

Testimony

Patricia Hardman Hartley
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London, England

Dearest Family,

The way our lives have been directed is certainly no coincidence. Father has been leading us and guiding us from the time we received our first breath of life on this earth. Sometimes we were aware of Him and felt the joy from His heart and would reflect it in our lives, but so often we would go astray and at these times, He would appear to have forgotten us. If only we had realized that it was we who had shut the door in His face and it was we who would have to humble ourselves and open that door and seek to do His Will. However, Heavenly Father is so merciful and so determined to see His true ideal fulfilled at this time. He sought us from among the captives of Satan and sometimes found us in the deepest and darkest dungeons, bound by heavy chains. His voice when it came, sharpened our ears and cleared our vision and we are thankful that we were not so deaf that we could not hear His call, or so blind that we could not see the light.

Sometimes when things are not going well, I look around me and see thousands upon thousands of people who have not yet had the privilege of hearing this precious truth and I cannot understand why Heavenly Father has chosen me to be among those who will enlighten them. Sometimes I wonder how this will be done, but Heavenly Father knows and handles all things. He has established a unit of four positions in Korea, so why then will He not show us our individual missions to restore His creation back to how He intended it to be.

It is exactly a year ago today (Nov. 12, 1966), that I landed in London from my home in South Africa. England is the country of my birth and I came here to do a nursing training. My sister, Eve, heard the Divine Principle lectures from June Darby in January, 1967, after which time, I saw a remarkable change in her life. At that time, she was suffering from deep depression, but hearing the truth gave her hope. I heard the Divine Principle lectures from Sandi Pinkerton and June Darby during the months of April and May of this year and I accepted the new truth on 21st May. I had been searching for answers to questions I had had from the age of thirteen. At the end of July, the English Family plus Peter Koch, who was visiting from Germany, came to fetch me from my training hospital in Ascot and I moved into the centre at 17 Emperor's Gate on 22nd July. Heavenly Father had shown me where my mission lay and I knew that I had to give up nursing to do something far greater. I injured my spine while lifting a heavy patient a few months ago, so changing course was the logical thing to do. I am now in temporary employment as a copy typist and plan to find a permanent job soon.

In the past three and a half months, I have been fortunate to have met brothers and sisters like Miss Kim (Dr. Young Oon Kim), Peter Koch (from Germany), Ernie Stewart (from the USA), Johan van der Stok (from The Netherlands) and Marion Dougherty, an American sister living in Italy, who has come to help us in England. These people have truly been inspiring instruments of God and I pray that we will grow more and more in our love for Father, as they have done. I have had a few spiritual experiences since I heard the Principle and I have read articles in our newsletter which demonstrate without doubt, the great power of God's love. I thank you all for sharing with us your feelings and experiences which are truly inspired by Heavenly Father and express many aspects of His nature. I pray that we will all grow together as one Unified Family under His Principle and follow in the footsteps of our True Father and True Mother.

In the Name of our beloved True Parents,

Your sister, Patricia