

Peace Embassy in Harare, Zimbabwe's Three-Day DP Workshop for Clergy

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On the first of three days, May 1, the twenty religious leaders studied the ideal God intended to achieve at the time of the Creation as well as predestination. They appeared fascinated to learn about God's nature, the purpose for which he created and the nature of the spirit world. It was clear from their questions and comments that something was taking place. The Divine Principle view of predestination also seemed comforting for them.

On the second day, we did Hoon Dok Hae, a reading from *Cheong Seong Gyeong* about God's existence and his attributes. This helped them to begin to connect with True Parents, especially the part on how "the mysteries of the human body testify to God's existence." Learning about the Fall was transformative. They said that some may have had a hint about the Fall, but True Parents' full explanation about what happened -- how and why it happened -- was unprecedented. The doctrine of the Last Days was next. Presentations on Resurrection and the Mission of the Messiah followed. They moved from shock to shock. The workshop challenged all their concepts and clarified their understanding. At the end of the day, they were all shouting, "This is what we needed!" We also studied the chapter, "Introduction to Restoration." Rev. Jean Augustin Ghomsy was using any opportunity to talk to them about the blessing.

Religious leaders at ease

The third day came with no apprehension at all. The Hoon Dok Hae was about "The God who needs liberation." They could connect to True Father's life and heart of attendance to God. Then came the study of the three primary families -- Adam's, Noah's and Abraham's. We studied a summary of Moses' and Jesus' courses and the Second Coming in the afternoon. As Rev. Ghomsy was teaching the Second Coming with a summary of the preparation for the Second Coming, the World Wars, etc., their eyes increasingly glanced at True Parents' picture on the left side of the wall in front of them.

When at the end, Rev. Ghomsy proclaimed True Parents to be the Messiah, the returning Lord and Savior, it seemed that to most of them it was a done deal. They said they now understand why the reunification of the two Koreas has been taking center stage in world news lately. Rev. Oliver Mandisodza, the president of Men of Valor, Purpose and Vision (MVPV) a network of religious leaders through which most of the participants came, said, "I believe that the reunified Korea will become a world superpower!" They watched two videos in to conclude the day, "Realizing the Dream of One Human Family" and "The Power of True Love."

Reflect on this powerful message

In the end, Rev. Ghomsy asked each one to pray about what they had learned during the three days and ask Jesus and God what they think about these teachings. He said, "Father and Mother Moon are the only religious founders who have succeeded in creating a worldwide movement in their own lifetimes, despite all the persecution and six imprisonments! The kingdom of God is closer than ever in human history. You are today's John the Baptists for your churches. It is up to you whether you fail or succeed in fulfilling your portion of responsibility. We can change Zimbabwe into God's nation in two years! Please prepare your families for the blessing. Start to prepare your churches for the blessing. We are going to have more workshops like this, even longer ones. We hope to hear from you soon!"

Rev. Iyolangomo, the national leader, also thanked the participants for having taken time from their busy lives to attend the workshop. He encouraged them to get ready for the blessing. "We are going to organize more workshops. We count on you to spread the good news."

A marriage saved

Pastor Benny Makoni testified to the power of the blessing. In 2016, he was about to divorce his wife as he could not relate properly with her and she had come to church while he was preaching to accuse him of being a phony to all the congregants. Some members of the congregation started leaving him afterward. He met Pastor Joseph Tegwere who spoke to him and his wife and encouraged them to go through the blessing process. "Since then, my marriage was saved and my wife and I are more harmonized than ever, thanks to the blessing and True Parents!"

To see that they could so easily accept the Divine Principle was electrifying. None of them argued. The questions they asked were only for clarification, in order to understand better. How the Holy Spirit is working! Gone are the days when people came to workshops with preconceived ideas and inflexible viewpoints. They all came to learn and they were keen in learning.

They have requested more workshops. They want their spouses to take part as well as other pastors or bishops they know. The presence of Bishop Kenneth Mawire was reassuring and encouraging for many of them. The power cut that happened in the early morning of the second day did not prevent the workshop from continuing. On the third day, by lunchtime, we had borrowed a generator to finish the workshop.



Reflections

Rev. Oliver Mandisodza, Team Leader of MVPV, Men's Ministry:

Generally the workshop was uplifting, inspiring and enlightening as it was progressive and included vast captivating experiences. The facilitator, Rev. Ghomsi, articulated the FFWPU vision and training content exceptionally well. It was indeed refreshing, uplifting, enlightening and easy to follow. Because of the whole new approach to the Bible and revealed truths pastors and leaders who attended generally approved FFWPU concepts of family and marriages vis-a-vis world peace and unification. We shall make sure next time we fill this place. As men, we have to take responsibility for this nation. I am looking forward to the blessing and I will encourage everyone else to also take part!

Bishop Kenneth Mawire, Founder of TransAfrica Evangelical Ministries International:

This is a very powerful teaching. I am happy about the way the workshop progressed. I believe God made me meet FFWPU for a purpose even at my old age. I am happy that God has shown me new teachings. I would like, if possible, to learn separately at my own pace all that I missed, as I could not follow all the lectures because people kept coming to my place for spiritual guidance during the three days. I am going to encourage everyone to also listen to these teachings. I will mobilize pastors in my network of TransAfrica Evangelical Ministries International. They have to listen to this. I will support the work of the Family Federation in whatever way possible. I heard that although I am a widower, I could be blessed also. We will see about that.

Mrs. Monicah Mutero, Renewal Fellowship Pastor's Wife:

This is awesome! Since the first day, I have been sharing with my husband. He has been busy but he is

preparing to come also. This is what we needed. I wish I had known this earlier! I want this blessing. Please help me to convince my husband when he comes. I want to meet the Messiah in my life! When is Mother Moon coming to Zimbabwe? Keep up with the good work!

Rev. Rudo Zimonte, True Believers Tabernacle / Soul Travailing Ministries:

When I decided to come to this workshop, I did not know what to expect. I thought it was just another Bible class focused on the family and family problems. Thank you for the lectures. This was a revelation workshop. I just feel we needed more time. I am looking forward to the next workshop.

Rev. James Chikukwa, United Apostolic Faith (MVPV):

The teachings are very clear and straightforward. No one can deny this. It is biblical. We have been teaching wrong stuff to people. I want to study more. I need to be well equipped. Can we have books? Many of our church leaders are struggling with family breakdown and immorality. Seeing these American religious leaders embracing this vision is encouraging and mind blowing. We need this in Zimbabwe. Thanks for bringing this to Zimbabwe. I am delighted to be part of this. Please invite me for any future program.

Rev. David Kambasha, Gospel of the Kingdom Ministries (MVPV):

I am grateful to the Family Federation for this wonderful workshop. We have heard the message. It is very powerful and clear. I have been to Bible college. However, it was nothing like this. Here all is clearly explained. No taboos or doctrines but universal principles. I hope we are able to have books or literature to read in our own free time and deepen our understanding.

Rev. Lameck Madzimure, Churchlife Ministries:

The workshop was good and very helpful. I just wish the finishing time could be 4:00 pm instead of 5:00 pm to allow those who live far away to go back on time. It is a helpful thing if the organization continues giving us such a wonderful workshop every month. God bless you in abundance, in Jesus' name.

Rev. Mai Francisca Mushure, Oil of Joy Ministry for Marriages and Family in the Church of the Living God (MVPV):

I was impressed by all topics covered during the three-day workshop and my wish is for the number of days to be increased and the information to be on handouts for self-evaluation. Topics covered were all relevant and applicable to my personal life, my family, community and country. As a woman, I was challenged to be part and parcel to the ministry of preaching and uniting families. The information which we deliberated on should not only be known by pastors/leaders; it must be advocated to all as yet all are living in disobedience. Who is answerable to people's blood and suffering? Advocacy should be extended to communities, families, even the street kids flocking our cities because of life's hardships. Our planning team should look around and advocate church leadership, community based programs to combat the drunkenness and committing of other sins. There should be a federation in all our nations to speak with one voice. Human and material resources should be mobilized and spread with the goal of spreading the workshops to all provinces, districts, wards etc., nationwide and beyond our borders. This should not be limited to churches but should be a national community-based program for unity and peace to prevail.

Rev. Catherine Chikukwa, Rock Assemblies Ministry (MVPV):

I really enjoyed the workshop. I have no problem accepting Father and Mother Moon as the Messiah. Two years ago, I received a brown envelope in a dream. When I opened it, there was a picture inside. When I looked at it, it was a picture of a couple and underneath the couple were some writings in a language I could not read. The first day when I arrived here, as I was going to the toilet, up the stairs, I saw something on the wall. It was exactly the same picture I received in the envelope two years ago with the same message written in a language I could not read, only this time, there was an English translation of the message. I realized that I was in the right place. The lectures just came to confirm it to me. I am grateful to God to have shown me the way. I am looking forward to learning more.

Intercessor Abigail Zhakata, Jesus Reign Ministries:

Shalom. The workshop was educational and inspirational. The Fall of Man makes me want to read more of the word of God and live it. It taught me to live a fulfilling life because it is not about me but him who loves me.