

***Reiko Jenkins,  
Omuta, Japan, 1967***



I joined the Unification Church in Omuta City in Japan in 1969, and my spiritual parent is my physical mother, Mrs. Tomiko Sakata.

I was in high school when my mother met the Church in 1967. When my mother came back from a four-day workshop, I knew she had found a very special church, because she couldn't stop talking about how wonderful were brothers and sisters and the teaching. Especially she was so inspired by the expression of the heart of God that she never heard in any other religion. Also, the Fall of Man lecture that talked about the Fall of Eve gave her clear understanding why Buddhism teaches that women have a deep sin.

Because my father suffered with mental illness, she had searched so many religious organizations to heal him, and I had gone often with her together, but I never felt I would like to devote my life to any of them. When I met Unification Church members, their life was very humble and poor, but I was so amazed by the scale of their belief and talk, and at the same time, I was a little scared of them.

When Mrs. Mihoko Hamasaka (she now is in America) came to be the Church leader of the city, she was a very sweet and gentle person, and I was attracted to her, so I started to visit the center more often. I will never forget that she gave me an English-Japanese Bible. She helped me to attend the 40-day workshop. For me, the Fall of Man was the most fascinating part of the principle.

My mother never pushed me into joining the church or to go to the workshop. But I never forgot that she told me that this church will bring her children happy marriages.

October 13, 1969 is the day I went to my first assigned mission

after the 40-day workshop and is my spiritual birthday. It took me two years to commit my life to True Parents. I am so grateful to True Parents for having guided me this far.