

**Dale I. Smith,  
Washington, D.C., 1969**



Evangelist Oral Roberts had a monthly publication that at one time had an article about the second coming. I requested more information. I got on his mailing list and later received an invitation to Oral's speaking engagement in Washington, D.C. His speech was to be in August 1968. I got a pin-back button with the message, "Expect a Miracle."

I was interested in attending young-adult groups of different religions. I was outside the Lutheran Church at 16th and Varnum St. NW in Washington, D.C., one Sunday afternoon about the time Mr. Roberts was to give a speech, and I was wearing this button. Two sisters of the Unified Family asked me the meaning of it, followed by Neil Salonen asking the same question and giving me an invitation to attend a lecture at Upshur House on Upshur Street Northwest. I considered the likely female-to-male ratio of the meeting and accepted.

The lecture was given on the porch of Upshur House. After the lecture started, Neil went downstairs to eat and never came back! I believe a policy in place at that time was that no guests were to be invited for meals. Hillie Ann Smith Edwards (a member) was one of the persons who was at the lecture. She was praying for me during the weeks that I attended one lecture at a time. After my first lecture, I returned that night for the second lecture. This was unusual for them.

I joined on the first or second Sunday of January, 1969. It snowed on the 39th day of the year and Reverend Moon arrived on the 40th day. I was in a greeting line that afternoon near the end. Reverend Moon held my hand a little bit long. I witnessed and took pictures (along with a Mr. Jean Bennett) of the 13-couple Blessing. After being

a member of the church for about two months True Father had all male members gathered together for the purpose of starting a business. We were going to sell a new type of air rifle with an air chamber that did not leak.

I believe God had prepared me for this. I knew where to get a mailing list of people who had bought guns, and I was interested in mail order. True Father told us: "I give priority to those who have been a member three years." This was a turn-off for me. It appears no other male was interested. History shows the members then went fund raising.

Approximately 24 years after my first lecture, I was blessed in marriage, yet regrettably, my partner did not stay with me. I participated in the Oct 14, 2009 Blessing as a single person with a bride in the spiritual world. I am grateful for many good memories.