

***Toshiko Wildman,  
Hiroshima, Japan, 1970***



My family lived in Hiroshima, Japan, where the atomic bomb was dropped in 1945, and they went through a lot of suffering because of this. Five years later, I was born. I joined the Church in 1970, in Hiroshima. What caused me to join was my spiritual father coming to my workplace selling flowers from a bucket. I bought his whole bucket of flowers. That caused my life destiny to change.

I was seeking the purpose of life and my life goals. I wanted to live for a higher purpose and do some meaningful volunteer work. I liked to read other people's life stories, to understand how to have a happy, successful life. I knew my life was only one time, and I wanted to be righteous and pure, and have a beautiful life.

When I met my spiritual father, I felt that his spiritual level was higher than that of other people around me. I sensed that there was a deeper purpose behind what he was doing. Therefore, I asked him for what cause he was selling the flowers. When he explained, I wanted to hear the Divine Principle. In my life there was unhappiness, and I saw that my family was unhappy also, and I realized that the most important thing is to seek true love. True love is giving without expecting something in return.

Because of my suffering, I wanted to change my blood lineage. This was my internal realization. This did not come from another human being and must have come from God. I was seeking something unchangeable. I found the answer to this through the Divine Principle.

One year after I joined the Church, God sent me to a flower team. First, I was frightened, and I was not sure I could survive, but I later

found the team members to be bright spirited and warm hearted, and I wanted to be like them. It was a heavenly soldiers' team. The mottos were "Absolute investment" and "Concentration with all one's heart."

Every minute was precious, so we saved time in many ways. Our daily life was living in a van. We slept like sardines. We woke up at 6 a.m., and packed our sleeping bags. We took just five minutes to wash up, and to save time we didn't use soap. We parked at train stations so we could use the bathrooms. Then we gathered for morning service, reading Father's words. We made the day's goal, we believed in God's word, and we followed God's word in practice.

At the place the captain dropped us off, we always felt it was God's battlefield. Some of the places were unbelievable, such as in the countryside in the middle of farms, or in the mountains. Sometimes, it was at a very busy traffic intersection. When it was time for pick up, we had to be exactly on time for the captain to meet us. We had total unity, with no words of complaint, and we shared testimonies at the end of the day about how we met God. That is the foundation of faith and foundation of substance. God's grace and results came. That was our faith and life.

I memorized principled life in my body: 365 days a year with no rest, rain or shine, every day working from 6 a.m. to 12 midnight. We didn't go to Sunday service at the church, but we lived in the van. It looked like we were soldiers in boot camp, we were so intensely hard working. We felt that we were all walking the same path of God's course, Father's course, and Jesus' course. Our mission was to build the Kingdom of Heaven. Every day we gave our tears, effort, patience, and hard work, and experienced rejection and persecution. We felt closer and gained the fireball spirit to connect with the heart of God, True Parent's, and Jesus' heart.

Father started calling the people who had gone through that kind of training to the United States in 1973. At that time, I was 23 years old. When we came to America, we didn't know what we could do.

But we had faith that if we united with our central figure we could bring results. With patience and effort, we believed that impossible things would become possible.

We carried on with that spirit. We had a four-day fundraising competition between Japanese and American teams. Many miracles happened during this competition. Mr. Takeru Kamiyama and Mr. Shimba (now in spirit world, a 777 Couple) were our leaders. I admired their loyal heart toward True Parents. It was four days with little thinking about eating, sleeping, or language barriers. With God, True Parents, and our central figures, I tried my best with a heart of unity. Many people were buying my flower bouquets, and unbelievable things happened.

The results were that of the top ten, nine were Japanese members. I was the top seller, and the second was the American sister, Libby Mitchell. She couldn't understand how Japanese members could be at the top, so she studied and discovered that indemnity conditions were very important for faith and life. She made many conditions and called heavenly fortune to her. She inspired many American brothers and sisters. Father made a graph and showed us how different the results were before and after the competition, and how much higher the American members' results became. Father was really happy. I was happy that I could help American brothers and sisters to develop a fireball spirit to do God's will. I could transfer my flower-team training to the United States.

I joined National Mobile Fundraising Team (MFT) and stayed with it for eight years. I spent two years helping to train others and six years as a team mother. I worked together with American brothers and sisters, and this was my most treasured experience in my life.

In 1982 I was blessed with Mike Wildman as a 2075 Couple. At the matching, Father looked at me and said, "Please follow me, I will choose for you. Your kind of person needs to be a person of gentle and obedient character who will listen to you." That was so true, Father

knows best. I am very grateful. My husband's mission was as a student, and later as a staff member, at the Unification Theological Seminary at Barrytown, New York. Our four sons were born as Barrytown babies, and President Dr. David S.C. Kim gave them Korean middle names.

In 1996, we became National Messiahs to Bangladesh, working with Mr. Hong Kwan Moon (72 Couple) and Mr. Tetsuya Amano (777 Couple). We are supporting them financially from the United States.

We are now living in northern California, having returned to our hometown, and are doing Tribal Messiah activities.