

The heart of Father - My very personal experience with True Parents

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In 1973, I was in Seattle. Father was in the middle of the Day of Hope speaking tour. There had been a leaders' conference in Atlanta, so our state leader had gone. Our state rep had stayed back. We got word that True Parents would be changing planes in Seattle on their way back to Korea. It was an hour layover.

In those days you could go to the gate, so we gathered together about 35 members and went to visit True Parents. The whole group of us greeted Father, Mother and Mrs. Choi at the gate. We all sat down in the seats. No one else was around. I was sitting nearly knee to knee with Mother, with Father on her right, and Mrs. Choi on the other side. I was so nervous. I had only seen them a couple of times.

Father spoke in English and asked each of us to go around and say our name and what our religious background was. I sensed he knew my nervousness, because he started far away from me so that I would be one of the last ones. In the middle of the group were 3 individuals (siblings) whose mother had joined. They had met Father on his trip in 1965, when they were teenagers. As soon as it was their turn, Father interrupted them, and called them by name and asked how they were doing. He shared his memory of seeing them at that time.

I was amazed that he remembered them from so long ago. Of course, as time passed, I became more relaxed, and my nervousness disappeared. After the introductions, Father spoke about Belvedere training and other things he was planning. Time passed and the call came for them to board the plane for Korea. After we returned to the center and I began to think about the time spent with True Parents, I realized that I would do anything to be with them like that.