

I wanted to share something about God's lonely heart - Lessons from loneliness

From one of our Unification Church Foreign Missionaries

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Dear Family,

I wanted to share something about God's lonely heart. My course seems to be a more solitary or lonely one, but I know it is not my course but that of our Heavenly Father and so many before me. I do not claim to be great -- only God is. I am only grateful to learn this aspect of God's heart. I only hope I'm able to comfort Him by bearing some of His burden.

When I was in American Samoa people were not responding for over a period of seven months. Because of difficulties it was recommended that I go to another country. However, it seems that instead of the problems being assuaged or improved, they were compounded. Instead of finding greater spiritual safety (at first) or comfort I met with greater spiritual attack and problems, particularly loneliness. I came to be desperate to talk to people about God, about life, to just reach out and contact someone heart to heart.

It really became a spiritual battle for survival. Mr. Sudo has said, "The greatest thing to fear is to lose God." I really felt that. Satan wants us to lose God, to lose love. He will throw water on the flame, douse it time and time again, stamp on it, do anything he can to put out the flame of love within us.

From these experiences I learned several things. God is the only absolute reality we can trust. Even if we must turn away from the world, from everyone around us to come to God we must lest we lose life itself. We must have life to give it. We must therefore deny all that is not of God.

Also I learned in this situation how, terribly lonely God is and how desperate He is to reach out to us.

Because of love He is willing to forsake His position and humble Himself so much for us who have shunned Him and hurt Him time and again. He is desperate for a smile from us, for a nod or some kind of acknowledgment from us that we recognize Him. Even for that much He must at times be desperate, though by no means satisfied. For us to be able to suffer for Him is a great privilege, for if by our suffering we can remove so many burdens from Him how relieved He must be. If we can make Heavenly Father happy, if we can make Him smile or laugh or cause a twinkle in His eye or cause Him to dance, what a wonderful thing for us to do!

I believe my brothers and sisters have done that through Yankee Stadium. In these faraway countries it is my brothers' and sisters' hope to do the same, I believe, by helping people to see the light of day, by taking our lost brothers' and sisters' suffering and heavy burdens from off their shoulders unto our own. We must be desperate to see God, to be with Him, to live with Him, never to lose Him. Then we must be desperate to reach others, to touch others to enable them to reach God, to come to know Him, to love Him, to serve Him. If we truly know how lonely He is, if we ourselves were as lonely, wouldn't we grab at any opportunity for love, for comfort, for any kind word or look from others, even a nod?

How much more our Heavenly Father searches among the ashes of man's burned-out lives to find one divine spark, no matter how weak or fading it might be. How carefully He would lift it out from the ashes cupped in His hands so that the cruel wind of Satan would not put it out with one last gust. He would do this even with tears streaming from His sorrowful eyes and wetting the earth. Cradling that precious spark He would clear away the ashes and taking that one divine spark or coal He would place it back again and would blow with His spirit upon it to ignite a new fire -- creating a blazing bonfire within us dead people which would provide enough light and heat for others to find their way and also come around and warm themselves. We, my brothers and sisters, are the billows; Christ is the blacksmith. As he presses on us, we must rekindle the hearts of men so that they can be forged into true sons and daughters of God once again. Can we do anything else?

By understanding these things we must know how much God needs us. No matter how insignificant we may seem, no matter how unqualified we are, no matter whether we have much or little education or knowledge, whether we are smart or dull, God needs us. How much He needs us! He has bent down so low that His back must be stooped after 6,000 years of bending low to pick us up, to find us and bring us home, carrying us even on His back. If we knew how lonely He has been for us and for our lost brothers and sisters, then there would be nothing we could not do, no matter how small or humble, for Him.

Love is the key. We must allow God to turn the key and open the door to our hearts. We must then turn the key ourselves to unlock the bolted doors to others' lonely vacant lives. Today may you and I turn many keys and unlock many doors. God bless you all.