

You are invited to the Marriage & Family Festival

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The availability of the Holy Marriage Blessing has evolved over the decades. Do you remember the arduous conditions you had to meet in order to qualify for the blessing? Or perhaps you remember the time when the blessing was freely distributed via sanctified sweets? In opening the gates to the Blessing – so that anyone who wants to receive it may do so – a tension has emerged between those who recognise its value and significance, and hence strive towards its absolute standard, and those who may have received the Blessing but still have a long way to go on the journey to realise the

standard it deserves. In light of the Special Grace many of us have received or are preparing to receive, it's fair to say that all of us fall somewhere in between these two poles – none of us fully appreciate what the Blessing means; all of us could do better to emulate the standard God expects. But we can all agree that receiving the Blessing is of undeniable importance.

Further, there's no doubt about the centrality of the Holy Marriage Blessing within the activities of FFWPU. In commissioning us to be tribal messiahs – to be owners of Cheon Il Guk – True Father instructed us to “educate everyone to understand that all human beings without exception are descended from the Fall and must change their blood lineage through receiving the Holy Marriage Blessing from the True Parents.” With this in mind, FFWPU UK is launching a campaign in the UK, focused around Marriage & Family Festivals, which will elevate God's vision for marriage and family, celebrate the culture of heart of our blessed families, and provide an opportunity to disseminate the Holy Marriage Blessing.

As was announced a month ago, there will be a Marriage & Family Festival taking place in 43 Lancaster Gate on Saturday 12th November. The programme on the day will include education for those preparing to receive the Blessing, a light-hearted programme reflecting on the joys of marriage & family life, a programme for children, and also a holy wine ceremony followed by a holy blessing ceremony. The event in November will be relatively small, but will encapsulate the joyful spirit that the campaign will encourage. Two much larger Marriage & Family Festivals will take place simultaneously in Birmingham and in London on the 18th of February 2017. September 2017 has also been identified as the time to host further Festivals. Even if you have friends or guests who are not quite ready to participate in the Blessing, they are still very welcome to participate in the Festival and capture the spirit of the occasion.



A team has been created to develop this Marriage & Family campaign, to ensure that this and subsequent events are not disconnected from an ongoing programme of education and nurturing. Various pipelines of education are being prepared that will ensure that all couples and families who are invited to participate in the Blessing are supported in their unique journey. And it is a journey that everybody takes, an migration from a fallen identity to a restored identity rooted in God's true love. Because each family has a unique background, each journey requires a tailor-made approach to heal past traumas, correct bad habits and cultivate the culture of heart. This requires discipline on the part of the spiritual parents to mentor and guide couples along this journey. But what has perhaps been lacking in the past is having a toolkit available to support tribal

messiahs in their Blessing mission. Inspired by what is being developed in other parts of the world, the FFWPU in the UK is developing tools to help you as you introduce your friends to the Blessing, so that you can join them on their journey.

More tools will be developed in preparation for the February Festivals, but for now you are invited to attend the event on the 12th of November to celebrate the God's vision for marriage and family and to support those who will be receiving the Blessing on that day. If you wish to invite any guests to attend the Festival on 12th November, please [download this invitation letter](#).



FAMILY FEDERATION

FOR WORLD PEACE AND UNIFICATION - UK

Marriage & Family Festival

It is our great pleasure to invite you to attend our Marriage and Family Festival to be held on Saturday 12th November from 13:45 at 43 Lancaster Gate, London W2 3NA.

The FFWPU with its founders, Father and Mother Moon, promotes marriage as a sacred institution that can create healthy and loving families. Those families can provide the experience of living for the sake of others, fulfilling individual human rights. It is natural for such loving families to develop caring extended families, which become a component of stable communities and nations. A world comprised of such nations would have a consciousness of a **“family of humankind”**, and will advance a world of peace.

At the Festival we will have a light hearted look at the great institution of marriage, hear some uplifting testimonies about successful marriages and an inspiring talk on these topics. There will be recognition for a successful longstanding couple and a photo booth for family photos to celebrate the day. This will lead up to a Rededication of Marriage Blessing Ceremony for some couples who have been preparing for this day.

Please come along with your children, for whom there will be a separate fun programme, and enjoy the afternoon with us. There will be a small charge to cover the cost of refreshments.