Conduct Blessing and Holy Marriage Campaign in Retiro Park, Madrid, Spain

Mercedez Gonzalez November 2018



My husband, Osamu Tomita, and I signed a private Resolution on Saturday, September 8, 2018, and prayed at the altar in our house to offer it to God. We framed it and put it in our bedroom, so we see it every day and remember our pledge. The next day, Sunday, September 9, in the morning at the FFWPU headquarters in Madrid, we made an Official Resolution together with other blessed couples. Once again, we hung the official banner from our True Mother in our bedroom.

We began to pray every day asking God to guide us on how to start and what to do to achieve what we had pledged. We asked for an action plan. When asking again and again the same idea always came in response: "Go to Retiro Park and conduct a World Blessing and Holy Marriage Campaign there. Dress in white all the married couples as you do in the events." I then started designing the format for the campaign. I finished that and then went looking, little by little finding the different elements to offer for the five steps required. By constantly asking the Holy Spirit, ideas came to me.

Having all the materials prepared, we decided to begin our work for God, his providence and for the True Parents in the morning of Sunday, September 23. First, we had a hard time finding a parking lot. That first day, we drove around for quite a while until we could find a space to park the car. The entrance we found was the only entrance to Retiro Park with stairs, so my husband had to pull the table up using a metal hand truck and I carried a suitcase with everything else inside.

Once inside the Retiro Park, I began to pray, asking God to help us find the right place to do the blessings with his Holy Spirit. We found a bench in the shade and there we put the table with all the material. We prayed, "Please help us to find good Christian couples, those with a common base to accept the True Parents." I asked "*Yesu nim*" for help so that his children, the Christians, could receive the blessing from God. With the blessing shawl on and a three item questionnaire, I started to stop couples. After a while, I found the first couple, from Spain. When I read the three points to them as wedding vows, I started to cry because I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit. The wife almost began to cry with me, and so it was with the following couples. On that day, we were able to give four blessings. With the next three wives, we embraced weeping and felt the presence of the Holy Spirit. I think Yesu nim helped us a lot. My husband and I did not ever feel alone; it was obvious that God was helping and supporting us. After a few hours we decided to leave to continue the following Sunday. This had been our first day. We had a long journey ahead of us to get the 426 more we had yet to fulfill, with determination and effort we set our minds on fulfilling our goal.

Thus we continued on the following Sundays of September and October. The second Sunday of the campaign, on September 30, was difficult internally and externally. We had to work with a hippie girl who occupied our bench; this required patience. In the end, she left and wished us a lot of success in what we were doing. Many ideas came to me, from how difficult it would be on Sundays in the harsh winter to how huge the goal was that we needed to accomplish. Another Mount Everest like the one I had to climb to get the money for donations covering the 210 generations of blessed ancestors, the eight lines. So we continue on Sundays, October 7 and 14.

I started to work at Home Church on October 5, 8 and 12 of October, which were all weekdays. I went to the town of Galapagar, northwest of Madrid and there, going up and down stairs with the suitcase and the second day with a backpack, with a lot of effort and difficulty I gave the blessing to couples; it was not easy.



An Important Juncture

Everything changed when I heard what Rev. Michael Balcomb had to say, the explanations he gave us of how to get the desired result, 430 couples. From that day, everything was different. I started looking for all the records of the 1997–1998 blessings in the Malaga–Torremolinos area and then those with UPF and Pure Love Education Academy until 2018. Adding all those, the goal to meet was 48 more married couples. And of those 48 we already had very few left, to reach the goal.

I prepared a new questionnaire with the questions related to the fulfillment of the three biblical blessings as the way and the formula for world peace. So, starting with October 20–21, Saturday and Sunday, we began giving the blessing to young people and engaged couples. Only the people who supported the concept of the three blessings received the holy wine, prayer and holy water. Everyone in the photographs accompanying this article (and many others) had a paper stating the Three Blessings for them to remember what kind of campaign it was and the points they had supported.

Finally, on October 24 and 25, we only had eleven married couples or engaged people to reach. I decided to go to Galapagar and visit people in their places of work, such as shops, restaurants, coffee shops and on the street. Without a table on which to put all the material that was in the backpack, everything was externally more difficult. I started and with a lot of constant prayer, guidance and determination, I was able to achieve the goal in those two days.

The last day in particular I worked from 11:15 to 2:48 to do the last seven blessings. This was the last part of the race and I was determined to fulfill it no matter how long it took, but with God's help I had to reach it. When I had only three blessings left to conduct, I entered a Catholic Church and asked God with all my heart to guide me to find the people prepared; again I prayed to Yesu nim asking for his guidance to find his children.

On the street, a young girl, seeing how difficult it was for me to do the act of the blessing with all the things I had to use, gave me a big hug in the end. So the last person arrived, a married lady from Honduras, who did everything and took the photograph as well. Yet, she did not give me her cell phone number or e-mail address. I thought, How am I going to end with this final lady, when I can't take care of

her afterward? I decided to do one more person.

To finish the 430 blessings, God sent me Wendy, a married lady, also from Honduras, with a precious baby. It was already 14:48. As I was walking toward, the bus I looked to Heaven and I offered God, True Parents, the Holy Spirit, Yesu nim, blessed ancestors and saints from Spain three cheers of Eog-Mansei!



To feel that God could claim the efforts made from 1997 to the present day for the realization of our beloved and respected True Mother's 2020 Vision and the building of Cheon II Guk was wonderful. It has been a beautiful experience to work in unity with God and my husband Osamu san as a united trinity to fulfill the goal of the 430 blessings and to do our mission as heavenly tribal messiahs in my hometown of Madrid and my country of Spain.

I have been an foreign missionary in five different countries and I was abroad doing God's work for twenty years. My reflection is that I could help God in all those years because of the assistance of the heavenly work of Daemo nim and Chung Pyung. I was able to attend several workshops and attend for more than a hundred and twenty days. I think this has been the key for the Holy Spirit to help me to do this important mission. I could carry my cross and persevere because of the heavenly work of purification and rebirth at Heavenly Parent's and True Parents' Chung Pyung holy ground. I will remain grateful eternally!

