 pints (8 glasses) for an average adult, but not at meal times. Start every day

with a glass. "Get the plumbing humming." Remember, anything that stimulates the digestive juices (tea, coffee, fruit juices, milk) although officially a liquid, - is also food, and therefore does not function as pure water does. (More about these when we deal with "F" for 'FOOD')

- If you live in an area where you suspect the water isn't pure, it would be wise to install a water purifier.

- Drink water lukewarm rather than

ice-cold or piping-hot. It synthesizes more efficiently without making demands of the body to adjust the temperature of the liquid.

- Fluid retention is usually a symptom of insufficient water consumption. The body goes into 'starvation' mode, and stores what fluids it has. To solve the problem, drink more water, and get the system functioning properly again.

Water on the outside

As Unificationists, it is appropriate that we consider the global perspective in our personal habits. As much as possible, we should try to set examples of considerate behavior both towards our fellow man and mother earth. Isn't that what "taking dominion" means. So, in relation to our use of water, and in the realization that our collective habits since the industrial revolution have been poisoning the earth, we should be more attuned to the repercussions of our actions. In some underdeveloped countries people are dying for lack of water, while we squander ours. Every act of reserve on our part contributes to the global good, so with this in mind, here are some tips on water use in our daily lives.

- Shower rather than bathe. It uses less water, especially if you turn it off while soaping. Use hot water to open the pores and cleanse the skin, and finish off with cold. Use biodegradable soap.

- Think before watering the garden. Is it really necessary? The same with washing the car. Car washes use a lot of water, and unfriendly chemicals. It is better for both you and the environment if you do it by hand, - better still, get the kids to do it, and encourage principled give-and-take action at the same time!

When we deal with the topic of FOOD, we will explore production methods of popular foodstuffs that severely abuse the water-based ecosystem. With this knowledge, we can then become better informed consumers, and through our

choices, reduce our give-and-take with unprincipled organizations and businesses.

Question of the month: How exactly does drinking more water cause weight loss?

Answer: The kidneys can't function properly without enough water. When they don't work to capacity, some of their load is transferred to the liver. One of the liver's primary functions is to metabolize stored fat into usable energy for the body, but with the increased workload from the kidneys, it can't operate at full efficiency. As a result, more fat remains stored in the body, causing all sorts of problems, including weight gain. Drinking more water helps solve this problem.

Next month, we'll look at "E" for EXERCISE. ❖

As Unificationists, it is appropriate that we consider the global perspective in our personal habits. As much as possible, we should try to set examples of considerate behavior both towards our fellow man and mother earth. Isn't that what "taking dominion" means.

Lead Us to the Gate of Heaven

We were very moved one day when our daughter Melody, 7, made up the words and music for this song.—Jeffrey & Maija Kingsley

Chorus:

Lead us to the Gate of Heaven.
We haven't done wrong.
Lead us to the Gate of Heaven,
Where glory isn't just a dream.

We tried to do kind deeds
And we tried to be caring.
We were full of righteousness.
So please lead us to the Gate of Heaven.

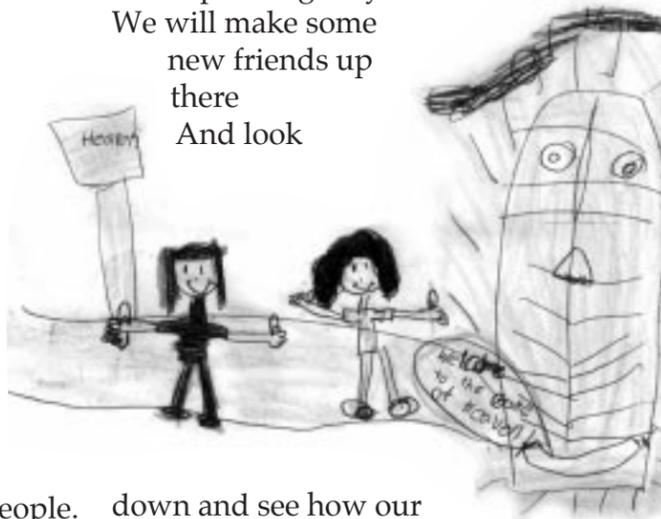
Chorus

Over the years we helped many people.
We prayed a lot. We went to church.
We read the Bible and Divine Principle.
We wanted to free slaves
When we read how Moses did it.
So please lead us to the Gate of Heaven.

Chorus

If you do lead us to the Gate of Heaven,
We will explore the planets and see
How sparkling they are.

We will make some
new friends up
there
And look



down and see how our
friends
On earth are doing and just maybe
Talk to God! So please
Lead us to the Gate of Heaven!

Chorus ❖

Unification Church Vindication in Russia

by Konstantin Krylov—Moscow, Russia

On March 22, 1999, the Moscow City Court rejected the appeal of seven parents—members and active participants of the Inter-regional Committee for Salvation From Totalitarian Sects—in their demand for compensation, claiming moral damage done by the Unification Church of Russia. Each of the seven plaintiffs demanded 2 billion rubles as compensation for the damage allegedly caused to them by the Unification Church, as a result of their children having become members. The suit alleges that the changes to their children's moral values and family traditions, resulting from their religious orientation, violated their parents' right to be close to their children as well as Russian national traditions. It is interesting to note that of the seven plaintiffs, only five are parents of Unification Church members.

Summoned to the original hearing in the Kuzminsky District Court in Moscow in May 1998, the children (Unification Church members) confirmed that they had made their religious choice deliberately and of their own free will. This was followed by the plaintiffs assuring the court that the members were "brainwashed" and "encoded." They demanded that the members

undergo psychiatric examination at the notorious Serbsky Center for Forensic Psychiatry (this institute was one of the leading practitioners of punitive psychiatry during the Soviet era)—this despite the fact that the members had already voluntarily undergone examination in St. Petersburg in order to convince their parents and the court of their normal mental health. The psychiatric board, consisting of six members (including top psychiatrists and expert psychologists), came to the conclusion, signed by the leading psychiatrist of St. Petersburg, that all the members are mentally healthy and that the conflicts with their families had begun long before they joined the Unification Church.

In their efforts to convince the court of the validity of their claims, the plaintiffs used a reference book issued by the Missionary Department of the Moscow Patriarchate of the Russian Orthodox Church, "New Religious Organizations of Destructive and Occult Character in Russia," as well as "Informational and Analytical Research" by Vladimir Zhirinovsky and the book of N.V. Krivelskaya, "Pseudo-Christian Religious Organizations in Russia."

Despite the strong anti-Unification Church sentiment of those materials, they were rejected as evidence by the court. Demands were also made that all foreign missionaries be summoned to the court to give evidence, together with the leader and founder of the Unification Church, Rev. Sun Myung Moon. Abusing their parental rights, the plaintiffs sought to limit the rights of their adult children to freely choose their religious beliefs. Several of the plaintiffs added that had their children chosen Orthodoxy, they would not have objected.

Evidence was presented in the City Court, which documented the fact that the Inter-regional Committee for the Salvation From Totalitarian Sects was being supported financially by the St. Petersburg city budget. It became clear in the course of the trial that political factors were at work in shaping public opinion. In this respect the media stance misrepresented the reality. In the original hearing at Kuzminsky District Court the media attitude was extremely negative and biased against the Unification Church. Even in the more "neutral" press there were articles with titles such as "Religion of

Slaves" and "The Ideas of Moon Are Alive and Threatening," etc. These articles reproduced almost verbatim the plaintiffs' suit. A series of television reports from the court in the TV program "Criminal" bunched the Unification Church believers together with criminals. Even after the case was won by the Unification Church represented by attorney Galina Krylova, the media continued to misinform the public, showing the plaintiffs posing before the cameras with a call to "save Russia."

What makes this process unique is the fact that for the first time in Russia, notorious for its court decisions against religious freedom, the court delivered a judgment based on the law, rather than on religious or social biases. Both the Kuzminsky District Court and the Moscow City Court pointed out that the plaintiffs lacked evidence to prove any actions of the Unification Church had caused their children to suffer moral damage. The court was also not convinced of any evidence of psychic violence, brainwashing or encoding of the Unification Church's adult members.

For the first time in legal practice in Russia, a court decision was directly motivated by reference to the Constitution of the Russian Federation and international law guaranteeing freedom of religion and conscience. ♦

For the first time in Russia, a court decision was directly motivated by reference to the Constitution of the Russian Federation and international law guaranteeing freedom of religion and conscience.

THE SACRED DEPTHS OF NATURE

by Chris Seidel—Redhook, NY

Ursula Goodenough, a renowned cell-biologist, has written a book with such piercing scientific insight that it is bound to stir both scientists and non-scientists alike. The daughter of an intensely religious father, she has delineated in her book a response to her Father's most probing quest: "a need to understand why people are religious."

In her book, Goodenough challenges to look behind the veil of theology and philosophy, into the mystery which originally served as the impetus to inspire and pique all the great thinkers of human history.

Her aim is not to supplant current religious traditions and cultures, but rather to "outline the foundation for ... a planetary ethic," informing and serving us in our own unique spiritual and religious journeys.

Her book is not a lesson in evolution and the anatomy of the universe so much as an *experience* that transports the reader to a higher plane of divine appreciation. An appreciation that stems from the undeniable fact that we are all constituent parts in the infinitely beautiful and dynamic cosmic dance that never ceases. In harmony with this cognitive awareness, she has organized her twelve chapters into two parts: one that objectively states the intricate scientific mechanics and principles of a particular aspect

of existence, and the other which is her own personal reflection and interpretation of those forces which inherently dictate the way our world moves.

Whether we are aware of it or not, our world is the product of an intensely dense array of elementary and complex principles that are intertwined in such a way to engender the reality we are often oblivious to. As Goodenough puts it, our world is the composition

of the "infinities and infinitesimals." Electrons, subatomic particles, space "superstrings," absorption spectra are just a few of the elements which contribute to our physical uni-

verse, which may not be the only one, as some physicists and mathematicians have recently theorized. The

origin of our universe, the motive for its creation, as well as its boundless potential for discovery are issues that still provoke the most sophisticated scientific and religious thought. There are more stars in the universe than all the sand grains on the earth. Earthly Life is but a minute of time compared to the millennium since the creation of the universe, human life barely a millisecond. These are just a sampling of the topics Goodenough covers in just the first chapter.

In the second chapter, Goodenough succinctly summarizes the origins of life: starting with the origins of chem-

istry and then explaining the organic building blocks which provide the basis for complex biomolecules. DNA, the organic molecules from which all earthly life springs, is the natural conclusion of these derivative steps. DNA provides the genetic code (contained in discrete units known as "genes") that allows life to perpetuate, and new generations to emerge from the old: from amoebas to blue whales. Across the organic spectrum, the principles of DNA replication, translation and transcription are exactly identical. The web of life is incredibly diverse, yet incredibly similar. As Goodenough beseeches us, "We are called to reverse the whole enterprise of planetary existence, the whole and all of its myriad parts as they catalyze and secrete and replicate and mutate and evolve."

The Sacred Depths of Nature continues to delve into the multifaceted dynamics of life in the ensuing chapters. The chapter entitled "How Life Works" goes into a very broad overview of the basic natural processes that govern the way cells repair, communicate, and propagate themselves. How biophysics allows magical "series-processes" to occur, known as cascades, where each discrete organic process is con-

tingent upon the process that transpired immediately before it. The amazing part is, life is structured in such a way as to allow all of these complex processes to occur in perfect rapport with natural principle. If biophysics, for instance, did not permit the bond-

ing of hydrogen and oxygen in organic systems, those systems would inevitably fail.

Other topics that Goodenough covers include Evolution, Biodiversity, Awareness (Consciousness), Emotions, Sexuality, and finally, Mortality. "...death is the price paid to have human consciousness, to be aware of all that shimmering awareness and all that love."

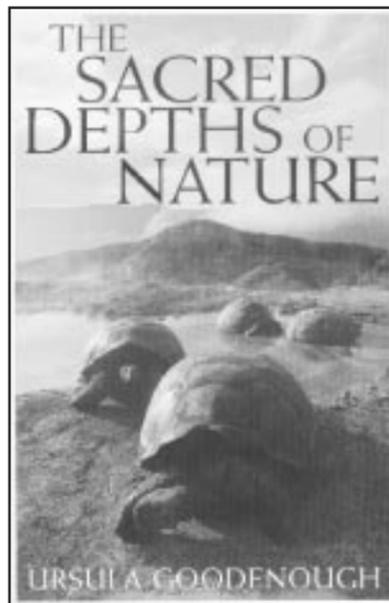
Each issue celebrates the incredible intricacy of life, and brings deeper recognition and appreciation into every other issue. The effect is cumulative and everlasting. "Life is a coral reef. We each leave behind the best, the strongest deposit we can so that the reef can grow. But what's important is the reef."

The final chapter, *Emergent Religious Principles*, is a synthesis of everything in life that transcends logical or rational explanation. As the author states, it could be summed up as "Why are things as they are?" Luckily, that is a question God can answer for us.

Chris' Rating: * * * * 1/2 Starz ♦

BOOK REVIEW

**The Sacred Depths of Nature, Ursula Goodenough
Oxford University Press, 1998, \$24**



TRUE PARENTS' HISTORY FOR CHILDREN

by Linna Rapkins

For the next few months we will be reprinting from the Blessing Quarterly stories about True Mother's life from the time of her birth to the time of the Holy Wedding. Most of the information for these stories was taken from Mother's testimony, Father's comments about Mother's life, and the testimony of Grandmother Hong (True Mother's mother).

In the same province of North Korea where Father was born, a young woman named Soon-Ae Hong was nearing the time when her baby would arrive. She was at home with her parents almost all the time now. This evening, she sat on a small stool making mandoo for supper. She had a brother, but he had left home, and no one knew where he was. Her own husband had also left, so it was just the three of them. As she rolled bits of chopped meat and vegetables into the paper thin flour shells, her thoughts drifted back to her younger years.

"Mother was a good Christian, and she always told me to watch for the second coming of the Lord Jesus," she remembered. "I haven't found him yet, but I feel in my heart that something is happening."

Soon-Ae had already belonged to several churches of great significance for the Lord of the Second Advent. The first was that of Mrs. Sung So Kim: the Holy Lord Order.

"I was barely a teenager," Soon-Ae recalled. "But how my life changed at that time. It meant so much to me to be her disciple all those years—what was it, thirteen, fourteen—no, fifteen years it was." Now Soon-Ae Hong was 30 years old.

A smile came to her lips. "I loved the way they called her Kamsa Halmoni." In Korean, Kamsa Hamnida means "Thank you." When people went to Kim Halmoni's church, they had wonderful spiritual experiences. Then they would all bow and say over and over, "Kamsa Hamnida. Kamsa Hamnida." They started calling her Kamsa Halmoni, which means something like "Thank Grandmother." Many people loved her dearly and came from all parts of Korea to worship in her church.

As the row of crescent-shaped mandoo grew longer, Soon-Ae spoke to the air. "Kim Halmoni, how did you learn all the things you knew? You had so many revelations. You taught us that Jesus did not come to die young, but to get rid of Satan and to build a loving world. And you said the Lord will come again, only it will not be Jesus himself, as everyone thinks. A man will be born in Korea!"

Often Soon-Ae felt excited about this, but she also felt impatient.

"Where is he, Kim Halmoni? How long will we have to wait? If only I could read all your messages now," continued Soon-Ae as she poured water over the rice and placed it on the fire. She knew that, even though Kim Halmoni had written everything on twelve rolls of paper, eight feet long each, they had been burned by a relative so the Japanese soldiers could not find any evidence against her.

Yes, evidence! Can you believe anyone would want to hurt such a dear lady? The Japanese, who were controlling Korea then, had heard that she was say-

A Princess is Born

ing Japan would soon be overcome. They didn't like that!

It was a tragic day when Kim Halmoni was hauled away to jail to be questioned. The thousands of people who came to her church couldn't help her, and so she was questioned and beaten for 100 days. It was awful. Soon-Ae's heart still burned with pain whenever she thought of it. The soldiers couldn't prove anything, so they had to let her go, but that dear 62 year old lady was so weakened by the experience that she soon became ill and died. It was the end of her church, also.

"It's so sad," thought Soon-Ae, wiping at her tears with one hand while dropping the mandoo into the sizzling oil with the other. "Many people suffered terribly to prepare for the Lord's coming, and in the end they died without even meeting him. I wish, more than anything in life, that I could meet him. Even to cook his food would bring such

answered breathlessly.

"Then please cut your hair short, and use it to knit a pair of socks for me," came his surprising answer.

Korean women always wore their hair long. It was their custom, and everyone followed it. No one was different. But Soon-Ae immediately got the scissors and carefully cut her long hair. She smiled now as she remembered shaking her head in the wind and feeling so light and free, and the strange sensation of washing short hair—as if there were nothing there. Most of all, she remembered the stares of the people. But it didn't matter. She loved Jesus.

After she knit the black socks, she started helping Mrs. Ho to make clothing and food for Jesus from the time of his birth until he was 33 years old. Of course, Jesus had been dead a long, long time, but he was alive in spirit world, and his heart was still sore. He had been

She drained the mandoo on paper as it was finished.

Then her thoughts moved to a more recent event. She had met a young man named Han. He was from another group that was also looking for the Lord.

This young Mr. Han had received a revelation saying, "You should marry the daughter of Yoo-Il Hong. If you have a baby boy, he will become the king of the universe. If you have a girl, she will be the queen of the universe!"

He had met her, and now she was about to have his baby. Whenever she thought of him, tears came to her eyes. Her parents had liked him a lot. Because her brother had gone away, they asked this young man to become their son.

"Please let us adopt you," they said.

But he was proud. How could he be adopted by his wife's family? He didn't want to be badgered about it, so he didn't come to their place much any more.

"Well, maybe after the baby is born, he'll come back," she thought hopefully. She placed her hand on her stomach and felt a vague tightening of the muscles of her stomach. But then it went away.

The next day, at 4:30 in the afternoon, as the winter sun was about to touch the horizon, the cry of a newborn baby was heard in the house of Hong.

"It's a girl," announced the midwife, and she placed the tiny baby in her mother's arms. The lunar calendar, which all Koreans use, showed that it was January 6, 1943. The new mother forgot, for the moment, about the prophecy that her baby would be queen of the universe. She just felt joy. This was her own baby daughter—and such a beautiful baby at that. They gazed into each other's eyes, and the little princess had her first meal.

When the sun had disappeared behind the trees and the new mother had rested, her own mother brought in a steaming bowl of freshly made

algae soup. Every Korean woman knows that this is what you eat after having a baby. Then you share it with everyone else in the family.

As she sat up on her mat to take the soup, she said, "Omma (mother), her name shall be Hak Ja. It means 'White Crane.' She will be beautiful and graceful."

The new grandmother smiled proudly and left her with her soup. Suddenly Soon-Ae stiffened with a jerk, almost spilling the soup all over herself. There was someone else in the room with her! Her eyes made out a dark shape, very ugly and foul-smelling. She was frozen with fear. As it began to speak to her, she suddenly realized with a shudder that this must be Satan! She didn't know what to do.

"Soon-Ae Hong," he croaked threateningly. "You must kill your baby tonight. If this child lives, the world will be in very serious trouble."

She set the soup down with trembling hands and reached for her baby. "But why?" she managed to gasp. "Why should I kill my little daughter?" She held the sleeping baby very close, protecting her.

Satan just had time to sneer, when

see **PRINCESS** on page 23



1959: Hak Ja Han (front row) at nursing school in Seoul

joy."

As she poked at the mandoo with long wooden chopsticks, her thoughts moved forward to Mr. Lee, who had been one of Kim Halmoni's disciples. Soon after Kim Halmoni's death, his wife, Ho Ho Bin, began receiving revelations. Many of the messages were the same as Kim Halmoni's: They should prepare for the Lord; the Messiah would be born in Korea, and so on.

But there was one big difference. When Mrs. Ho prayed, her abdomen started moving, almost shaking, as if there were a baby dancing inside. Mrs. Ho thought it meant the Lord of the Second Coming might even be born from her womb. In any case, it was God's way of telling them the second Jesus would be born of a woman, just as the first Jesus had been. As people began listening to her revelations and praying with her, they became known as Bogjoong-gyo (The Inside Belly Church).

Mr. Lee had told Soon-Ae about Mrs. Ho's revelation, and she had joined that group.

One day, as Soon-Ae was praying, she saw Jesus standing before her.

"Do you love me?" he asked.

"Oh, yes, I do, Lord Jesus," she

born to be the King of Kings, but he was poor and mistreated from birth onward.

"Poor little Jesus," Soon-Ae sighed, remembering how she had felt at time. "He had only swaddling clothes—rags—wrapped around him. Only God kept him alive in the cold stable."

Later, Mrs. Ho's group began preparing clothing for the Lord of the 2nd Coming. In fact, they were looking forward to meeting him in person. He wouldn't be wrapped in rags if they could help it. No, sir. They would prepare everything, and it would be fit for a king.

"As soon as I have this baby, I want to return to help Mrs. Ho," she promised herself. "There is so much to be done." But for now she was here in Pyong Yang Do province in the village of Sinli.

As she shifted her weight to ease the strain on her back, she felt gratitude for her ancestors who had been so good. That was why she could understand these things. Because of their goodness, God could work with her. No one told her this; she just knew.

"Isn't it interesting, though, that I am the only daughter in my family, and my mother was the only daughter in hers, and her mother was the only daughter in her family? I wonder what it means?"

DIVINE PRINCIPLE STUDY

WHY CHRIST CAME AND WHY HE MUST COME AGAIN

Volume 3 • Part 5

While there is dispute over the exact relationship that existed between John and Jesus, the gospel record also reveals a certain inconsistency in the Baptist's behavior toward Jesus. The Gospel of John indicates a definite recognition and affirmation by John of Jesus' role: "Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!" (Jn. 1:29).

Matthew indicates, however, that later John vacillates. After he has been imprisoned by Herod for criticizing Herod's second marriage, John sends his disciples to Jesus to ask: "Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?" (Mt. 11:3).

Jesus retorts sharply: "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is he who takes no offense at me." (Mt. 11:4-6).

In light of the enormous difficulties faced by any messianic movement in first century Palestine, the chances for success were greatly diminished if the forces for reformation remained divided.

If John had affirmed his own Elijah-like role and consistently testified to the messianic status of the Nazarene, Jesus' way could have been opened wide and the Kingdom established on earth. Given Jesus' messianic role, we may imagine the ideal situation would have been for John to unite with Jesus even becoming one of his chief disciples. Since John himself had disciples, this would have enormously aided Jesus' cause.

Tragically, even though Jesus was eagerly searching for followers ("Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers") (Lk. 10:2), John and his group remained apart. There are even indications that tension existed between the two groups. Matthew, for example, reports

a dispute between the disciples of Christ and those of the Baptist over fasting. (Mt. 9:14). And according to the New Catholic Encyclopedia, the Fourth Gospel seems to contain a polemic against the disciples of the Baptist (John 1:6-8) which suggests that they existed as a separate group, distinct from the Christian Church, even up to the end of the first century.

Jesus' assessment

While John was in prison, Jesus is recorded as assessing John's role. On

Reasons for the failure

One may ask why it was that John didn't follow Jesus. The reasons seem to be multifaceted—psychological, sociological and spiritual.

For one thing, John apparently saw a conflict between his own interests and those of Jesus. He felt that if Jesus prospered, then he would decline. In John's words, "He must increase, while I must decrease." (Jn. 3:30). Feeling that supporting Jesus would involve giving up his own following, he failed to see that

and stayed with tax collectors, prostitutes and others considered undesirable by society.

The prevailing conception

Finally, we must understand the prevailing conception of the Messiah-to-come at the time of Jesus. Generally speaking, the expectation was a apocalyptic one. It was a period of eager anticipation of imminent dramatic events, a time which combined both a sense of despair about history and yet a hope that God would act dramatically to change things utterly and forever.

Influenced by the Book of Daniel, many sincere believers expected the Messiah would come on the clouds of heaven. Daniel had written:

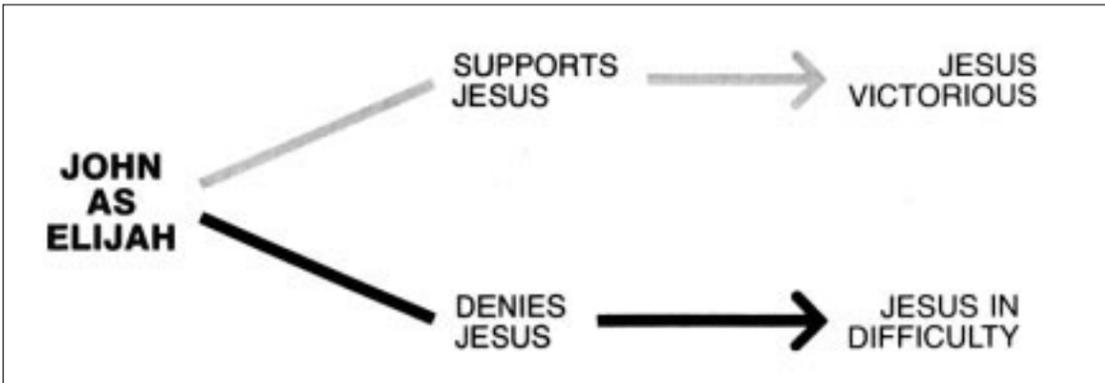
"I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations and languages should serve him." (Dan. 7:13-14).

Short of such a cataclysmic event, other Israelites felt the Messiah would come as a mighty deliverer, raising the standard of national freedom and driving the Romans into the sea. After all, their immediate concern was liberating themselves from the Roman tyranny. Thus their concept was essentially temporal and militaristic.

Perhaps even John could not help being influenced by some of these assumptions about the coming Son of Man. How hard it must have been to accept a mere carpenter like Jesus as the Promised One!

Whatever the reasons, John's support of Jesus clearly did not go as far as it might. With no clear Elijah, with Malachi's prophecy unfulfilled, Jesus' task was rendered incalculably more difficult.

**Next Month, Part 6
To the Cross ❖**



the surface, his paradoxical statement is quite puzzling. "... among those born of women, there is none greater than John the Baptist, yet he who is least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he." (Mt. 11:11).

John was born at the most important time in human history and had the unique privilege to serve Jesus directly by testifying to him. John should have brought everything he had—his experience, his knowledge, his large following—and offered them to Jesus.

Because of his great influence and popularity—an influence that extended to the religious establishment—John could have thus led many influential people to Jesus. Jesus therefore described John as "the greatest born of women" because the opportunity before him was such a great one. but the sad fact is that John failed to grasp that opportunity and so was less than the "least in the Kingdom." Because John failed to fulfill his glorious place in the Kingdom to the most humble believer.

if he were truly united with Jesus, as Jesus' star ascended so would his own.

John may also have had doubts about some of the things that Jesus espoused: the sayings of Jesus were quite out of the ordinary, such that he was accused of undermining conventional Hebrew morality and Mosaic teachings.

Observing Jesus' background and achievement, John may have gathered that the long-awaited Son of Man could not be as commonly human as was Jesus—of questionable birth, dubious education, a mere carpenter, and without a well-developed following.

In addition, John may have compared himself to Jesus and found the comparison quite unflattering to this alleged messiah. While John was the son of a Temple priest, Jesus was formally uneducated and frequently seemed to contradict the Hebrew scriptures. Also, Jesus' disciples were men of little education and competence. John lived a very ascetic life while Jesus ate, drank

**PRINCESS
from page 22**

her mother walked in.

"How's the—?" She stopped short when she caught sight of the terrified look on her daughter's face as she clung tightly to her baby.

The older mother knelt down by Soon-Ae's mat. "What's wrong? What are you doing?" She caressed her hair, trying to help her relax.

The menacing figure had disappeared. Shaking and pale, Soon-Ae explained, "Satan was just here, and he said I should kill my baby."

Her mother didn't know what to say. She just continued smoothing Soon-Ae's hair. "There, there. Don't worry. Everything will be alright. It was just a bad dream," she added lamely, knowing full well that Soon-Ae had been awake.

Soon-Ae worried all week. "What does it mean? Are we in danger? What should I do?" She prayed about it and thought about it every day, and she couldn't forget the awful feeling of it.

Seven days later, she was resting on

her mat when another figure appeared in her room. This time it was Kim Halmoni from spirit world—Kamsa Halmoni from spirit world—Kamsa Halmoni! The feeling Soon-Ae got was one of warmth and light, comfort and love. What a world of difference between these two visitations!

"My dear Soon-Ae," said Halmoni. "I have come to assure you that Hak Ja Han is the daughter of God. She will become the queen of the universe. God is her Father, and you are just taking care of her for Him. Do you understand? You should think of yourself as the babysitter or nanny, not her mother." Then she disappeared.

"Thank you! Thank you!" breathed Soon-Ae. Now she understood that Satan had lied to her, had tried to deceive her, because he didn't want his world to be in serious trouble. She would keep these words in her heart always and take very, very good care of her little girl—God's little princess.

As soon as she regained her strength, true to her word, Soon-Ae returned to her work with Mrs. Ho Ho Bin. While

her little daughter stayed at home with her grandmother, Mrs. Hong sewed clothes all day for the Lord who was to come.

Little did she know that he had already been born in the very same province where

her own daughter was born. Little did she know that he was over 20 years old already and would soon come to Pyongyang. Little did she know her daughter was destined to be his bride. ❖

THE LOVE, LIFE, LINEAGE OF GOD AND YOU AND I

by Martin Herbst—Barrytown, NY

2nd of 3 parts

History is truly "His-story". The story through which God seeks to establish His own image here on earth. Ironically, in order to reestablish the essence of His being here on earth, God had to move away from the traditional headquarters of this world. He had to move away from the busy, busy marketplaces, away from the desks of politicians and warlords and into the desolated land of man's deepest fears and highest hopes—into the realm of religion. Through the medium of religion, God left His abode in heaven and came down to earth to once again implant His love, His life and His lineage in human soil. True Father explains: "Restoration of love, life and blood lineage must occur in the reverse order. Religion is the process to solve these three problems. To fulfill these purposes, God established the Jewish religion, which now represents the Old Testament Age. After that, there was the New Testament Age and then the Completed Testament Age." (Sun Myung Moon, *The Completion of the Dispensation of Salvation and the Providential Age of Love*, Aug. 20, 1989, Today's World, Oct. 1989, p. 5.)

Like a gardener who plants many flowers each beautiful in its own way and each with a particular fragrance of its own, God planted the seeds of the various religious traditions in the soil of human culture. Among all these beautiful flowers in God's garden, there was one which happened especially to steal God's attention. No, it was not so much due to its beauty nor its shape but rather because God simply chose to rest His

eyes on this particular flower; a rose it was, and He decided to call it Sharon.

The central purpose of Israel was none other than to restore the lineage of God here on earth. Herein lies the reason why the Jewish people have attracted so much attention and have played a role on the stage of history completely disproportional to its actual size. Historians have so far failed to grasp that the story of the Chosen People is not just the story of a people in search of their God but the story of God's effort to reestablish His lineage amongst men and women like you and me. Judaism is the story of the lost son's search for his father but also the desperate father's search for his lost son, the son carrying his lineage. Jewish history is not just about the preservation of the lineage of a persecuted and liberated people but even more about the lineage of the liberator Himself—God. Because the Jewish people carried within them the mission to preserve and multiply God's lineage, they were protected beyond all normal expectations, they were justified and forgiven well beyond ordinary standards, and found themselves at the center of world history.

"The lineage of God! Prepare for the lineage of God!" This is the message pulsating through the various Biblical stories. The endless rattling off of genealogies cannot but surprise or rather tire anyone who makes the effort to read the Old Testament in its entire length. But underneath the loud human voices of the prophets, writers or redactors, the voice of God is whispering, "The lineage of God! Prepare for the lineage of God!"

The dominant role of lineage in the Old Testament Age centering on Judaism is further highlighted by the nature of the central religious ritual of the Jewish

people: circumcision. How peculiar! That an act of cutting the male sexual organ where it is just about most sensitive should have the power to move a person away from the misery and pain of this world and into the land of God, a land flowing with milk and honey. Pushed by the hand of God, the significance of this ritual would swing above the significance of all the other religious rituals performed in Judaism. (Arthur Hertzberger, *Judaism*, George Braziller, New York 1962, pp. 87-88: "Rabbi Jose says, 'Great is circumcision, for it overrides even the stringency of the Sabbath [circumcision may be performed on the Sabbath if it is the eighth day after birth].")

Picture yourself in the shoes of young Isaac trying to convince the local media and famous scholars that this type of act would alter world history! Surely they would regard him as a madman and his father even more so! God's wisdom often reveals itself in the absence of human cleverness. Thus the difference between an insane person and a person who can receive revelation from God are almost indiscernible. The only difference is that the truly mad person has lost both his mind and his God, but religious visionary, like Job, has willingly lost his mind but clings unto God. And by keeping God, he or she will eventually gain the whole world.

Through the Judaism of the Old Testament Age, God tried to recover His lineage. Does this mean that God's love and God's life were absent from the history of the Israelite people? By no means. To say that God attempted to restore His lineage through the course of the Israelites does certainly not mean that there was no love or life in the Old Testament Age for love, life and lineage are intrinsically connected and can only be separated conceptually. But it is correct to say that in the Old Testament Age the resurrection of God's lineage took precedence over the resurrection of his life and his love. This is the reason why the Old Testament narrative teems with stories which ring strange in the ear of a conscientious person. Often life is sacrificed and, yes, people of other lineage's such as the Canaanites are even killed to preserve the lineage of the chosen people. Even within the Jewish community itself, love at times is sacrificed, such as in the strange stories of Tamar (Gen. 38) or Rahab (Joshua 2:1, Matthew 1:5; originally a prostitute, she became the ancestor of Jesus Christ), in order to continue and protect the lineage of God.

With the above in mind, let us now leave the lineage of God to observe how the next stage of God's central providence unfolded. As Father already indicated, the path of restoration is accomplished in reverse order. This being the case, what would we expect to be the focus of God's work after the recovery of His lineage through the Israelites of the Old Testament Age? We would expect God to breathe new life into the dead body of humanity. Precisely this has been the task of Christianity of the New Testament Age.

The aorta through which new meaning and value is pumped through the whole body of Christianity consists of the mystery and blessing of eternal life. Am I on my way to eternal damnation or to eternal life? Will I die and rot away like the grass in the summer or like some

dead animal on the roadside, or will I resurrect to life eternal with God? Can faith in my Lord, Jesus Christ, really wrest me out of the grasp of death and provide me with the wings of eternity? Such is the temperament of the questions knocking on the door of the Christian mind. The tension between life and death of which only we humans are conscious is continuously magnified through the Christian message, and then in the promise of resurrection it is suspended once and for all. For the victory of Christ, so the Gospel tells us, was an eternal victory over death in the temporal order. With Paul, we shout triumphantly—directly into the face of death which we once feared much the same way a criminal fears his own well-deserved execution: "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O Death, is your victory? Where, O Death, is your sting?" (I Cor. 15:54-55)

And the joy! The joy of knowing that Christ really was victorious on the cross just has no end. It is a joy which runs deeper than all the currents of sadness, sin and suffering which usually threaten to fill up this earthly life and drown us in despair. With Christ in our hearts, we learn to survive in waters once foreign and hostile. The symbol of Christianity is not the star of David which shines forever over the descendants of Abraham but the fish which moves freely and playfully in a territory where others would hardly be able to breathe!

The promise of Christianity is not that the faithful will be blessed by having an eternal lineage here on earth. In Christianity the significance of a physical lineage almost disappears into the value of eternal life. The promise also does not revolve around eternal love, at least not in the conjugal sense. When a Christian imagines heaven, he or she imagines a world populated by individuals, not couples. Paul advises that the strong of heart serve the Christian cause better if they remain single. (I Cor. 12:13) The true Christian gladly forsakes the blessing of married life and children in order to secure the blessing of eternal life. In Judaism the establishment of the lineage of God took a dominating role over His love and life. Similarly, in Christianity the lineage and love of God are present, but it is the hope in resurrection and eternal life which plays the main role.

Lineage cannot be established by an individual alone; neither can love. But life you can have, just as you are, in yourself. Herein lies one reason for the Christian culture's fascination with the life and death of the individual. Christianity stresses the lonely life where the path to heaven is a path we primarily travel as individuals. Think about how lonely Jesus must have been! He was searching all over Israel, which to him must have seemed like the entire world, for three long years, which to him must have seemed like all eternity, for one single individual who could believe and follow him as the long-awaited Messiah. And as he walked towards his own death with the weight of the cross on his shoulders and the weight of this world on his heart, he was whispering to God, "Finally! Finally, I have found someone who has faith! Finally, I have found someone who is willing to give his life for the Mes-

see LIFE on page 25

The words in the word list are hidden in the diagram of letters. Find them by reading forward, backward, up, down and diagonally, always in a straight line. Some of the letters in the diagram are used in more than one word and some are not used in any words. If two forms of the same word (RICH and RICHEST, for example) are in the word list, they will be found in different places in the diagram. When you locate a word in the diagram, draw a loop around it. Cross out the word you found in the word list.

This month's topic:
Noah

Animals, Ark, Build, Days, Dove, Drunk, Froud,
Forty, Garment, Ham, Hundred, Isaph, Noah, Nights,
One, Rained, Raven, Shem, Tent, Twenty, Vineyard, Wine, Years

O	F	C	E	S	I	T	E	P	A	J	E
H	L	V	H	N	T	N	K	A	T	P	B
K	O	C	A	D	I	F	A	N	C	H	U
D	O	L	M	G	H	W	E	O	U	G	I
N	D	Y	H	L	S	T	N	N	K	R	L
R	M	T	T	O	R	L	D	E	P	Q	D
A	S	N	D	N	A	R	A	R	V	F	U
E	T	E	A	M	E	H	S	M	O	A	S
N	U	M	Y	D	Y	W	N	R	I	Z	R
E	V	R	S	W	I	O	T	X	Y	N	Y
D	U	A	D	R	A	Y	E	N	E	V	A
F	N	G	T	H	L	S	N	K	R	A	W

Compiled by Wendy Stovall—Salt Lake City, UT

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR SOLUTION

IN MEMORIAM Olga Rodas

October 23 1937-January 15 1999

A memorial service was held on Friday, Feb. 19 in Wappinger Falls, NY for our sister Olga. The eulogy was given by Dr. David Carlson, pastor of HSA-UWC Family Church of Red Hook, NY, and faculty member of the Unification Theological Seminary in Barrytown.

Olga was a devoted mother of four sons and one daughter, and grandmother of 12. She and her husband Joseph O'Connell were Blessed at RFK Stadium in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 29, 1997.

Olga was very open spiritually, and shared many of her spiritual experiences with Joseph. Shortly before the Blessing in Washington, Olga had a dream about me. We were walking together, and were both dressed in white, trimmed with gold. When we came to Washington, we were all given white and gold scarves, and were amazed at the prophetic nature of Olga's dream.

After the Blessing, Olga confided to me that there was a definite change in her marriage relationship for the better. Altogether, they had been with each other for almost five years, during which time Joseph developed a close bond with Olga's family.

Shortly after Olga's memorial ser-

vice, her daughter Ingrid had a spiritual experience before sleep. She felt a warm, loving embrace; she thought it was her husband, but when she looked around, there was no one in sight. Then she realized she was alone, and that it was her mother who had embraced her from the spirit world!

A few days later, Ingrid had another dream about her mother. They were walking together, and her mother looked so young and beautiful, just like the picture of her mother which was used for the memorial service. Suddenly her mother said, "I'm clean inside. Don't let anyone tell you different. I'm clean inside." Olga repeated this three times. Ingrid didn't know what she meant. She shared both of these experiences with Joseph, who then shared them with me.

Of course, the Blessing serves to

purity the blood lineage and remove the Original Sin through the Holy Wine Ceremony. So we understand that this is what happens to couples who are Blessed. However, this is the first time I've heard corroboration on this phenomenon from someone in the spirit world, especially someone not educated in Unification Theology. Olga was well-versed in Roman Catholicism, and attended the Roman Catholic Church religiously, as did her children. She lived a pure and sacrificial life, and all who knew her loved her, because she exemplified the spirit of living for the sake of others.

Joseph shared with me also the testimony of one of Olga's close friends who is spiritually open, who had not heard of her passing away. He called

Joseph and told him he had had a vision of Olga in the spirit world, and said she was in a high place in the spirit world. Joseph then told him that Olga was, in fact, in the spirit world.

I was very moved and excited when Joseph shared Ingrid's testimony with me on the phone. And the more I reflected, the more I wanted to share this information with all of our members who are Blessed. I believe this testimony will help to inspire us to share the Blessing with all of our families, friends, acquaintances, and others. Also, I feel that this testimony will strengthen our faith in Father's mission and inspire us to bring as many people to True Parents as we possibly can. This is especially the case since we have now begun the campaign to bring young candidates for the matching and Blessing. We are facing a great challenge to bring 800 million young people to be matched and Blessed in the year 2000, throughout the world, as 400 million couples. I feel that True Parents are desperate to protect and rescue the young people of the world from Satan's dominion, and bring them to God's dominion through the Blessing. We must help them in any way we can.

Sarah Witt ❖



reviewed by Cathi Close—Arlington, VA

Elisabeth Kubler-Ross has an international reputation for her pioneering work on death and dying. Most people are unaware that she has written an excellent book for children about this topic which is also beautifully illustrated.

This is a story book for children (and adults) of any age. It is about two young children, Suzy and Peter, who are good friends and have fun building sand castles together in the sand box. During the course of the story they develop a relationship with two spirit guides who, unbeknownst to the children, are preparing Peter to die.

"No one knew they were not alone. No one heard them talk with the two very special friends who told them of many things the grownups did not seem to know about or understand, or maybe had forgotten."

One night both Suzy and Peter left their bodies and traveled to the spiritual world with their spirit guides. They learned about God and love and goodness and growing. They visited majestic places with waterfalls and beauti-

ful flowers and happy people of all ages, sizes and colors. They were taught, "What you are is a gift of God.... What you make of your life is the gift that you bring back to God, the Creator of all life."

Later that fall

Remember the Secret, by Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, \$8.95, Celestial Arts, 1998 (reprint)

Peter became very ill. The last time Suzy saw him, she slipped some sand into his hand and a bit of honeysuckle. He whispered to her faintly, "Remember the secret?" Shortly afterward he died and at the funeral service Suzy was only vaguely aware of the grown-

ups crying and the things they were saying. She could only remember their beautiful experiences together, their memories and the assurance that she was not alone and that Peter was happy in a world of love and peace.

This story is so tender and yet such a powerful testimony to the reality of our eternal lives. It gives wonderful insight into the realms awaiting us and helps to dispel fear and misunderstandings about death. This past month my father passed away and left many grandchildren who loved him dearly. I gave a copy of this book to both my brother and sister for their children. They deeply appreciated it's message. I have given this book as a gift on other occasions when a death took place and there were



grieving children (and parents) who were struggling to cope with their loss.

But there is no reason to wait for death to occur before purchasing this book. It's my opinion that it should be in every child's library. Children begin to grasp the concept of death very young and for most it is a scary thing. Telling them about "heaven" is comforting to some extent yet where heaven is and what it looks like is still vague. There is so little available to educate children about the tangible realities of afterlife that this book indeed fills a serious void. It is perceptive, seems to be accurate (haven't been to the spiritual world yet, myself) and very uplifting. ❖

LIFE from page 24

siah and the messianic ideal. It is me, your son, Jesus from Nazareth! See, Father, into your hands I commit my spirit. Now let me represent all these people, so that they in turn can participate in my victory over death." And as a father who bends over his dying son to let him whisper a final wish into his ears, God was speechless when he observed how Jesus returned hatred and scorn with love and compassion. And God could not but grant this final wish of Jesus that all mankind could be forgiven, and join him in everlasting life. By giving his life for all, Jesus gave life to all. He knew more than any that if something is lost in love, love itself will find it and see to its eternal growth.

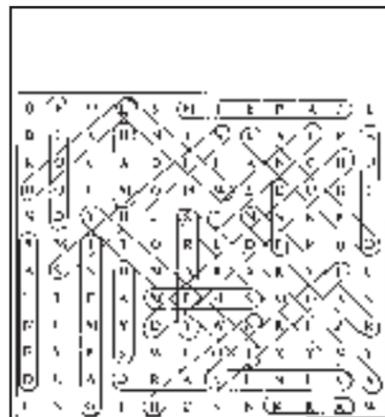
That Christianity is the instrument through which God infuses his life into mankind can also clearly be seen in its central religious ritual of baptism. Baptism is ritual murder and rebirth! Down in the waters with the old Adam of sin and death! Out of the waters with the new Adam of hope and life! How strange, even mad, this ceremony must seem to a person observing from a distance, the distance easily created by another cultural background or religious affiliation. Imagine someone from such a background passing by a church where a baptism is being conducted within. He hears the singing and moves closer to watch the event through the window of his own perspective. How cold and brutal this act appears from where he stands. To see the little innocent baby, perhaps deep asleep, being dipped in the cold water of the baptismal font. How the baby wakes

up and cries as only small babies can cry. But the minister, who in all likelihood sees this child for the first and perhaps even for the last time, ignores the tears of the baby and proceeds to say his prayers. Prayers that mean so little to the little one, for all it wants is to be held by its mother—but even that is denied.

And then picture the company within. How meaningful it is to be gathered with friends and family around the event of baptism. They have gathered from far and nigh to celebrate the blessing of eternal life on the newborn. Once again they are reminded of the tremen-

dous gift Jesus brought to them in exchange for his own blood and tears on the cross. If any in this company could understand the significance of what is taking place, how could he or she avoid feeling warmth in the heart and the desire

just to offer thanks to the God who has created and sustained all of them? Once again the wisdom of God begins where human logic stops. How wonderful a place this world would be in Christians would bear such things in mind when dealing with people who are nurtured in a different religious tradition from their own! ❖



2nd Gen. Teen Experiences in Korea

This nine stories are from the newsletter of the Education in Korea Program for teens

Hyun Jin Nim's Visit

by Young Il Loew, 3rd Grade

I remember seeing Hyun Jin Nim once. It was about six years ago, and I remember after his speech he called the blessed children into a small room and talked to us. The thing I remember most was the feeling he was my elder brother and was trying his best to take care of us. The next time I saw him I was sitting in the front row of Chungpadong church, listening to him give a speech. He was not just speaking to blessed children, but to a whole church full of people. But he still talked in the same way, as if he would care for us, and help us to be strong; and that he would always be there for us, as our elder brother. He talked about many important things: about the winds of change and how we must act in this settlement era. He talked about putting the flesh on the bones that were created by Father. He came to our dormitory a few days later and talked about connecting with the first generation and True Parents' lineage. He talked about the purpose of studying in Korea and how it made you closer to God. All of these things he talked about, and all of these things in themselves could have been inspiring. But they were nothing compared to the joy on his face and the way he talked to us. You could see that he was determined to bring the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. You could see on his face how much he loved us, and the only thing I can say is how glad I am to have such a wonderful brother.

Hyun Jin Nim Comes To Town

by Tokuhiro Shimoyama & Eikoku Ikeno, preps, and Jane Kinney, GOP

After Hyun Jin Nim's Sunday speech, we received a message that Hyun Jin Nim would come to our dorm thanks to our thoughtful Western dorm parent, Jeri Sunsaengnim. We prepared our hearts for him until the day he could come. We will never forget when Hyun Jin Nim came to our dorm; everyone was frantically cleaning up. We thought he was going to come early, but only after a long period of eager waiting did he finally arrive. This time he talked about learning Father's culture, language and tradition in order to understand God because the closest children to Father are those who understand him. It is also hard for us because we have no original sin so Satan attacks us more. Because of that we have to cherish our 5% responsibility. As second generation we are historical people. We cannot only think of today but also of the past and the future combined.

Hyun Jin Nim is very good at speaking in front of people. The whole atmosphere of the room was very alive. It was impossible to get tired. Afterwards, Hyun Jin Nim looked at the new dorm while we all followed. While some of our teachers forbade our following Hyun Jin Nim, some students were desperate to go so they just ran in along with him. He came out looking happy, and then all the students from the dorm took group pictures with him. At the end we were inspired to go the right way and we truly felt as if he was our true elder brother.

Divine Principle Lecture Contest

by Francesca Hill and Mara Jenkins, GOP

After a few days of attending a workshop by our teachers, we were assigned to give our own lecture. Everyone was given a certain topic to lecture on, with one day's preparation. We also were assigned a diagram to draw with our topic.

At first overwhelmed, we found it over all a good experience.

Once we found out our topic, we frantically got to work. We all studied and took notes on the chapter we were assigned to and made our diagram based on that. At the end of the day, we paired up with partners, and practiced giving our lectures. It was hard but interesting work.

The contest took place on the morning of Dec. 31, 1998. Dressed up nicely, we all went downstairs and began lecturing according to the order in the Divine Principle book. Everybody did a very good job. Each and every lecture was very interesting, and we learned a lot from everyone. They were presented very well, and the diagrams were clear and colorful.

Everyone did a great job; the winners were:

GOP's: Rachel Paine won for best presentation. Jennifer Hill won for content, and Alexandra Sices won for diagram.

PREPS: Toku Shimoyama won for best diagram. Jeremy Carlson won for content. Eikoku Ikeno won for presentation. Taein Hankins won for overall best lecture.

The judges said it was a very hard decision. This was a good experience for all of us and we hope we can do it again in the future.

Three-Day Workshop

by Amadea Jessen, GOP

Part of our Christmas vacation included a three-day workshop. We had three lectures a day. Steve Sunsaengnim gave the lecture on the Purpose of the Messiah. James Sunsaengnim gave the lectures on the relationship between the physical and spiritual worlds, the Fall of Man, the Three Great Blessings, Attitude in the Last Days, Principle of Restoration, and the Foundation for the Messiah.

Everyone took notes. The lectures were very inspiring. They really clarified how God was trying to bring the world back to Him. The lectures also showed how easily Satan can turn people to him to become faithless. We could realize the relief that someone could stand strong and faithful, finally. It made you want to help as much as you could to bring the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

Then a man named Kim Young Jun visited us. He talked to us about how important our purity was and our position as Blessed Children. He referred to us as the ugly ducklings. Everyone thinks that we are ugly ducklings and that we are cast out, but then we surprise everyone by becoming beautiful swans. He told us that no matter how hard we try to be like the outside people or ducks, we will always become swans.

He explained that we must stay pure until our Blessing Day comes. If we have ever kissed or gone out with someone, we will feel regret when the Blessing Day arrives. We must stay pure and accomplish our responsibility.

He was very friendly, and really set a determination in us. I know that I was very inspired, and others were too.

That afternoon, we went to Chungpadong Church. We said a prayer before we went in, and then saw the room where Mother gave birth to six of the True Children. We saw the bathroom where she slept, and Father's room, the place where the Blessings were held, and all the Church members' rooms.

I felt really good to actually be in the house. You could just feel all of them there and see how it was. I loved it so much.

Then we went to the souvenir store. There were books, CD's, mirrors, necklaces, and so on. It was a really good experience.

All in all, the workshop was really good.

My Homestay Experience

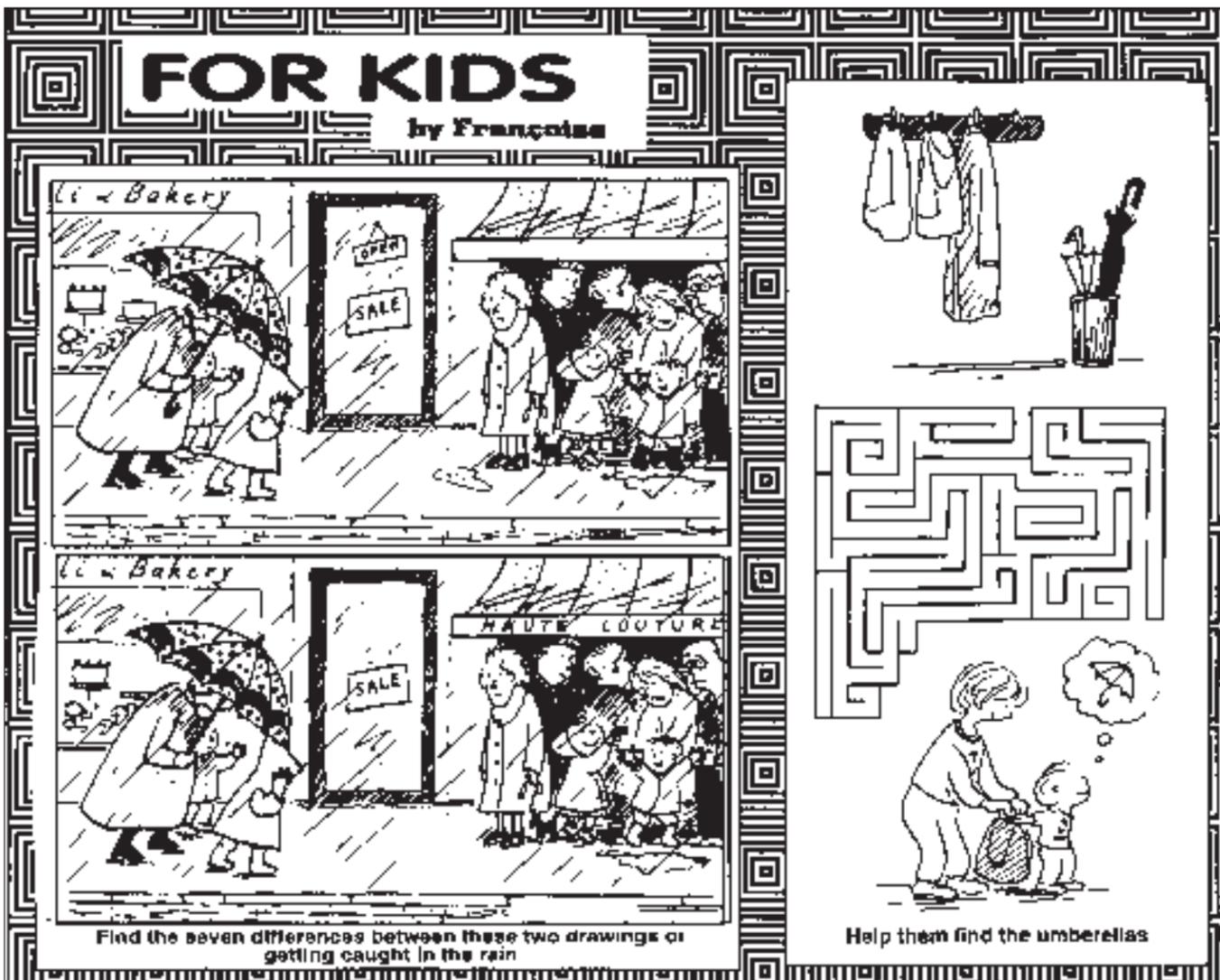
by Lenora DeRoy, GOP

Homestay is when a GOP goes to a Korean family's house and experiences the tradition, culture and language of Korea.

The first day I got to the house I would be staying in for four days, I felt lonely and very sad. I missed my friends, and I didn't really like the idea of staying somewhere where communication would be a big barrier. That soon changed though, because I got to know and understand the family. They treated me with a lot of kindness.

They were very curious, and asked me all sorts of questions. They couldn't seem to understand why my hair was brown, and why it didn't always snow in Alaska.

I had the best Korean food there. Since see TEENS on page 28



RYS Promoting Peace Around the World in 1998

by John Gehring—NYC

As a peace project, the RYS had eight major projects in four continents during 1998. These service projects were designed to provide examples of religious cooperation in a world scarred by religious conflict. For young adults, the RYS provides an opportunity to practice their highest ideals while making true and lasting friendships. Part of the key to the RYS's success is that it is FUN.

Often the young adults who participate in the RYS have a rich internal experience where they discover they have something special to offer to people. This self-discovery has motivated many of the RYS graduates to take active roles in contributing to peace.

Project Activities:

1 An International RYS project was hosted in Guatemala on May 14-23 under the theme: "Sharing true values through educational uplift". This project was the 4th RYS Friendship America's Project, an effort to promote cooperation among the nations and faiths in the America's. Participants helped repair and construct parts of three schools.

2 European RYS was active in organizing a project in Bloke, Slovenia under the theme: "Building community through service". A special European RYS leadership training was organized from July 7-9 and then was followed by the RYS project on July 10-19.

3 Cooperation between the WFWP-Japan and the IRFWP led the RYS to Thailand hosting on August 19-30 it's sixth RYS project. This project under the theme of, "Building health and harmony through service" was carried out with the cooperation of the Northeastern Drug Dependence Treatment Center and several local organizations. RYS helped build a nurse's station and a basketball court for those in treatment.

4 A large regional RYS project involving over eighty participants from twelve nations took place in Bougerere and Kampala, Uganda on September 17-29 under the theme of, "Peace, health and community building" in cooperation with the support of the Ministry of Gender. The work of participants included building a medical clinic and repairing a school.

5 In an effort to promote peace and reconciliation in Sri Lanka the RYS completed its 5th national project in October 3-5 bringing the various ethnic and religious groups together to help repair a school.

6 South Africa holds out the hope for peaceful reconciliation. The RYS on December 12-16 held an environmental project with the cooperation of the Gauteng Province, Ministry of Youth. Drawing together youth from various religious and ethnic groups the participants helped work on various environmental projects.



7In Hyderabad, India religious tension has often erupted into violence. The RYS held an international project from December 12-20 and drew the support of a wide range of religious leaders. Participants worked on building an interfaith orphanage in hopes of provided an environment of religious cooperation.

8A final RYS project in 1998 ran from December 25th into January 4, 1999 and was hosted in Santiago Atitlan on the shores of Lake Atitlan in Guatemala. Participants helped add a wing to the Shimjung School which will now expand its student body beyond the 110 Mayan children. ❖

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**PAUL
CARLSON**

Ancient History

In a recent article we examined Hellenic history (UNews, Jan. '99). This time we'll go back a little farther, and take a look at the origins of humanity itself.

Famous scientists such as Charles Darwin, Raymond Dart, and Louis S. B. Leakey pioneered this field, transforming crumbled old bones into storytellers of an amazing and complex past. (Your author's interest in this subject stems from a childhood encounter with Leakey.)

This subject is covered in the Bible too, so we'll see how its account squares with the conclusions of science. In practice, the relationship between Archaeology and the Biblical record is a never-ending dance of conflict and confirmation.

In its recounting of human origins the Divine Principle follows a literal Biblical timeline, even while inviting scientists to do the precise dating, and to color in the details.

Development

Our Earth is 5 billion years old, and life has thrived here from almost the beginning. At first all life forms were simple - even feeble- by today's standards, but that certainly changed!

Physically we humans are mammals, warm blooded and bearing live young. The first mammals were small, seemingly insignificant creatures that coexisted with the dinosaurs. Far from being the evolutionary failures we once pictured them to be, dinosaurs ruled the Earth for 130 million years. Only their sudden, asteroid-wrought extinction allowed mammals to gain the upper hand.

Humans are primates, as are lemurs, apes, and monkeys. The first primate was a mouse-sized creature that lived some 20 million years ago. Perhaps 5 million years ago the lineage of humanity split off; thus humans share a common ancestor with the apes, but do *not* descend from them. The hominids rapidly evolved into a variety of species; scientists aren't calling it a "family tree" any more, but rather an "entire bush!" From Africa they spread outwards in succeeding waves.

By 3.6 million years ago, hominids were walking upright. At Laetoli in Tanzania, the footprints of three individuals are clearly preserved in ash. (Volcanic ash can be isotope-dated quite precise-

ly.)

Scientists are trying to determine when hominids developed language. Since researchers don't have a time machine handy (yet), they can only determine when hominids would have been *able* to speak. This is done by examining the remnants of their brains, larynx, nerves, etc. It turns out they may have been speaking more than 400,000 years ago!

This ability implies a high degree of intelligence and social organization. Scholars William Calvin and Derek Bickerton posit that language and dexterous skills developed together, "boosting" each other, since they employ the same basic areas of the brain. They add that speech is such an advantage that it would have evolved quite rapidly, despite the resultant danger of choking on one's food, due to the lowering of the larynx.

It was once theorized that modern humans developed separately in several places, but it is now almost certain that humanity springs from a single mother (the "Mitochondrial Eve"), who lived in Africa about 250,000 years ago. She wasn't the only person alive at that time, but rather, a woman with very fortunate children. She and her band were *not* fully developed Homo Sapiens, as the Biblical Adam and Eve are presumed to have been.

By 130,000 BC, Neanderthal and Cro-Magnon "cave men" had mastered fire, big-game hunting, and fine craftsmanship. Both types spread from Africa throughout Eurasia, and down towards Australia. In the Middle East they lived side-by-side for tens of thousands of years, and it isn't known if they ever interbred. Eventually, for still-unknown reasons, the Neanderthals died out.

Archaeologists aren't sure whether advanced tool use, art, and music originated in a single place. Theists can assume that they did, as manifestations of our (newly) God-given humanity.

Adam and Race

The oldest known organized burial was recently found in southern Egypt. It dates to 80,000 BC, and is the clearest possible evidence that these people possessed souls. We can assume that, by then, the Biblical Adam and Eve had already lived.

Even so, people continued to live in nomadic hovels for millennia afterwards. The Principle states that Adam and Eve "would have" advanced rapidly, but for the Fall and the resulting barbarism. The

Bible does mention the gradual advance of civilization (Gen. 4:17-22).

No one knows exactly how or when the modern races developed. It is a subtle conceit to assume -with zero hard evidence- that Adam and Eve were members of the Caucasian, Oriental, or any other currently existing race.

On the other hand, Dr. Sang Hun Lee's new book speaks of angels who belong to several different races! Therefore, either those particular angels were recently created, or the idea of diverse races was part of God's original blueprint.

Scientists once claimed that the races arose in certain regions, due to factors such as sunlight and temperature, then spread slowly outwards. This classic theory is undergoing serious review. Genetic typing has revealed numerous differences -and similarities- that do not match external appearances. Also, the Australian aborigines may carry some older, hominid traits. Their predecessors were crossing the nearby, open seas 800,000 years ago!

Closer to home, the well-known "Ice Age/ Bering Strait/ Asians-to-Red Indians" connection turns out to be simplistic. The 8,000 year old "Kennewick Man," found in Washington State, was probably an Ainu-type Caucasian. (For some reason, this discovery has seriously rattled the multicultural types.)

Noah and Civilization

By 10,000 BC agriculture had developed, and cities began to organize. This gathering of resources allowed the construction of impressive structures like stone menhirs (with precise astronomical alignments); huge earthen mounds; and later, pyramids. These grand undertakings may have been conceived in many locations, or migration and trade could have spread that knowledge from a single source. Theists have reason to prefer the latter.

The oldest known city, Çatalhöyük (in present-day Turkey), was inhabited continuously for millennia, and has been excavated to a level dated to 7,000 BC. Archaeologists have just announced that there are even older ruins beneath!

A new book titled *The Genesis Flood* puts forth the best theory so far about Noah and the Biblical Flood. It may have been an effect of the most recent Ice Age, during which the Black Sea was a shallow, isolated lake. In 5,600 BC, rising sea levels caused a breach in the Bosphorus,

allowing sea water to flood its basin.

The Black Sea basin (north of upland Çatalhöyük) was probably the true "cradle of civilization," where agriculture and cities first arose. It seems likely that the Indo-European language also originated there.

The basin's inhabitants scattered, bringing their knowledge and culture, westwards towards Greece, and east and south into the Middle East. The flooding shoreline advanced a mile a day, "covering all the land." They had no writing as yet, so the event would have been remembered as a spoken legend.

How does this square with the Biblical account? Pretty well. For one thing, it was not "too limited." Noah (if he lived there) and his people would not have understood the true extent of the Earth. Any child with a hose and sandbox can figure out that there isn't enough water on this planet to *literally* cover every mountaintop. Besides, Noah made wine in the first year, while grape vines require several to bear—so all the plants weren't drowned either.

Moses is another subject of controversy. The Principle stipulates a Biblical date for the Exodus of around 1570 BC. Mainstream scholars insist it took place, if at all, sometime between 1250 and 1100 BC. But new evidence (from excavations at Hazor in Israel) points to around 1400 BC. This debate is far from over!

First Humans

We may now conclude that the first genuine humans, those with a Spirit Body, lived sometime between 130 and 250 thousand years ago. Adam and Eve were born to a fairly sophisticated hominid tribe, one that eventually populated the entire planet. (The old conundrum about "their son's wives" is moot, if we assume that one parent can bequeath a soul.)

We can also surmise that Noah was an actual person, who really did flee before an overwhelming Flood. His descendants, just as recorded in the Bible, soon engendered a mighty civilization in the Middle East, as well as others.

Some people find the distant past fascinating; many do not. Still, this is *not* just a bunch of boring, irrelevant "ancient history." Knowing our origins is crucial to our understanding of ourselves. Our self-concepts are reflected directly in our behavior and ideology, on a personal and on larger scales. An accurate understanding will, when widespread, have a profound impact on our families, popular culture, and national policies.

No doubt many more amazing discoveries await. As these age-old mysteries are solved, many skeptics will be able to accept the reality of God, and see His hand in history. We'll all gain a deeper understanding of our humanity. This can only be for the good.

ERRATA

In my last column "Biblical History" (Feb. 1999) I wrote:

"In 1998 it was announced that a previously unsuspected system of underground tunnels, water channels, and guard towers; dating from the time of Joshua's conquest; have been found near the fabled Siloam Spring."

It should read:

"In 1998 it was announced that a previously unsuspected system of underground tunnels, water channels, and guard towers; dating from the time of King David's conquest; have been found near the fabled Gihon Spring. ❖"

TEENS from page 26

there was an opportunity to eat all that good food, I decided to take the advantage.

They taught me how to make two delicious dishes: sushi and kimchi dumplings.

I felt like I was in a family environment there. I had kind of missed that at the dormitory.

There were times I could understand a word they said, and vice versa. But we always pretended we knew exactly what one another was saying.

One time the eleven-year-old boy at my homestay asked me if he spoke good English. I said very good, but actually it was OK. Then I asked him if my Korean was good. He said it was OK.

I learned a lot about Korean culture and tradition while I was at homestay. Now I feel like I can understand Korean people better.

I'm very thankful for this experience. I will never forget it.

Homestay

by Jeremy Carlson, Prep

This year's homestay experience was better for me than last year's because this year I spoke Korean.

We all started out in Han Sung Church, the church next door to us. Then we divided up and went to different churches where we were picked to go to homestay by our homestay families.

It was hard for me in the beginning because I felt all alone and I couldn't express myself to anyone. But when the

mother of the family came I felt more at ease. Each of our own homestays were different, going to different places, eating different kinds of foods, with different children and parents in our homestay families, and so on.

But for me, even though I didn't go anywhere special, I got what I always wanted: to speak in only Korean for a few days. I learned a lot of Korean culture there too. It was definitely a different life in that home for me. I feel that I gained a lot from this year's homestay. I was able to speak lots of Korean, I learned the Korean culture inside of a Korean Unification family, and I was able to make friends with a Korean family.

I am very grateful for being given that experience and I can't wait to go again. ❖



DR. TYLER O. HENDRICKS

Dr. Hendricks is the President of the Unification Church of America

The Alpha, the Omega, and God's Alternative to Dating

Once in a while, a book comes along that really helps one along on the road of life, and you just have to tell others. The book, *I Kissed Dating Goodbye*, by Joshua Harris, has done that for me and I want to entice you to read it.

What Mr. Harris does, in essence, is to unpack what the Divine Principle calls the course and motivation of the fall. I don't think he realizes that he is doing this. He is simply giving an account of his personal realization that the "culture of dating" is wrong-headed and destructive. He talks about how one can extricate oneself from it, psychologically and practically. To accomplish this, we need God, and Harris pulls a tremendous amount of guidance from the Bible, as well as from, of all places, his own parents. And Mr. Harris was 18 when he wrote the book. He is now 20 or 21, as I understand it, and is married.

Harris is very sharp. He doesn't argue against the simple practice of dating. He refrains from condemnatory judgment. Instead, he talks about "smart love" and "principled romance." He doesn't say, "you have to attend God." He puts it, "to serve God with abandon," "wild abandonment to obedience." He exalts "singleness." He doesn't see being single as a trial to be endured, but as a gift of God, a unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to co-create oneself with God. Singleness should be treasured, and not compromised by all-consuming but temporary passions for one other person. The only "one person" to whom one should commit oneself fully is one's spouse.

He critiques not so much dating as the culture that makes people want to date. Dating is an emblem of our culture in which everything is disposable. It is fast-food love. It is a highly defective habit. It is to embark upon a mountain climbing expedition without your partner's commitment to hold the rope. It is to start a drive down a road from which we are not meant to turn back, but to plan to take a u-turn. In other words, it's brain-dead. He entices us to avoid the pain, loss of time and energy, confusion, not to mention meanness and cruelty that make up the world of modern romance.

Now, I'm 50 years old and have been married for 18 years. But I learned a lot from this book. Because I'm sure I'm not the only one who has not really come to terms with my own wrecked relationships of the past. I have not faced how those relationships affect my present relationship with my wife. This book opened my eyes to these things.

Let's do our best to help our children avoid the pitfalls into which their parents fell. Buy the book. Leave it on a table somewhere for a teenager to pick-up and read. It's got an interesting cover. Mr. Harris does not look like a geek.

I was listening to a Patti Page CD the other day. Don't ask me how, but there I was, somewhat confined at 80 mph and listening to the greatest songs of Patti Page for a couple of hours. Patti Page, for those of you who don't know, was one of the top American female pop

singers of the 50s. She was cute as apple pie and wholesome as a 4H club watermelon competition. But with my consciousness having been raised by Mr. Harris's book, I was struck by the lyrics of the songs. Every last one was about betrayal, loss, infidelity, flirtation and stealing each other's lovers. There was not a word about marriage. The characters are boyfriends, lovers, beaux. The music was so pretty, but the words were describing a life different in quantity, but not quality, from that of gangsta rap. Patti Page embarked on the road on which Ice T, Madonna, David Bowie and Snoopy Dog Dog traveled down a thousand miles. It's the same road, the road of the dating culture, the road of dispensable relationships, the road of selfish love.

Pick up *I Kissed Dating Goodbye* at a Christian bookstore. Get it for someone you love.

The Original Homeland

"The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.'" Genesis 12:1

Personally, do you ever ask yourself—am I going anywhere? Is my life just going around in circles? To work, back home, to work again?

Historians note that the east thinks in circles and the west thinks in straight lines. The east says that nothing really changes; everything just goes back to where it started. The sun rises, sets, and rises again. The river rises and falls, the seasons come, go, and return. Creatures are born, reproduce and die. This is reflected in the Disney movie song, "It's the circle of life." The Bible pipes in: "There is nothing new under the sun," laments the Preacher in Ecclesiastes.

The west on the whole, however, thinks differently. Progress is our most important product. Our popular expressions are "tomorrow is a new day," or "today is the first day of the rest of your life." Every day in every way, it's getting better and better. Buy the new, improved model. Keep up with the Joneses.

Historian Thomas Cahill, in *The Gifts of the Jews*, says that the circular way of thinking is the more ancient. We find it in ancient Greece, Egypt and Sumaria. We find it today in the philosophies of Hinduism, Buddhism and neo-pagan-



ism. Cahill locates the departure from circular thinking into linear thinking at the moment God called Abraham to depart from his homeland and move into the unknown to find the promised land. Abraham took his life into his hands. He left behind the old ways, the idols of his father.

In the linear modality, the father is associated with idols, with that which is false. The son, Abraham, departs from his father to seek the true. He doesn't return to his origin, he leaves the circle. Just as with Adam's family, God works with the children, not the parents. The children are returning to God, but not through their parents; rather, they leave their parents to find God.

That moment and that act helped define the Judeo-Christian-Islamic traditions. He gave them birth physically as well as spiritually. I have promised and I will deliver, says the Lord. You will come to a land flowing with milk and honey. The kingdom will come. A savior will come. Life is a journey to the land of milk and honey, the promised land. Abraham and Moses, the tribes of the Diaspora, the Christian church, all are trekking toward the new Jerusalem, the kingdom on earth.

The old world of sin will be no more. A new world will arise. Separate from what came before, and believe-in faith, without seeing-that in the future I will give you something better than you have now.

We Unificationists call this land of milk and honey, this El Dorado, "the original homeland." The original homeland is a world of true brothers and sisters, into whose lives God intervenes to make of us true married couples. In true marriage, the circular and the linear are harmonized. It is the model; it is the alpha and omega. I haven't achieved it, but I taste it now and then, and just thinking about it gives me energy to keep going.

Marriage came about because the husband longs to return to the place of his origin. He longs to complete the circle, to go back to the starting point. That place is his mother's womb. His wife is in the position of his mother. He wants to be a baby again, so he is as physically intimate with his wife as if he were her baby and she were his

mother. He wants to be back in the womb, so he puts himself in there. He places that one part of himself that is different from her there, and through that he puts himself, represented by his seed, back into her womb.

And here, at the very point at which he reaches the origin, the future is created. The new generation—the lineal development, indeed "the lineage"—comes about. Thus the circular return and the eternal forward movement are one and the same act. In fact, my wife is not my mother; she is one generation later than my mother is. In my wife, my mother re-appears in the present and gives birth to the future.

And all humankind longs to return to that original status with God, in our original homeland. This is the land of security, the return to safety, to where we were born and cared for. At the same time it is the land of change, progress and adventure, requiring absolute faith in the guiding hand of God. And here I can return to the Harris book, for his affirmation also is that the alternative to dating is to put one's life into the hands of God, and allow God to present to you your spouse. ❖

Chorus of Spring

Springtime snows lay gently fading,
Watering the bulbs and the roots in their beds,
Knowing it's the final hour to stake its claim upon the garden.
The yard begins its annual chorus,
A pageant of boastfulness and beauty.
The tiny crocus is first to speak,
Insistent in purple, yellow and white bursts.
"I'm always the favorite, I arrive first,
It's I who makes smiles, gives hope and glee,
The little girl picks me and rushes me in,
And presents me to mother, which produces a kiss.
I sit for a day, maybe two, on the sill,
Announcing that spring has arrived - what a thrill!"
"Oh, stop all this chatter, the dogwood blurts out,
When my buds are open, spring's here with a shout!
My many arms spread wide and serene -
The family walks by and I'm all that is seen!
They rush over to fawn and smell my sweet flowers,
I'm the best in the yard and there's no more debate!"
"Now hush," said the tulip, arrayed next to the walk,
"How you all go on so - talk, talk, talk!
When my flower opens I stay for two weeks,
The joy that they feel is sublime, so to speak.
It's the boy who loves me, always smelling and touching,
Until finally he picks me - to mommy he rushes,
No mere sill for us, we're on their big table,
We're yellow and red, purple, orange, so able!"
The rose bush sat, surveying this scene,
Supreme in her knowledge that she is the queen.
"They may have to wait to see me in full bloom,
But I'm adored above all - I'm in every room!
The talk I engender, the fragrance so sweet!
It's summer at last when I'm at my peak."
Sun sets on the garden, a chill wind descends,
The north wind rears up, but her time is at end.
A robin appears and says with a grin,
"I'm here now, let the chorus begin!"

Chris Corcoran

Article removed in Internet edition



New Arrivals

This month we are proud to present: • 1. Yosuke & Teresa Obayashi (Novi, MI) with Kotomi, Mika and Yuki (12/12/98). To be included, send us a photo of all your family (color is fine except for those indoors-without-a-flash deep orange snaps which will turn out horrid) with all your names and the birthdate of the latest arrival along with an optional donation to: Unification News Arrivals, 4 West 43rd Street, NY NY 10036 (returns with self-addressed, stamped envelope only, please).

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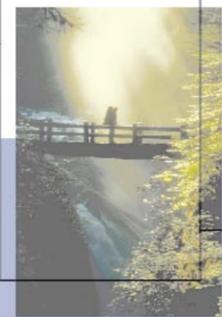
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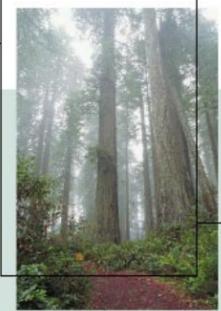
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