

Mother's Tour



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**Congratulations and Thank You
from the Church in North America.
Good Luck on the World Tour!**

FOUNDER'S DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

February 7, 1999 was the culmination of a series of blessing ceremonies given by the Reverend and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon to more than 360 million couples worldwide, including those already married and those getting married for the first time. The following is a message from Reverend Moon to these couples that will soon appear in newspapers in all the major world capitals.

Dear Blessed Couples worldwide: What is the most important thing, the one thing we need more than anything else? It is not money, power or knowledge. It is true love. True love is more precious than life itself and more important to us than air or water.

Why is true love so precious and important? Just as human beings desire to see God, God also wants to see true human beings. If God were to express a preference for either men or women, the other would surely complain. God's only choice is to place love in the forefront. By placing love in the forefront, God can see, touch, and share with men and women at the same time, because men and women love each other. If anything other than love were to be recognized as the most valuable thing in the universe, men and women would fight each other to try and claim it for themselves. Once we realize that love is the highest value, however, we can then strive to live for each other and become one with each other to share the happiness of possessing love together.

Everyone likes love. Love is the only thing that can satisfy all human desires. God's providence of salvation stems from the principle of love.

Fundamentally, love belongs to God. Yet even God cannot possess love all by Himself. Love requires a reciprocal partner. A man by himself or a woman by herself cannot experience love. Women exist for the sake of men's love and men exist for the sake of women's love. It does not matter how handsome or beautiful a person may appear on the outside. In their heart, every person desires a mate who can give and receive the highest level of love.

When we examine the universe, we see that all beings exist in pairs relating to one another as subject and object. In the mineral world, we observe the relationship of plus and minus. In the plant world, the animal world and the world of human beings, we see the relationship between masculine and feminine. This is because God created the universe in order to fulfill the expression of love. All beings desire the experience of true love through a reciprocal relationship. Love is the one power in the

universe that absolutely no one can possess by themselves. Once we have a partner, however, love gives us the power to share the entire universe. Likewise, a husband and wife need children in order to experience the profound joy of parental love.

Thus, we can say that God created human beings and the universe as His reciprocal partners in order to bring about true love. All types of love – including love of children, love of siblings, love of husband and wife, and love of parents – come about through the unity of subject and object partners. When two partners become one in true love, it is impossible to separate them. If for any reason, separation occurs, true love is destroyed. Therefore, in true love, there is no concept of divorce.

When a man feels love, the feeling is not generated on his own. The feeling in his heart is awakened because of a particular woman. Likewise, the fire of love is kindled in the heart of a woman not by herself alone but by the man who is her reciprocal partner. In other words, our love belongs to our partner. Thus, we should honor our partners as even more precious than our love. Each person should be grateful to their spouse, and live their life for his or her sake. This basic reasoning will make it possible for the 360 million couples to live together eternally. When husbands and wives live for each other, respect each other and

EVERYBODY

become completely one through true love, it will be possible for the lineage of Satan to be rooted out completely.

True love comes through both horizontal and vertical relationships. A horizontal relationship of true love is gradually elevated in a vertical direction until it eventually reaches the pinnacle. This point is the position of the "King and Queen of True Love." In this position, everything is synthesized, everything is embraced, everything is crystallized into love, and everything blooms. This is why all beings in the universe want to be transformed in love and live in the midst of love. We are born for the sake of love, live for the sake of love, and finally die for the sake of love.

Not only people, but all beings desire true love. This is why human beings, as the highest beings in creation, should embrace and love the masterpieces of God's creation, and teach creation how to love. All creation is longing to receive and experience God's love through men and women who have become one with God at the pinnacle of true love. It is a shame that we have not realized this degree of love.

All beings exist at a certain level with a reciprocal partner. At the same time, they are continually absorbed into higher levels of love. Thus, minerals want to be absorbed into plants, plants want to be absorbed into animals, and finally, all of creation wants to be absorbed into human beings. All beings want this so that they can participate in a higher level of love. Through this process, they ultimately reach the position where they can experience the love that is nearest to God, who is the origin of love. All beings have the essence of true love as their ultimate goal. In His wisdom, God created everything with a purpose. For example, creatures with elongated shapes, such as eels and worms that fish like to eat, provide ingredients for natural medicine. Creatures on a higher level are meant to consume beings on a lower level. Without this process, the universe could not exist.

Darwin's theory regarding the survival of the fittest needs to be reexamined in the context of this logic of love. Even ants and microorganisms want true love so much that they will die to become part of an entity of greater love. Because of this principle, human beings, who are created as the highest partners of God's love, can con-

sume all creatures. We can enjoy everything that we desire, but there is one condition: that we do so with a heart that represents the love of God, the Creator.

God's ideal was for one couple, Adam and Eve, centering on true love, to become the seed from which all the world's families, clans, nations, and, finally, the multitudinous citizenry of the Kingdom of Heaven would be descended. Citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven can be created only in accordance with God's tradition of true love.

The words that I am sharing are in direct opposition to the theories of Charles Darwin. Yet it is through these words, not Darwin's theories, that we will achieve a world of peace. This is because my words witness to the fundamental principles of creation.

Darwin proposed in his theory of evolution that species evolve through a process of natural selection based on random mutations. Such a theory implies that there is no fundamental meaning, order or goal in the development of the natural world. Today, scientists and others are debating between the theory of evolution and the creation theory. The word "creation" acknowledges the existence of God, the Creator. There is a purpose embodied in God's act of creation. Subject and object partners unite to achieve a higher purpose.

Communist theory, based on materialism, also lacks the element of purpose. God's creation embodies the purpose of true love, whereas Communism only has struggle and destruction. Thus, it is destined eventually to disappear.

In all creation, the most precious entities are human beings — man and woman. The most precious part of the human body is not the nose, the eyes, the hands, or even the brain. It is the sexual organs, the main organs of love. Everything in the universe can be recreated through the love organs.

All living things — whether plants or animals — multiply through sex. The most precious and outstanding family begins with a husband and wife who are one with each other. Our love organs are the main sanctuary of life, occupying a position of incredible value where blood lineage and history are connected.

God's fundamental principle is to create through male and female. For a man and woman to share absolute love, however, they should have only one partner. We must not have two or more partners, but only one eternally. There is absolutely one man for each woman and one woman for each man. That is why God did not create two Adams or two Eves. Tragically, in the world today, we see children who have as many as ten stepfathers. How false and degraded love has become in this world!

When men and women uphold and preserve chastity, they are protecting the universe. The discipline of love between men and women is the foundation of the universe. We must not abuse our love as if we were animals. Love can only have one owner. The word

C A L E N D A R

APRIL

- 4 Jin Sung Nim's 37th Birthday (lunar)
- 7 42 Couples' Blessing (1989)
- 138 Previously Married Couples' Blessing (1989)
- 57 Single Blessing (1989)
- 10 1265 Couples' Blessing (1992)
- 11 Un Jin Nim & Jin Hun Nim's Blessing (1986)
- 12 36 Couples of the 2nd Generation Blessing (1986)
- 13 Shin Chul Nim's 7th Birthday (lunar)
- 16 Kwon Jin Nim & Hwa Yun Nim's Blessing (1995)
- Sun Jin Nim & In Sup Nim's Blessing (1995)
- 17 TRUE PARENTS' DAY (lunar)
- Sung Jin Nim's Birthday (lunar)
- 26 Shin Hwa Nim's 11th Birthday (lunar)

MAY

- 1 43 Couples' Blessing (1969)
- HSA-UWC Established (1954)
- 6 Nan Sook Nim's 33rd Birthday (lunar)
- 10 Jin Hun Nim's 36th Birthday (lunar)
- 15 36 Couples' Blessing (1961)
- 16 Day of the Love of God (1984)
- Ye Jin Nim & Jin Whi Nim's Blessing (1981)
- 17 Shin Bok Nim's 17th Birthday (lunar)
- 21 118 Couples' Blessing (1978)
- 24 Hyun Jin Nim's 30th Birthday (lunar)
- 26 True Parents' Blessing (lunar)

JUNE

- 4 72 Couples' Blessing (1962)
- 6 Shin Yeon Nim's 9th Birthday (lunar)
- 13 39 Couples' Blessing (1981)
- First Stage of the 360 Million Couples' Blessing (1998)
- 14 TRUE DAY OF ALL THINGS (lunar)
- Jeung Jin Nim's 17th Birthday (lunar)
- 23 Day of One Heart (1989)
- 30 Young Jin Nim's 21st Birthday (lunar)

FOUNDER'S DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

WANTS TRUE LOVE

"true" in "true love" does not allow for the possibility of more than one partner. There can only be one. This is an absolute law.

Not just anyone can say "true love." Only God can really love with true love, and only God absolutely owns true love. God's true life, God's true lineage, and God's true conscience emerge from true love. In this way, the most fundamental essence of God is true love.

To connect with true love, we must first relate with God. A child might say, "My mother and father don't fight and we live well," but that doesn't necessarily mean that this is a family of true love. A young man and woman may say, "We are so much in love that we could die," but that doesn't mean this love is true love. If God is not present, then it is not true love. True love always centers on God. To become God's son or daughter, we first need to connect with God's love, life and lineage.

Power, knowledge, money, and military might cannot insure that a person will be welcomed in the world of true love. Everyone wants true love, but that love is only possible when we live for others. We need to serve and sacrifice for our partner. Everyone will avoid a person who relates to others with the mindset that says, "You should live for me." This kind of selfish individualism is Satan's strategy, purpose, and tool. The result can only be Hell.

We must live for the whole. If a person lives for others, sacrificing himself or herself and serving the whole, then everyone and everything will come and love him.

We are created as God's children. As we grow in love, relating to brothers and sisters, becoming husbands and wives, giving birth and raising children, God is present each step of the way, harvesting true love. God observes and guides us as we develop, and He becomes the owner of love at each stage. In this sense, it can be said that human beings, through whom God comes to own all love, are more precious to God than He is to Himself. It is the same as when we attach tens of thousands of times more value to the person we love than we do to ourselves.

God invests Himself for those He loves and then forgets this investment. Then he invests again. He invests Himself one hundred percent and then forgets one hundred percent. That is why He can continue to invest.

In the same way, a wife who wants her husband to be a success invests herself in her husband and then forgets this investment. By investing herself and forgetting, she enables him to achieve his full potential in life. When we as partners continue to invest in each other and forget, the level of our love is elevated, and we will ultimately find ourselves connected to God. This is how we can establish a parent-child

relationship with God and have eternal life.

Everyone wants to go to Heaven, but those whose attitude is "Everyone should live for me," will not get there. True love begins with embracing and living for the sake of all God's masterpieces of creation. The way we can reach Heaven is to live for all humankind and ultimately for God.

During our lives, each of us should

tal. The lines of these two relationships cross at right angles. The relationship amongst siblings forms a third dimension, a front to back axis. When all are equidistant from the center, and are freely circulating in love, their relationships form a sphere. That is why all beings brought about in love, and the universe as a whole, are spherical. All love is united and achieves a peaceful dynamic harmony in the central

dence of restoration. Throughout human history, God has been working to restore True Parents who can establish that model and pattern of the ideal of true love, true life, and true lineage.

Once Adam and Eve had children, who would have overseen the marriage of these children? Adam and Eve, as the parents, would have done this. We need to look seriously at the shortfall in parental involvement in their children's marriages in today's society.

The Unification Church, which has True Parents, is standing in the position of parents to give the marriage blessing to all the peoples of the world. These marriages don't just transcend racial, religious, and ethnic differences. Even saints and evil persons are being blessed in marriage with each other. The True Parents reject evil love, evil life and evil lineage, but they do not cast out Cain, who murdered Abel. Everyone, including Cain, receives the same blessing.

In the ocean, there is a point during the changing of the tides when the forces of the outgoing and incoming tides are at equilibrium. There is a similar turning point in the Providence of Salvation (restoration through indemnity) in the balance between the forces of good and evil. By blessing good and evil people at the time of this turning point, Satan can be expelled completely.

The human fall occurred when there was an error in the Garden of Eden that involved marriage. Now, the True Parents are correcting that error by marrying people in the proper manner. By clearing up the problems created by Adam and Eve as fallen parents, the True Parents are eradicating Hell and giving the blessing to billions, even tens of billions, of ancestors in the spirit world. Fathers and sons who are in the spirit world can be united as one through the foundation of a family centered on true love formed by the descendants who are alive on Earth. In addition, such a family foundation can be the starting point for connecting the Eastern and Western worlds.

The ideal family is a family in which the parents and children, husband and wife, and the brothers and sisters all desire to come together in true love. This is the beginning of an eternal effort to enable all people to experience the full blessing and joy of love. This will mark the beginning of the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth and the Kingdom of Heaven in Heaven will follow in due course.

I hope that in the coming millennium, the 360 million blessed families located around the world will become one with the True Parents, and lead a new family revolution centered on true love and a worldwide revolution of morality so that a world of eternal peace can be established on Earth and in Heaven. ❖



The celebration at East garden on the conclusion of the North American leg of Mother's world speaking tour

have at least three experiences in which we dedicate our lives to someone or some higher purpose. This is how we can indemnify the fall of Adam's family, the crucifixion of Jesus, and all the persecution directed against the family of the Lord at the Second Advent.

Even if we have passed through death and resurrection three times, we should not ask for God's praise but instead pledge our lives to Him even more. This is how we can meet God. When such people populate the world, this will be the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth. This is the path that I am teaching, and this is the kind of world that I am building.

Children are the fruit of the love of the mother and father. We need to understand that children combine their parents' love, life, and lineage. Little children often say, "This is mine," but parents are the origin of everything that children refer to as their own. Parents are the root and the trunk. Without parents, we would all be orphans. We cannot live if we break the ladder of love that connects us to our parents.

We are the sons and daughters of God, the parent who is the origin of true love. Parents are the highest masters of love for children. The parent-child relationship is vertical and the husband-wife relationship is horizon-

tal. The lines of these two relationships cross at right angles. The relationship amongst siblings forms a third dimension, a front to back axis. When all are equidistant from the center, and are freely circulating in love, their relationships form a sphere. That is why all beings brought about in love, and the universe as a whole, are spherical. All love is united and achieves a peaceful dynamic harmony in the central

point of this sphere of love relationships. This center is where God resides. The vertical parent-child relationship between God and His sons and daughters is the central axis. A man's love, life, and lineage are on the right hand side, and the love, life, and lineage of the woman are on the left. The love among siblings is in the front and back. The entire universe achieves balance centering on these relationships. God resides at the core, where all these relationships intersect each other. If we picture this three-dimensionally, we see that God is the ultimate origin of love, life, lineage, and conscience.

In the God-centered family, vertical, horizontal and front-back loves are united as one. Such a family will multiply to become a clan, society, nation, world, and cosmos of love. Always, though, the fundamental center is the one God.

If Adam and Eve had not fallen, they would have realized the ideal of the God-centered family and become the True Parents of humankind. As True Parents, Adam and Eve would have provided a model of true husband-wife love and true parental love - through which all mankind could have also become True Parents. God's providence of salvation has been a provi-



REV. JOONG HYUN PAK

Rev. Pak is the Continental Director of the Church in North America.

This is based on a talk given at the Leaders meeting at National HQ on Tuesday, April 6, 1999

True Father gave us the surprising news in Korea after True Parents Birthday that Parents would next hold a Blessing for 400 million matched couples only! That was big news. However, this is the dispensational course. From the book of Revelation (14:4) we read: *These are those who did not defile themselves...for they kept themselves pure. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among men and offered as first fruits to God and the Lamb.*

We have just completed True Mother's speaking tour throughout America. This is a historical victory! A cosmic victory! Not only because it was accomplished by True Parents but also because many blessed ancestors from the spiritual world participated in this tour. There were other incidences of history made during Mother's travels across the country. In Norfolk, Virginia, for example, there is the tomb and Memorial Museum of General Douglas MacArthur. When True Mother spoke in that city, she also visited this historical memorial and prayed a prayer of thanksgiving for General MacArthur for what he had done for the sake of the Fatherland.

At the time of True Father's announcement of this speaking tour I was surprised that Father chose to have so many speeches given in America—24 cities altogether and five just in the New York region. It showed Father's great support of America and its future. We can be immensely grateful for this.

I feel very proud and appreciative of our members for taking the initiative in all these cities and successfully coordinating the events. Each one was a success. We got good media coverage and True Mother's picture was in some newspapers. This is a great plus for America. We can be proud that with our hands we worked with True Parents to make this kind of history.

Preparations for 400 Million Young Couples Blessing

Now we begin preparations for another great victory—the upcoming Blessing of 400 million young couples. This is the final phase to the peak of this great year 1999. For this we must prepare ourselves well in order to quickly spread the message to others. If a doctor answers the call of a sick patient, the doctor must know how to heal; if a firefighter responds to the call of a burning house, he must know the techniques for putting out the fire. To begin, we can remind ourselves of the words in Family Pledge #8:

Our family pledges, as we enter the Completed Testament Age, to achieve the ideal oneness of God and humankind in love through absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience, thereby liberating the Kingdom of God on Earth and in Heaven, by centering on true love.

This is the concluding verse of the Pledge and is also the blueprint for God's work of recreation to establish

the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth. This is what we have to fulfill this year. Father said: Completed Testament Age means "the completion of the family." To achieve

the ideal, do you think Father means we should build 10 additional floors onto our houses? Would this bring completion to our family? When I visited the city of Detroit with True Mother, we saw the factory where they make automobiles. Maybe if they gave away millions of those automobiles people would feel so much joy it would make the Earth the Kingdom of Heaven. Or if we were given so much free food that we gained 20 extra pounds, would this make the Kingdom?

The Kingdom of Heaven is when our lives are centered on God, our spirits are shining and joyful and we are peaceful and happy. This is what the Kingdom of Heaven is. Even if we have only



Reverend Pak presenting a trophy of the speaking tour to True Parents at the celebration held at East Garden after the tour of North America.

a humble house, a humble car and simple food, if we live in an atmosphere of love and peace, this is the Kingdom of Heaven.

God means True so anything centered on God is True. Love plus God = True Love. A Family plus God = a True Family. So everything being centered on God, becoming True, makes Completion. Who can build and establish the Kingdom of Heaven? Noah? Abraham? Moses? Buddha? Confucius? God? No, if God could do it, He would have done it long ago. Rather, it has been prolonged over and over again. Only True Parents can do it. But even they cannot do it alone. The Messiah needs partnership. There is the need for national messiahs, tribal messiahs, family messiahs, individual messiahs, all working together.

The absolute authority is True Parents. Through our marriage ceremony—the Blessing, under the True Parents and centering on God—we have

FOREVER YOUNG:

the life-giving power to change this fallen world into the Kingdom of Heaven. Now this same benefit is coming to the spiritual world. Spirits there do not have to wait until True Father arrives. No, the world has become one, so everyone is receiving this fulfillment right now.

We have three categories of people involved in the marriage ceremonies: 1) previously married couples; 2) couples who have chosen to be together but are not legally married; and 3) unattached, unmarried people. The first three couples True Father blessed were previously-married couples. They represented Adam's family. There have been other previously-married Blessings. Then the second category of cou-

ents. At any rate, he will have to leave the planet Earth and relocate! That is reasonable to say, is it not?

The last dispensation now is the Blessing for the young, unmarried couples—400 million of them! This Blessing will be the force to unite the physical world and the spiritual world. True Parents have taken on all indemnity to make this happen and to bring about this age.

Kick-off for the 400 Million Blessing

Korea, Japan and America have failed in their heavenly missions, but True Parents are paying the price so that our nations can once again be in the position to fulfill their heavenly destinies—that of the father, the mother and the elder son.

As True Mother moves around the world, continuing her speech in many nations, we are feeling victory. In America, Korea and Japan, we had great success so that victory is bound to flow over into other countries, making all nations responsive and a valuable part of a heavenly world family. Other nations are being made into younger brother and sister nations.

True Mother's tour is a "kick off" for the Blessing of the 400 million young people. That is why the Pure Love Alliance rallies were held just prior to Mother's programs in various cities, opening the way for young people to turn to goodness and truth. The media gave good coverage..

There is a tremendous amount of give and take now between the physical and spiritual worlds. So many spirits, so many relatives, have been liberated and blessed in the spiritual world through descendants on the Earth. Soon everybody there will be blessed. They will come to help guide the people in the physical world to the Blessing.

Many people (of a certain age) on the Earth are being blessed with those in the spiritual world. This will bring the two worlds together even more speedily. There are so many ways in which the two worlds are becoming one now. We must quickly develop our spiritual senses, then there will be absolutely no separation. Wouldn't it be wonderful if the television stations carried news of the spiritual world everyday. That time will come. Why not!?

With True Mother covering 24 cities in America and the visit of Dae Mo Nim doing liberations in four cities, we can all be very grateful and even excited at this point. So much is happening and we can look forward to some very interesting times ahead, and hard work as well. Personally, I am excited because this gives me the opportunity to "pay back" my parents and grandparents, all of whom are in the spiritual world and all of whom suffered a lot in life because of wartime and separations. They sacrificed for me and now I am grateful to give them this most precious of all gifts—Liberation and Blessing. We all have our own memories and reasons for being grateful for this time.

True Father has given us the gift of Hoon Dok Hae that we can freely and

ples that have been blessed are those that live together. This second category represented Noah's family or Jesus' family. The third category to be blessed, the unmarried, or the virgins, represent Jacob's family or the Lord of the Second Advent's family. The first group of 36 couples that Father blessed had all three categories within it.

At the RFK Stadium Blessing there was a simultaneous Spiritual World Blessing; and also at Madison Square Garden and at Seoul Olympic Stadium there were simultaneous spiritual world Blessings. Just recently, on April 13 at Chungpyung 1.6 billion young people were blessed in the spiritual world. We can now say that in the spiritual world there are more blessed people than there are non-blessed people. More and more the spiritual world is bringing miracles on the Earth and Satan is losing power. They are putting Satan out of a job! He will have to surrender to True Par-

The Spirit of True Father

easily give to the world. We have only to gather the people and read them the Divine Principle from the book, and share with them the Hoon Dok Hae volumes. We are not required to memorize long lectures. Just read to them. They will soon come to feel the satisfaction that comes with "eating" the heavenly words. We can show video tapes as well. This also is Hoon Dok Hae. Keep going like this and people will soon come to an understanding of God and True Parents. The more we read, the sooner the Kingdom will come.

We also have the internet. Let's utilize it. Let's educate through it. Everyday. Hoon Dok Hae and news. How wonderful. Young people are longing for the pure life, a family life and true values. When we hear of tragedies occurring such as the recent one at the high school in Littleton, Colorado, the comments we hear most frequently on the news are: "It is the breakdown of family life; where there is no nurturing, no values, only loneliness and emptiness, then these terrible things happen."

Let's quickly regain our confidence, our trust in heavenly forces. Christianity is opening its doors. We have good foundations and backgrounds. In our movement we have all kinds of Unificationists—Baptist Unificationists, Presbyterian Unificationists, Catholic Unificationists, Methodist Unificationists, Episcopalian Unificationists, Jewish Unificationists, Islamic Unificationists and others. We are a Unification movement. We are everywhere and from everywhere so let's move forward, boldly proclaiming the Kingdom. We are without excuse. We read a warning in Luke 19:40, *I tell you...if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.* And the Old Testament prophet Habakkuk said, *The stones of the wall will cry out, and the beams of the woodwork will echo it (2:11).* We must feel the urgency to get the Word out quickly, with True Love. We all worship the One God and the One Truth.

Leaders throughout America—do Hoon Dok Hae at every meeting, every opportunity. Set the example for everyone.

True Father is forever young

We have to keep thinking young and looking young. Keep a bright, young spirit. We need to close the generation gap. Be fresh, responsive, not looking out through "dead fish eyes!" Though True Father's physical body is 80 years old, his mind is forever young. He never thinks old, he never is old. He lives in Eternity, spiritually. He diligently exercises his physical body everyday, quickly and expertly, to freshen himself as

well as to keep his legs limber.

True Father has demonstrated many times to us how supple his body is—he can bend his leg very high to his head! That's the kind of shape we need to keep ourselves in, not become stiff. We don't need to go to expensive health clubs to exercise—we can do it in our office or wherever we are. His mind and

mind young.

Human beings have three parts: body, mind and spirit. So we have to keep all three elements young. We can keep our appearance young by keeping our hair cut in a youthful style and sometimes wearing casual clothes. Think young. America is Elder Son nation but America is a young elder

ous spirit is a young spirit.

True Father often talks about his own curiosity as a young lad which led him to find out the secrets of nature—the habits of birds, fish and animals—all creatures. Always seeking to know about the world around him and the things that dwelled in the mountains, trees and streams. With this attitude and tremendous curiosity and longing to understand, he could find God and Jesus Christ and all the saints in the spiritual world. He dug deep to understand and unfold the secrets of humankind and history.

To welcome in the new millennium other countries have built monuments of different sorts, but what did America do? They sent a spaceship into orbit! What is happening on Jupiter and Mars, they say! What is it like out there in the galaxy! We've got to find out! America is leading the world in technology. New techniques are being developed everyday. Computers are upgraded at such a rapid rate that what you buy today is outdated



GRAEME CARMICHAEL

spirit are forever exploring, growing and developing. Father walks with the posture and vitality of a young man.

We have to be this way, walking with dignity and purpose, keeping our minds alert and alive. So we can exercise and use our bodies in wise and wholesome ways. We will help us to understand and identify with young people. We must be Eternal people, forever young people. That way, we can be humble and meek people, like children. *Jesus called a little child and had him stand among them. And he said, "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven...."* (Matt. 18:2-4).

Children are very simple and pure. They trust other people. They don't think in terms of evil. We should become like this. Children will wander off to explore something and become completely absorbed in it, forgetting everything else. We are lacking this kind of innocence of spirit and the spiritual power that comes from it.

We must become as children in order to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. We should long for spiritual food and trust the Word. St. Peter said, *Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk so that by it you may grow up in your salvation...* (1 Pe:2:2). Be humble. Keep your

son. Its character, culture and history is very connected to the nature of a child. For instance, many Americans prefer blue jeans and short pants over tuxedos and more formal dress like you might find in Britain; and many American people prefer MacDonald hamburgers and 'fries to full-course dinners; it is quite common to see even business people eating fast food and ice cream on the street. British people are not as likely to do that.

Licking on ice cream in cones is very popular with Americans. Americans drink a lot of Coca-Cola as opposed to green teas and black teas. They like youth music, like rock. Americans like baseball and Disney movies. At popular Disney Land and Disney World you will find young-minded grandmas and grandpas immensely enjoying everything along with the young children. Americans are fond of pets and adopt them into their households like "one of the family." So we can say that the overall habits of America are more like that of children.

American culture, overall, is a 'young' culture. Being interested in the 'mysterious' or the 'unknown' is characteristic of Americans. The stories, *Tom Sawyer* and *Huckleberry Finn* came from this culture. In Europe, when they heard of the "New World", they were curious and they came, risking everything. A pioneer spirit, an adventur-

tomorrow!

So again, the American spirit makes possible this growth to "the next stage, then the next stage" and on and on, forever advancing this way. It is important that we maintain a young spirit, young mind, and young body. Otherwise, how can we possibly keep up with True Father? He's off to South America, off to Korea, off to Africa. His plans for the future are vast and wide, they are endless. His spirit is like a teenager.

One trait that Heaven especially likes in young spirits (children) is their appreciation of everything. In their gratefulness there is trust. They don't suspect everything that is given to them, thinking of ulterior motives, negative motives and so forth. With that kind of spirit, we can truly and simply accept truth, simply accept true love; simply accept God; simply accept True Parents. This is why our Second Generation can stand in front of us. They are more pure and simple. They are our Abels. We need to protect them, love them, follow them.

In America we are the champions of the youth culture. So with our Elder Son position, our young culture, our young spirit we can witness to young people, educate them and extend invitations to the Blessing. Will we become the number one nation of the world or not? We will. Let's bring victory for the Blessing of 400 million couples. ❖



MOTHER'S TOUR



B. Russell Sucharoff—Chicago, IL

Due to beautifully strong tailwinds, True Mother arrived in Chicago directly from East Garden over 30 minutes early on Saturday morning, March 27, 1999. After an incredibly long, cold and snowing 1999 winter, the weather had just begun to start feeling like the Spring that had just arrived one week earlier. I remember Father's words back in 1992 very clearly, "Spring is a time to accomplish great things in a very short time-for it will pass very quickly. It is a time of growth, of re-birth and of new beginning." Our motorcade quickly moved from the airport toward downtown Chicago and the awaiting International Ballroom of the Hilton Chicago and Towers Hotel, which is incidentally, the largest ballroom in the city. But Rev. Ki Hoon Kim and Rev. Michael Jenkins had both felt that it was time to surpass our 1998 event which had brought out over 3,000 ministers, friends and guests to Mother's speech. This ballroom had the capacity to hold over 4,000 guests.

We continued on along the Stevenson Expressway toward the downtown area. It seemed as soon as Mother saw Lake Michigan she began to relax. We arrived at the hotel and went immediately to Mother's suite. After just a moment, Mother emerged from her room in an elegantly beautiful powder blue suit and sat down for lunch with the Chicago committee of leaders. She commented on the beautiful flower arrangement on the table and said, "Chicago is like my home."

From the very beginning of this campaign, one could feel that everything was going to be different than ever before. Just the fact that we have over a two month notice that True Mother would be coming was so different and unusual that many of us didn't quite know what to do with it, yet we began, in the most usual of ways and that was by going out and visiting our ministers. For the past two years our Bishop, the Rev. Ki Hoon Kim has designated the second Sunday of every month as Church visitation Sunday. We have a small Sunday Service at our Ashland Avenue Church, but the majority of members and Tribal Messiahs go out and visit their adopted churches at least once a month.

Over the past six months we have also been on an intensive witnessing and workshop campaign. CARP rented a workshop site up at Lake Geneva about one hour from Chicago and members were going up every weekend for a two-day workshop, which led to many seven-day and 21-day guests who were now becoming members. When CARP went on their Christmas fundraising campaign, the workshops transferred to the church and we began having evening programs every night and weekend. Through this experience, many new members were

joining and many members were becoming lecturers and workshop staff.

As February 7, 1999 began to come closer, of course our emphasis focused on the blessing. But we continued to witness through passing out flyers for our evening programs. Through this process many new guests became blessing candidates. So when word of True Mother's tour arrived we were ready to welcome her back to Chicago.

It was hard to believe that it had been almost a year ago since True Mother had come to Chicago. In fact, April 10, 1998 was Good Friday, when 3,000 guests filled the Grand Ballroom of the downtown Chicago Marriott Hotel to hear True Mother deliver her speech, "Blessed Marriage and Eternal Life," amidst the amens and hallelujahs of the assembled churches in the congregation. But again, the spirit was telling us that this event was going to be different.

And our network is growing. Our best ministers are becoming more and more important; many of their churches are growing; many of them are being promoted to superintendents and bishops; and many of them are introducing us to new pastors and friends. Also one important aspect of the African-American Church Community is the importance of Church anniversaries and Pastor's Birthdays. Our support of the events, often buying a table or group of tables develops an ongoing relationship with the churches. And the ministers most always will return the favor, by attending your banquet or church anniversary. This proved quite true this past Christmas when we held our third annual True Family

CHIC

ence with God at one of our New Era Pastoral academic Conferences. After that point, Dr. Quebedeaux would refuse to discuss our conferences with his friends. He would just invite them to attend, knowing full well that their concepts about our movement would be destroyed through their experience with God at our conferences. And the same holds true for our best ministers. men like Rev. T.L. Barrett, who offered the prayer representing all of Protestant Christianity at the RFK Blessing, attending our Inter-religious Conference for World Peace in December in Washington, D.C., bought two tables and was the M.C. for our True Family Values Banquet two weeks later and then turned around and flew to Korea for Blessing '99 where he once again was asked to offer the Prayer representing all of Protestant Christianity. Now, Rev. Barrett did not need go to Washington, D.C. or even to Korea just for the trip. This man works about 120,000 hours a week leading a vibrant and spirit-filled church to new heights every day. The street that goes past his Life Center Church is named in his honor. His church was the first one in America to fly the Family Federation Flag on its flagpole and I could go on and on. So it is God alone that is calling Rev. Barrett to work alongside his Unification Church/Family Federation brethren in the fight to save America.

The same can be said of Rev. Dr. Leroy Elliott, the Pastor of New Greater St. John Baptist Church on Chicago's great West Side. Rev. Elliott, whose older brother Charles hosted True Mother at his King Solomon Baptist Church in Louisville, Kentucky is one of the, if not the, top evangelist in America. Rev. Elliott is on the road doing revivals 46 weeks a year. I witnessed one in Macon, Georgia, where the Beulahland Baptist Church was filled to its 2500 seat capacity every day for the week that he was preaching-and oh how this man of God can preach! Rev. Elliott tells the story of how as a child down in Kentucky, they used to catch squirrels by leaving some squirrel food in a box. Once the squirrel crawled into the box, the door would slam closed and the squirrel was caught. Last January, Rev. Elliott gave testimony to Rev. Kwak at a breakfast in Chicago, that the door to True Parents box had slammed closed behind him and that he is now caught. In other words, he has experienced God while working alongside of his Unification Church Brethren and that "what therefore God has joined together let no man put asunder (Mt: 19:6). Rev. Elliott has a vision to save all of America and it seems that God has set him up to have



Rev. Ki Hoon Kim singing at the celebration after the Chicago speech

The first indication was in the area of proclamations. In Chicago we have developed an effective system to get proclamations and letters of greeting from the Governor, the Mayor, the City Council, and our State and Federal Officials. However, the November election of 1998 occurred between last April 10th and our event in March 1999. Illinois has a new Governor, a new Secretary of State, a new United States Senator, a new Speaker of the House in Washington, D.C., and even many of the offices that we were familiar with have now been staffed with new personnel who didn't know us from Adam. So in many ways, it was like starting over from scratch.

As we began to work through our network of established churches some new phenomenon began to occur. We have done so much with our churches, that planning a new event was beginning with a tremendous response, especially from our best ministers. Over the past four years, through the series of blessings, and everything else, we have been in constant relationship with our

Values Christmas Banquet on December 26th. Although many thought our Bishop Ki Hoon Kim to be overly ambitious in holding the banquet on the day after Christmas, reality proved the unbelievers wrong- as over 500 guests joined Rev. Joong Hyun Pak and major church leaders from all over Chicago at the celebration.

The next new phenomenon was that certain ministers have now elevated to new levels of commitment in their work with us. We have come to realize that given their incredible schedules and the fact that so many of the ministers are so serious, so dedicated and being led by the holy spirit, these men and women of God can go only so far with us on a horizontal level. In other words, they would only be willing/able to walk so far with their friends. Only the fact that they themselves are experiencing the presence of God and the Holy Spirit is the basis for their continuing walk of faith and commitment with our True Parents.

I remember our old friend, Dr. Richard Quebedeaux, who had a deep experi-



MOTHER'S TOUR



AGO

access to most every major Baptist pastor in the United States. Basically, he wants to take True Family Values to every corner of America.

A third phenomenon that is occurring is the inter-relationship between the ministers. Years ago, after the ICC trips to Korea, Father asked the ministers to begin to fellowship together—even having a joint service once a month. During this campaign, more than ever before, the ministers seriously began doing this. Many of them, who were from different denominations began to come together to bring others to the event. Many of them began to preach in each other's churches and invite and encourage other congregations to attend True Mother's speech. Even unto the last minute, many of our best ministers were preaching at other churches and inviting them to True Mother's speech.

So the 4,000 guests that filled the International ballroom of the Chicago Hilton & Towers Hotel were the guests of over 185 pastors who attended the event. The invitational committee of more than 100 ministers took up more space than the program. But that is just the point—this was not a Unification Church event—it was a product of the joint cooperation of the ministers, political leaders, business leaders, civic leaders and ethnic leaders of the Chicagoland area in an effort to support True Parents North American speaking tour in Chicago. Filipinos, Hispanics, African-Americans, Muslims, Christians, Catholics, Native Americans and Jews joined together to welcome True Mother back to Chicago.

The program began promptly at three o'clock in the afternoon. For one hour, choirs from Rev. Wendell Lowe's Acme MB Church, COGIC Bishop Bennie Allison's Corinthian Temple Choir, Rev. Jesusa Barrett's Iglesia de Cristo Misionera Choir, Rev. Levan Brayboy's Mt. Zion Inspirational Choir, Rev. Edwin Simmons New Friendship MB Choir, COGIC Bishop Ocie Booker's Tabernacle Church of God in Christ Choir and Rev. Marvin Alexander's Union Missionary Baptist Choir performed. From the moment anyone set foot in the auditorium, even just after three o'clock when the room was just begin-

ning to fill up, one was immediately caught up in a mighty powerful spirit, and all fears and doubts about the success of the program were dismayed.

By four o'clock nearly every seat was filled and Rev. Jenkins began the program promptly. Bishop Cody Marshall, Pastor of the

tor T.L. Barrett, jr. was shown giving the prayer representing all of Protestant Christianity at Blessing '99 in Seoul, each of his 250 members and guests in attendance gave resounding applause. After a beautiful introduction by one of Illinois' most popular political leaders, True Mother took the stage to a standing ovation that did

not want to sit down. Her speech was received with constant amens, hallelujahs and applause in the spirit-filled hall. We were truly having Church!

After she finished, Mother received flowers from Mr. Eric Seim and his beautiful new Japanese bride and then Mother walked down to the first row of seats and shook hands with the 30 dignitaries who were blessed to have been seated in the first row. Two of the ministers were so inspired that they just followed

Mother out the back door and through the corridors up to the celebration room. They were just like true children following their Mother wherever she was going!

The program concluded with two more choral selections from Minister Yakeerah and rev. T.L. Barrett Jr.'s Life Center Church Choir and Rev. Constance Bansa's Church of the Living God Choir.

By the time many of the members and guests entered, the celebration room was filled to overflowing as many of the pastors, including Rev. Elliott, Rev. Barrett, Rev. Constance Bansa and her sister Shirley Sims, Rev. A.I. Dunlap and Rev. Helen Cooper saluted True Parents in praise and song for

nearly two hours. Leaders from the Nation of Islam presented True Mother with beautiful gifts and greetings of ah salam alakem. Rev. M.E. Sardon celebrated his 87th birthday, and the growing Chicago community of second generation blessed children serenaded True Mother with their Children's Choir. Mother and Father returned the favor each singing three songs and Mother moved each of our hearts with "Home Sweet Home."

After pledge service on Sunday, Peter Kim read several of Father's historical prayers both in Korean and in English and True Mother shared very deeply about the true meaning of the elder son's position. During a joyful breakfast, True Mother honored Rev. Reiner and Mrs. Barbara Vincenz and their beautiful daughter Leena in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of their blessing. The Vincenz's then sang Omiya for True Mother. Also Mrs. Kathleen Somitani sang a beautiful song that she wrote for Mother 26 years ago upon her first meeting with True Mother. True Mother was so moved by the song's beauty that she instructed Rev. Kim to send it to Rev. Kwak in New York to be selected as one of the New Holy Songs of Unification Culture for the New Millennium. Also our newly blessed Chinese Carp leader who had helped bring 200 students to the event sang a beautiful song for True Mother.

Our true goal in this campaign was not just to fill an auditorium, but to bring true joy to True Mother. We sincerely hope that we were able to do this. On the way to the airport, Mother asked the motorcade to turn around and take her to the shore of Lake Michigan before heading for the airport. When she got there, Mother got out of the car and walked down to the shore to look at the Chicago skyline and pray. Quickly joined by all 30 people in the motorcade, Mother posed for pictures with the skyline in the background and reiterated her instructions that we should be diligent to take care of the 4,000 guests who had attended her speech.

see **CHICAGO** on page 8



Freedom Temple COGIC and Chairman of the Religious Coalition of Illinois opened the program with a rousing prayer of hallelujah. The religious Coalition of Illinois is made of up every major religious leader in the state including Chicago's Francis Cardinal George and Chicago's Bishop Ki Hoon Kim. Each of them had been asked to offer a prayer of unity at Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley's Martin Luther King, Jr. annual prayer breakfast this past January. The prayer breakfast, attended by 2,000 ministers had been held in this same ballroom and had inspired Rev. Kim to have Mother's speech here as well.

After Bishop Marshall, Rev. Jenkins read off proclamations and letters of greeting from the Governor, Secretary of State and Treasurer of Illinois. A very personal letter was read from the Mayor and Proclamations were introduced from the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago proclaiming Saturday, March 27, 1999 as Family Federation for World Peace and Unification Day in Chicago and in Illinois. As Rev. Jenkins read the proclamations, members of Chicago's second generation paraded across the stage holding the framed proclamations up high.

The program went very smoothly with Mother's videotape receiving deep appreciation. And when Pas-





MOTHER'S TOUR



CHICAGO from page 7

Even after entering her plane, she came back to the open door two different times to wave good-bye to the members and as her jet soared off to Atlanta, several members could see the horde of angels surrounding her airplane.

Post Script:

A few days later, Rev. Kim received a call from Father in South America. This was the first call that Rev. Kim had ever gotten like this, directly from Father in South America. He just wanted to know more and more about the Chicago event. Here again, Rev. Kim emphasized that it was the unity and cooperation of the Chicago community, the Family Federation, the Tribal Messiahs, the business leaders and members and the Japanese Kodans that had made all this possible.

These are some comments from ministers who attended the event:

"The program was great, but when I saw how many



Rev. Jenkins, MC on the tour, testifying at the East Garden celebration

her presentation. Rev. Moon was actually converted into the Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church always talks about love. Dr. Moon sounded like a modern Presbyterian."—*Dr. Paul Swanson Lutheran Professor of Theology, Emeritus*

"What I experienced was a coming together of all church denominations where we had the opportunity to mingle and mix. The Unification Church is truly carrying out the meaning of its original name, to unify all churches under the banner of coming together to worship God together through the Holy Spirit. I experienced the reality of the words that Jesus spoke in John

12:32, "If I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto me." In my opinion, nothing is greater than unity—this is the only way that we can eliminate the wars, the breakdown of the family and the child abuse that are destroying our Christian society."—*Rev. M. E. Sardon, Holiness Community Temple (Rev. Sardon, who has worked with UC projects for over 15 years was celebrating his 87th birthday during Dr. Moon's speech)*

"Rev. and Mrs. Moon are standing up for the family in America. I truly believe that Rev. and Mrs. Moon are carrying out the vision that Dr. King professed during his lifetime—that people should be judged by the content of their character, not by the color of their skin. Only through the ministry of the Unification Church do I see people of all races and nationalities, Filipinos, Koreans, Japanese, Jewish, Hispanic, Indian, being drawn together under one banner—the banner of God and the Holy Spirit."—*Rev. A. I. Dunlap Shepherd, Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church*

"When I sat at the lunch table with Mother Moon, I felt that totally I was her true son."—*Pastor T.L. Barrett, Jr. Life Center Church of God in Christ*

One anecdote: One of our powerhouse witnessing/ blessing sisters met one of the most powerful politicians in the City of Chicago on her way out of the hotel after the program. He had actually written a beautiful greeting which we read at the event, but he did not attend personally. The sister boldly approached him, thanked him for this letter of greeting, but also informed him that he had missed one of the most valuable events of the year and was obviously on his way to attend the wrong event. But she lovingly forgave him for his mistake and gave him Mother's speech to read. ♦

"The program was simply beautiful. We enjoyed every minute of it."—*Rev. Dr. Thomas and Diane Lee Special Assistant to the Mayor*

"I found Dr. Moon to be more correlative with other denominations in

IRFF Appeal for Kosovar Refugee Relief

by Dr. Kathy Winings—Tarrytown, NY

The International Relief Friendship Foundation (IRFF) has initiated a project to provide aid and comfort to the thousands of Kosovar refugees who fled to Albania. This project will provide very specific aid—as requested the USAID and the UNHCR. Therefore, we are seeking financial contributions in whatever amount that can be donated. All funds will go to purchase:

(1) Blankets (from a company in the United Kingdom)

(2) Ready-to-eat heater meals (from a company in the United States)

They will be distributed directly in Albania by IRFF. IRFF is cosponsoring this project with Women's Federation for World Peace and Christian Disaster Response (an international relief agency based in Florida).

Monetary contributions are the preferred form of donation at this time. However, should this be absolutely impossible, yet you wish to make a donation of some type, please contact: Dr. Kathy Winings at <IRFFint@aol.com>.

IRFF asks that you do not donate any other items without first talking with Dr. Winings as the needs of the refugees have been assessed and IRFF

has a precise list of requested items.

You may send checks or money orders made out to IRFF to:
Dr. Kathy Winings
IRFF

177 White Plains Road, 50F
Tarrytown, NY 10591
IRFF Phone: 914-366-0558

Or, you may wire money directly into the IRFF account in the United States or to IRFF Luxembourg. To wire money to IRFF's main account in New York, use the following information:

Bank: Chase Bank
Seventh Avenue at 32nd Street
New York, NY 10001
(212) 935-9935
Account: International Relief Friendship Foundation
026-1-115547
Routing #: 021000021

The bank information for wiring to IRFF-Luxembourg is as follows:

Bank: Banque et Caisse d'Epargne de l'Etat, Place de Metz, L-2954 Luxembourg

Name: Fond. Inter. de Secours et d'Amitie

Acc. number: 10/2/024383-74
Thank you for your generosity and support for this vital project.

Any questions, please feel free to contact Dr. Kathy Winings, executive director, IRFF. ♦



MOTHER'S TOUR



by Kevin Thompson
—Oakland, CA

Blessings come in threes it seems. True Mother's speech and awards banquet at the Oakland Hilton was

a success in more ways than one. Never have we brought such a diverse group of high quality guests to such a rich spiritual evening. The Love Center Choir set the evening off to a wonderful beginning with their powerful style, as the audience feasted on a sumptuous salmon dinner. Mr. Paul Cobb, a long time friend of our church and a writer for the Oakland Tribune gave a heartistic introduction to True Mother. The audience was well prepared to receive the speaker of the evening and Mother gave out so much blessing with her speech.

Our brothers and sisters tell me that some of their guests were in tears during Mother's speech with the content being exactly what they needed to hear. One of our guests was observed marking up the speech book as she went through it and then proceeding onto do the same thing with the second speech.

After the speech came a "peace blanket" presentation from Princess Pale Moon, followed by True Mother presenting plaques to 14 selected winners of the first annual "Sacrificial Love Awards". The recipients were selected from 55 nominees of local education, religious and community activist's categories. Pictures were taken and then it was on to the celebration room with members and guests sharing in the joy of seeing True Parents love bridge the gap of two continents.

The second great blessing for our church community came the next morning when True Mother visited our new church facility and cut the ceremonial ribbon, holy salted the sanctuary

OAKLAND

and toured the whole building. Mother expressed her happiness to see this

church and I was able to explain about our activities. We were able to get this



Mother prays before cutting the ribbon to open the new Bay Area Family Church

church through tremendous unity of our community and co-operation of so many people. Having this new center of our activity has been a huge boost for our efforts with weekly events taking place. I

explained to True Mother about our Friday evening Divine Principle study for families in which the whole family gets a chance to study our teaching and have discussion and fellowship with other families. This has become such an important part of our weekly calendar and each week 130 or so people attend. This then becomes our more internal study time and then Sunday Service can be more "guest friendly" in it's content. When our regional director wants to speak to the church membership we have an adult Sunday school before the main service. We have been able to host our own prayer breakfasts, parenting classes, music lessons, cub scouts, second generation workshops, WFWP workshops and regular DP seminars in this new facility. The backbone of all of our activities has been the 10:00 to midnight prayer meetings in the church each night. Posing for pictures outside with all of the members present was another special event.

The third blessing came in the form of a wonderful newspaper article, which Paul Cobb wrote and appeared in the Easter Sunday edition of the Tribune. This article was so positive and uplifting, hitting many highlights of True Parents work. Paul Cobb was especially impressed by Mother's warmth during the "spontaneous Karaoke" celebration after the speech. Mr. Cobb told us that he had received many nice comments after the article came out, especially from women of other faiths who are impressed by Mother's accomplishments and happy to see her stepping forward. ❖

Newspaper Article

Dr. Moon speaks at Oakland banquet

by Paul Cobb—Oakland, CA

This article appeared in the Oakland Tribune.

Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon showed the signs of establishing her own identity and the capability to lead a world church organization when she visited Oakland last week on the 35th stop of her 82-city worldwide tour.

Speaking before 700 interdenominational representatives at the Oakland Hilton banquet, entertained by the Love Center Gospel Choir, Dr. Moon told the audience "All members of the human family — parents, husband and wives and children — need true love. A family formed in this way, centering on true love, is the foundation for the kingdom of heaven."

She is married to the Rev. Sun Myung

Moon, who is one of the most controversial religious leaders in the world today.

Fifty-three years ago—on Easter Sunday morning — the Rev. Moon said he was inspired by a vision of Jesus Christ.

He said Jesus asked him to help take responsibility to further God's providence of restoration.

He then founded a new Christian movement known as the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity (Unification Church).

The Rev. Moon evokes strong reactions because he has combined his deeply religious organization with the fortunes from his church's related global business enterprises to help finance many international, cultural and scientific associations.

What some critics of the Rev. Moon fear most is his flourishing global newspaper-magazine conglomerate that pub-

lishes in the United States, Korea, Japan, Middle East and in most South American countries.

On the other hand, Dr. Moon's approach and persona are very warm and engaging. She smiles, shakes hands, speaks Korean, Japanese, English and Spanish and adapts to unforeseen events effortlessly.

She moved among the Oakland audience with the ease of Elizabeth Dole on the presidential campaign trail.

She "pressed the flesh" with the crowd and seemed even more comfortable handling the spontaneity of a private after-dinner reception that turned into a second rally featuring unscripted testimonials and karaoke-style a capella singing from the multi-racial, interdenominational participants.

After each of her speeches, she shares a video conference with the Rev. Moon, who is in Brazil.

Dr. Moon shares the leadership of the Unification Movement with the Rev. Moon. As the mother of 13 children and the grandmother of 21, she understands how difficult it is to juggle the responsibilities of family with the demands of a worldwide ministry.

"I founded the Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) to involve women of all races, nationalities and religious orientations in the pursuit of lasting world peace," said Dr. Moon. She said she believes that "with God's help, women uniting together can make a positive difference in the world."

The Rev. Moon and Dr. Moon have presided over numerous large-scale marriage ceremonies over the years.

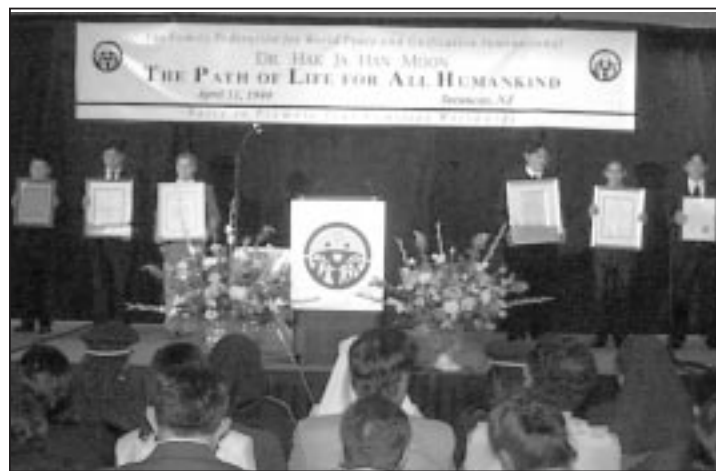
On Feb. 7, 1999, Dr. Moon and her husband officiated at an international, inter-religious wedding ceremony for 360 million couples worldwide.

see OAKLAND on page 10



SECAUCUS

These photographs of the speech in Secaucus, NJ were taken by Graeme Carmichael



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The Rev. Moon, 79, and Dr. Moon, 56, also share the same birthday of Jan. 6.

They also come from the same hometown in North Korea.

For the Unification Church, Oakland occupies a special importance because two national church presidents have come from this city.

Tyler Hendricks, an Oakland Technical High School graduate, is the current president and Dr. Mose Durst is a former president.

As the founder of WFWP who co-sponsored the event, she presented "Sacrificial Love Awards" to 14 Northern Californians who "embody the spirit of unselfishness and help make a path of life for all mankind."

Among those honored were: Gloria Brinker, a volunteer at Oakland's St. Francis de Sales; Dr. Sonia Ghaemi, founder of Women's Nutrition Health Therapy Center 2000; Rahima Assefi Haya, Afghan Women's Association International Liaison for the Hayward Unified School District.

Also honored were: the Rev. Victor Medearis, pastor of Double Rock Baptist in San Francisco; Orie Medicine-

ull, founder of the American Indian Women's Association from the Western Mono tribe; Ramona Wilson, founder of an Oakland Native American Charter School; Donnetter Lane, director of the Booker T. Washington Community Center in San Francisco; and Pastor Brondon Reems, who formed a computer training program at the Center of Hope Community Church in Oakland.

Minister Keith Muhammad of the Nation of Islam said his group supports Dr. Moon's "call for strong families and it fits with the theme of Minister Farrakhan's Million Family March in the year 2000."

Tom Wilson, assistant director of community relations for the San Leandro Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, said "our church believes the family unit is the linchpin of our society and we are happy to see any organization honor families."

Mary Ann Wright, founder of the Mother Wright Foundation that provides food for Oakland's homeless and operates missions in several countries, received a truck and tons of food from Dr. Moon's organization.

"Project Volunteer was the first organization to give me free food to feed our homeless people," she said, as she sang to the Rev. Moon and the guests. ❖



by Anslie Abraham—
Philadelphia, PA

PHILADELPHIA

Before any report or comments about the above event I want to extend my heart felt gratitude and appreciation to all the members, who contributed to this event with their Blood, Sweat and Tears, especially New Jersey members. Without the unwavering commitment and dedication of the members the victory in Philadelphia was but a mere dream. Yes! Behind every victory there stands a faithful Leader through whom God does His miracles. I want to take this opportunity to thank Rev. Jeong Phyo Hong for his dynamic leadership, his determination and his unfailing faith in our members. May God richly bless him, his family and all the New Jersey members.

These are some of the people involved in making the event such a success:
Regional Director: Rev. Joong Hyun Pak
Executive Event Director: Rev. Jeong Phyo Hong
Mobilization: State Director Anslie Abraham
Sponsors:

tor, Institute for Inter-religious Intercultural Dialogue.

VIPs: These included: Rev. and Mrs. Terrence Griffith, Project Director Independent Ministers Conference. Rev. Jesse Edwards, President of the. PA Parents Day Foundation, Pastor of The Pentecostals of Philadelphia. Founder and Director of Philadelphia Christian Academy. Rev. and Mrs. Clarence Templeton, Co-Pastors, Good Hope Baptist Church. Thomas Twine, President, Twine & Assoc.



Hughes, daughter of Rev. Edwards, sang an original Christian Song (In Your Hands) that was very beautiful and created a more spiritual and deep atmosphere.

True Mother presented WFWP "Woman of Peace 1999" Awards to twelve women leaders: Vicki Tate, WFWP Chairwoman, Philadelphia, Kamala S. Bose, Consultant on Health and Aging. Denise K. Carey, Youth Development. Josephine Clarke, OES Foster Parent. Harriet Faison, Friends of the Elderly Project. Grace Kang, President, Chinese American Women's Sisterhood Society of Philadelphia. Belinda Jenkins, OES Youth Coordinator. Andrea Lawrence, OES Youth Coordinator. Ruthie Mellaby, Courageous Prison Ministry. Karen Shockley, Public Housing Service. Gwen Tucker, Fundraiser for OES.



Presentation of the WFWP women's awards

Flowers presented by Rev. Dr. Handel and Ethel Williams. Mayor Rendell's proclamation was presented by Hon. Joan Reeves.

Victory Celebration Room: Celebration was not too long but it was beautiful. Many Philadelphia Clergy attended the Celebration.. New Jersey UC



The celebration after the speech



FFWPU and WFWP Pennsylvania Co-Sponsored by: PA Parents Day Foundation, Minister's Banquet hosted by Parents Day Foundation. Attendance: About 700 Emcee: Rev. Michael Jenkins, FFWPU America Midwest Director Special Remarks: Dr. Tyler Hendricks, FFWPU America Vice-President (Received Standing Ovation) Introduction to True Mother: Dr. Leonard Swidler, Professor of Catholic Thought and Interreligious Dialogue, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA. Editor, Journal of Ecumenical Studies. Founder and Direc-

tor, Institute for Inter-religious Intercultural Dialogue. Rev. Dr. Gerald Howard, Pastor, Nehemiah Worship Center. Rev. Henry Wells, President and CEO, One Day at a Time. Minister Curtis Muhammad, West Philadelphia Nation of Islam. Dr. Rev. Dwight Campbell, Philadelphia Housing Authority. Rev. Wycliff Jangdharee Refomed Seventh Day Adventist Church Dr. Rev. Handel Williams and Wife Rev. Ethel Boyd Williams Rev. Adeniran Samuel Pastor of Celestial Church of Christ
Proclamations: Governor of Pennsylvania Tom Ridge Representative

Frank Farafeni Congressman Chaka Fattah Pennsylvania State Senate City of Philadelphia, Mayor Edward Rendell City of Pittsburgh City of Scranton State Senator Robert Mellow

Invocation: Rev. Jesse Edwards, President Parents Day Foundation. Pastor, The Pentecostals of Philadelphia. Founder and Director, Philadelphia Christian Academy.

The video: Received many rounds of applause! Music Selection: Colleen

Children's Choir sang a beautiful original song by Ken Hendricks, Director. True Mother was connected with True Father at Jardim through phone call. Father, Mother and many members sang on both sides of the phone call. Finally True Mother created a very high spiritual atmosphere by singing Edelweiss and a Korean song, and then Father sang Korean dancing songs. All the members and guests in Philadelphia see **PHILADELPHIA** on page 15



MOTHER'S TOUR

DALLAS

by Bruce Biggin—Dallas, TX

All pieces came together to make a beautiful picture at True Mother's event in Dallas. Having an eminent law enforcement office introduce Mother was the final piece which made the event such a success.

Everyone in our region worked hard as we began in earnest on March 1 under the direction and guidance of our regional director, Rev. Jin Churl You. Members from Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and from the rest of Texas all contributed greatly to True Mother's speaking program. We immediately began crafting invitation letters, loading information into our computers and making lists of VIPs we wanted to invite. One brother began calling people who attended our last event and in a matter of two or three days we had over 100 confirmations.

We enhanced our program with community service awards and worked with the churches to form an interfaith choir with their involvement. Working in this manner we had an extra 170 guests.

We approached government and community leaders in an attempt to find a VIP who could introduce True Mother, but we were having no success. We had dropped an invitation off at the Dallas police chief's office. Then a few days later we received a call from his secretary, saying "My boss is coming." I called back and found out it was Mr. Click. We then dropped Mr. Click another letter inviting him to introduce True Mother. Just ten days before the program, we got another call back saying that he would do so. We were so relieved and grateful.



When he introduced Mother at the speech, we could see why God had chosen this man. He is a very humble and energetic person. In fact, he goes out into the Dallas community and does volunteer service every week. After True Mother spoke he presented her with a Dallas Police pin and pinned it on her. True Mother was very pleased.

us and to assist us in any way possible in our work.

Hats off to Craig Williams from Houston in putting together an interfaith choir and for his work with the ministers. We had a 70-member interfaith choir which provided heavenly music prior to the program. The Nation of Islam and Dr. Wendell Blair on behalf of his 120-member church union made beautiful presentations to True Mother.

The post-event celebration with True Mother was an occasion filled with a victorious and joyful feeling. Father had returned from Brazil and was in East Garden at the time we had our victory celebration. Songs were sung back and forth—first in our celebration room, then at East Garden, then back in Dallas, etc. In our audience at Dallas were many VIPs. The president of the Oak Cliff Ministers' Union (120 churches), Dr. Blair, who loves and deeply appreciates Mother, sang a beautiful song for her and True Father. Another minister from Louisiana also sang a deeply moving song which touched everyone in the room. The finale consisted of True Father and True Mother singing for everyone, following by dancing at the end.

Though tired, we felt victorious and grateful to make a good offering; still, we realized we could have done much better and there is so much more still to do. ❖



Departure



Presentation of awards



Christian ministers sing at the after-speech celebration



The inter-faith choir





by Walter Lowe—Seattle, WA

T rue Mother brought the message of "The Path of Life for All Humankind" to a packed ballroom at Seattle's Westin Hotel on Tuesday, March 30, 1999. The crowd was estimated at over 1000, with nearly 800 attending in the ballroom and over 200 others at overflow locations. The audience, gathered from throughout the Northwest Region, included guests from Washington, Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and Alaska as well as international attendees from nearby British Columbia, Canada. Mother was introduced by the Honorable Gene Winchester, a retired member of the Idaho State Legislature and a colonel in the US Air Force. Rev. Leroy York, pastor of the Evening Star Church of God in Christ, provided the invocation.

The event coordinators, Dr. David Burgess and Rev. Michael Downey, put together a delightful program which emcee Rev. Michael Jenkins praised for its attention to detail and service to Mother and her accompanying entourage. The Interfaith and ethnic communities were well represented at the event due to the tireless efforts of community leaders such as Rev. David Malloch and Yukichi Tate. Bonnie Berry-Cooledge and her staff at the WFWP also brought a notable contingent of local women leaders and community representatives.

The impressive list of attendees included:

From the Native American commu-

nity: Chief John and Mrs. Janet Webster, from the Husat Tribe; chief Herb Fisher, Council Members Rick and Heidi Horejsi, from the Hoh Tribe;

From the Women's Federation: Mr. (and Mrs.) Azziz Sadat, founder and director of Afghan Relief Northwest; (Mr. Norman and) Mrs. Georgie Kunkel, retired pioneer in the field of school counseling, author, recipient of WFWP WA. woman of the year 1998; Mrs. Bea Wilson, Family Support Network, Pres. of Central Seattle area Chamber of Commerce, Families and Friends of Violent Crime Victims;

From the Inter-Faith community: Buddhist—Duoc Su Temple (Vietnamese); Van Hanh Temple (Vietnamese); Wat Mixai Temple (Laotian); Vice President Sahak Khemararam Buddhist Assoc. (Cambodian); Golden Summit Sage-ly Monastery; Moslem—Hisham Farajallah, Ismael Ahmed, Minister Milford Mohammed, Nation of Islam; Sikh—Representative of Gurdwara Singh Sabha; Hindu—Representative of the Hindu Temple and Cultural Center; Christian—Star Bethel Missionary Baptist Church; Pilgrim

Rest Missionary Baptist Church; Evening Star Church of God in Christ; and House of Holiness Pentecostal Church. Other religious communities included members of "The Family", the Church of Scientology, and the Wesleyan Community Church

Ethnic groups sending representatives included: the Kurdish Community, Somali Self Help Organization, the Filipino Community Association, Vietnamese Community Organization, the Chinese Community, and the Ethiopian community.

Political, government and social

groups were represented by Representatives of the Libertarian Party, Consul of the Nation of Seychelles, a representative from the Consulate of Mexico, Korean Community Ambassador Hun Son, Consulate General of Republic of Korea. Mr. Min, Hak Jun, Former President of Washington State Korean Association as well as two past presidents of Washington State Korean Association, the president of a Korean Senior Citizen Organization, and a Korean Monk.

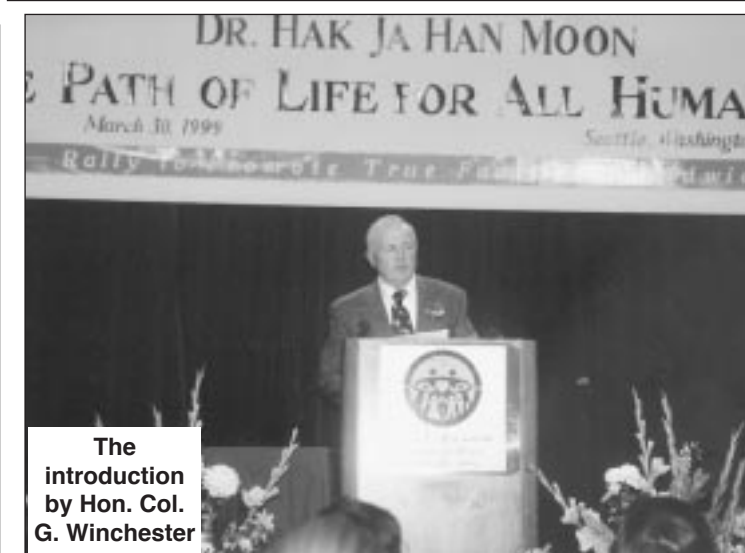
In addition, proclamations, congratulatory letters, and welcome letters were presented on stage by members of HARP from Ron Sims, King County Executive; City of Seattle Mayor Paul Schell; Washington State Senator Paul Shin; and Mrs. Dorothy Gopher of the Ojibwa Tribal Nation.

In his introductory remarks, Dr. Tyler Hendricks commented on the significance of this diversity of the audience. He noted that religious leaders such as the Pope or the Dalai Lama have the power to draw large audiences, but the audiences are primarily of their own followers sharing the same ideology. Dr. Hendricks pointed out the power of the message being given by the True Parents which can draw together so many different people. He noted that it is the power of the love of the family with a focus on the ideal of the True Family which can move all principled people in one direction.

Dr. Hendricks stressed the importance of all religious leaders needing to be able to speak with one voice. Because of the lack of unity among religious leaders, political leaders having religious beliefs have been reluctant to include religion in the political process. Dr. Hendricks noted that the evening's message represents the "one voice" which needs to be raised throughout the land and around the world.

The evening program began with a sumptuous buffet in the anteroom entrance to the Grand Ballroom. The crowd was then ushered into the room by upbeat music by the Jal Feldman Swing Band, and the festive mood was further highlighted by the Sun Hak Inter-

SEATTLE



HARP members display the proclamations



MOTHER'S TOUR



by Ralph Jensen—Taipei, Taiwan

T rue Mother's visit in Taiwan was a great success. True Mother arrived in Taiwan on the afternoon of April 21 on the airport of Taipei, where we expected her with about 50 unification members, VIPs and National Messiahs. In a convoy - headed by a police car - we drove to the Grand Hyatt Hotel of Taipei. There she was greeted again by another 50 unification church members and the hotel manager presented a gift to True Mother. In the evening we (National Messiahs, Prof. Chang (Taiwan), Dr. Kyung Hee Chin (Bridgeport University) and Peter Kim) had dinner with True Mother in the President Suite where Mother stayed. During that time Mother greatly praised Prof. Chang for his merits for the Taiwan movement. Prof. Chang studied physics at the university of Athens, Ohio in the USA 30 years ago. After returning to Taiwan he joined the unification movement (I don't know exactly when). When the church was banned he had to endure many difficulties, including losing his position as a university professor. Still he witnessed to many students. True Mother called him a 'noble gentleman' and wanted him to remember this title in Korean ('yang ban', I think it is). Prof. Chang is a very fine man, who doesn't talk much. I

TAIWAN

actually didn't know until then, that he speaks English well.

The next morning we had Hun Dok Hoi with Mother in the President suite. Peter Kim read from the book of Father's prayers. Immediately afterwards we left for the Taiwan Cultural University, where Mother received an honorary doctorate degree. I have been told that the head of that university is very restrictive concerning granting this title to anybody. Very few people ever received a honorary degree from that university. Again, Mother's convoy was guided a police car through the traffic jams of Taipei.

There were a few other meetings which True Mother attended, including a lunch for VIPs at the Hyatt Hotel (more than hundred people). I think this was Mother's first experience with the Chinese tradition of lunching and meeting. Background: Chinese like to eat, going to lunch, dinner whatever has great importance. During these events they freely meet each other, going around exchanging name cards, introducing themselves to other VIPs,

promoting their various causes, businesses, whatsoever. Some people left in the middle of the lunch, well all this is quite normal procedure, but clearly not suited to receive True Mother. Mother endured through about half of the event and then decided to leave. Rev. Jae Seok Lee (the Korean National Messiah) announced that she had to prepare for their evening speech.

The clear highlight was True Mother's speech in the TICC (Taipei International Convention Center). The hall was completely filled with 3200 people, with some more - especially couples with children - watching the event on a screen in another hall in the basement. I think about one third of these (or less) were unification members. The president of Taiwan sent a very warm fax message welcoming True Mother, which was read to the audience. After her speech Mother called True Father on Cheju Island. Via satellite link we could not only hear Father but also watch him on two huge screens on both sides of the hall. Together with Father Mother cut a cake (in real time). Some

VIPs and members sang songs. Then Mother sang two songs (*Akatombo*, *Edelweiss*) and then True Father sang, culminating in Father and Mother singing *Omayya Nunaya* together.

This style of celebration was a bit unusual for many participants, so some began to leave - also because it was getting late.

Father asked, why did everybody leave and Mother just said, "We still have half of them here". This was an awesome experience, seeing True Parents being so harmoniously and easily united across time and space.

I later heard that Peter Kim reported about 5 minutes to True Father and that he said that, compared to Japan, Taiwan was more successful.

The next morning we had once more HDH in Mother's suite. Again, Peter Kim read from Father's prayers. Then Mother's speech was read in Chinese. As far as I understood, Mother said, now everybody knows what she said, because the day before she spoke in English. Mother canceled breakfast and left soon afterwards to the airport, again in a convoy escorted by a police car.

For me it was the first time to see True Mother in person in this kind of subject position, except once before briefly in Frankfurt, Germany. I was amazed how beautiful she is. ❖

Reflections on the Family

by Diesa Seidel—Poughkeepsie, NY

These remarks were given before True Mother's speech in Poughkeepsie, NY.

F or me it is important to reflect regularly on my path of life. As an athlete, I realize the dedication needed to attain a higher standard of achievement. On a team, each individual must dedicate him- or herself to the goal and must sacrifice their own personal ambition in order to bring about unity and success. Likewise, the family should function as a team with a common goal. Only then can it contribute to world peace by taking steps to realize a greater accord



between different nationalities, ethnicity and races. Thus, we need effective families which are built on the commitments and sustained contributions of each individual member.

Now I ask myself what I can do as a teenager to prepare for my future family. As I see it, most grownups do not know enough about the struggles and pressures young people are exposed to. For example, I saw some athletes building their bodies during the week and destroying it over the weekend. Often peer pressure can be overwhelming and resisting it takes more than knowing about good moral and ethical standards. In my experience, it takes convictions.

I have to be sure that following the voice of my conscience means that God

is on my side. Only then can I feel the courage to influence my peers in a positive way. Before these convictions are developed, there is a lot of soul-searching to be done. In my case, I realized more and more how effective true family values are in guiding me through life. There is an increasing need for upholding the value of sexual abstinence before marriage. My participation in Pure Love Alliance activities gave me more courage to be clear on that point. However, it is in the family that I received the foundations for my convictions. To have a sibling or a parent always there to help you out when you don't know to whom to turn is one thing a Visa Card can't buy. Therefore, I believe that one of the most important investments we can make is in our family. I am grateful that I was raised by parents who shared the

vision and values of Rev. and Mrs. Moon.

The family is thus the ultimate vehicle for realizing a world of peace. During my upbringing, I discovered that it is often the small things in life which bring peace by making the family more harmonious. Doing the dishes for a tired dad, spending time to help sis with her homework, and listening to a troubled brother, all translate into a stronger ability to love beyond the realm of home bonds.

If each individual feels genuinely needed, uniquely valued and unconditionally loved, the abuses of our society will crumble more quickly. I thank you for your time this evening and I invite you to consider the message of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon with an open heart and mind. ❖

SEATTLE from page 13

national Children's Choir under the direction of Mrs. Nancy Kubo. This choir is composed of second general Blessed children. They performed with Celine Dion last year, as previously reported in the Unification News.

The program concluded with the announcements of the winners of the local essay writing contest offered by FFWPU to middle school through high school students in the area. Students were given topics about family and values with a \$1000 first prize in two age

categories to be shared by the student and the sponsoring school or organization. Second and third place winners received \$300 and \$100 prizes. The high school winner was Bryan Ford of Federal Way. The middle school winner was Alexandra Giles of Seattle. Judges included Ms. Julie Pearson, a teacher in the Seattle School system; Clifford Donley, a retired vice-principal at Hazen High; Mary Donley, a retired teacher; Irene Sanders, Pastor's wife of Bethel Star Baptist Church; and Marget Chappel, a local evangelist and Sunday School teacher.

In his report after the event, Rev. Michael Jenkins made the following

comments: "The Sun Hak Choir is well-trained to sing in harmony and balance. They are children between 8 and 12 years old. The audience was supportive and they listened well. Everything went very smoothly. The victory celebration was high-spirited, with a good deal of singing on both sides of the phone. The native Americans did a song with drums playing at the celebration, and the Sun Hak choir sang two songs, then sat up front to be close to True Mother. The victory room was packed with maybe 150 members and guests." Mother was pleased to hear the choir sing two Korean songs. She mentioned that it gave her more con-

fidence that our American members can learn the Korean language.

Our Sponsoring Organizations:

Rev. Weon Keun Kim, Chairman of the FFWPU—Northwest

Rev. Michael Downey—Pres. FFWPU—Washington

Mrs. Bonnie Coolidge—Chairwoman—WFWP—Northwest Region

Rev. Michael Yakawich—Pres. FFWPU—Montana

Mr. Matt Morrison—Regional Director ACC

Mr. Tim Comey—State Director ACC Idaho ❖



MOTHER'S TOUR

TORONTO

by Rev. Mitch Dixon—
Toronto, Canada

T rue Mother Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon immediately the next day, opened her world speaking tour of 32 countries in Toronto, Canada on April 12, 1999, after successfully completing 24 cities in the United States in 24 days, 16 cities in Japan, and 8 cities in Korea. Toronto was her 49th city out of 80. True Mother, in her ardent prime, has been giving her all. Father Terry Gallagher, Scarborough Catholic Missions, introduced her at the event. Father Gallagher, in his late sixties, is an avid marathon runner.

He said, "I am a marathon runner, but this grandma [True Mother] is a "super marathon runner." She has been speaking on five world tours since 1993 at an arduous pace. We commend her as she carries her message of true love throughout the world." Emcee for the night was Rev. Michael Jenkins with Dr. Tyler Hendricks offering special remarks, both veterans on the course after 24 cities.

The event in Toronto was highlighted by the attendance of 35 dignitaries including 15 Christian ministers, 6 religious leaders, including Moslem, Hindu, and Buddhists. Several Cultural organizations participated as well. Several letters of welcome were sent to Dr. Moon from local dignitaries. Imam Hussein Ackbarally offered the innovation, and Joan Elliott, a local recording artist, performed the national anthem "O' Canada".

An overflow crowd of 1000 magni-

fied the event. In fact it was standing room only way down the corridor of the Ontario Science Centre. The Imperial Oil Auditorium has a capacity of 480. The overflow was turned away due to fire code regulations.

For the luckier ones who come early,

the evening was an enchantment as True Mother's smile and sparkling eyes exhibited a heart of true love to those representatives of Canada. She wore a pastel orange suit, and with bright facial expressions and a message of profound significance, she won them all.

Dr. and Mrs. Chae Hee Lee, Mrs. Tsuneko Habara, and Rev. and Mrs. Mitch Dixon, as national messiahs, headed the preparation for the event. Extreme preparations were conducted by a team of 35 Japanese missionaries headed by Mrs. Mikiko Tanaka, and 20 Korean students from Sun Moon University headed by Rev. and Mrs. In Teck Seo. Rev. Abdoulaye Wone, Rev. Stoyan Tadin, Rev. In Teck, Seo, Rev. Mitch Dixon, Mrs. Aila Willitts, Rev. Daniel Stringer, Mrs. Anita Wells, Mr. Michel Lajeunesse,

and Mr. Lito Paghubasan spearheaded the VIP work. Sybil Wone took care of all decorations. Mr. Douglas White videographed the event. Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Seo, and Mrs. Lilly Tadin did a superb job taking care of True Mother,



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danced as Father sang. In his report Dr. Tyler Hendricks said, "It was the most high-spirited victory celebration so far."

Highlight Mobilization: One brother, Mr. Lin Ming, A Clifton Church NJ member was sent by Rev. Hong to witness to Chinese community in Philadelphia's China town. In six weeks of witnessing time this brother brought incredible result. He contacted almost all

Chinese business, News papers and Churches. He also met a Chinese Women's group and was able to bring over hundred Chinese guests to True Mother's speech.. He got ads in two Chinese News papers and News articles in six News papers including one in International News paper. Since Chinese people like to celebrate with food, Rev. Hong with a small budget was able to allow a dinner treat for the Chinese participants. So the Brother Lin Ming gave out 130 Dinner tickets with invitations. Altogether 100 dinners were served. ❖

including cooking a Korean feast. Canadian members greatly supported and helped the event by contributing funds, encouraged by Mrs. Shigeko Nishikawa, Mrs. Keiko King, and Mr. Franco Famularo, and by bringing their friends and relatives. Thanks to all, especially the ones who worked behind the scenes with no recognition such as Mrs. Fumiko White and Mrs. Diane Dixon who did the accounting.

A crew of five headed by Mr. Michael Trusilo provided True Mother's transportation and security. They performed a smooth and flawless service. True Mother was on the move again as she departed here 10 hours later than she arrived. True Mother was happy and victorious. The highlight for me was taking a picture with her at the plane on her departure. ❖

TRUE PARENTS' HISTORY FOR CHILDREN

by Linna Rapkins

Three figures were on the road to the city. Every so often, they stopped, put the backs of their hands to their foreheads, and bowed all the way down to the ground three times. Then they walked on.

The city was Korea's capital, Seoul. The year was 1948, and the three figures were Mrs. Hong, her mother, and her five year old daughter, Hak Ja Han (she was six by Korean age.) Although they had been walking many days since escaping from the prison in Pyongyang, the girl was in good spirits, and her eyes sparkled with interest as the city came into view.

It wasn't a tall city with skyscrapers. Rather, all the buildings were less than five stories tall so they wouldn't stand taller than the Emperor's palace. Most of the people traveled by foot or bicycle. As the end of their journey came into view, Mrs. Hong felt hopeful. Her brother might be here. Maybe—just maybe—a warm room awaited them.

She looked down at her daughter. "Such a good girl," she thought. "Never complaining, always optimistic and obedient. It's a sad thing, though, that her father never tried to work things out after she was born."

She glanced at her mother walking beside her. "Of course, *Omma* was pretty tough on him, telling him to be adopted into our family and then making a big fuss when he wanted to take his daughter to live somewhere else. His pride was hurt." She sighed. "Well, at least I don't think about him much anymore." Another sigh. "Still, I sure could use some manly support sometimes." For a woman alone to care for a child in Korea at that time was not easy.

Soon-Ae remembered the home they had left behind: the dirt roads of the village, the cottage with the thatched roof, the persimmon tree—those things they would see no more. She thought also of the Inside Belly Church—gone forever. Mrs. Ho Ho Bin had refused to tell the police that she had not received revelations, even though she had received a note from a man in another cell telling her to deny everything. That man had

Refugees

told her to pray who had written the note so she could know the message was from heaven, but she didn't listen. She disobeyed the man (it was Father) and she never came back from jail.

Another woman became the leader of the group. There had been a short but unforgettable conversation between Mrs. Hong and this woman.

"Who is this girl?" the woman had asked when she saw her daughter.

"This is my daughter, Hak Ja Han," she had answered.

"How old is she?"

"Six years old."

"And don't forget that we will meet the Messiah very soon."

She looked at her mother to include her in this statement. "As we enter Seoul, we must remember to have the feeling that we are approaching him. We will continue to do our three bows regularly until we come to the edge of the city."

"Yes, *Omma*."

Mrs. Hong's own mother just looked at her wearily and nodded her head. By the afternoon, they were in the city, but still they continued walking.

"This city is endless," Soon-Ae murmured with a worried look. "It could take days to find my brother."

Her mother looked worried, too. It had been many years since she had seen her son, her only other child besides Soon-Ae. Would they recognize him?

"We could pray, *Omma*," suggested her daughter.

"That we could, daughter," she agreed.

Mrs. Hong silently prayed for guidance as they walked. With the money the soldiers had given them at the border, they stopped at an outdoor counter and had some hot fish and noodle soup, and she continued her inner prayer.

As they got up to continue their journey among the street vendors, Mrs. Hong suddenly saw a familiar face. It was a friend of her brother—and an answer to her prayers. When she told him she was looking for her brother, he was very enthusiastic.

"Yes, he is here! He's a soldier and is stationed in Seoul now." He shook his head in disbelief. "He's been talking about his family a lot lately and wishing he could go home after all these years. And now here you are! Well, then, come along. I will take you to his place."

Before long, the reunited family was settled in Seoul. Hak Ja Han attended a nearby school, and Mrs. Hong worked to support her family.

During their first year in Seoul, the communists of North Korea were becoming a real threat. They made life miserable for the South whenever they possibly could. For example, the electricity would suddenly go off all over Seoul. That was because the electrical power came from the communists, who were fond of turning it off so the factories would have to close. Then they accused the southern Koreans of being lazy because their factories were closed.

By 1950, the North Korean communists, with supplies from Russia, began making attacks on the villages and moving closer to Seoul. The Americans were urgently called to help. The air became thick with tension during the sweltering heat of June and July. Koreans were leaving Seoul by the thousands, heading south to get far away

from the hated communists.

Mrs. Hong and her mother and brother tried not to let Hak Ja Han see that they were worried. After she fell asleep each night, the adults discussed what to do. Things were getting scary. Perhaps the North Koreans would attack Seoul. Perhaps the Americans and the Russian communists would fight each other on their land and they would be caught in the middle. Should they flee? Then one day, Mrs. Hong's brother burst into the house all out of breath.

"Pack whatever you can in ten minutes," he said. "The families of soldiers are allowed to leave the city by train, and there's one leaving soon. *Kapshida! Palli, palli!*" ("Let's go! Quickly, quickly!")

They rushed around, tying bundles of their belongs onto their backs. It was difficult to run to the train on such a hot day, especially being loaded down as they were, but they managed to arrive before the train left.

The old train pulled slowly out of the station and chugged along—through the city, into the country, between the layered rice paddies, over a long bridge, and into the village of Kanko. They began to relax.

Through the open windows, they saw army jeeps and American soldiers weaving among the fleeing Koreans. These big soldiers appeared to be suffering greatly from the heat and were constantly slapping at the flies and insects which tormented them. They were also scratching a lot, so they probably had lice as well. Along the railroad tracks were thousands of people—mostly women, children, and old men in tall black hats—trudging south by foot. The few younger men were bent over double, barely able to hold up the massive bundles tied onto crude A-frames on their backs.

Suddenly: Pow! Bang! Crash! Crash! What was happening? Everyone stuck their heads out of the windows. Behind the train, they saw heavy black smoke billowing into the sky and below it, a gaping hole in the bridge they had been crossing upon five minutes before. If they had been just a few minutes late...they pulled their heads back inside, not wanting to think about that possibility.

Mrs. Hong closed her eyes. "God in heaven," she breathed shakily. "Thank you. I truly know that you are protecting my daughter—Your daughter."

They learned eventually that the American soldiers had destroyed the bridge in an attempt to stop the communists from going further south.

The Korean War had begun. Mrs. Hong and her daughter and mother arrived in the city of Taegu, where they decided to stay. Now, however, they could hear the guns of war, for the communists from the North had followed close behind. The blown-up bridges had not stopped them for long, and now they were fighting for Taegu. After that came Pusan, and then all of Korea would be theirs.

"Should we go on to Pusan?" wondered Mrs. Hong. She decided they would stay, and while the war raged around them like a big tornado, the three ladies concentrated on their daily lives. Hak Ja Han attended fifth grade. Always, they felt protected.

From time to time, God sent a

see REFUGEES on page 17



Then simply, but with quiet authority, she had said, "She will be the bride of the Lord!"

Just thinking about it gave Mrs. Hong that light-headed feeling that came whenever something unusual happened regarding her daughter, and she renewed her promise to God to take good care of her. That was her mission in life, it seemed. When they had been put into prison, she didn't know what to think. Should she stay calm, knowing that God was caring for her daughter? Or should she fight desperately to save her? In the end, she did both, and after eleven days, they escaped.

"*Omma! Omma!*" Hak Ja was tugging at her sleeve to get her attention.

"Yes, darling?"

"Will we be in Seoul today?"

"Yes, we will, daughter," she answered.



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DIVINE PRINCIPLE STUDY

WHY CHRIST CAME AND WHY HE MUST COME AGAIN

Vol. 3 • Part 6

The perfection which Jesus attained was to expand from him to his family and disciples. From there the nation of Israel and the entire world were to gradually evolve into higher and higher levels of moral and religious consciousness, modeled upon Jesus' example. We know, however, that this did not happen. Not only did John fail to support him, but, because of this, most of Jesus' fellow Jews failed to support him as well.

Indeed, when Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah finally came to the people, he was most sadly treated, particularly by the religious leaders. Some of the people listened to Jesus and often marveled at him, but their response was often focused on his miracles and healing rather than the truth he brought.

A few came to recognize him by the truth of his words, but the priests, scribes, and Pharisees, perhaps threatened by Jesus' works, consistently criticized his teaching as being contrary to the law of Moses. They viewed his miracles as coming from Beelzebub, the devil. (Mt. 12:24) they denied his Messiahship by saying that he blasphemed in referring to himself as the Son of God. (Jn. 12:33). By their frequent condemnation of Jesus, this leadership element alienated the people from him. Ultimately they bribed one of his disciples to betray him.

How can you believe?

In this hostile context, Jesus was clearly not able to disclose all that he wanted.

"We speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen; but you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?" (Jn. 3:11-12).

We may imagine that the "heavenly things" Jesus wished to share consisted of advanced knowledge concerning the Kingdom of Heaven. However, he could not convey such information to the people, because they did not believe in him.

The Gospel records indicate that Jesus did virtually everything possi-

ble to persuade his people to recognize and believe in him. He had preached about the Kingdom of Heaven he had come to establish. He frequently performed miraculous works in the hope that the people might see who he was. He had loved them with his whole being. Nevertheless, critical elements of Hebrew society failed to accept him as the Messiah, and repudiated his words and works. Matthew reports and angered Jesus rebuking them for their unbelief: "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes." (Mt. 11:21).

Jerusalem, the city of the Temple, had rejected Jesus, the true temple. He wept: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! Behold, your house is forsaken and desolate." (Mt. 23:37-38). "Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace! But now they are hid from your eyes . . . because you did not know the time of your visitation." (Lk. 19:42-44).

His return

Jesus endeavored to make his fellow countrymen recognize him by his words, his works, and his prayers, but it was all in vain. In this context, Jesus began to speak of the return of the "Son of Man." Jesus did not mention a Second Advent from the beginning of his ministry. He did so only after it became apparent that his primary intention—that of inspiring the construction of a physical and spiritual Kingdom on earth—could not be realized.

Jesus was denied and crucified by God's chosen people—the very people

who had fasted, prayed, offered tithes, prophesied, served God faithful, and longed for the Messiah throughout their suffering. However, let us be hesitant to blame the Jews of those times. If we had lived then and seen Jesus with our own eyes, quite possible we would also have denied him. This is particularly true in light of the fact that for

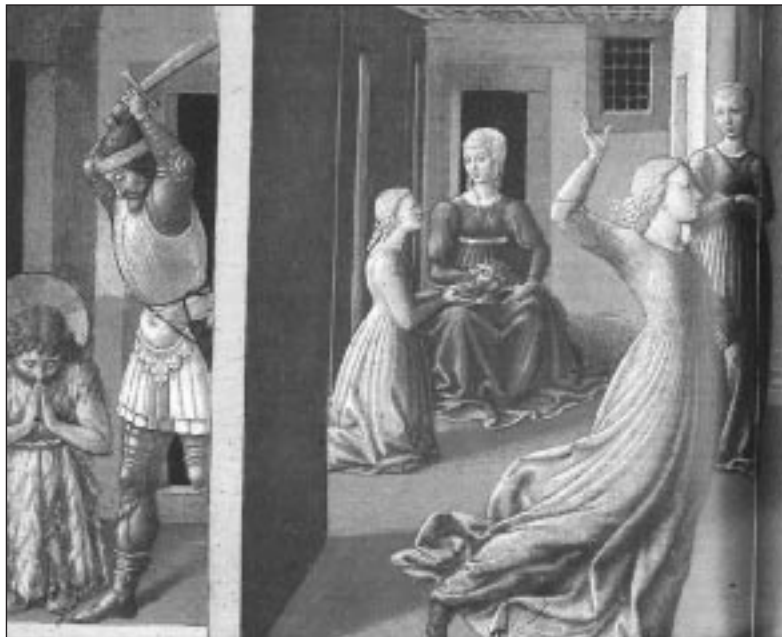
Peter and the other disciples were heavy with sleep and were not fully aware of what had transpired. Peter's exclamation: "Master, it is well that we are here; let us make three booths, one for you and one for Moses and one for the Elijah." (Lk. 9:33) reflects his excitement at the spiritual manifestation of these two great figures, but he had missed the whole point.

The Gospels indicate that about this time, Jesus began to intimate to his disciples that he would have to go to Jerusalem and be killed. Significantly, the disciples were shocked. Matthew tells us that Jesus' chief disciple Peter was so alarmed as to exclaim, "God forbid, Lord! This shall never happen to you!" (Mt. 16:22). Peter, as an intimate of Jesus, would probably have known what Jesus' intentions were. The obvious implication is that Jesus' remarks concerning his suffering were upsetting because such statements were in complete contrast to everything Jesus had taught up to then.

Although to the outer circle of followers, Jesus spoke of the Kingdom of God only in parables, to his intimate disciples he revealed more. Luke records Jesus as telling his disciples: "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the Kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables . . ." (Lk. 8:10)

Taught by Jesus, his close followers knew that Jesus was working to establish the Kingdom of Heaven. With this knowledge, John and James once asked Jesus: "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." (Mk. 10:37) Regardless of such petitions, on the mountain with Moses and Elijah, Jesus had resolved to confront the imminent crisis. He had to take an alternative path, the path to the cross. Thus he was diverted from the victorious course prophesied by Isaiah.

Next Month • Part 7
Two Prophecies ❖



Detail: The Dance of Salome Gozzoli, 1420-1497

many Jews there was apparently a missing element—Elijah—in the messianic formula.

The course changed

With the slowly developing conviction that his primary task of Kingdom-building was becoming less and less possible, Jesus was forced to change his course. A critical event in this transformation was Jesus' experience on the Mount of Transfiguration. Luke reports that at one point Jesus went upon a mountain to pray, with Peter, John and James accompanying him. During his prayer, Moses and Elijah appeared to Jesus, and his inevitable suffering was revealed to him.

"And behold, two men talked with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem." (Lk. 9:30-31).

REFUGEES from page 16

reminder to Mrs. Hong to raise her daughter well. A monk once said to her, "You could never exchange this one daughter for even ten sons. This daughter is so honorable, she cannot touch the ground." (In Korea, if you are high class, they say your feet can't touch the ground.)

"Furthermore," he said, "your daughter will marry when she is very young, and she will marry an older man, a very wonderful, rich man. Money will come to him from the sky, from the land, and from the ocean."

Another time, as she was dropping off to sleep, Mrs. Hong heard a voice. "Soon-Ae Hong," it said.

"I'm listening," she said in her mind.

"I want you to understand that your daughter must stay pure. She must

not have any boyfriends. This is very very important and your only mission is to protect her during the next few years."

"Thank you," said Mrs. Hong. "I understand."

She was already aware that some of her daughter's friends were boys, but they just seemed like brothers, so she hadn't been worried. However, Mrs. Hong had noticed that when they walked down the street together, older boys would often stare admiringly at her daughter. Some times they would boldly say something to her. "Mmm, beautiful!" Things like that.

She looked at her daughter. Her eyes were bright, her smile was beautiful, and she was pleasingly shy. There was a soft calmness about her face. She was only a child but she was blooming like a flower. No wonder the boys were looking at her.

"Hak Ja ya," her mother said, putting her arm around her shoulders. "Do you know that you must not love any boy?"

"Yes, I understand, *Omma*," she answered promptly, as if she had already thought about it. But did she really understand? Mrs. Hong could only worry.

One day, a letter came to their house addressed to Hak Ja Han. When she opened it, her face reddened, and she tried to hide it.

"What's that?" her mother asked. Hak Ja Han handed the letter to her. As Mrs. Hong read it, her heart froze. It was from a boy, and he wrote, "Dear Hak Ja, I think you are beautiful. I love you very, very much."

"Do you know this boy?" asked her mother, trying to sound calm.

"He's just one of the boys at school," she answered.

"Well, daughter, please don't talk to him. Do you promise?"

"I promise, *Omma*," she said. She really wanted to do what was right. Unknown to her mother, she was already praying to be pure and to live for God. She even prayed for a pure husband.

In the days ahead, more things like this happened—more remarks on the street, more visitors, more letters. Mrs. Hong worried day and night.

"If it's like this now," she wondered, "what will happen when she is 13—or 16 years old?"

She thought about it. She prayed about it. An idea started coming into her head, but at first she dismissed it. It was too crazy. As she prayed, however, it became more clear. They must go away. They must live alone. She must give up everything to protect her daughter. ❖

by Subhan Burton

On Christmas Day last, a number of young people representing eleven different countries and many different cultures and religions met in Guatemala City to conduct a Religious Youth Service Project. The basic goals of the RYS project were to physically construct the second floor of an elementary school in Santiago Atitlan, a Mayan village in northwest Guatemala, and to provide an experiential educational program about mutual respect, spiritual understanding, and conflict resolution at the international level. Historically, Guatemala had just ended a 36 year civil war.

Monies for the RYS project were funded partially by the Family Federation for World Peace and the International Religious Federation.

A majority of the funds for the project were raised by members of the Sufi Order of Villa Rica, Georgia. Ultimately, more than twenty corporate and individual donors from the Atlanta area helped to make this RYS project possible. Fund raising is an important part of any RYS project; someone has to provide the money for housing, food, transportation, and construction materials. The typical income in the Guatemalan village where we worked was \$1 per day; hence, it would be very difficult for the Central American participants to raise adequate funds. Also, fund-raising, asking others to give you money, is always ego challenging and spiritual growth producing.

Staff

Typically, RYS projects have a site couple who symbolically represent the spirit of mother and father. Hayya and Subhan Burton were to have been the site couple for this Guatemala RYS Project. However, Hayya's mother was very ill and Hayya decided to stay in Atlanta to nurture and care for her mother. Hence, Subhan and Muhiya Butler represented the spiritual parents of the project; they also served as the Education Directors and led the training, orientation, and reflection periods.

One of the most amazing staff members was Daniel Bessell, a twenty-year old member of the Family Federation for World Peace. Daniel was truly spiritually advanced beyond his age. He arranged the housing, construction materials, meals, transportation, and the many hundreds of details that are needed to organize the RYS project in Guatemala. While Muhiya and Subhan

are both members of the Sufi Order, Subhan is a member of the Episcopal Church and works as a University Professor in the United States. Muhiya is a member of Unity Church and works as an office manager in a legal firm in America.

The two group leaders were Mario Salinas from Honduras, and Shafee Thomas from Atlanta. Shafee is a member of the Sufi Order, an Episcopalian, and works as a real estate appraiser. Mario is a member of the Family Federation for World Peace and works as a school teacher. The additional staff member was Guillermo Bermudez, a very mature leader from Guatemala City. The technical assistance for construction was led by Senor Miguel, a Mayan contractor from Santiago Atitlan.

Rules of RYS

Most of the RYS participants range in age from 21 to 30 years, and are typically recommended for participation based on their religious commitment and national leadership poten-

Religious Youth



phere of harmony and growth, there are several basic rules that participants must follow

The RYS Schedule

The RYS project schedule is divided into three major events: staff and participant orientation, the service work, and the reflection period. The first few days are focused on staff **orientation** and afterwards participant orientation. These orientations include thorough structured get acquainted activities, enhancing real communication skills, increasing one's respect for different religions and cultures, and conflict resolution at the international level.

The second phase of RYS is the actual **work project**. The work site was nestled in the Mayan village on the shores of beautiful Atitlan Lake, surrounded by three huge volcanic mountains, with heavy white puffs of clouds

kissing their peaks each morning. This site is one of the most beautiful on Earth, where it seemed that heaven and earth touched one another. Each day began with wake-up at 6:00 a.m.

and morning meditation at 6:30 a.m., which was led by a participant or staff member from a different religious tradition each morning. Then the physical work of building the school began from 8:00 in the morning. The physical work included the moving of concrete blocks, mortar, building concrete block walls, and digging six foot holes for the foundation. The work continued until about 1:30 in the afternoon. The participants would

then have lunch. Typically, following lunch was a mini educational seminar and the sharing of cultures.

After dinner, we would have an evening interreligious or cultural program. One evening we invited the former mayor of Santiago Atitlan to visit and talk with us. He was also a Mayan priest, although it was veiled. Later he agreed to conduct a private Mayan religious ceremony for us. At that point, Subhan agreed to lead a

Native American Fire Ceremony the same night. Another evening program was sponsored by two local Mormon missionaries, one from Idaho and one from El Salvador. They spoke with us about their Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints and their missionary work in the local community.

More than 75%, maybe even 90%, of the spiritual growth and learning occurs during the **reflection period**, which occurs during the last two days of the project. The reflection period included a time of silent reflection, when the participants went into the countryside alone and did spiritual practices from their own religions. Then, the participants returned for a meeting where they formed small groups to share their reflections and learnings for this RYS project; afterwards, each small group reported a summary of their learnings and sharings. Another activity during the reflection period was when the participants wrote letters to themselves about their RYS experiences in Guatemala; the Educational Directors will then mail the letters to them in six months or a year. Another activity that is usually done during this period is a structured experience that enhances real self confidence.

The final morning of the RYS project, a Universal Worship service was led by Subhan and Muhiya. A religious alter was created, with candles representing God, the Spirit of Guidance, and each major religion. In that service, the participants presented their own religions in a deeply touching religious service. Eight participants volunteered to lead a chant or song from their religion, a reading from their Holy Book, and a closing prayer; all of which was spoken in their original language. For example, the Chinese Buddhist participant, James Tan, led his part representing Buddhism in Chinese. The universal worship service was magically beautiful and the souls of all remembered their true nature.

The final ceremony was a closing banquet, where certificates of appreciation were given to the participants and staff members. Also, gifts were exchanged among the participants and staff members. During the closing banquet, four people gave short personal testimonies about their RYS experi-



tial by a university professor or religious leader. Group leaders are usually selected based on outstanding participation in prior RYS projects. In order to provide a spiritually pure atmos-



Service in Guatemala

ing this time.

Culture Night

Toward the final days of the RYS project, a fun evening program, called Culture Night, is presented by the staff and participants. Each represented culture prepared and presented a skit, a dance, a poem, a song, or other theatrical form to depict their culture. The program was frequently humorous, entertaining, heart opening, and fun! For example, in Guatemala the USA participants performed a political satire skit on the current problems of President Clinton, then each US participant stated an ideal vision for the United States, and finally the group sang a beautiful song: "From You I Receive, To You I Give." The Mayan and Latino participants danced a poignant Mayan folk dance. The Germans created their own rock and roll band. James Tan performed a beautiful and tragic Chinese opera, and many of the other participants recited poetry and sang traditional songs that represented their respective cultures.

RYS is a real practice of self-denial for the participants from developed countries, i.e., the United States, Europe, and some of the south American countries. The living conditions in a country like the rural areas of Guatemala have different accommodations, different food, and different real life tests. For example, the whole town was without water for three days during the project. Hence, the toilets would not flush and there were no showers. Also, of course, the food was different, vegetarian, and excellent, but quite different from what one would experience in the United States or Europe.

Being selected to participate in an RYS project is a real gift from God! While sermons, studying holy books, spiritual practices, religious conferences, and worship may lead the follower toward God; living the Message of our time with others from different religions provides the opportunity, through Grace, to experience the Heart of God.

Participant Testimonies

While it may be close to impossible to feel the depth of spiritual emotions experienced in an RYS project by reading this article, a few comments from the participants may be helpful. Mario, the Group Leader from Honduras, described



a step toward conflict resolution between the Mayans and Latinos: "When the Mayan participants and priest shared their 500 years resentment of oppression and abuse, the Latino participants felt so ashamed and repentant for creating so much suffering and they were sincerely willing to find a way to solve it. The vindication time occurred at the

Cultural Night, when all Guatemalan participants, Mayans and Latinos, participated in a sacred Mayan dance with the inclusion of the Latinos wearing the Zutuhil dress. Sharing this dance together would normally never happen. The Latinos were so proud and humble for being allowed to wear the Mayan dress. And the Mayans could not hide their surprise for Latinos willing to be part of them. Another point was the spiritual connection

between North American Indians and the Mayans, thanks to the simultaneity of the Native American Fire (purifi-

cation) Ceremony and the Mayan Forgiveness Rite, happening one after the other in the same sacred place."

And Mario summarized his RYS experience with a message of love: "The educational purposes of the project reached a very high level with the NEW CULTURE OF THE HEART, which RYS is shaping by deeply sharing our religious,



cultural, and social traditions. The practice of an OPEN HEART surpasses any language difficulty, and it explodes our selfish personal view of ourselves by learning that we exists for the sake of others."

A German girl wrote; "I just hope that everybody (everyone) of us can meet somehow again. Of course each person has people he got along (with) better or worse, but anyhow it was cool." A Buddhist participant reported: "I really enjoyed the work because we were

helping the little children have a brighter future. I was tired after the first day of digging and sore, but I thought about the little children watching us work and I just wanted to work even that much harder. Sometimes there was a communication gap, but in the end we all learned to communicate the universal language of love for one another and for the people of Central America. I learned a lot about myself as a person - mentally, physically, and most of all, spiritually. This trip has changed me to become a more enlightened and complete person."

An American girl from Philadelphia wrote: "The RYS experience is so deep and profound that I think it hasn't all sunk in yet, what we really created. We created a safe place for understanding between religions and cultures, which we may have had preconceived notions about. The experience made me realize that the differences are few and the similarities are numerous. The experience deepens your belief in God by sharing your love of unity and God with others.... It is like entering God's heart when you are unified with varied sons and daughters of God. It was inspiring to be with others who held such a high ideal for the future of this world.... It gave me an immense feeling of hope and that other warriors for peace would join us on the path to Love, Harmony and Beauty."

And our Beloved RYS Mother, Muhiya, wrote: "By being open to learn about other religions and other cultures and being open to accept others just as they are and by being willing to serve mankind, one learns not only about other people, but also about one's own heart. And when the heart is truly open, the

language of love can be felt and understood by the heart, no matter what language one actually speaks and understands intellectually, no matter what religion one practices, and no matter where one comes from. The language of Love truly overcomes all barriers and touches the heart in ways that cannot be described by mere words. It is The Experience of a lifetime and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to share in the RYS experience."

Additional RYS projects planned for 1999 include the Philippines, South Africa, Northern Ireland, and Israel. If you would like to recommend a young person to be a participant, please contact Dr. Subhan Burton at 770.838.9980 or email jhburton@mindspring.com. Or you may contact Rev. John Gehring, RYS International in New York City at 212.869.6023 (ext. 429) or email rys@pipeline.com. You may also peruse the RYS web page <http://www.rys.net>.

Dr. Subhan Burton is a University Professor, a Representative in the Sufi Order, and National Managing Director of RYS for the United States. Subhan has held leadership roles in RYS projects in Poland, Hungary, India, Haiti, Turkey, England, Guatemala, and Atlanta. He has also been a contributing participant in International Religious Convocations in Russia, France, Korea, Uruguay, and San Francisco. ❖



As part of the Religious Education Program, students at the New Eden Academy were asked to write personal reflections on statements which bear new meaning when seen from a Divine Principle perspective.

The statements were taken from a collection of "Jeopardy Game Questions" about the Divine Principle which were put together by Dr. Kathy Winings.

Here are a few examples which may be of interest for our readers. The selections were made by Dr. Dietrich Seidel, who oversees the Religious Education Program at the New Eden Academy.

by Keishu Greene:

Joy can be produced by an individual alone." As I look at this statement, I know right away that this is false. I have many reasons for concluding so; for example, if joy can be produced by an individual alone, then why did God have a strong urge to create this world, and to create human beings? He created them to have give and take with them and watch them have give and take with their brothers and sisters. A person creates joy and happiness by having give and take with another individual. I see this every day in my family. I have two brothers and sisters, and it is hard not to notice them because they are always around and they live with me (when I am home for vacation). Just by being with them I feel happy. Of course, I can't say that we are always happy with each other. We have our disagreements, we always had, and we probably always will, but without my brothers and sisters I would be very lonely. I think it would be harder for me to understand life, because my brothers and sisters help me understand life. This is also true with my friends. We are there for each other for the good times and bad times; we'll be at each other's side forevermore. That is what friends are for! If I had no one, no one at all to talk to, to play with, to hang out with, to dream with, I know that I would be lost in vast emptiness within my own soul. I would wake up mornings and fall back into bed not wanting to live my life, knowing that there was no one to have a joyful relationship with! And so when I read this

Students of the New Eden Academy Respond to the Divine Principle

statement, "Joy can be produced by an individual alone," I feel a sudden tug at my heart, for I know that this is as far from the truth as a lie can possibly be.

"God decides whether or not we enter heaven." A common image that some people have about entering the spirit realm is: as soon as a person dies, their spirit is whisked away onto a cloud and stands before St. Peter or the angel (or whomever) who tells them the sins of their past and points them in the

desire centered upon himself, for his own personal gratification with no thought for others, that is when desire can be evil. That selfish desire can be drugs, alcohol, cigarettes or sex. It can eventually lead a person down a hell-hole, perhaps becoming the root of stealing, hurting others and breaking the law. Desire can be a wonderful thing; however, a person should learn to distinguish between a selfish desire and a good, healthy desire. I try to figure out my motives every day before I

recently one teenager killed his parents! How much more can this world take? Is there a point when people will say "ENOUGH!!!"? I'll pray for this world to become a place where God can dwell and the Kingdom of God may be realized.

by Takami Koya:

Children of parents who are blessed by True Parents are not automatically born perfect." I think blessed children are in a harder and stricter position, because we have responsibilities. The world tempts us blessed children more and many follow. Many blessed children have already fallen and are being affected by the people around them. Many of us want to have more fun and be free, but troubles of smoking, drinking, drugs, stealing, sexual relationships, violence, etc., are rampant and the ages are getting younger. Satan wants to tempt us blessed children more because we are in a closer position to God and God has hope in us. I remember a speech a girl made on a Pure Love Alliance tour. She was talking about her friend and on how she got AIDS by having just one relationship with a boy she really liked. She talked about how her friend regretted all she did and that the boy had left her easily. I thought it was scary and could feel how close Satan is. We teenagers are at the most dangerous age



direction of either heaven or hell. Or if you like the Jonathan Edwards version of a powerful and almighty God, that person would probably go down upon his knees trembling before the "Angry One," waiting fearfully in suspense as the verdict is cast down upon him. Both of these images portray a similar message: The decision to enter heaven or hell is not yours. I, on the other hand, believe the exact opposite. The decision to enter heaven or hell is entirely up to us. You and I make the choices and through those choices we create the outcome. I don't believe things just happen. I believe that there are reasons behind it, and the reasons are connected to the choices every person makes throughout their life. So let us all say that the decision of entering the Kingdom of God weighs entirely upon ourselves and no one else!

"Desire is always evil." God had a huge, unmistakable desire to create. Is that evil? Do you think that if I had an unquenchable desire to love and to keep on loving all those around me, that this is evil? How about your friend who is perhaps sitting at home one snowy, cold day and has the strongest urge and desire to sip hot chocolate beside the window and watch little kids play in the snow? Is that evil? I am sure that anybody would agree with me that all these wants and desires are not evil. Desire is a wonderful thing. However, if a person has a

do anything. I don't like to do things with the wrong motive. In the story "The Catcher in the Rye," there is a part that has always been in my mind the first time I read it. The main character's sister asked him if he wanted to be a lawyer. He scoffed at the suggestion asking how he would know if he was defending his client for he sake of helping him out or doing it just to receive praise and admiration from other people. The main character seemed as though he didn't like to be in such a situation. Actions usually reflect motivation; I hope that I do things with a good motivation.

"Jesus' death on the cross was the original will of God." Although many Christians believe this, it is untrue. How can God, a loving parent, destroy his own son? Even if a child was a bad child, I don't think a parent would even think about killing him or her. Rev. Moon is always emphasizing the parent's heart. The parent's heart is to give unconditionally and always love. I see that there are so many misunderstandings between God and His children: us. I see that most people in the world cannot see from God's viewpoint and therefore there are so many wars and fights. I was watching the television this morning and what I saw was incredible. There were two people fighting over their share of money so violently that they had to take this case to court. If you watch the news, you see situations in which teenagers are actually killing other teenagers. Just

and Satan has the easiest chance to tempt us. But we have to take responsibility for what we do and take care of ourselves. Nobody is perfect. Our parents raise us up and teach us about good and bad, but we have to listen to them, and also understand why we have to think for ourselves and help our spirit-self to grow. I think it's actually hard to do these things, but I think we could try by praying, helping others, studying the Divine Principle, etc., little things we could do in everyday life. All of God's children were created to become lords of creation and we should be proud and make effort.

"Our spirit grows only while we have a physical body." This is true, and if you think about it, it's scary. Our everyday events are recorded forever and will stick with us forever. I think everyone has done something they wish they had never done. I regret my sins every day and it's a lot of pressure. Maybe many blessed children feel the same. I think there are even some who couldn't take the pressure and left the church but that doesn't solve anything. I have made many mistakes in the past, I could never forget, but still, there is a future. I could start again from now on by trying hard to make my spirit grow and make up for the past. Well, we can't really make up for the past because the past is the past but we still have chances and God would never betray us. He loves everyone and knows

see NEW EDEN on page 21

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Bridging the Gap between Ideal and Reality

by Chris Seidel—Poughkeepsie, NY

How is perfection realized? This is a question which undoubtedly has no clear-cut answer.

Although what follows is a less-than-perfect personal interpretation, it is one tool which can perhaps help bring us closer to our "ideal" reality. After all, the more tools we have in our spiritual toolbox, the better equipped we are to blaze the trail to the Promised Land.

In my opinion, the first step involves recognizing what our Source of Strife is. "Recognizing the Source of Strife" has to do with the restoration of the first aspect of human spirit, or Intellect.

We often quick-correct our problems, but if the source still lingers, more problems are on their way. Correcting the problems are short-term solutions; correcting the cause, on the other hand, obliges the problems to correct themselves.

Unfortunately, when we see through the lens of our problems, the world seems a very clouded, oppressive place. This adversely affects our ability to think objectively and realistically.

So we have:

S(subject): Problems <--> O(object): Intellect

The task we face is to realize that we are, in fact, seeing our world through the lens of our problems. Once they are clearly identified as just that, problems can no longer substantially affect our thinking. In effect, we replace our fuzzy, irrational "problem" lens with a sparkling clear objective one. The result is to see the world from a hopeful and optimistic viewpoint. The world is now our empowering haven, rather than an oppressive problem-generator.

So our restored relationship is:

S: Intellect <--> O: Source of Strife

To elucidate via an example, take Julie, her violin and her parents. Julie has willingly played her instrument for many years, both out of her own inspiration and the encouragement of her parents. One day she decides that she

hates the violin, but is very reluctant to tell her parents her true desires, because her parents have invested much time, energy and, of course, money into her violin lessons.

She decides to keep mum, but eventually her frustration bubbles forth in other ways, as she refuses to talk with her parents, goes to her room and locks the door every time her parents tell her she "needs to practice."

The subject in this example is the problem: the lack of honesty between daughter and parents, which infects a wholesome interaction between the two.

The second step is adopting a resolving principle. This is intimately tied with the restoration of the second aspect of human spirit, or emotion. Seen from a principled perspective, the problem is that our Emotions are usually in the subject position (the reverse of intellect). That is to say, we allow our emotions to dictate our ultimate response, even if our response conflicts with our conscience, or principles.

So we have:

S: Emotions <--> O: Principles

However, who wants to have their destiny dictated always by how they feel? It is a necessary step to tie your emotions to a stable base to allow maximum manifestation of your potential. That is to say, not to restrict the intensity of how your heart expresses itself, but to have your emotions free-flowing on a plane where harm to your spirit is no longer a possibility. However, where can we find this stable base? Fads, our hair, technology, the weather, even other people don't have an absolutely unchanging nature, so we must derive our stability from something which is intangible and never changes.

This is the purpose of principle.

By adopting a principle, we are making that crucial step which says: This is the way I WANT to live my life. An example of personal principle might be: "I won't eat gummy bears before dinner" or "I will say grace before each meal." And amazingly, the principle itself will never change (unlike weather and your hair, for instance)! Your new principle gives you a firm base from which to supervise your emotional fluctuations, like an emotional control tower.

Your indwelling attitude will permit emotions to land safely.

So our restored relationship is:

S: Principle <--> O: Emotions

Julie finally sees her violent tempers as a by-product of her inability to be honest with her parents. Finally, she decides to confront her parents with "the hard facts," after another one of her irrational rages.

We see from this that after Julie recognizes that she has been dishonest with her parents (step I), she establishes a principle of parental honesty in her own mind, vowing to put her foot forward first whenever a disagreement or miscommunication arises (step II).

The third and final and most difficult step is Applying the Principle. This is all too obvious but very difficult to achieve.

In any case, applying a principle relates to restoration of human will. On many occasions we find ourselves overcome by the pressures which surround us, and we succumb to their insurmountable force, even if it is in conflict with a principle which we have adopted for ourselves.

So we have:

S: Pressures <--> O: Willpower

Ironically, this can be simultaneously the most discouraging and the most empowering principle. Some wise minds will help clarify this point:

"People are just about as happy as they make up their mind to be." Abraham Lincoln

"Whether I fail or succeed shall be no man's doing but my own. I am the force." Elaine Maxwell

"There is nothing to fear but fear itself." Franklin D. Roosevelt

"We are what we think." (author unknown)

"There is always a way. Just look for it." Rev. Sun Myung Moon

Basically, this final step is only discouraging if we think it's discouraging. If we don't think so, then it is not so. That's the beauty of human will: it draws power from the angle of our attitude. If we could completely embrace the simplicity of this concept, the possibilities of self-empowerment would be virtually endless!

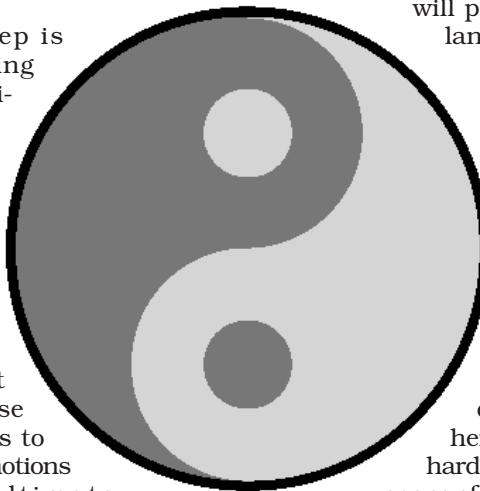
So our restored relationship is:

S: Willpower <--> O: Pressures

By telling her parents she would rather be playing rugby than practicing violin, Julie is making the first crucial mold in becoming an honest individual.

Perfection isn't achieved overnight, obviously. But if we just digest morsels of principles every day, and encourage rather than discourage ourselves, we will undergo a gradual transformation. The key is envisioning. Everlasting encouragement—like the train who said I think I can.

The ultimate purpose of all this is not just to become "perfect" per se, but more concretely to realize God as an active, pulsating, engaging, real existence. We should give Him the chance to manifest himself more and more in everything we do. His nature should finally be revealed to us, and the nebulas of self-doubt will disperse forever. Our divinity should no longer be a question without an answer. Then the next person who asks us "Do you believe God exists?" we can answer "NO, I don't believe that God exists, I know He does." ♦



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what is best for us. Now is the most important time for us and also the hardest. But I think we could help each other to provide encouragement for our spirit to grow, not only for ourselves but for our friends and people around us. I think helping each other is what is important for making our spirit grow. Of course, there are more activities we could do, but I think that to help others is one of the most important things for our spiritual growth.

"The serpent in the Garden of Eden was a spiritual being." He was once an angel but he couldn't get over his jealousy toward Adam. Adam had everything Lucifer wanted: a body, God's love, the world, and—most of all—Eve. The serpent wanted what Adam had. I feel bad for him and kind of understand how he must have felt, but still, what he did was wrong. Adam and Eve were wrong, too. Everyone must have

experienced jealousy over something. Some people try to do something about it by trying harder. If you think about it in a different way, it could help you grow into a better person. Lucifer the archangel disobeyed God and became Satan. Sins can be traced back to the Fall which occurred between Eve and the serpent. Sin is the condition of act which creates a common base with Satan. I learned this from our trip to Belvedere. I have committed lots of sins in the past, but I am thinking and trying harder to be closer to God. I know God would watch over me and sometimes give me answers when I need desperate help. Not maybe always but I believe He watches over everyone and even over people who do not know Him.

"True Father did not receive the Divine Principle without a lot of struggle." No one could imagine how much he struggled. He must have had lots of attacks from the spiritual world and people around him. I think he is a strong and great man to succeed in what Jesus couldn't do. He had been treated really badly in the North Korean prison camp. He was not like other religious leaders who tell their believers that only their religion is the right one, but

instead he taught and tried to bring all religions together. He is the closest to God and understands how hurt God is. One of the great things about True Father is that no matter how cruelly he has been treated, he would forgive these people and pray to God for God to for-

give them. He would teach us to love and forgive someone no matter how much they may hate and treat us badly, which is not an easy thing to do. True Father was able to do this. This is one of the big reasons he succeeded in catching people's hearts, and still is. True Father teaches us God's words on how God is hurt and that He has hope in us. That we should try our best to make God happy and build the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. I think it's possible but it's all up to us. I think the students at New Eden Academy are struggling but they are trying their best to make themselves better people and make God proud.

by Romin Johnson:

God and Friendship: How do I identify God's presence in my friendships? This is a question I have thought about a long time. When I'm with my friends, I can feel God's presence sometimes—sometimes faintly, other times strongly. When I do

see **NEW EDEN** on page 22

WRITE!
COMMUNICATE TO
THE UNIFICATION
COMMUNITY—
WRITE FOR THE
UNIFICATION
NEWS!

by Catherine Wright

CARP directors from around the United States met in New York this summer to discuss the need to develop a clear formula course for being a CARP member. We wanted to clearly articulate the opportunities, and the expectations, of CARP membership.

The Mission of CARP

The Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles is an association of students committed to lifestyle of purity and public service, through the study and practice of the Unification Principle taught by Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon.

Goals: - To foster spiritual growth through an in-depth study of the Unification Principle - To develop a community of students based on a common faith and tradition - To train self-motivated individuals with a strong sense of public mindedness - To instill a spirit of activism that motivates students to work for positive social change - To assist young people in personal growth, preparation for marriage and family, and success in a future career

The purpose of the IMPACT program is to develop a standardized structure for incoming CARP members, whether they are 1st or 2nd generation. It is our hope that this system will help young CARP members strengthen their life of faith, and feel called to live a mission oriented life. It is also our hope that seeing this program clearly laid out in advance will help new members, as well as their parents, feel more confident that time devoted to CARP will be beneficial and productive. We are also developing an alumni program for graduates.

Step One

Upon entering the CARP program,

The New CARP Formula Course

the new member is asked to make a commitment to public life for one full year. The year focuses on four main activities: educational programs on the Unification Principle, community service projects, team fundraising and witnessing. Through these activities CARP members will have the opportunity to grow their hearts, meet God and be able to overcome different personal issues. Also they will be able to secure their own belief system and personal relationship with God.

During the first semester, new CARP members are trained together in one or more large centers. They develop sense of family and community that will carry on through the training period. CARP members who will be continuing on to college the following year may also request assistance in the application or deferment process.

CARP members are encouraged, but not required, to offer a second year of public service. The second year is devoted to leadership training. The young members will be expected to take on more responsibility in center life. They will usually be transferred to another, smaller center where they will begin preparation to learn about campus life as a CARP student. There is an opportunity to take classes on a college campus, as well as be involved in campus activities.

Through this balance of center life and taking classes, we expect that the transition into becoming a full time student will be much easier.

CARP members, 1st or 2nd generation will both benefit from this time spent learning how to hold on to a life of faith while excelling on their academic studies.

Every year during the summer months, each CARP member will have an opportunity to take part in several activities including the annual Pure Love Tour, the World CARP Academy or a fundraising or witnessing campaign.

Step Two

After graduating from one or two years of full time public service, CARP members will routinely attend a four-year college of their choice. While at school, CARP members are encouraged to

become actively involved in the building of CARP and Pure Love Alliance chapters on their campus.

The first year on campus is used to set up the club. The CARP member should find opportunities through the local community to teach PLA material to junior high/high school students, as well as community service projects relating to the issue. These activities can be offered as opportunities for college students on their campuses to become involved in the PLA as well as act as networking projects for other groups.

Another focus is social activism. This may involve rallies, marches, protests, petitions, and political involvement related to the issue and chal-

lenging the media. Students should become well versed in the issue and be able to develop strategies to attack free sex and the ideologies of Kinsey and Hugh Hefner.

Step Three

After graduation from their university/college CARP members will be encouraged to devote as much time as they can to act as an elder CARP brother or sister. There are a variety of ways to stay involved.

For those willing to come back and help raise up younger brothers and sisters and take on central leadership positions in CARP, there will be significant leadership positions available that can lead to salaried, professional posts. They may also become involved in the Sunday school program as teachers or youth pastors. Members may also choose to go on to attend the Unification Seminary or other graduate school.

There should be some graduation process/ceremony at the end of this time period where members formally become CARP alumni. At this time the amount of direct involvement with CARP will understandably decrease. Still, alumni can play an important role as elder brothers and sisters to members in the earlier years of the program. Alumni will be solicited to help in large workshops or CARP functions where extra support may be necessary. A newsletter is being published, and we are holding special reunion gatherings to keep in contact.

Reprinted from The Carp Ghost—the newsletter of the World CARP Alumni Association. ❖

It is our hope that this system will help young CARP members strengthen their life of faith, and feel called to live a mission oriented life.

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something I shouldn't have, and my friend is there with me, I can feel God in my friend's frown or "tsk-tsk" look. At such times a friend is like my outer conscience. Other times I feel God's presence in a good, congratulatory way when I'm with my friends. If my friends and I are playing football and I score a touchdown, my teammates come over and congratulate me, and then I would feel His presence. It's as though he's praising me through them. But God also relates to me personally. There are things I do on a daily basis to develop my friendship with God. Right now, my friends and I are doing a 100-day midnight prayer condition until Thanksgiving [1998]. And, although Thanksgiving is next week, I think I should make an effort to continue some type of prayer condition. I make an effort to pray in thanks to God at each meal. I feel that my friendship with God is becoming better and it's also getting a lot easier for me to communicate with Him. Whenever I need help, I say a little prayer and God helps me. For example, sometimes when I lose something, like my meal card, for example, I would ask Him to help me. I would say some-

thing like "Heavenly Father, please help me find my meal card so that I can eat and become strong and healthy to be of better love and service. Thank you, Heavenly Father, have a good day, and let everyone else in this world have a good day. I pray for True Parents and in their Names I pray. Amen." Suddenly, I feel better I know exactly where my meal card is.

by Christina Weber:

God's Presence in our Friendships: *In what ways do the contrasting Biblical stories of Cain and Abel, on the one hand, and Jacob and Esau, on the other, illustrate for me the task of restoring human relationships, and what are the lessons I can learn for building my friendships?*

Cain and Abel were the original siblings in the family of humankind. They were the template for all other sibling-sibling and friend-friend relationships for the rest of humanity as their parents Adam and Eve were the templates for all male-female relationships in the future. Cain and Abel were to set an ideal example for the future generations of a friendship which could withstand the strain of jealousy and conflict should such obstacles arise. They however failed this task. Cain killed Abel out of jealousy and anger. This caused the template for siblings and for friends to be lost as well as the tem-

plate for male-female relationships with Adam and Eve.

Jacob and Esau were God's second attempt at a template or example for humankind. In this case the template was successful when Esau forgave Jacob, overcoming his jealousy that Jacob had received what belonged to Esau and hadn't earned it. Jacob learned to work hard and earn what he received while he was working for his uncle. Jacob also learned humility and showed his brother the respect he owed him. Though this second try was successful, it could not undo the original failure because it was not the stem that all people would descend from, as was the Cain and Abel relationship. Jacob and Esau were only one bloodline and the many others which existed in the world would not inherit it. God then had to work through this one bloodline which eventually developed into the Jewish people in order to bring about the Messiah to restore all of the bloodlines of the world under him.

"What can I do on a daily basis to develop my friendship with God?" To develop my relationship with God, it is important to speak with God daily in a non-formal format. Speaking to God as you would normally speak to another person helps God seem more real than simply a figure spoken about in church once a week. Don't just pray stereotypical prayers as most do. Don't just talk to God about being holy and

obtaining God's goals. Speak to God about problems in your daily life and ask for help. I know that's also common, but talk to God about spiritual troubles. It is pointless to present yourself as holier than you really are. Try to admit your faults openly and ask for help as you would with a friend. Being a "God-fearing" person seems to be the goal of some religions, but I think that is quite the opposite from what we should be doing. God is forgiving and will love you no matter what. Tell Him your faults and dilemmas without fear as you would tell a good friend whom you're sure will support you.

Talk to God about what you are happy with, not just your problems. Let God share in your happiness sincerely. Don't just thank God because you feel you should, or just as a reflex. Tell God when you are happiest, the way you feel like rushing to the phone and telling your best friend that the most amazing thing has just happened to you. Share that enthusiasm with God. I am by no means saying you shouldn't call up that friend on the phone and spend an hour praying instead. Simply let God share in your happiness by thinking of Him while it happens. God does not replace your friends; He wants to be a part of you and your friends, and wants to share in these relationships in good times and bad. ❖

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Dream the Dream, Talk the Talk, Walk the Walk

by William Denn—Albany, NY

This is from a sermon given Dec. '98 at the Albany, NY Church.

There is only one God. But there are several major world religions. Each describes its understanding of God, but these descriptions differ substantially from one another.

There is only one Jesus, but there are over 400 denominations of Christianity. How do we know we're following the correct denomination? There are substantial differences among them. My view is that we should respect the different views to be found within the Body of Christ, while we carefully, prayerfully examine our conscience and choose the one which feels and appears right to us! In today's sermon, I will examine one man's method for resolving this contradiction.

Joseph, the fiancé of Jesus' mother, belonged to a religion, a belief system in which babies should only be conceived by properly married husband and wife. To do otherwise violated the laws of Moses, the great deliverer, the man of God par excellence. To conceive a child out of wedlock violated the will of God as Joseph had heretofore known it.

Joseph was a righteous man and wanted to do God's will. However, for him, God's will seemed to change in the course of one night's sleep, through one dream. Disturbed to discover his fiancé pregnant by someone other than himself, he went to bed believing that he should "divorce her quietly."

How noble! He wanted to protect her from disgrace and a possible execution by stoning. He would accomplish this by marrying her but then quietly divorcing her. Marrying her was to protect her, divorcing her would have been to protect himself—from a bad marriage, and to exonerate himself from responsibility for an illegitimate child not his own.

But that careful and painfully thought-out plan was challenged by one dream. The passage, from Matthew 1:18-20, tells that in his dream, an angel told Joseph that he should not be afraid to marry Mary because the baby she conceived was from the Holy Spirit of God. Joseph's religious views were challenged by this dream. He awoke that day and revised his religious view based on the dream of the previous night.

How many of us here today have the courage to change our fundamental and deeply-held view based on a dream? How many of us have the faith necessary to do that? Do you believe that God can communicate to you in a dream?

Joseph had to answer this difficult question. I hope you don't think that this was an easy decision for him. If you do, then you deny him the great

courage he showed and the risk he took.

It can be risky to follow our conscience, to acknowledge God's will as it is expressed to our personal heart of hearts. For Joseph this dream and its message obliged him to challenge a deeply held viewpoint regarding morality at the most intimate level of his life and destiny. His decisions had great personal and historical consequences.

Joseph's decision to honor that dream angel forever shaped his destiny. He denied common sense, altered his religious code, and took a leap of faith. To do otherwise would have betrayed his religious inspiration. But it was a choice only he could make. God never forces us to do His will. In so doing, Joseph assumed the honor and position of the earthly stepfather of the Messiah.

What makes this kind of personal deliberation especially painful is that, what feels right to you may not seem right to me. We don't directly experience one another's dreams. Joseph had no one to blame or praise for his decision other than himself. Ultimately, the most important decisions you will make are between you and God.

Sometimes we would like to escape making important moral decisions by escaping into convention and orthodoxy. The problem with this approach is that God sometimes asks us to be unconventional and unorthodox. This was certainly the case for Joseph.

A mob leader, accused of capital crimes, was convicted largely on testimony from his own friends and accomplices. The cops weren't so surprised; they see that kind of thing often. Everybody is trying to save their own neck when the law finally grabs them and the loud clang of jail cell doors strikes fear into their hearts.

The investigation went well for the police. They were even able to infiltrate the gang and hire one of the mob lieutenants to be a snitch, an informer. The arrest was only a little more difficult. The snitch set up a meeting, so police knew for sure that the mob leader would

be there. Surprise was on their side, and resistance to the arrest was minimal.

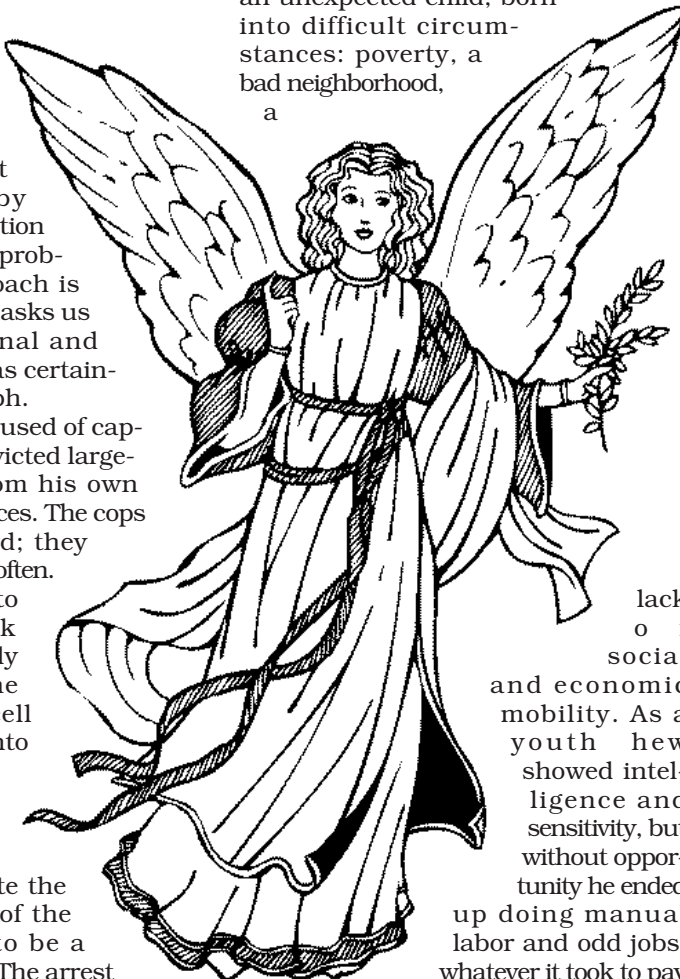
One of the arresting officers sustained a head injury which required care. Fortunately, someone at the scene was able to give quick care and the arrest ended quickly. In fact, it went so well that no overtime was needed. The arresting officers appreciated that, because it was a holiday and everyone wanted to get home to their celebra-

tions. A careful examination of this arrest and conviction revealed more than the crimes of individuals, however. The failures were those of society itself. Some people complained that to say this was nothing

more than a bleeding-heart liberal effort to exonerate criminals for their wrongdoing. But in this case, I think it was absolutely true. Society failed completely!

One of these bleeding-heart liberals researched the mob leader's life and found a sad story. He was an unexpected child, born into difficult circumstances: poverty, a bad neighborhood,

a



lack of social and economic mobility. As a youth he showed intelligence and sensitivity, but without opportunity he ended up doing manual labor and odd jobs, whatever it took to pay the bills and get by.

Who knows what would have happened if caring people of responsibility and affluence had recognized his potential and encouraged it with nurturing and higher education. But that didn't happen. Street people recognized his potential and responded to him with as much loyalty as they were capable. However, this quickly took on the appearance of a gang, as it was largely composed of uneducated, street-savvy hustlers (i.e., unsavory types of people more skilled in just surviving than in art, or academia or the pro-

fessions).

Government officials were not altogether clear about the socioeconomic forces at work here, but then again they didn't really care. Nobody likes gangs—not the police, not civic and not religious leaders. After all gangs are hard to control. Gangs are a threat to law and order—they endanger society and breed unrest and possibly violence.

Prison officials looked forward to the scheduled execution, not because they were vicious people, but in the hopes that civil unrest and rioting by the street people might be avoided. They were surprised, however, that after the execution, the prisoner remained the focus of attention for the street people. Even more surprising was that some businessmen and respectable people became involved in the issues surrounding the executed prisoner's life and gang activities.

Even years later, his imprisonment and execution became a *cause célèbre*. In fact, this executed prisoner became famous, and generated so much interest for people that we celebrated his birthday Friday, 2000 years after his death. Of course, I'm referring to Jesus Christ.

We now look back at the events surrounding Jesus with two kinds of vision. One vision is through the rose-colored glasses of nostalgia and romanticism. The other vision is through the rearview mirror of hindsight. We glorify a baby's birth in a cold, dirty stable by pictorially representing it with winged angels and a supernatural star hovering over it. In our warm comfortable homes, we are not so sensitive to the pain and embarrassment that the Holy Family must have felt.

Like the residents of all small towns, people living around Jesus must have been aware of his unhappy origins. They knew or guessed that he was technically illegitimate. Mary showed before it was time. People talked. He was from a poor family. Did they know his first crib was an animal feeding trough?

I point out these sad facts to illustrate the challenge faced by the contemporaries of Jesus. It is never easy to transcend the relative morality and thinking of the day. God's ways are not man's ways. God sometimes asks us to be heroic in ways that others do not understand.

God asked many people to go beyond their relative Old Testament thinking to embrace a Jesus they did not fully understand. Only a few could do it. How sad! How different history might have been if people had been more courageous in meeting the challenge God gave them.

How different from past history the future might be if we could be courageous in listening and responding to the voice of God in our lives. Let's be bold and faithful people of God, who allow God's angels to visit our dreams. If we do so, we must be willing to take the risk of walking alone on a road less traveled. We may look like lost souls to those who do know the route we go, but to do so is to invite Christ and his angels to be our traveling companions. I wish you a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and God Speed on your journey. ♦

GIVE A UNIFICATION NEWS GIFT SUBSCRIPTION TO ALL YOUR LOVED ONES — IT MIGHT NOT CONVERT THEM BUT AT LEAST THEY'LL KNOW ENOUGH TO ASK YOU SENSIBLE QUESTIONS INSTEAD OF THE "HAVE YOU STOPPED BRAINWASHING KIDS YET" VARIETY. SEE THE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS.

by Bento Leal—Sacramento, CA

Marriage, as the Bible, says is where “a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh.” (Genesis 2:24) By definition, then, marriage is a joining together of a man and a woman, a husband and a wife, into a new creation wherein God can dwell and express His love more fully. Thus, a true marriage reflects the fullness of God’s nature, a man and woman united in the image of God, receiving His bountiful love and expressing it freely to each other, to their children and to others. Such a marriage is truly a blessing to the couple themselves, and to the world at large.

Most married couples wonder how they can create a strong, lasting and joyful marriage. Often the joint pursuit of spiritual ideals is recommended to the couple as the best and only path toward achieving true marital harmony and fulfillment.

However, while such spiritual ideals may be noble and deeply desired to attain and embody, to many they often appear too otherworldly and unreachable. Many couples, therefore, often lose hope that these ideals can actually be achieved. What is needed, then, is practical advice and guidance for a couple to quite literally put those ideals into practice, into reality in their daily lives.

Fortunately, there are numerous books and courses available on the topic of marriage improvement for couples to study and put into practice. While each of these books and courses has its own unique ideas and suggestions, there are several fundamental principles that emerge as perhaps universally relevant to marriage.

The following “7 Traits of a Healthy & Happy Marriage” represent some of these principles and, while not exhaustive or exclusive, are offered as vehicles for couples to put their hopes and ideals into daily practice and help them realize their dream of having a healthy and happy marriage.

The Seven Traits of a Healthy & Happy Marriage.

The husband and wife will be Successful in Marriage if they:

1. Have Mutual Faith in God and Shared Spiritual Values
2. Regularly Communicate
3. Sincerely Love Each Other
4. Respect and Appreciate Each Other’s Uniqueness
5. Love Their Children, and Others, Together
6. Actively Serve the Larger Community
7. Live and Work Daily for the Highest Ideals

The format for this text is as follows: First, the trait is identified. Then a fundamental principle or truth pertaining to that trait is listed as a guidepost to help accomplish that trait. Next, a core problem is mentioned which interferes with one’s ability to embody that principle and trait. A fundamental practice is then proposed as the way to solve the problem and regain a direction toward living that principle. Finally, some suggested actions are presented as ways for the couple to practically implement the

solutions in their daily lives, growing their individual selves and marriage toward the marriage ideal.

1. Have Mutual Faith in God and Shared Spiritual Values

The Principle:

God is the creator, our heavenly parent, and we are each His children. God’s love is imbued into each person and is therefore the basis for the couple’s love.

The Problem: Due to the Fall of humankind (Genesis 3), we each have an inherent inclination toward selfishness which separates us from God, and

1. Have Mutual Faith in God and Shared Spiritual Values

2. Regularly Communicate

3. Sincerely Love Each Other

4. Respect and Appreciate Each Other’s Uniqueness

hence from our true selves, from each other, and from the rest of creation.

The Practice: We must reconnect to God and His love & truth through prayer, study of His inspired Word, and righteous action.

By far, the most important ingredient in a healthy and happy marriage is the couple’s mutual faith in God and shared spiritual values. God’s Love is a living and real energy that has the power to unite and heal. Whether their individual character be similar or extremely opposite to each other, the thing that brings and holds the couple together into true oneness is their common faith, and the love centered on that shared faith.

Consider two balls at each end of a string. If one ball tries to pull the other one over to its side and the other one pulls back, there won’t be any harmony or unity. But if you grab that string in the middle and lift it up, the two balls will come together. Such is shared faith. The husband is imperfect and vacillates, the wife is imperfect and vacillates - the only thing that can bring them together is that stable, perfect, third, higher position - God. By praying together, and studying God’s Word, lifting their hearts and minds upward, and inviting God into their lives and marriage, then the couple has the basis for true unity and lasting love.

Whenever they have difficulty communicating, or demand that the other person totally change and come over to their side of the argument, they should stop and pray to God, seek His counsel, invite Him into their discussion and try to see the situation, and each other, from His parental viewpoint. Then, with renewed humility before God, and a repentful heart toward each other, they will find the ways to communicate constructively and reconcile, and thereby approach greater harmony and love. God will pour His healing love and wisdom into that marriage.

A true marriage has a husband and a wife, with God at the center, thus creating a trinity of true love.

Suggested Actions: Set a time each day for at least several minutes of prayer and study of God’s Word together. Dis-

How To Have A Healthy Seven Essential Elements for

cuss the relevance of the study content to your own daily life. Share spiritual insights and experiences with each other when they occur. Attend a church together regularly, and fellowship with like-minded couples and families. Imagine and believe that God is in the midst of your couple always.

2. Regularly Communicate

The Principle: Sincere give and take (giving and receiving) with each other centered on a Godly parental viewpoint toward the other brings true unity and love.

The Problem: Again, due to the Fall, we are generally inclined toward self-centeredness. We therefore lack for concern and sensitivity to the importance and value of sincere communication with others, including (and sometimes especially) with our spouse.

The Practice: We need to make real time for honest and sincere communication with each other—heart to heart, mind to mind. By word and deed, we need to communicate with each other constantly with love, affection and straightforwardness.

The happily married couple speak honestly and listen fully to each other. In addition to being husband and wife, they are true friends. They set aside a time and place (perhaps alone at the dinner table late in the evening) to discuss their goals, plans, children, schedules, finances, meaningful experiences, etc. They communicate with each other the deep and meaningful things that are on their minds.

They track their progress toward reaching their goals, and adjust their plans and schedules accordingly to eventually reach those goals. Like two shipmates on the ocean of life, they work together as a team to constantly steer their marriage ship in the direction to reach their goals.

They recognize and believe that regular, sincere communication is the “give-and-take”, the glue, that binds them together into an ideal whole, and prevents misunderstandings from occurring. They also practice the adage that “we each have two ears and one mouth, and we should use them in that proportion.” If each party listens to the other well, then good communication is surely to occur. No matter how busy their lives and schedules, they make the time for meaningful discussion. As an automobile’s engine needs constant oil to run well for years and years, so also regular communication is the oil that makes a marriage run smoothly.

Also, the couple doesn’t harbor grievances against each other, but rather when difficulties or differences of opinion arise, they seek the proper moments to express and resolve their problems and differences constructively in open communication.

Suggested Actions: In the morning (or night before), share with each other the goals and plans for the day; then discuss with each other at the end of the day how things went.

Schedule a time each week (set an

appointment with each other), perhaps a Sunday evening, to spend several minutes (even an hour or two if necessary) to discuss goals, plans, etc., for the coming week and month.

Keep in mind that marriage is a life partnership, a shared journey—we plan, act and live together; though at times we may be physically apart, our hearts and spirits are one.

3. Sincerely Love Each Other

The Principle: Our spouse is God’s beloved child and therefore deserving of our love as a true brother or sister, husband or wife, co-parent and friend.

The Problem: In our busy lives, we often forget to see things and each other from God’s viewpoint of unconditional serving and giving love. It’s very easy for us, then, to dwell on and resent the other’s imperfections, rather than appreciate the value of the whole person.

The Practice: Remind yourself that your spouse is a “gift from God”. Focus on the lovable qualities of your spouse. See the best in each other. Practice viewing each other from God’s viewpoint of unconditional serving and giving love.

While the phrase “sincerely loving each other” may seem like an obviously important trait in a healthy and happy marriage, it is not something which happens automatically. Love is a willful act arising from a heart of care and concern; it is not simply a spontaneous feeling of the moment, or something we do when we “feel like it”. Love is a seed that grows and blooms over time through careful and deliberate nurturing of the relationship.

The happily married couple love each other, regardless of their strengths and weaknesses, and constantly seek ways to nourish, enlarge and expand that love. They see themselves as two halves to a larger, and growing, whole. They try to see each other “from God’s point of view”, i.e., that before they are a husband and a wife, they are a man and a woman, a beloved son and daughter of God, their heavenly parent.

Because of such love, they avoid extra-marital affairs and flirtations because they know that such behavior would only lead to a rupture of faith and love, and the ultimate disintegration of their marriage, as well as the terrible hurt and pain such affairs would cause all parties involved.

Suggested Actions: Pray to have God’s heart of unconditional love for your spouse.

Listen attentively to each other with a sincere and loving heart.

Serve your spouse with acts of kindness and concern. For example, when your spouse is tired from a long and busy day, give him/her a shoulder massage.

Help out with household chores.

Identify your spouse’s needs and desires and try to help them be fulfilled. Such sincere service and care (a form of sacrifice) fosters a parental and loving heart in the giver toward the recipient.

Spend quality time together. Go out on a date, whether to dinner and or even a short walk around the block. Enjoy

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& Happy Marriage

True Marital Fulfillment

simply being together as husband and wife, as dearest friends!

Buy small gifts for each other. Surprise each other with acts of kindness (e.g., flowers, a kiss on the cheek, a hug, and an "I love you"). Know that even the little acts of kindness can have big and memorable impact.

4. Respect and Appreciate Each Other's Uniqueness

The Principle: Just as I am God's unique creation, His special child, so also is my spouse.

The Problem: We're often so caught up in our own personal lives and concerns that we may fail to truly appreciate our own and our spouse's special personality and value as God's unique son and daughter. We therefore may resent our spouse's differences in temperament and behavior wondering "why isn't he or she just like me?"

The Practice: As we each read and study God's Words, we realize that He is speaking them directly and uniquely to me. We should perceive and enjoy His Creation as though He is giving it all to me. When we therefore recognize how much God is personally loving and caring for us, we will likewise know that He is feeling and doing the same for our spouse as well, and we should therefore respect, appreciate and even venerate our spouse as being so dearly beloved by God as we are.

The happily married husband and wife look for and appreciate the unique God-given qualities in each other. They allow for each other to be their own person, to have their own time and space to be themselves. They recognize the importance of personal integrity and individuality - that each person, particularly their spouse, is a "unique expression of the nature of God".

They see their character differences as complementary qualities rounding out the qualities the other may lack, thereby creating a "balanced" couple—again, two halves to a larger whole.

Suggested Actions: Encourage and respect your spouse's need to have their own private time and space. Each spouse should take some private time each week (each day!) for personal time with God and his or her inner self.

Go for a prayer walk; take time for reflection and meditation alone somewhere. Watch the waves on a beach! Recharge thyself! Encourage your spouse to do likewise.

5. Love Their Children, and Others, Together

The Principle: Children are the fruit of the True Love between husband and wife, and the offspring of God. All people are created by God; thus, we are all brothers and sisters of one larger human family.

The Problem: We are often angered and impatient at the immaturity of our children, and of other people. We fail to see and love them from God's viewpoint of unconditional parental love.

The Practice: As individuals and as a couple, practice seeing and loving your children, and other people, with God's

Heart of unconditional love.

The happily married couple love each of their children uniquely and the family as a whole. They recognize and accept that parenting is a "team" effort. They understand and respect that their children are a "gift from God" entrusted to them by God to raise in the ways of goodness. They therefore often sacrifice their own personal desires and needs in order to serve the desires and needs of their children. And they do it with Love and Joy.

Also, each parent beholds how beautifully their spouse loves and cares for the children, thus endearing the spouses all the more to each other. By cooperating together in loving their children, the parents are brought into a greater oneness with each other.

Whether or not they have children of their own, they nonetheless love other people, both young and old, with a parental and caring heart.

Suggested Actions: Spend time with each child individually (one-on-one), and as parents together. Listen to what your children have to say.

Sit down together as husband and wife at least once a week and discuss how each child is doing, what his/her needs are, and the ways and plans to fulfill them.

Then, whether you have children or not, discuss and plan how to help others in need—your friends, relatives, workmates, church members, and others in your community.

6. Actively Serve the Larger Community

The Principle: True peace and harmony result when the individual serves the family, the family serves the society, the society serves the nation, the nation serves the world, and the world serves God. The part serves the whole and, in turn, the part is served by the whole.

The Problem: Another aspect of self-centeredness is to narrow and limit one's expression of love to one's own marriage and family, failing to see the relevance and even existence of the larger human family. Such an attitude creates an "us" and "them" perspective regarding the rest of humanity—for example, seeing the poor and disadvantaged as strangers or "them" instead of one of "us", fellow members of the larger human family.

The Practice: Practice serving others, particularly those in need beyond your immediate family. Be generous with your love, money, time and energy.

The happily married husband and wife are not selfish with their love, but rather seek to share and expand it. They sincerely recognize that their relatives, and also their immediate community, are their larger extended family. They care for their nation and world.

Such a couple finds practical ways to serve their community, recognizing that in serving the larger whole they are serving themselves as well (The more you give, the more *you* receive). They therefore volunteer their heart, time, energy and resources in such ways as: being active in the local PTA; joining a service

organization like Rotary, Lions, etc.; being foremost members in their church; being politically active; donating money to charities, volunteering to mentor young people or serving food to the homeless. And being a friendly next-door neighbor.

They also behold the beautiful serving nature they see in their spouse and therefore love and respect each other all the more.

Suggested Actions: Take the time, perhaps at the weekly meeting mentioned earlier, to discuss and list the ways to be actively involved in some kind of local or church volunteer project, or a community service organization, on a regular basis.

5. Love Their Children, and Others, Together

6. Actively Serve the Larger Community

7. Live and Work Daily for the Highest Ideals

Then make the plans and determinations to actually do the work in a clear and scheduled way, perhaps one or a few hours a week. Follow through on your commitment with real action.

7. Live and Work Daily for the Highest Ideals

The Principle: God is the origin and author of truth and love. He designed and created me and my spouse to grow "in His image", becoming persons of true character in the pursuit and attainment of the highest ideals. My spouse was likewise so created.

The Problem: We often live for narrow, short-sighted and temporal concerns, thus limiting and restricting our true potential to realize God's ideals in our life.

The Practice: Again, God's Words (in the form of the Bible and other inspirations) can guide us and broaden our understanding of the purpose and meaning of life. We should therefore read and study God's Words to discover the virtues and truths that serve as the basis for wholesome and productive living and strive to put those ideals into practice daily.

The happily married couple live each

day individually and jointly to bring joy and glory to God and to be a blessing to the larger community and world. Their highest ideals are summarized in Jesus' immortal words: "You shall *love the Lord your God* with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it. You shall *love your neighbor as yourself*. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets." (Matthew 34:37-39)

They vow and live to make the world a better place. They seize each day as an opportunity to improve themselves, their marriage and their family and to help improve the lives of those around them.

Suggested Actions: Ask yourselves at your weekly meeting, "How did we love and serve God and others in meaningful ways this past week? What specific ways can we love and serve God and others this coming week?"

Again, regularly studying God's Words and praying together for specific things refreshes, informs and enlivens the soul, and serves to bring you and your spouse into a holy, loving, growing and lasting spiritual and physical oneness.

Connecting to the Source of True Love

In conclusion, it's important to remind ourselves of the most fundamental starting point for any healthy and happy marriage: the individual's personal relationship with the Living God. This relationship precedes every other. God is our heavenly parent, the wellspring and source of true love. He yearns for the most intimate relationship with each and every one of us. His love is the source of any meaningful love we may ever hope to have. Before we are a man or a woman, a husband or a wife, we are each first and foremost a child of God, His beloved, and we remain so forever. So, more than any other love, let us reflect upon and cultivate this most precious and essential of loves—an intimate and enduring relationship with God, our creator and heavenly parent.

Nourished by this root of true love, the couple's marriage tree will surely blossom and grow, and bear great and lasting fruit.

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THE LOVE, LIFE, LINEAGE OF GOD AND YOU AND I

by Martin Herbst—Barrytown, NY

3rd of 3 parts

We have seen how God recovered His lineage through the chosen people of the Old Testament Age. Then He resurrected His life through the Christians in the New Testament Age. And "now, after accomplishing all this, we are entering into the fantastic new era of the dispensation of love." (Sun Myung Moon, "The Completion of the Dispensation of Salvation and the Providential Age of Love," Aug. 20, 1989, Today's World, Oct. 1989, p. 7) True Father declares without a shadow of doubt in his mind, that all mankind are moving into the Age of Love.

The Age of Love? Today? Tomorrow? When, where and how, if I may ask, does this make sense in a world which is torn apart by personal and national catastrophes such as insanity, divorce, drugs and wars? Are we not further away from love and friendship than ever, or at least as distant? In the case of the Completed Testament Age centered on God's love, we do not have a two-thousand-year-long history at our disposal as was the case with both the history of the Old and New Testament Ages. In fact, we are in the process of entering it now. I also doubt that God will limit His efforts to resurrect His love to one particular religious tradition for the love of God is by nature beyond doctrine and organized religion. Still, I contend that we are indeed entering the Age of Love or the age where the love of God will play the dominating role.

What then are the signs of the times? First, throughout history the main concern of virtually all human beings from cradle to grave was how to survive. Living conditions in the past were too harsh to provide the general population with the luxury of surplus money and leisure time. Although the blueprint of morality came from above, it was in all practicality shaped from the matrix of one's social condition. Thus a husband would refrain from impregnating another woman, a wife would refrain from divorcing her husband, and grandparents would stay together with children and grandchildren no matter how much they desired to do otherwise—simply because they couldn't afford it! To feed another mouth, to survive on the job market as a single mother, or to provide for oneself in one's old age were not possible for the average person. What through the lenses of nostalgia may seem to have been an age characterized by love and care may from a closer observation appear as an age dictated more by external than internal conditions. Then came the marriage of science and technology in the 20th century. Today a man can leave his wife, remarry and still be pretty well off financially. A woman can divorce her husband and at least survive on the job market. And as if this was not enough, we have decorated the landscape with thousands of old people's homes to house the elderly because nobody else wants them. The shadows falling from these facts are long and gray. I hope they need no fur-

ther elaboration. The brightness in all this is, that we are entering an amazing age where the only thing which will keep us together as a couple, as a family and as an extended family is love, true eternal love, which is the love of God. In the end, all things seem to work on the side of love.

The signs indicating modern man's longing for the love of God are manifold and encompass the whole spectrum of human affairs. New religious movements off all brands and from all directions promise to guide the believer into a deeper experience of love. Psychology attempts to explain love based on a scientific paradigm. Social movements have pioneered respect and equality among all people and in this way planted flowers where there once were walls. Even the ghastly presence of pornography is a desperate cry for a deeper experience of love! I have actually managed to find one positive aspect in the world-wide sex-industry! It brings to our attention how central sexual fulfillment is to human happiness and how completely disoriented we are about our own sexuality and how to establish a permanent relationship of conjugal love.

The Old and New Testament Ages opened up through the ceremonies of circumcision and baptism respectively. Where then shall we look for the central ceremony which has the authority to begin this Age of Love? The Matching and Blessing Ceremonies of True Parents. Do you know of any other ceremony in today's world which centers uniquely on the resurrection of God's love and which is both genuinely original and worldwide in character? The matching ceremonies are not a gigantic marriage bureau but a profound religious ceremony where God allows the participant to reclaim his vertical and horizontal love. By having absolute faith that God is working through the True Parents in the selection of one's eternal spouse, the vertical love for God is restored. By being ready to love virtually anyone of the opposite sex whether they are white, yellow, black, blue, green or purple, a person demonstrates his determination to restore the horizontal love towards all mankind. I cannot marry all women in the entire world. But by being willing to accept anyone, I have at least in my heart embraced all women. With this victory I can then see my wife eternally as being the embodiment of all women, which she is. In this way, the abstract trust in God and the entire world is concretized toward one human being. How wonderful! For is it not the very nature of God's love that it turns the universal into the particular! It is easy to love God and this world when there is no risk involved, isn't it? But love cannot exist without risk, for love exists by way of risking itself. The Blessing Ceremonies which now include millions of couples are God's way of ringing in the new age where His blessing will rest on the eternal conjugal relationship and the entire family.

But can all this really be true? Is it not just a serious joke? How easy it

would be if the Messiah would come on the clouds. I have in my own weak moments been tempted to wish for something like this. If he would just come riding on the white clouds of heaven, how wonderful it would be! For then we wouldn't have to think, would we? But the sweetness of being liberated from the terrible heaviness of our own responsibility would turn bitter and sour in the presence of deeper reflection. Then what if the Messiah came in much the same way that Jesus came 2000 years ago? And made it so terribly difficult for anyone to follow him. So difficult that only the person who would descend to the deepest layers of his or her mind and intuitively grasp what all this is about could generate the power to continue with a smile.

Although the Completed Testament Age is the age where God's efforts to restore His lineage, life and love come to fruition, it is primarily an age which is characterized by the presence or absence of God's love. Love involves a partner. The great revelation the True Parents are bringing to this world is that the prototype of Christ is not any longer an individual but a couple. It is a revelation which must change this world once we grasp the significance of it and apply it to our daily lives.

Rather than ignoring or rejecting the efforts of the great religious pioneers who cried and struggled before us, this simple truth brings them consolation and comfort. The reason why the kingdom of heaven on earth could not be established despite the amazing works of all these great individuals and their disciples is that the kingdom of heaven cannot be established by individuals! It can only be established by couples and families embodying both the vertical and horizontal dimensions of God's eternal love. This is so simple that even a fool can understand it and yet so profound that even the mind of a genius could not have produced it.

In retrospect we can see how God began the Old Testament Age with a miracle centered upon lineage. In Gen. 17:17 we read about Sarah's miraculous conception of Isaac when she was 90 years old! With Isaac begins the new lineage of the chosen people. What was the central miracle through which God began the New Testament Age of Christianity? The central miracle in Christian history centers on life. Jesus' resurrection from death to life laid the groundwork for the next 2000 years of God's work. The miracle which will open the Completed Testament Age will center on love. The miraculous matching and blessing ceremonies of True Parents as well as many other works of love herald the coming of the Completed Testament Age.

3) Love, Life and Lineage from the Viewpoint of Our Personal Lives

We have arrived at the final destination on our journey to approach the love, life and lineage of God: our personal lives. And now, I take the liberty to ask you some questions which I, in all honesty, have asked myself a million times.

Is your love rooted in the love of God? Is your love different from the type and standard of love we normally see practiced in this world? Does your love move like an ocean within to whose depths you constantly dive, even at the risk of your own life? Can you feel the love of God pushing towards the gates of your mind tearing them off their hinges and mingling with your tears and laughter? Have you decided to love the unlovable, to willingly suffer—to find that secret hiding place where you can pray for those who hurt you—and broke your heart? Perhaps you sense the truth in this but want to postpone the project of doing it until tomorrow. I can understand that. But tomorrow will always be tomorrow. Eternity is always an eternity away! However, in love the ordinary conceptions of time collapse. What Einstein discovered by means of the intellect, that time speeds up and slows down, we all have discovered by means of the heart. Truly, the arms of love stretch into the future and bring a piece of that world into the present moment. Once you love with the love of God, it is as if the arrow of time stops, bends back over itself and inflates the present moment with the breath of eternity. In love the actuality of the present moment is joined to the presence of the eternal.

Is your way of life really different for a life disconnected from the life of God? No! I am not asking if you fly around in your own helicopter, have achieved fame and fortune in this world or happen to lead many people. These things could easily be signs that you have made wrong choices in your life. Is your life filled with risks? Are you truly living for others or are you using the wonderful concept of "higher purpose" as a conceptual springboard to jump into imaginary worlds with imaginary accomplishments far away from your own immediate responsibility towards the flesh and blood sitting next to you? I have done this a number of times and hurt myself terribly in the process. So if these words seem too strong, remember that they are echoes from my own mind and heart.

Finally, to your lineage, your beloved children. Are they different? Do they feel rooted in the lineage of God, or are they gravitating towards the sickness in modern culture? Whether they are clever and capable in the human sense is really secondary. But is their sensitivity towards good and evil in themselves and this world nurtured? Can the voice of their own conscience drown the messages coming from without? These are questions no one can answer but you yourself. How we relate to such questions determines the presence of God's love, life and lineage in our families and the world.

And now a final word. With all of the above in mind, you can perhaps better understand why I cannot but feel a deep love for the man and woman who gave their lives to help me grasp these things. As a result I am experiencing the living God and so my family. With this I want to thank you for having followed me on this trajectory to the love, life and lineage of God, which now has come to an end. Or has it just begun? ❖

In the case of the Completed Testament Age centered on God's love, we do not have a two-thousand-year-long history at our disposal as was the case with both the history of the Old and New Testament Ages.



**HAVEN
BRADFORD GOW**

Mr. Gow is a TV and radio commentator and writer in Eudora, AK

A National Tragedy: Sex Abuse of Children

Recently in Crystal Lake, Ill., a teacher was found guilty of sexually abusing one of his middle-school female students; it was discovered during the trial that the teacher secretly took the 14-year-old girl to a medical clinic for Depo-Provera injections to minimize the chance she would become pregnant from his sexual abuse.

In Arkansas, the state police currently are investigating an allegation that a 15-year-old female detainee was sexually assaulted by an employee at the Juvenile Detention facility in Dermott.

In Tennessee, the Memphis public school department recently agreed to pay \$330,000 to the family of a then-six-year-old girl who was sexually assaulted on school premises by a group of first-grade classmates. The parents had sued the school department because school officials allegedly failed to protect the girl from repeated acts of sexual harassment which

ultimately led to the sexual assault.

In this connection, a June 1998 report from the National Consortium on Alternatives for Youth at Risk, Sarasota, Fla., pointed out that "According to authorities, there is unprecedented growth in child pornography in the United States largely because of the Internet, which provides child sexual predators with a virtually undetectable means of sending and receiving illicit images of children. As Robert Flores, a former attorney in the U.S. Justice Department who prosecuted child sex-ploitation and pornography cases, observes, "The Internet is the ultimate distribution system for child pornography. Before the Internet, pedophiles and child predators targeted children in parks and playgrounds, offering ice cream or candy to gain the child's trust."

Who are the people who sexually abuse children? Is there a connection between pornography and the increase

of child sex abuse?

According to retired FBI agent William Kelly, an expert on organized crime's involvement in pornography, the widespread availability and popularity of pornography have contributed to the nationwide epidemic of child sex abuse cases; he maintains that child pornography whets the appetites of sex criminals and encourages them to view and treat children as sex objects.

Betty Dickey, the prosecuting attorney in Jefferson County, Ark., says there has been an increase in child sex abuse cases investigated and prosecuted by her office; pornography, she adds, is a major factor in child sex abuse.

Ted Gorski, a police officer in Mt. Prospect, Ill., says, "We investigated some child sex abuse cases when I was a youth officer with the Mt. Prospect police department; the people involved were a grandfather, a father and a step-father; I also know of some cases (not

in Mt. Prospect) where homosexual Boy Scout leaders sexually abused kids in their troops."

Commander Joseph Kolonowski of the Mt. Prospect police department observes, "Although I can't quote you any scientific studies, my gut reaction is that pornography contributes to sex crimes. When someone looks at porno films and publications, he becomes sexually aroused and needs an outlet." He adds: "The best way to deal with porno shops and theaters is through zoning laws. Courts have upheld the constitutionality of zoning laws."

Mt. Prospect police officer/attorney David Wysopal readily agrees that pornography is linked with the sexual abuse of children; he says, "I believe a connection exists between both adults and child pornography and sex crimes. What we read and see can have an adverse effect on our thinking and behavior."

Former FBI Director William H. Webster, Jr. is right: "Every child in America is a potential victim of sexual abuse and exploitation." ♦

Who are the people who sexually abuse children? Is there a connection between pornography and the increase of child sex abuse?

2nd Gen. Teen Experiences in Korea

This stories are from the newsletter of the Education in Korea Program for teens

Dae Mo Nim

by Rachel Paine, GOP

Before I went to Chung Pyung, I thought Mrs. Kim would be pretty cool: strong spirited and everything. But when I went to Chung Pyung, it was a lot more than I had expected. She is so inspiring! She really gives it to you. I got really inspired and motivated by her. Love was just radiating from her. I wanted to go up and give her a hug. She felt like my mother practically. I felt really close to her. It was quite an experience. I felt I could really relate to her. It was like she was so nice and gentle, but then so firm, strong and powerful.

In her speech, we talked about the bad stuff that we did, we repented. I felt guilty and then it was like we put it aside and talked about the future, how to succeed and what not to do. Her talk was very meaningful. It got

very deep: the forces of good and evil, their influences on you. She made you feel like you could do anything. You know that "Bring It On" kind of feeling.

Well, I think Dae Mo Nim and Mrs. Kim are awesome women and they make an awesome pair. They really inspired me.

Ancestors' Liberation at Chung Pyung Lake

by Henry Freeland, GOP

We prayed that our ancestors could come and get liberated and that they could go to a 100-day DP workshop. Then they have a 40-day workshop of studying about blessed family life.

On the last day of our three-day workshop we gathered in the main hall to do an ancestors' liberation ceremony.

First, Dae Mo Nim gave us a speech on ancestors and how she had prayed for all our ancestors to come. She gave us clear instructions how to do the ceremony.

After that the ansu session started. I tried to invest my 100% and sang with a clear voice. When the ansu was over, we prayed a special prayer. First, we had to pray for the spirits who had resentment towards us and our ancestors to leave. Then we prayed for the ancestors to come so that the angels could take them to the spirit world where they attend a 100-day DP workshop. I prayed really sincerely and I saw two people come in. They said: "I will go now." Then I saw a couple of people walking into a lecture hall with brown chairs. They sat down and one particular lady looked at me. She said nothing. Suddenly I saw a pair of eyes which said, "I will take care of your ancestors if you promise

to study hard and win the speech contest." I said "Yes" and finished my prayer with a lot of tears and I thanked God over and over again.

This was a very awesome experience. Back at the dorm now I try to study hard. It's not easy. Life goes on.

The Liberation of our Ancestors

by Masataka Kubo, GOP

The Western Program had gone to Chung Pyung, and on the third day we were there we had a chance to liberate some of our ancestors.

We did this at the main hall at Chung Pyung. We all went to the main hall and waited until Dae Mo Nim came up to the stage. She spoke on how much she had prepared for us to be able to liberate our ancestors. Then we started a short ansu session. After ansu we

got ready to start the actual part where we actually liberate our ancestors. We did this by praying very loud. We prayed that our ancestors could come and get liberated and that they could go to a 100-day DP workshop. Then they have a 40-day workshop of studying about blessed family life. Finally they come down to Chung Pyung until the people who liberated them come again to Chung Pyung. These ancestors (as good spirits) stay with the people who liberated them and help them with their problems.

After Chung Pyung we all now have a 100-day prayer condition so we can receive guidance for our ancestors in their 100-day workshop.

I think this was a good experience for everyone. I was hoping I would see something special during the prayer, but I didn't. However, I still think it was a really special experience. ♦

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A Testimony of Faith: True Mother in Poughkeepsie

By Dr. Tom Bowers, UTS Librarian

UTS co-sponsored True Mother's visit to Poughkeepsie on April 6. I had the opportunity to work on the preparations at the hotel for that event. In so doing I experienced a reawakening of my own sense of the vitality of our movement and its message.

Several Sunday Services prior to the event were filled with testimonies of the efforts people were making to reach out to the community to invite people to this event. For me these services touched on two important things in our life of faith: 1) expressing openly to each our faith commitment and 2) challenging each other with living testimonies to share with confidence the message of True Parents. As a result of those services, I sent out more invitations and had more guest at the event than ever before.

Another powerful experience I had was holding Il Jung Prayer four Friday nights in a row with Dr. Thomas Ward, the city leader of Poughkeepsie. In those prayer experiences I found God's heart of love of me, his love of Heung-Jin Nim and his love for Father's words. I found the spiritual food that I needed to face the day to day complexities of taking care of the many details I was responsible for at the hotel.

The event itself was for me the most successful event I have ever personally participated in. But in retrospect the event itself was not as important to me personally as the reaffirmation of faith I experienced in preparation for it.

MY PATH TO UTS

By Susumu Kotegawa

I am very thankful that God and True Parents gave me an opportunity to study at the Unification Theological Seminary (UTS). I entered UTS last September, am now in my third semester and having a tremendous experience here in Barrytown, NY. Even one year ago, I never imagined myself enrolling at UTS. I am only here because God and True Parents guided me to be here.

I first began thinking about coming to UTS at a workshop for Unification

Church (UC) members who were also University of Bridgeport (UB) graduates in 1998, at which I heard True Father's direction for these graduates. I had attended the '97 workshop with thirteen other Unification Church brothers and sisters who graduated with me, but at that workshop there were no specific directions given by Father for us. However, the 40 UC brothers and sisters who attended the '98 graduates workshop received True Father's direction loud and clear: "All (UC) UB graduates have to go to UTS!"

At first I struggled to digest this direction because I thought that it only applied to the members of the class '98. I also thought UTS was a place to train future ministers and I did not consider myself to be the "minister-type". So I didn't give UTS much attention, rather I was trying to figure out what to do after graduation.

However Father's request for UC UB graduates to attend UTS continued to be emphasized. I remember we had many seri-

ous discussions about this matter centered on the UB UC campus minister, Rev. Hempowicz. Finally things became clearer for us when Hyun Jin Nim visited on July 16th, 1998. Hyun Jin Nim said, "I bring True Father's message today. You have to come to UTS as soon as possible". Hyun Jin Nim explained clearly why we should attend UTS, the mission of UTS and the future vision of our movement.

Finally I realized that God and True Parents were talking to ME, not just the graduates of '98, since I attended Hyun Jin Nim's speech, (I was there video-taping it). I was motivated by his words that "You don't have a root to your faith. At UTS you have to build the root of your faith, and you can inherit the vertical tradition which True Parents have established. Before you go to your professional field you have to be connected with God vertically. UTS is a place to make those things happen!" Hyun Jin Nim's visit and words opened the door to UTS for me. I realized that UTS was the very answer for which I had been praying about my course after graduation.

I had reached a turning point in my life. It was seven years that month since I joined the Church. I was feeling limits in many aspects of my life of faith. I realized that this was the right time for me to go to UTS - to seek God's heart, to learn more about True Parents and inherit their traditions from



Tom Bowers

UTS



the zero point. True Father is now very old so I want to quickly inherit the tradition and make my strong determination while True Father is alive and well.

Life at UTS is for me like solving a puzzle, seeking the reasons True Father directs UC UB graduates to come to UTS. UTS is located in the midst of beautiful scenery, and this setting combined with True Father's prayer and design provide both a wonderful natural environment and academic program. If I attend classes with a lot of preparation, I receive a lot of inspirations. UTS is a place to generate heavenly tradition and culture and here we can communicate with brothers and sisters from all over the world. To be here requires a challenging, pioneer spirit, and open mind - my horizons are being broadened.

I have also been impressed by President Shimmyo's faith. On many occasions we have opportunities to hear about the mission and vision of UTS from the President. He always emphasizes and prays that "I will take the most difficult burden of the cross." I could understand what UTS is through the President's attitude toward God and True Parents. I can clearly know the standard of faith I am striving for by graduation: to obtain absolute faith.

This is my third semester and I am learning many things from UTS and its community members. This is a place to pass the tradition from 1st generation to 2nd generation, to inherit the vertical tradition which True Parents have established, and prepare for the future of our movement. Of course, I believe it is possible to inherit True Parents tradition everywhere if our motivation is correct, however UTS is the educational institution True Father invested his heart in the most. Therefore it is possible for us to inherit in a

short time and in the most appropriate environment.

It is my goal to build a strong root of faith, absolute faith, and to carry the most difficult burden. I want to seek and meet God's and True Parents' heart and prepare for my future.

The things I learned at UB were very useful. I received my Bachelor's in Mass Communications. Now I am figuring out how to best use this knowledge in connection with God's Will. I would like to be a bridge between UB and UTS, and build a foundation for future UB



Susumu Kotegawa, tope center, with Tom Tanemori, Yuichi Uchiyama and Toshiyuki Morimitsu—all University of Bridgeport students studying at UTS

graduates to study at UTS by being a good role model. Again I am very thankful for the wonderful education and guidance I received at UB and continue to receive at UTS.

An Opportunity to Serve

By Arno Boettger, Senior student

Over the last three years I have had the privilege to attend workshops at Chung Pyung Lake for over 120 days. I have participated in two forty day workshops and approximately 20 three day workshops. Most recently I was fortunate to attend the first 7 generation ancestors liberation on February 14th, 1999. During my experiences at Chung Pyung, I deeply received God's grace and mercy. So, when I heard that Dae Mo Nim was coming to Belvedere, I sincerely want-

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ed to help my brothers and sisters to have a similar experience of God's incredible grace. My hope was that by serving brothers and sisters I could contribute to them feeling the heart and love of God throughout the whole event.

I also wanted to make God happy, and express my gratitude to God, True Parents and Dae Mo Nim, through my service.

I went to Belvedere early on Sunday morning with many UTS brothers and sisters as we wanted to help in whatever way we could to support the event. I had the privilege, together with others, to inspire brothers and sisters to prepare and uplift the spiritual atmosphere for Dae Mo Nim through the clapping sessions.

Due to the spiritual significance of the clapping, I wanted to be an example of chungsung, so that together we could completely invest our hearts and effort into the clapping to support the liberation of spirits and our ancestors. I deeply desired that my brothers and sisters could receive even more of God's grace, love and mercy than I had received.

I could see that as brothers and sisters saw me clapping wholeheartedly that it did inspire them to clap with more chungsung themselves. I felt that this made God happy.

F.R.E.S.H. S.T.A.R.T.

by Stephen Manning

"E" for Exercise, Part I

It is no secret that exercise is good for you. But *inappropriate* exercise can do more harm than good. In part one of "E" for Exercise, we will look at the benefits of, and the appropriate principles to apply, to an effective, healthy exercise program.

Some of the proven benefits of a regular, balanced exercise routine, versus a sedentary lifestyle, are:

Physical:

- Increases: Strength, Flexibility, Endurance, Speed, Balance, Coordination, and Agility.
- Reduces chances of developing: Cancer, High blood pressure, LDL cholesterol, Arthritis, Osteoporosis, Diabetes, Varicose veins, PMS, Heart disease, Bowel irregularities.
- Improves: Body composition (less fat), Immune system, General functions of internal organs, Skin condition, Cardio-pulmonary-respiratory functioning (heart, lungs and blood),



Arno and Kiyami Boettger

Confidence.

- Reduces: Stress, and Depression.

Intellectual:

- Enhances: I.Q., Ability to concentrate, Memory, and Creativity.

Regular, appropriate exercise lengthens and improves the quality of our lives. We deal better with physical, emotional and intellectual stress, and generally are better able to function effectively in this demanding world. By ignoring these principles, we place ourselves at a disadvantage, or even at risk, of a lifetime of unnecessary struggle and sickness. Instead of being able to show good example to others, we are probably becoming part of the problem, draining society of its resources due to unprincipled lifestyles. There is increasingly more evidence of the connection between the physical, emotional, intellectual, AND the spiritual! Now, we have the knowledge to change ourselves, and through association, change the world.

Here are three principles to guide you as you plan your exercise program:

- If it hurts, don't do it!
- Exercise at your own pace.
- Follow the F.I.T. concept.

1. If it hurts, don't do it!

For too long, people have

Injury protection and rehabilitation time.

Emotional:

- Improves: Discipline, Self-control, Resistance to addictions, Self-esteem,

believed that something has to be 'painful' in order to be beneficial. Remember "No Pain - No Gain"? This is simply not true. In a regular fitness program, the opposite is actually the case. If it hurts—stop!! Pain is the body's signal that damage is occurring. Please don't confuse effort and discomfort, with pain. It is absolutely appropriate to invest sincere effort, and experience some discomfort as you challenge yourself to improve (this is also the case in other disciplines: study, work, family life, spiritual growth etc.).

2. Exercise At Your Own Pace

This is connected to the first principle above. Don't feel pressured to meet someone else's standard if it causes pain or distress. This is one of the major failings with fitness classes such as dance aerobics. Often, individuals are not fully assessed or advised about their specific appropriate pace for the class. There is pressure to 'keep up' with the music and the instructor, - often resulting in the session being detrimental, rather than beneficial for the participant. It is important to decide what you expect from an exercise program, and then, choose the appropriate type of exercise to achieve those goals. Many people involved in regular exercise programs are actually working against their stated goals, due to lack of understanding of the basic principles governing human physiology.

3. The F.I.T. Concept (Frequency, Intensity, Time)

The general rule for the frequency of exercise is determined by your body's ability to respond to exercise, it's requirement for rest between sessions, and the negative effects of either too much or too little of either. Therefore, it is generally recommended that one exercise at least 3 times weekly for the appropriate amount of time, and at the right intensity.

You determine intensity! Do you want to be 'fit' like a marathon runner—or a sumo wrestler? Silly though it may sound, this is a very good way to illustrate the two different methods of exercising. The marathon runner trains for endurance and stamina, and in the process develops his cardio-pulmonary-respiratory functions, and burns body fat. This type of training is called AEROBIC (with oxygen). The sumo wrestler trains for explosive power and strength, builds large bulky muscles, and burns zero body fat. This is called ANAEROBIC training (without oxygen). A simple way to determine which type of exercise you are doing at any given moment is to ask yourself "am I out of oxygen?" - if you are literally gasping for breath (like after a sprint up stairs), or your muscles are totally fatigued, and you just have to stop, - then you have been doing ANAEROBIC exercise. This is the way to build the physique of a bull. On the other hand, continuous, moderate exercise which challenges you without exhaustion (at least for 20 minutes) and using large muscles, we call AEROBIC. In my opinion, a subtle mixture of both types of exercise is most beneficial. Athletes such as boxers, decathletes and

ballet dancers are prime examples of a mixed aerobic and anaerobic training regimen.

Time, once again, depends on you. Remember, if you want your session to reap aerobic benefits, then it must last at least 20 minutes, any less, and the body will not respond accordingly. Also, remember that exercise consumes energy. If you continue exercising longer than necessary to achieve your goals, your body will find the energy from somewhere—even if it means breaking down muscle fibers for food! Think about this during your anaerobic workout.

Question of the month:

Do older people benefit as much as younger people from exercise?

Answer: Yes, and in most cases older people reap relatively greater benefits at first, because of their less active lifestyles.

Next month, in "E" for Exercise, part two, there will be more specifics on developing your very own, effective and enjoyable, principled exercise program. ♦

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BEFORE ABSOLUTE FAITH AND OBEDIENCE:

by Dan Fefferman—Washington, DC

"Absolute faith, absolute love, absolute obedience..." —*Family Pledge, # 8*
 "Conscience before teacher, conscience before parents, conscience before God."
 —*Rev. Sun Myung Moon, True God's Day Message, 1996*

Both of the above slogans represent important aspects of the thought of the Reverend Sun Myung Moon. On the surface, these two sayings seem to contradict each other. Can they be reconciled?

The answer may be very significant for the future of Unification Theology. If "absolute obedience" means the subservience of the conscience to religious authority and "absolute faith" results in blind commitment, then Unificationism will fail in its attempt to present itself to contemporary audiences. As Dr. Young Oon Kim stated in her introduction to *Divine Principles and Their Application*, "A blind faith has no attraction or authority over the mind of modern men." (Young Oon Kim, *Divine Principles and Their Application*, p. iv.) On the other hand, if individual conscience takes precedence over loyalty to God and True Parents, then the pledge of absolute faith and obedience seems empty. Is there a way to unify these seemingly opposite approaches?

The phrase "absolute faith, absolute love, absolute obedience" comes from the "Family Pledge," recited by Unificationists the world over at 5:00 a.m. every Sunday and often daily at 6:00 a.m. as part of the *Hoon Dok Hwe* (speech reading) movement. The theme is also repeated in many of Reverend Moon's speeches. In the context of the Family Pledge, it is read as follows:

Our family pledges, as we enter the

NOW I LAY ME DOWN TO SLEEP

Now I lay me down to sleep,
 I pray my sanity to keep.
 For if some peace I do not find,
 I'm pretty sure I'll lose my mind.

I pray I find a little quiet
 Far from the daily family riot
 May I lie back—not have to think
 about what they're stuffing down the sink,
 or who they're with, or where they're at
 and what they're doing to the cat.

I pray for time all to myself
 (did something just fall off a shelf?)

To cuddle in my nice, soft bed
 (Oh no, another goldfish—dead!)

Some silent moments for goodness sake
 (Did I just hear a window break?)
 And that I need not cook or clean—
 (well heck, I've got the right to dream)

Yes now I lay me down to sleep,
 I pray my wits about me keep,
 But as I look around I know—
 I must have lost them long ago!

K. Holmquist

Completed Testament Era, to achieve the ideal oneness of God and humankind in love through practicing absolute faith, absolute love, and absolute obedience, thereby perfecting the realm of liberation of the Kingdom of God on Earth and in Heaven by centering on true love.

"Conscience before teacher, conscience before parents, conscience before God" was a common theme in Reverend Moon's speeches in the period 1994-1996. It was a central part of his True God's Day message of January 1, 1996. In speeches to members, he sometimes led the congregation in chanting this slogan for several minutes. The theme of the primacy of conscience was also emphasized in Reverend Moon's teachings to thousands of Japanese women in a series of workshops in Chae Joo Island, Korea during the same period. The following is an excerpt from one of the speeches in which the slogan was introduced:

Conscience is higher even than parents. Please recite this, *yangshim eun boomonim boda apsuhyitda*. That means, conscience exists ahead of True Parents. Please repeat one more time. [Conscience exists ahead of True Parents.] Again. [Conscience exists ahead of True Parents.] The second is, *yangshim eun seuseung boda apsuhyitda*. Now repeat this, the conscience exists before the teacher himself. [Conscience exists before the teacher himself.] Again. [Conscience exists before the teacher.] This means that the conscience is ahead of the teacher. The third, *yangshim eun hananim boda apsuhyitda*. Conscience exists ahead of God. Please repeat. [Conscience exists ahead of God.] Again. [Conscience exists ahead of God.] One more time. [Conscience exists ahead of God.] ("Let Us Find Our True Self," December 4, 1994, Belvedere International Training Center, Translator: Sang Kil Han.)

What Is Conscience?

In *Divine Principle*, there are two concepts of what is commonly called conscience, known as "original mind," and "conscience."

The part of the human mind which corresponds to character and always directs man toward the absolute standard of goodness is called the "original mind," and that which corresponds to form is called the "conscience." ... (if man) sets up a standard of goodness different from that of the original nature of creation, the human conscience directs toward that standard; however the original mind rejects it and tries to turn the direction of the conscience toward the standard of the original mind... (*Divine Principle*, sec-

ond edition, page 64)

Another way of distinguishing between these two concepts is to say that original mind is "vertical conscience" and conscience is "horizontal conscience."

In the slogan about "conscience before parents," Reverend Moon uses the term *yangshim* (conscience)—rather than *ponshim* (original mind). Nevertheless, the contextual meaning of the term is closer to *ponshim*, in that it represents an absolute standard beyond changing values. This is demonstrated by the following:

Did we inherit our conscience at our birth? No. It was before life. It has always been with God. The conscience remains the same constantly. ("Let Us Find Our True Self," op. cit.)

Clearly, this use of the word "conscience" (*yang-*

shim) is closer to *Divine Principle's* "original mind" (*ponshim*) than to the changeable "conscience."

Stages of Faith and Obedience

Reverend Moon does not encourage forced obedience or blind faith, but a mature faith and enlightened obedience to an absolute subject, namely God. The concept of obedience, to Reverend Moon, is not one dimensional. He has taught that there are three kinds of obedience, corresponding to the three stages of human development.

**"Absolute faith, absolute love,
 absolute obedience..."**

—*Family Pledge, # 8*

**"Conscience before teacher,
 conscience before parents,
 conscience before God."**

—*Rev. Sun Myung Moon,
 True God's Day Message, 1996*

There are three types of obedience. One is just to obey whatever is told you. The next type is to obey while always seeking to know God, Truth and the why of things. The third type is obedience after knowing the heart of God. (Leaders Address of 5-1-65 in Way of Tradition, Vol. II, page 137.)

Doing whatever one is told without questioning is a necessary stage of development. If a child does not obey unquestioningly the warning voice of his parent, he puts himself at risk. If, for example, he keeps walking across the street when his mother shouts, "Stop!" he could be killed. His intellect is not yet capable of understanding the reason why he must stop, so he must depend on his parent's wisdom. This is formation stage obedience—children's obedience, or unquestioning

obedience. But children's obedience is not complete, not "absolute obedience."

The second type of obedience is the type which questions, but still obeys. It asks, "Why should I not eat the fruit? Will I ever be able to eat this fruit? Why did God put this fruit tree in the middle of the garden if I am not to eat it?" But it still obeys the commandment not to eat. This is growth stage obedience—adolescent obedience. This questioning stage also is a necessary in the development of mature obedience, but it is still not complete or absolute obedience.

The final stage of obedience is obedience that knows the heart of the Father. This is completion stage obedience—parental obedience. This is the type of obedience that acts intuitively without even waiting to be told—the obedience that anticipates God, or even goes

In My Opinion...

beyond God's expectations. What would be an example of the type of obedience based on "knowing the heart of the Father?"

No knowledge, no position, no wealth...nothing can please Father except your heart of love for God alone, which will make him cry—that alone can ease His heart... If you are ready to die, if you cry out to God... "I am ready to die in the place of other people for the sake of Your cause," and if you really dash to that point, ready to sacrifice yourself, then God may be able to trust you. (Our Determination to Win 3-1-73 in Way of Tradition Vol. 1 page 47.)

I believe the key to reconciling "conscience" and "absolute obedience" can be found in understanding the distinction Rev. Moon makes between children's obedience (unquestioning obedience) and parental obedience (absolute obedience). Unquestioning obedience is the formation stage, questioning obedience is the growth stage, and obedience that identifies with the heart of God is the completion stage. Absolute obedience is neither blind obedience nor questioning obedience, but obedience that understands intuitively, beyond the need for questions. In other words, absolute obedience is obedience united with "vertical conscience."

Conscience and Religious Authority

Another way of reconciling "absolute obedience" and "conscience" would be to assert that any impulse of conscience that contradicts the instructions of religious authority does not come from the "true" conscience (original mind) but from the horizontal conscience that is affected by changeable cultural norms. In other words, if your conscience tells you something is wrong but your religious leader tells you it is right, you should follow your religious leader's opinion since he is more likely to be connected to God.

One teacher adopted this approach to absolute faith and obedience when he asked: "If Father holds up a white

A CASE FOR THE PRIMACY OF CONSCIENCE

card and says it is a red card, what color is the card?" The correct answer, this teacher said, is "red card." Since Reverend Moon is God's representative, and we are fallen human beings, we need to unite with his opinion and trust it absolutely, even if our own senses tell us otherwise.

But is this the interpretation of absolute obedience we should adopt? I believe there is ample evidence from Reverend Moon's own teachings—let alone moral philosophy and epistemology—to suggest we should not. To deny reason and experience in the name of religious authority is precisely "blind faith." But Reverend Moon categorically rejects blind faith.

There has to be a scientific, logical explanation because now is not the time for blind faith. You have to have a logical, scientific explanation of the truth and that alone will be able to penetrate this twentieth century world. Blind faith...will not work anymore. (True Parents and the Creation of the Ideal Family, February 15, 1994, World Mission Center, NYC. Interpreter: Dr. Bo Hi Pak.)

If absolute faith is not blind faith, then what is it? It must be mature faith, complete faith or perfected faith. Faith, like obedience, passes through stages. Formation stage faith is unquestioning faith. Growth stage faith wrestles with difficult questions but continues on the faithful path. Completion stage faith has gone beyond questioning to the realm of intuition, of knowing the heart of the Father.

The Fallibility Question

Clearly, Unification Church leaders are human beings who sometimes commit moral errors. Does absolute obedience mean a member should follow a leader into moral error? Surely no one would want to argue that a member should follow a leader who commands him to violate God's will. History has rendered a clear verdict on this question: "following orders" is no excuse for moral irresponsibility. Whether one is an officer in the German army during WWII or a fundraising member on an MFT team, one cannot use the excuse that "I was only following orders" to justify moral error.

So it should be clear that conscience has priority over obedience and faith as pertains to fallible persons and institutions. But what about Reverend Moon himself? Does he make mistakes? If not, then it could be argued that one is always safe in following his opinion. However, to my knowledge, Reverend Moon does not claim to be infallible. He does say that he seeks with complete sincerity to know and follow God's will. But he also says he is a human being capable of error.

Do you trust me? (Yes!) Do you trust me? (Yes!!!!) Do you REALLY trust me? (Yes, Father!!!!) You should not trust me so much. I am a man, and I can make mistakes. When you make a mistake, it is not such a big thing. But if I make a mistake, the entire providence may be affected. Instead of just trusting me, you should be praying for me, asking God that he will be able to guide me. (Unpublished speech to CARP leaders, 1981, author's notes.)

Moreover, even if Reverend Moon himself were infallible, the question remains as to whom "absolute obedience" is due. Since, in Reverend Moon's teaching, "conscience is before parents, teacher and God," it can only be con-

disagreement did Reverend Moon eventually gain their assent.

When one looks at the Unification Church members whom Reverend Moon thinks highly of, a similar character is demonstrated. Take Rev. Chong Goo

at times to resist even Godly authorities in order to follow one's conscience and receive God's ultimate trust and blessing, I do not mean to demean the value of strict obedience and unquestioning faith. Even for adults there may be moments when unquestioning faith is called for, and there are many times when the authority of a strong leader such as Reverend Moon is needed to encourage us to overcome our self-centeredness. At such time, the "horizontal conscience" becomes aligned with the "vertical conscience" through unquestioning faith and obedience. Yet, this is not always the case. As Reverend Moon points out, when one knows the heart of the Father "no power under the sun can deter it."

It is not easy to maintain internal unity with one's teacher while having to resist his instructions in order to follow one's conscience. However, we cannot escape the conclusion that, in the final analysis, true "absolute faith and absolute obedience" may sometimes involve contesting the direct orders even of one's spiritual master. "Conscience before teacher, conscience before parents, conscience before God" is the *sine qua non* of absolute faith and obedience. ❖

Other providential religious leaders have gone through a similar course. In the Bible, the prophet Elisha inherited the mantle and mission of his master Elijah only after disobeying him three times. (2 Kings 2: 1-11 NIV) Job wins God's praise not by his unquestioning faith, but by his willingness to probe and question where others were unwilling. And of course, Jacob won his new name of "Victor" by being faithful to his father and obeying the rules, but by "striving with God and with man."

"Tiger" Park for example, or the American UC martyr, Lee Shapiro. Both of the were known for their passion and determination to finish what they started, even if their superiors directed them otherwise.

In holding that it may be necessary

Completion Stage	Absolute faith/obedience	Parental/Intuitive
Growth Stage	Questioning faith/obedience	Adolescent/searching
Formation Stage	Blind faith/obedience	Children's/dependent

cluded that absolute obedience is due to first to conscience and not to any outside authority. Even in relation to God, it must be to one's inner sense of God's will that obedience is due, rather than to any external power speaking in God's name.

Resolving the Dilemma

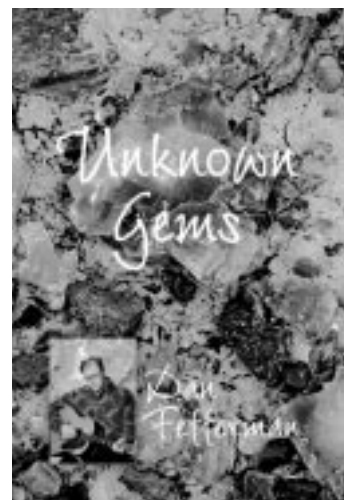
There may be those who say that because Reverend Moon has fulfilled his messianic task by establishing the True Parents and True Family, the tension between conscience and obedience is now over. Such persons might argue: "From now on, we must simply obey True Parents. This is the highest form of conscience, because they are the visible manifestation of God." However, I believe it is not too bold to assert that even a direct instruction from Reverend or Mrs. Moon may hypothetically need to be resisted. Those who argue otherwise ignore the following statement from Reverend Moon:

The day and the moment will come when even God seems to be saying 'I don't know you.' At that time you will feel that you are utterly alone in all the universe. If under those conditions you still do not give up, but insist, 'No matter what God thinks or what True Parents say to me, no matter how unsympathetic the church members are, this is the right way and I will go on anyway.' Then at that moment you are elevating yourself to the highest level of faith. Once you reach that level you can be trusted unconditionally by God and by me, and eventually the whole world. (The Desire of All Things 6-17-77 in Way of Tradition Vol. III page 267.)

So, according to Reverend Moon, the "highest level of faith" is to persist in going the way one knows to be right, no matter what God, True Parents or church members say. In other words, "absolute faith" is synonymous with putting one's conscience before any other authority, including even Reverend Moon and God. In fact, Reverend Moon seems to be saying that the way to be fully trusted by God is precisely by demonstrating that one holds the authority of one's own conscience—not God, True Parents or church members—to be paramount.

Reverend Moon tells us that he himself followed such a course. In a well known story, he relates that God and Jesus initially denied Reverend Moon's interpretation of the Fall. Only after insisting that he was correct despite their adamant

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**PAUL
CARLSON**

Home Schools

In past articles we've had much to say about the education of America's children. This month we're going to discuss one growing educational movement, Home Schooling. Today, over a million children are taking their lessons at home.

Since the ill-fated Women's Liberation movement began, millions of mothers have devoted themselves to outside careers. For the poor, confiscatory taxes can make this a necessity. While putting in long hours, these women have turned to day care to help raise their children. (Or if they're wealthy, to private nannies.)

As a result, one now hears heart-rending stories of small children calling their care provider "mommy," and hardly recognizing their actual mother!

Radio's Dr. Laura reported about one such "successful" working mother. In a written interview, this workaholic admitted that, in being away from her children so much, she knew that SHE was "missing out on something."

This author once heard an amazing personal testimony from a retired High School Principal, Mr. Richard Arthur. He has served in some of California's toughest neighborhoods, and is now an activist for educational reform.

Arthur speaks of watching a father drop off his son at school each morning. The man drove a fancy sports car, and day after day, he would immediately speed away.

One morning Principal Arthur approached the father, and asked if he could "take the car for a spin around the block."

"No way!" was the man's response.

Arthur told him, "You place your son in my care for many hours each day, without ever coming inside to check out the school. Yet you won't trust me with your car for five minutes. Which do you value more?"

One does hope the message sank in. Such self-centered attitudes are com-

mon, and a constant stream of "academic studies" attempt to justify them. Arrogant scholars have announced that everything from "lengthy day care" to "homosexual parents" are harmless—even beneficial—to children. Each time, the liberal news media trumpets their findings. Even if they are technically correct (which is debatable), their narrow, slanted test results don't tell the entire story.

History

The history of the Public Schools is complex, but the greatest impetus for their growth was the vast influx of immigrants that took place during the nineteenth century.

Numerous "free schools" were founded to educate these newly-arrived children. Most were poor, and many couldn't speak English. These new schools enabled them to learn and socialize, and to identify themselves as Americans. For the most part they succeeded, allowing America's famous "melting pot" to forge an even greater nation.

These days the Public Schools, particularly in liberal states, are failing in this; they're doing just the opposite! Immigration is now mostly from Third World nations, and "multiculturalism" is teaching those children to cling to the very cultures their parents had fled. (Many of those cultures, sorry to say, remain profoundly medieval—or worse.)

Of course, when immigrants find freedom here, they should discern and honor that part of their heritage which is positive. However, resentful, left-leaning educators don't think that way. Thus their students end up alienated, perceiving themselves as victimized "hyphenated Americans." These children are being set up to fail.

The Response

Many parents are aware that something has gone terribly wrong, and they're responding in a variety of ways. Some are educating their children right at home, a practice now called Home Schooling.

Parents are choosing this method for several reasons. Some large families cannot afford private tuition for all of their children. Rural residents have limited options. Many parents, especially fundamentalist Christians, want to be absolutely sure of the influences upon their children. In fact, Christians now comprise the vast majority of home schoolers.

Judge Robert Bork describes the Home School movement as "an effort to keep children out of the corrupting embrace of Public School systems run by modern liberals."

Advocates note that the Constitution provides no specific basis for the Public Schools. Rather, the Tenth Amendment makes it clear that parents

have primary responsibility.

Some advocates go much further, rejecting the very concept of classroom education. Author Sheldon Richman puts it this way:

"Imagine an office where you sit at a desk and do the same work as 25 coworkers. No one is allowed to talk. At the end of 50 minutes, a bell rings, and whether you're finished or not, you must immediately move to another office, have a different boss and different colleagues—and start a job that has nothing to do with

the one you were just working on. Imagine doing that six or seven times a day."

Obviously, these workers would accomplish little if anything.

Home Schools aren't just a "reaction to the times." They have a profound intellectual foundation, and a long history. Many of America's Founding Fathers, luminaries such as Washington, Hamilton, and Patrick Henry, were educated primarily at home. During their era, overall literacy was quite high.

Pros and Cons

Home Schools are as controversial as they are popular. The National Education Association states in its official platform that Home Schools must be opposed at every turn. Numerous efforts have been made to shut them down. Zoning laws, licensing requirements, and now "national standards," are being used as bludgeons.

Home schoolers have won some fierce legal battles, leading to the establishment of the Home School Legal Defense Association, a full-time legal organization.

"Educrats" complain that home schooling detracts from the Public Schools. Advocates reply that government-run schools are already failing, and even if they weren't, it's still the parent's decision. Parents must pay their full share of taxes, either way.

Teachers claim that children need "socialization," and that only their heterogeneous classrooms can provide it. Home schoolers have responded by orga-

nizing clubs that sponsor study groups, field trips, and many other activities.

Educators claim that parents aren't always qualified to teach a variety of subjects. Parents respond that many teachers aren't either—as recent competency tests have proved. Meanwhile, the popularity of home schooling has fostered the growth of publishing houses that produce specialized textbooks, course materials, and even software.

Progressives claim that our complex, modern world demands "up to date resources" for teaching. They cast devout Christians as regressive, even as Luddites. They point out that many Christian parents ban TV from their homes, and allow only "approved" videos, if any.

In fact, overall, home schooling is highly technological. For example, Christians now offer Internet services that automatically screen out pornographic sites. Numerous web sites support Home Schools, and sympathetic Christian Schools are beginning to provide specialized, on-line classes.

Most Public School classrooms are already wired to the Internet. However, the majority of teachers do not know how to utilize the technology. Home Schools are, in many respects, well ahead of them!

Conclusion

Many Public Schools, bowing to the inevitable, have begun cooperating with home schoolers. Some even offer comprehensive support packages.

Of course, all parents have to do some home schooling, even if it only involves homework and such. This depends on the style and competence of their children's school, but in any case, there must always be parental support!

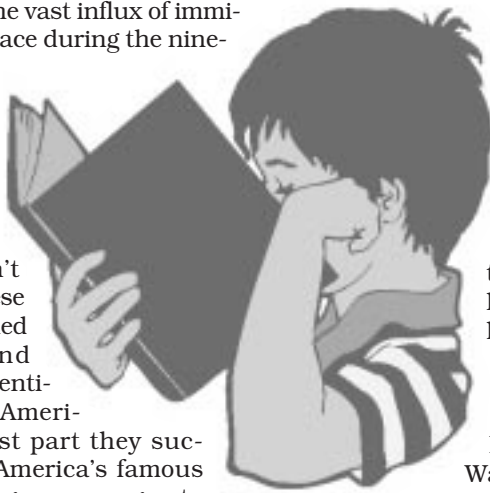
At home, self-disciplined children can learn at their own pace; which, as it turns out, is usually several times faster than they would have in a classroom. The results are impressive.

Education, wherever it takes place, is more than rote memorization: "The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught, as that every child should be given the wish to learn." — John Lubbock (Lord Avebury), 1887.

There is an even deeper aspect to education. Raising Godly children is the most important thing a couple can do. True Father says that the family is "the school of love," the sacred place where the Four Great Realms of Heart are fulfilled.

We Unificationists have organized several excellent schools. They are models of learning, and of true multiculturalism.

So far, though, our schools are few and far between. Unificationist parents, if their circumstances warrant, should seriously consider home schooling their children. ♦



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to participate in, is the resurrection of the spirit world. Release those resentful, angry, violent spirits that invade vulnerable youth. Our indemnity invested on earth leads to resurrection of spirit men (EDP 93). They return to earth to work with us (returning resurrection) only based on our indemnity on earth. So there is work for us to do on earth, offering, sacrifice. When our good works on earth are not enough—and they never are enough—conditions of indemnity are necessary and are made possible through the intervention of God in True Parents. This is basic biblical theology. Here Unificationism resonates with traditions such as Roman Catholi-

cism, Hinduism and Buddhism, going back into shamanistic roots, and is at variance with the Protestant, Islamic and Confucianist worldviews, as well as anti-modern and anti-secularist. The Old Testament writers were well aware of spirit world and knew that it was a thoroughly wicked place—hence the sanctions against mediums and any commerce with gods other than the true God. Jesus was spiritually strong enough to overcome evil spirits, and he empowered his disciples to do the same. Thus the New Testament work of Jesus exorcising evil spirits, and the statements concerning saints and martyrs in spirit world and the holy city coming down to the earth from heaven in Revelation. As Jesus said, however, the bottom line is that what is bound or loosed on earth is bound or loosed in heaven. ♦



DR. TYLER O. HENDRICKS

Dr. Hendricks is the President of the Unification Church of America

Webster's dictionary defines revolution as "a total or radical change; as, a revolution in thoughts . . . A fundamental change in political organization, or in a government or constitution; the overthrow or renunciation of one government or ruler, and the substitution of another, by the governed." This secular source ignores the more fundamental reality of revolutions: religious revolution, but the definition would be parallel: "a fundamental change in spiritual orientation, . . . the overthrow or renunciation of Satan's government or Satan, and the substitution of God, by the governed."

Prior to external revolutions of which history is most aware comes the internal revolution of heart and thought. Prior to the American Revolution was the Great Awakening. Prior to the Glorious Revolution in England, and the Puritan Revolution before that, was the Protestant Reformation. On the other side of the page, prior to the French Revolution was the skeptical Enlightenment, and prior to the Russian Revolution were the utopian socialists.

If we look more closely, the revolutionaries of heart and thought also wrought external changes within their spheres of influence, changes that a generation or two later hit the big screen, as it were. Luther's revolution in religious thought immediately wrought changes in the northern German principalities. Zwingli and Calvin engineered revolutionary changes in Zurich, Geneva and other Swiss city-states. A generation before the Puritan revolution in England, the Puritans had set up their new model government in New England. And the evangelicals of the Great Awakening wrought local changes in church-state relations in the American colonies a generation prior to the Revolution of 1776.

I would like to look at the ministry of our True Parents, Reverend and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon, in this context, and ask the question: what is the revolution that the world needs today? First, though, I'd like to look at the fate of revolutionaries in America today.

The Fate of Revolutionaries in America

The American society insulates itself against revolution by a three-stage process of privatizing, demonizing and domesticating. Revolutionaries are first relegated to the private sphere deemed proper to religion in a secular, value-free society. You can think what you like, publish what you like, but just keep it to yourself. Many groups remain forever in this sphere—I think of numerous neo-Hindu or neo-Buddhist leaders.

Leaders who amass enough following and vision to impact society enter the next stage: they are demonized by name-calling. Typical terms of opprobrium are brainwashing, cult and cult leader, slave labor, white supremacy, black supremacy, anti-democratic, etc. etc. Some groups remain forever in this sphere—and per-

haps they deserve to!

The third stage in the American digestive system is domestication. Elijah Mohammed, whose Nation of Islam was for most of his life relegated to the demonization stage, by the end of his life was lauded by Richard Daley (Sr.), Mayor of Chicago. The Nation was, by then, safe for human consumption, at least in its home city. The Latter Day Saints have emerged out of the demonization stage and are fairly domesticated, as are earlier "demonic cults" in America such as the Seventh Day Adventists, Christian Scientists, Quakers, Rastafarians and Roman Catholics.

Domestication often involves economic success replacing the revolutionary dreams of the founding generation. John Humphrey

Noyes' sexually experimental Oneida Community, driven out of Vermont and harassed in New York, turned into a major manufacturer of quality dinnerware.

The Amana Community,

Where Are The Revolutionaries? [Part I]

community, another nineteenth-century American experimental community, while not as radical as Noyes', nonetheless settled down to manufacture kitchen appliances. The Adventists are big into breakfast cereals. The hippies of the sixties turned into the entrepreneurs and school administrators of the 80s and 90s. Jane Fonda probably runs CNN. The temptation of American affluence can temper the revolutionary fervor of almost everyone. Domestication can also be called "entering the mainstream."

This is not at all bad. Essential ideas endure, in a distilled form, through the three-stages, and have their effect upon society at large, mixing with a multitude of other ideas from other sources. A critical factor here, perhaps the most critical, is the energy of the revolutionary vanguard. One wants two things: the ideas to remain pristine, on the one hand, and the ideas to gain currency, on the other. The ante-bellum abolitionists had to temper their advocacy in order to develop the political coalitions necessary to their ultimate success. The more domesticated, the more the ideas can come through, albeit in a more homogenized, socially acceptable form. And, in balance, the more the ideas remain in their pristine state, the less easy it is for them to gain currency or, the more the vanguard must sacrifice to create the social space in which those seminal ideas can gain a hearing.

The Case of True Parents' Movement

One thing that can be said about Reverend Sun Myung Moon is that he is not going to be domesticated. Our movement, at least in America, has encountered numerous points at which we could have mainstreamed ourselves, opting for religious compromise, political leverage and economic advantage. But the Founder never goes that way. He is always pushing the envelope, leaving his followers, many of whom view things from the "it's time to domesticate" perspective, con-



tinually catching up. You want examples? I've got examples.

Among the numerous fields Rev. Moon is now pioneering, two stand out in my mind. One is his work with the spirit world, and the second is the arena of True Family Values—specifically, the revitalization of the institution of marriage among youth. These may seem disparate undertakings at first glance, but they are not. Youth are very affected by spirit world. In particular, without strong parental guidance and meaningful social goals, youth are "out there" open to influence from diverse sources on earth and in heaven. Look at MTV. What is the source of the images and messages of today's youth music and music videos? Spirit world, and much of it none-too-healthy spirit world. Consider the disasters in America's high schools over the past two years, with the latest being the killings in Colorado. We cannot explain it simply in human terms. There is no

humanly meaningful motivation for such actions.

The perpetrators desire

not money, fame, power nor love. These are irrational actions, wrought by seemingly normal young people. There is nothing in it for them from any human perspective. Their actions mean that life had nothing to offer them.

I am reminded again of the prescience of a college friend, Randy Reedy. Reflecting on the cycle of generational rebellion, and observing the colorful clothing, long hair and "love" rhetoric of the sixties, he predicted that the next generation would dress in all black, have super short hair and be pre-occupied with death.

In any case, Reverend Moon is working on both fronts—the spirit world, and the situation of youth today. Let us consider the spirit world work first. The Divine Principle, in its outline of the responsibilities of the Lord and all people at the Second Coming, mentions, almost in passing, that the Messiah's work will begin on the family level but will eventually encompass the entire cosmos—meaning the spirit world.

"Christ at the Second Advent will begin by laying, both spiritually and physically, the family foundation for the Messiah. He will then expand its scope to the clan, society, nation, world and cosmos. When this foundation is secure, he will finally be able to build the Kingdom of Heaven." (Exposition of the Divine Principle [EDP] 285-6) Cosmos here refers to the spirit world together with the physical world. What is the spirit world? It is the world of God, of the angels, and of our own ancestors. According to the Divine Principle, this work is to be carried out by "the people of faith on earth and in heaven" (i.e. people in spirit world themselves) who bear, after God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit, "the third responsibility to defeat Satan, the fallen archangel, and complete the providence of restora-

tion." (EDP 186) Thus, people in spirit world bear responsibility with us on earth at the conclusion of the providence. This is referred to as "the age of the providence to complete the cosmic foundation for the Messiah" in which God completes this cosmic foundation "by working throughout heaven and earth based on the Completed Testament Word." (EDP 185)

Over the years I tended to ignore such passages, or shelve them for future reference. But, as the turn of the millennium approaches, so too does the work of spirit world restoration, centering on the activities at Chung Pyung Lake. Why did I ignore those passages? There were many reasons, one of which was my Protestant upbringing. Protestantism bracketed the abundant spirit world of the Catholic faith, somewhat as Roman Catholic missionaries had cast out the spirit world of the earlier nature religions of primitive Europe. Zwingli and Calvin, in particular, the progenitors of the Reformed tradition, banned all holy days and saints days, removed all art and iconography from the churches, and turned over numerous church functions to the secular (read: rational, materialistic) state.

This clearing out of the religious authority that was based on rule over spirit world made way for the advance of science. Science became the new magician, transmuting base metals into gold. But spirit world is real and it will make its impression felt. Protestantism became a hotbed of charismatic leaders, messiahs and new religious movements, including various forms of spiritualism, beginning with the Zwickau Prophets, the takeover of the city of Muenster by the new King David, and proceeding from there.

Since Protestants had banned the multitudes of saints and angels, the standard spiritual interventions were viewed as being from a major biblical angel, usually Gabriel, sometimes an apostle, such as Peter or John, or God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit. On the fringes, by the mid-nineteenth century in America, there was a craze in spiritual visitations and seances and, by the early twentieth century, the rise of Satanism with Alistair Crowley and his crowd. We can see connections here to Marx, Hitler and—yes, good old rock'n'roll music, at least certain strains of it. [For more on this lineage, see Michael E. Jones, Dionysus Rising.]

So the phenomena of the Protestant abandonment of spirit world and the rise of violence in American high schools are not two entirely different phenomena. Everything is connected. Littleton, Colorado, is the home turf of the Promise Keepers, a great and good movement to bring men to Christ. After a decade of mammoth success by the PKs, here, on their home turf, are some young men gone berserk. Coach McCartney may have an escape route: this is inevitable until the Second Coming. We Unificationists do not have that escape. It is our contention that God has given us the wherewithal to be able to solve it.

And so one thing Reverend Moon is doing, and asking us all, as the people,

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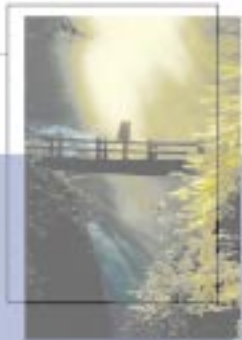
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5 years: USA \$110 non-USA \$200

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

COUNTRY _____

PLEASE COMPLETE THE "METHOD OF PAYMENT" SECTION ON THE OTHER SIDE

PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE YOUR MAILING LABEL WHEN SENDING THIS TO US: WE NEED IT TO REFERENCE YOUR SUBSCRIPTION CORRECTLY

Please write CLEARLY