

Lovin' Life Vision Class

PRESENTER SCRIPT

January 16, 2011

Session 1

1

Welcome to our Lovin' Life Vision Class. My name is _____ and I'm part of the ministry team here in _____.

As you know by now, Lovin' Life is the place where you celebrate God's love at Sunday Service, empower your spiritual path through education, connect with brothers and sisters, and contribute the best that is in you to others.

2

You're here because you want to think about getting more involved.

We are excited about that because

It gives **God** the chance to **connect on a deeper level in your life** and **work powerfully through you**.

What today is about, is how **that all can happen**.

3

Today we'll have two sessions, in which we cover The Background, The Basics, The Breaking News and A New Beginning.

The first session will start with the background of Lovin' Life, where we came from and what we do.

4

It will go on to cover "The Basics," where we talk about how authentic love brings you total joy.

5

Then after a break, we'll talk about your invitation to join us on a spiritual path.

This is the path of a life you love, and a life that helps the world. That's where we share "The Breaking News."

6

Next is how, if our vision connects to where you are right now, joining the Lovin' Life community can empower your life.

That final part is called, "A New Beginning."

So let's get started, and

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...talk about the Background. First let's look at the big picture of our ministry and the kind of people who choose Lovin' Life.

8

You're here because you want to see **change for the better**. The most basic teaching of our Founder, the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, is that change starts first within yourself and then impacts your family and the people in your life.

If you cannot change within yourself—where you can control things—any change you try to make beyond yourself will fall short.

9

Our teaching changes lives, through deep personal connection with God, with each other, and in service to the world. In our church you explore and discover your potential, your calling and vocation, your spiritual gifts and meaning in life.

Our vision is of a world that inherits the true love of God. We call this dream, Generation PEACE, where God is our Parent (P) and we are God's eternal sons and daughters (E), who practice altruism (A) and compassion (C) with internal and external excellence (E).

CLICK FOR NEW ANIMATION HERE

As God's eternal sons and daughters, inheriting God's parental love, we **inspire** in

worship, **empower** to achieve excellence, **connect** with compassion and **contribute** with altruism. So Lovin' Life Ministries is built around four core practices: **inspire, empower, connect** and **contribute**.

Please prepare a person who is age appropriate to share with the audience about how the movement changed his or her life. The testimony should have this content:

1. **One point of how meeting the movement changed your life**
2. **One memory of how that happened**
3. **Repeat the one point**

KEEP IT UNDER 3 MINUTES!!! Have the person practice ahead of time so their testimony is concise and to the point

A video of such testimonies, with the working title, "Right Side Up," will be produced.

Lovin' Life Ministries is a contemporary expression of the teachings of the Unification Church, which have moved thousands of people across America to grow spiritually, create beautiful families and do amazing things in their communities.

The personal growth and spiritual community that these people have experienced is what can give you the foundation to lead an extraordinary life.

We'd like to invite you to experience this same spiritual growth and renewal with the support of our Lovin' Life community, so that you can unleash the potential that God intended for your life and create a life you love.

10 (Blank)

That's the vision, and here's what we do to live that vision.

We want to introduce you to **four practices that we're passionate about,**

Because **they are very simple and yet very essential for your spiritual growth.**

That's why they are worthy of your serious commitment.

These practices are:

11

INSPIRE my spirit each week on Sunday by receiving God's guidance and love through Sunday Service,

12

EMPOWER myself through learning more about the teachings of the Divine Principle and related texts and applying them in my life,

13

CONNECT to my faith community through a small group so that I can share my gifts and heart and be a friend to others,

Connection creates synergy, that as a community, we are stronger than the sum total of our parts. This translates into support for one another and more power to affect the world around us.

14

CONTRIBUTE by donating and/or volunteering.

15

So these four basic practices are **WHAT** you will do when you join Lovin' Life, to experience an amazing life of faith.

However, there are some other "whats" about our ministry that we'd like to cover, just so we're all on the same page.

16

First we want to talk about "what is new about this?"

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There are many churches out there. Why choose this one? You should consider our important distinctives.

18

So we think of salvation not just as an individual path. We totally affirm that you need to have your own personal relationship with God, but God wants you to go way beyond that! The path of salvation expands within your family and expands to save the community and the entire diverse world.

Salvation is not just attending to your own salvation in heaven; it is about this world living as One Family Under God. How can you enjoy heaven if people around you are suffering?

19

Secondly, all churches believe that Christ will come again, and a lot of churches believe that it will happen in a loud, overwhelming, obvious way, such appearing up in the sky in the clouds as the world goes up in flames.

However, through the study of the scriptures,

20

...We conclude that the Lord of the Second Advent will come again in the **same very human way that Jesus did.**

Think about it: Jesus walked and lived 2,000 years ago and he looked like a regular person. How many people were able to recognize who he was?

This means that it will take **spiritual education and awareness for you to recognize him.**

21

Third, some churches say God is going to do everything for you and on some **dramatic day in the future the world will be miraculously saved.**

On the other hand, secular people say that it's all in our hands and we need to solve our problems through science, technology, better government and raising our consciousness.

We're right in-between.

God **is** saving this world and **it's happening right now.** But He's doing it as He always did: through people just like you and me!

Of course, we can't do it without Him, but the amazing thing is: He can't do it without us. You are that valuable!

22

So now that we've covered what we're NOT, let's cover WHAT WE ARE, what you'll encounter at Lovin' Life:

You'll be part of **an extremely diverse community of races and faith backgrounds**, because you recognize that **God has worked in all cultures and traditions** to bring the world to where we are today.

23

You will be part of the next generation of the Unification Church. The Unification Church was founded by Rev. Moon in Korea 1954 and in America in 1959. Lovin Life Ministries is a ministry of that church, founded for the work in America in 2008. Lovin' Life Ministries is a fresh and alive expression of who we are.

You'll be a "Unificationist," which means you'll study the Divine Principle as your main spiritual text and you'll be part of the ministry of Rev. and Mrs. Moon.

So let's talk about this church for a few minutes.

24

The Unification Church was founded by Reverend Moon in 1954 and expanded under Reverend and Mrs. Moon's leadership through Korea in the 1960s and to the rest of the world beginning in the 1970s. In fact, it is the only faith tradition in the history of the world that reached every corner of the earth during the Founder's lifetime.

But the story begins long before that.

It's the story of a young man whose life was changed in an incredible way. It happened early one morning on a mountainside. As he was praying, he had a profound encounter with Jesus Christ. It changed his life. He was only a teenager at the time, and he was overwhelmed by the encounter.

Do you know someone who's about 15, serious about his church and asking a lot of questions? This young man had questions like, why does God allow suffering in the world? Why doesn't God do something about it? He was trying to figure out where he came from and why he was on the earth. He couldn't grasp why people hate each other, fight and start wars. This young man had suffered the deaths of younger brothers and sisters within the last year. He had read of a local teenager committing suicide. He wondered how this could happen.

The answers he was getting in his church weren't clear, and he was frustrated. No one had answers that satisfied him, so he just went up into the mountains and talked with God. There he found peace, so he devoted more and more time to prayer. It was on Easter morning 1936 that he heard a voice, and saw a sorrowful face. It was the face of Jesus.

So put yourself in his shoes. Jesus told him what he wanted him to do. What would you

do, if you experienced Jesus in such a dramatic way? Here's what this young man did. He thought about it, he wrestled with it; he even challenged God about it. In the end, he accepted the mission and determined to meet the challenge. He took it on with his whole being.

That young man was Sun Myung Moon.

25

At age 15, Sun Myung Moon received his life mission from Jesus.

His path is an unbelievable story. It led him to fight as part of an independence movement, plant churches, work as a laborer, experience persecution, survive a concentration camp, endure poverty and at the same time, in the midst of it all, develop an incredible love for God and people.

26

In 1960 God called an extraordinary woman to share in this journey and together they have worked to recreate God's family and fulfill the unfinished work of Jesus, standing in the role of True Parents. Rev Sun Myung Moon and Mrs. Hak Ja Han Moon have dedicated their lives to liberating God's heart and bringing his total love to our lives.

Our senior pastor once expressed the story in this way:

“Taoism teaches that truth means purity and sincerity of the highest degree. Only with purity and sincerity do I truly have the power to move others. If we realize that we are eternal sons and daughters with this divine potential, we can tap into this rich reservoir of true love and start to be the conduit of this universal energy of God. It allows us to embody his essence and become divine ourselves. We become like a truth body ourselves.

“You feel this when you gaze upon our True Father. He is such a complete man, in that he is truth personified. This is a man with purity of the spirit and utmost sincerity, living by a heart of attendance, devotion, love and service to his Parent in Heaven.

“Ever since he was anointed by Jesus Christ to fulfill Jesus' mission at the tender age of 15, this man never wavered, despite going through the trials, tribulations and difficulties of being imprisoned six times. He even survived the North Korean concentration camp of Hung-nam for almost 3 years.

“This man has never ever wavered. By the purity of his spirit and devotion to his mission in service to God, in service to humanity, despite being maligned, persecuted and hated, this man never gave up.”

“There is something ultimately beautiful in that. There is a sense of nobility in someone who personifies a truth body, in a person who is so pure and so sincere in their convictions and commitments that, just by being true to him or herself, they can move multitudes to want to be great like him and like her, like our True Father and True Mother.”

31 (Blank)

The presenter, or a designated person, shares a personal testimony of meeting True Parents. It culminates in sharing about becoming involved in Lovin’ Life Ministries and learning from Rev. In Jin Moon. **(NOT TOO LONG – remember the testimony supports the vision class and goals; the testimony shouldn’t become the center.)**

28

Now Rev. and Mrs. Moon’s children are playing major roles in the worldwide movement, sharing the same message in new ways that speak to this generation.

Lovin’ Life was created by Rev. and Mrs. Moon’s daughter, Rev. In Jin Moon, our national senior Pastor, to express the vision and values of the Unification Church in America today. Joining Lovin’ Life makes you part of the local Unification Church community, which is linked with a global family of brothers and sisters who believe that all humankind is one family under God. **You ask yourself, am I going to find benefit in this? We’ve tried to convey that you will benefit tremendously, even eternally, from Lovin’ Life, not because of us, but because of the relationship you will develop with God.**

With a ministry and media team, Reverend In Jin Moon launched Lovin’ Life on Easter Sunday, 2009.

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The Ministry is unlike any you have encountered.

It’s a relevant expression of faith that connects people with God and each other, supports spiritual growth and creates social change.

30

It is building a nation-wide community. She carries the message of her parents across the nation and brings it to the next generation of Americans. This is the community and movement we want you to become a part of.

The people who join Lovin' Life are people who want to see this kind of change in the world and in their own lives.

31

If you've reached that point in your life, you're ready to challenge old concepts by looking at things in new ways.

We all have heard the definition of insanity—doing the same things and expecting different results. You're here because you want to change something and not just keep doing the same things. You're here because you are asking some deep questions.

The Divine Principle can help you answer them. It is a teaching that has brought new life to millions of people around the world, regardless of their language, cultural background or view of life.

It shows how God can move in your life to lead you to excellence, to find out who you really are and the incredible possibilities that God has for your life.

Now, visualize the people around you catching the same spirit, making the same breakthroughs. Imagine a world in which people understand this. Think how you could play a role in building such a world.

32

You want to penetrate to the principles behind your experiences. The principles you live by are like a lens through which you understand your experience. Knowing and acting on Divine Principles connects you with what God is doing today.

The Divine Principle discusses **where is history taking us, and how you can affect it.** We discuss this under the topic of **The Principle of Restoration.**

You can grasp the cause of suffering, injustice, conflict and confusion, pain and despair. The Principle covers this under the topic of **The Human Fall.**

But before that, you need to investigate the starting point. Why are you here on this earth? How is human life supposed to work? What was God's original design in the creation? You'll explore this in **The Principle of Creation.**

33

These are the **basic questions of life.** You discover answers by starting at the beginning and looking at the question of spiritual growth, how you develop your personal capacity to fully give and receive love. So let's talk about the basics.

We start with questions: what am I really looking for? What am I here for?

The answer is very straightforward.

34

To illustrate it, here's a quick exercise:

Get out your cell phone and call the first person on your speed dial and ask them why they bother having a relationship with you. ...Okay, you don't have to do that because you already know. It's simple: we relate to people we enjoy, people we love. You certainly don't like to interact with people who make you sad and depressed.

You know joy comes through the right relationships. The deeper, wider and more honest the relationships, the more joy we experience.

So we invite you to join Lovin' Life for one reason:

35

JOY!

It's not just so we can have fun. We love to have fun, but it's more than that. The Divine Principle states that God's whole intention in creating us is to feel joy!

This is another Unification Church distinctive. God didn't create us just to be in church everyday praising him and worshipping him up on a throne. He didn't create us to watch us obey his laws—he's not a policeman. And definitely he's not a dictator who did it so he could wreak fear and punish everyone.

36

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God is our Heavenly Parent, and that's how God relates to us.

Now, there's a lot to say about this, but in this class we're going to keep it simple:

God wants to love life with us!

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We are here to experience joy with God!

But how do you feel joy?

The principle is that an individual alone does not produce joy.

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Joy arises through relationships with something or someone in which you see yourself reflected. That partner stimulates you to feel your own nature and this brings joy.

37

Let's illustrate this. Think about the different levels of joy that you feel in different kinds of relationships:

With a sunset, like this one. This definitely makes us feel joy. But how does that compare with...

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people's relationship with their pet? You take walks, throw sticks, talk... and what sunset ever brought you your newspaper?

But as great as that is, most of us get a lot more out of another kind of relationship...

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our relationships with our friends. You can play music, share your heart and hobbies, grow up together, play games, cast visions, and just hang out together.

But there's another relationship that even goes deeper than that...

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That's your relationship with your husband or wife of true love, that one person with whom you can share body and soul forever.

38

What you learn is that joy increases based on:

How much of your self you invest into the relationship

The capacity the other person has to receive who you truly are

The ability the other person has to respond back to you

It's true that you can experience beauty in a sunset and love from a pet, but nothing compares with the joy you feel when another human being totally gets you.

The greatest joy comes from an exclusive relationship of love with one person with whom you can give everything and receive back everything and more.

39

It's natural to feel joy when you give something that makes the other person happy. You feel even more joy to receive something back.

You create a **relationship of giving and receiving** . We call it **“give and take action.”**

This is true for you and it's true for God. **When this is going on authentically between you and another person, God enters in.**

40

The Principle teaches that everything comes into existence through the action of giving, receiving and returning back. It could be protons and electrons making atoms, hydrogen and oxygen making water, seeds and soil turning into trees, male and female making babies, or communities forming nations. It's all give and take action. It's all partnering relationships. **This is the cycle of love.**

41 (Blank)

The Principle teaches that God is love.

What would this world be like if all people had the love and skills to turn all relationships into joy? It would be a pretty cool world. A world of peace, beauty, truth and goodness.

So the purpose of Lovin' Life is to enjoy life to the fullest, and help bring about that world.

We do this through a Path that takes you through the Cycle of Love. It's that simple.

Let's take some time to explore this. We are going to do an activity that will be guided by local facilitator, so have fun!

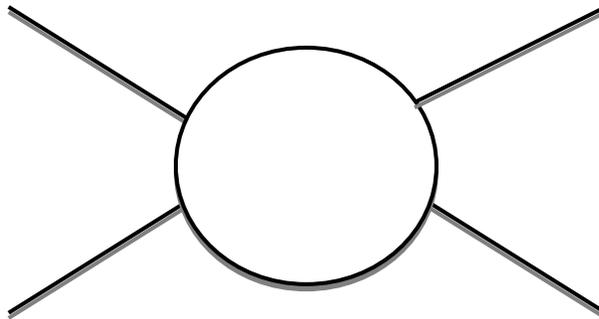
[Local Facilitator leads this activity]

42 The Cycle of Love

THE CYCLE OF LOVE

(We intend to make a training video on how to do this exercise.)

- A. **Presenter says:** *Let's now imagine that we are invited to help God design the relationships intrinsic to human life.*
1. **Say:** *Let's design the family where we would learn how to relate to others*
 2. **Draw** the following diagram on the board or flip chart:



3. **Say:** *How would the members of that family relate to each other? (Read a., b., c. and d. without pause):*
 - a. **Say:** *How would the parents relate with the children? If there are few responses, follow up with: think about your relationship with your parents when you were growing up. What would an ideal relationship be like? Ask this type of question for each relationship.*
 - b. **Say:** *If parents act like that toward their children, how would the children respond to their parents?*

- c. **Say:** *How would the brothers and sisters relate with each other?*
 - d. **Say:** *How would the husband and wife relate with each other?*
4. Solicit responses to each question from the participants. Allow them to freely offer, skipping around from one position to another on the chart. Record and organize the points in the four quadrants above as follows:
- a. **Terms that refer to the heart from Parents → Children:** Top Quadrant (examples: care, protection, self-sacrifice, teach, listen, supportive, praise, nurture, model, exemplify, feed, clothe, shelter, discipline, educate, value, affirm)
 - b. **Terms that refer to the heart from Children → Parents:** Right Quadrant (examples: honor, behave well, love, cherish, be honest, respect, listen to, follow, trust, believe in, depend upon, imitate, make proud)
 - c. **Terms that refer to the heart from Brothers/Sisters → Brothers/Sisters:** Bottom Quadrant (examples: play, invent, explore, share, cooperate, congregate, have fun, compromise, compete)
 - d. **Terms that refer to the heart from Husband/Wife → Husband/Wife:** Left Quadrant (examples: bond, give, confide, stimulate, respect, fidelity, humility, teamwork, joy, intimacy, vision, hope, commitment, give gifts, spend time together, words of affirmation, touch)
 - e. **General or universal terms** go in the middle (examples: unconditional love, peace, harmony, prosperity, blessing)
5. **After you gather a number of terms in each quadrant, label the 4 Quadrants**
Use the terms that have been written to describe each quadrant as you label them:
- a. Top: **Parents' Love**
 - b. Right Quadrant: **Children's Love**
 - c. Bottom Quadrant: **Siblings' Love**
 - d. Left Quadrant: **Marital Love**
6. **Label the Entire Diagram: The Cycle of Love/Four Realms of Heart**
- a. **Describe** the Four Realms of Heart as a "Cycle of Love" that we are intended to go through in order to learn how to relate to others.
 - b. **Say:** *This cycle starts when a person comes into this world as a baby and the parents set the standard with the Quality of Love in the relationship with their children. (Draw an arrow from "Parents' Love" to "Children's Love")*

- c. **Say:** *Based on the Quality of Love that the children receive, they will relate back to their parents. This, in turn, will affect the Quality of Love in the relationship with their siblings. (Draw an arrow from “Children’s Love” to “Siblings’ Love”)*
- d. **Say:** *The Quality of Love among siblings and all the family relationships affects how we will relate to all people, culminating, for most people, in a marital relationship. (draw an arrow from “Siblings Love” to “Marital Love”)*
- e. **Say:** *Finally the Quality of Love in our marriage relationship will affect the Quality of Love that we are able to give as a parent, and the cycle repeats. (Draw an arrow from “Marital Love” to “Parents’ Love”)*
- f. **Give an example:** Use an example from the board to highlight the “Cycle of Love,” such as respect.
- g. **Say:** So you are designed to inherit God’s true love step by step as you grow in the family, which is a *school of love*. Believe it or not, we have just created a picture of the ideal.

Living a life you love means inheriting God’s love as a child, as a brother or sister, as a spouse and as a parent.

You were meant to have been conceived in love, born in love, live a life you love and enter the spirit world leaving a legacy of love.

And here is the reason: true love brings never-ending joy for you and me, for God, and for the entire universe.

[End of Interactive Section] Wrap up and resume PowerPoint

43

God, our Heavenly Parent, intended that we **inherit true love** in its many dimensions, as

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children’s love,

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as **siblings' love**,

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as **marital love** and

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as **parents' love**.

These are the 4 basic relationships in

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the family. We call them the **4 realms of heart**.

44

Your family relationships were meant to have been amazing. They might not have been, but you probably had experiences here and there in which you tasted the full potential for love in family relationships.

When true love flows from parents to children, children become healthy siblings, who become great spouses, who become parents and create children of their own, **and so the wheel turns**.

But when love stops flowing, the wheel stops turning.

45

When love stops flowing, trust turns into anger. When love stops flowing, the marriage breaks down. When there's no joy, everyone wants to leave.

What stops love from flowing?

What it boils down to is **selfishness**.

When a husband and wife do not communicate, there is no marital heart.

46

When the mom and dad care more about themselves than their kids, there is no parental heart. The kids never grow beyond the level of seeking love from mom and dad.

They grow physically but not emotionally, because their needs for love are never met.

They naturally imitate their parents and treat each other selfishly as teenagers. They bring emotional wounds into all their relationships, and nothing works.

47

You can see this same dynamic reflected in society at large and in the world.

We don't know how to live in harmony with nature.

And even the greatest of human institutions, run by the world's great women and men, have not been able to achieve peace, and in fact are rife with conflict.

And that's our life.

48

NO SCRIPT – JUST BE SILENT FOR THIS ONE

Conflicts around the world from 1945 to 2006

(Only quote source if asked) Source: Heidelberg Institute for Int'l Conflict Research, 15th Annual Report – 2006

49

We spend more on trash bags than many countries' annual budgets, but cannot stop drug wars.

We spend \$19B a year on self-storage while entire populations live in refugee camps.

We have the technological capacity to feed the whole world, but still a billion people have too little to eat.

We make 3-D movies but demean the dignity of life with what the movies say.

Obviously, our scientific progress has outpaced our spiritual progress. We recognize that humankind needs to advance its spiritual knowledge, and this says something about our individual lives as well.

50

Your life, like the world, may feel something like this house right now. But God knows what your life can be, no matter what shape it's in at the moment.

He wants to fix you, restore all the systems and create something magnificent.

51

We're not talking about a band-aid solution. God is all about restoring you and your experience of life back to what He originally intended, and to get the cycle of love flowing freely.

So Lovin' Life Ministries is in part a path of restoration.

It's an experience of rebuilding your house, renewing your heart, healing your wounds, uncovering your true self and experiencing freedom.

52 (Blank)

Prepare an audience member to give a testimony about how they rebuilt their life through the Divine Principle. Address the question: What does Rev Moon bring you? What do you get out of this church?

Share how you are here because Rev. Moon helped you personally to powerfully experience God's heart. Nothing before had ever reached you so deeply. Explain your journey.

We intend to create a video clip to on this point. Working titles are: "Extraordinary Stories of Ordinary People," "Ordinary People Leading Extraordinary Lives," or "The Difference: How God Changed My Life"

This didn't happen just to (name of local person), but to thousands of people across America and around the world.

53

The cycle of love outlines a path. It is the path that God created when He created the universe. It is the path to joy. It is the path that all religions are about. This is the path of natural human growth to excellence as God's eternal sons and daughters, living lives of compassion and altruism.

You are moving along this path through the four realms of heart.

As a part of this Lovin' Life community, you will see the Path unfold, work through obstacles and become everything you are meant to be.

It's something all religions have taught about, and **the breaking news** is that **today it is opened to us**. It's not an easy course, but when you walk it with brothers and sisters sharing the same vision, you will achieve that dream.

In our next session, we will look at the four stages of the path.

54 Break

Do you have any questions so far?

Let's take a short break.

Session 2

1

The Breaking News

Lovin' Life Ministries sets your life on a path, in a systematic way, through the four realms of heart that we covered in the last session. It begins with the Breaking News, but let's take it a step at a time.

2

We are going to share with you these four stages of growth, **children's love, siblings' love, marital love and parents' love**. This is a life-transforming path—but you need to know where it begins.

3

You begin with an honest look at reality. The reality is that even the best of families fall short of your hopes for love. At times you disappoint yourself.

You try to change, but lack the power to do so.

You want to love, but often don't.

You want to give, but often can't.

You struggle to gain happiness, but it eludes you.

You want to do good, but do things you know are wrong.

CLICK FOR NEW ANIMATION HERE

You sense a contradiction within.

4

The ideals of religion fight with physical desires.

They provide forgiveness and healing, encouragement and ideals, but physical desires take you in another direction.

The whole world seems to mirror this contradiction.

You naturally ask, why God could allow this to happen? You wish that somehow it could change.

You realize: you cannot change it by yourself.

Why? It's because you were born with it. Your parents had the same struggle. The inner conflict was in your parents and all parents when they created us, and you inherited it. And that's why you can't solve it on your own.

5

The solution is to plug into a **new source**.

When you get connected, you find the power to love life.

We look at it naturally: **God is our Parent and God's love is designed to come through parents.**

So God will send new parents, who are one with Him.

By connecting with new parents, you connect with God's love. This is what Jesus meant by "rebirth."

6

Will God send them from out of the sky – will they come on the clouds?

No... God always works through everyday people, and

This is the mission to which God and Jesus called Reverend and Mrs. Moon.

This is the breaking news. It's with them that the path begins.

Here is how their daughter, Rev. In Jin Moon, expressed this.

7

"This breaking news is a message of hope, a message of love. It is an invitation to live your life filled with gratitude and happiness, in celebration and appreciation of others. It is not about being the kind of religious person who judges, but instead the kind of religious person who has an incredible capacity to love.

8

“It is about raising up beautiful children and inspiring other young people to become a generation worthy of the name “Generation Peace.” This is possible because the world finally has the example of True Parents, who can live and teach this kind of love. It is to this that Rev. and Mrs. Moon have dedicated their entire lives.” (Easter Sunday, 2009. HQ will prepare a video clip of Rev In Jin Moon’s statement of this.)

Then, how does this path really work? Where do you get on it?

9

The gateway to the Path is this class, and your commitment to membership.

From this moment, you will embark upon a journey to discover the heart of a child in your relationship with God.

Through the study of the Divine Principle, you will connect with your ability to trust God, to be devoted in your life, and to offer yourself to God as your loving Parent.

We know your life has challenges, but you know that no matter what you’ve been through, you are a child of God. You are designed to live in full awareness of God’s heart and presence as your Parent, supporting, accompanying you and guiding you with every breath.

This stage of the Path begins with Class 101, “A Heart for God,” which opens you to experience the variety of ways you can build an eternal relationship with God.

Have you ever sought comforting love, understanding and compassion—and they were not there? Have you shut down your heart and refused to be vulnerable?

In this stage of the Path, you will be inspired with joy in God’s presence, empowered through God’s word, be affirmed by others and contribute who you are to your community. **You naturally will want to tell others about what you are experiencing with Lovin’ Life, and invite them to check it out.**

The journey takes you into this vital experience of new life and spiritual growth, **by which you inherit the foundation for the realm of brotherly-sisterly love.**

10

The way of brothers and sisters is that of fellowship and teamwork, of discovering responsibility and true virtue.

You enter upon this stage of the Path with Class 201, “A Heart for People.”

Have you ever felt as if it’s hard to connect to others? Have you ever wanted to say a kind word to someone and you couldn’t?

Have you, in all honesty, struggled with viewing someone of the opposite sex as an object of your own selfish desires instead of treating them as the brother or sister they really are?

The way of brothers and sisters is one that warmly welcomes those who are alone, loves even people who are different from us, refuses to spread rumors, avoids gossip and reconciles differences.

It is a heart of sexual purity that liberates you to discover who you are and what you can become.

It is a heart that shares the breaking news that you have found with others, and serves as an older brother or sister, learning how to mentor with compassion.

“A Heart for People” will help you identify your talents and strengths and find out what God put you here for. There’s no one else quite like you and you can contribute in a way no one else can. What’s more, when you discover your strengths and find a way to serve, you will become a happier and more fulfilled person.

But as profound as this is, life doesn’t stop at relating as brothers and sisters.

11

The Path is a process of growth, by which you inherit the foundation for the next stage in your journey as a spouse, the realm of true love in marriage.

Class 301, “A Heart of True Love,” is really special. It marks your entry upon the original realm of love and marriage.

You might not be ready to talk about marriage at this point, and we totally respect that. Life is a process and everything comes in its own time. We want you to move at your own pace.

Class 301 is for people who would like to think about the place marriage might have in their future, and for those who are already married and want to connect their marriage ever more deeply to God. It is about the place of marriage in the Path, marriage as a spiritual journey, and your future aspirations for your marriage. It is for those who are ready to prepare for marriage, or are ready to deepen and enhance their existing marriage.

[Note: New members will take Class 301 at the appropriate point in their life in the church, even if they are not entering upon the Blessing course.]

You already know we really believe in family as an eternal and incomparable Blessing. We believe that God is inspired when we bring His complete love physically and spiritually to and through our spouse. That love is uniquely empowering. God connects with every cell of your body as you invest in that one special person in your life who is returning to you everything you gave and more.

Lovin' Life Ministries sees the Blessing of Marriage as more than a relationship between a man and a woman in this world. Blessed marriage is a journey that God provides you to help you develop your heart for eternity, so that you can have a deeper and greater capacity to inherit true love. It satisfies our physical and emotional needs, yes, but it's more: it's about loving someone forever and finding God in a whole new way because now God relates to you intimately, as a couple as well as individually.

It adds a whole new and exciting dimension to the love between a man and a woman.

Our course on the Blessing helps you discover this whole new dimension. You'll find your love life becomes fuller and richer because of the Blessing.

And with God, marriage doesn't wrap you into each other. You are empowered to touch others lives with the love that God has given you through Lovin' Life.

[TESTIMONY on the ideal of the Blessing. Again, it should be prepared with care and take not be more than 5 minutes. A video will be created.]

12

And the most amazing thing is, you and your spouse become creators! **The spiritual growth builds and builds and you inherit the foundation for the next stage, the realm of parental heart.**

Your natural way as a true parent is to give life to others, to share what God has given to you, to embody and serve as a conduit for God's unconditional love. This love is for the children you may have but also in all your relationships. You inherit God's heart toward the world. Perhaps you mentor someone or support a friend or neighbor in their journey.

A parent's heart is the deepest dimension of God. You enter upon this stage of the Path with Class 401, "A Parent's Heart."

It is the heart of the parent who freely and instinctively sacrifices for their child. It's the heart of Jesus giving up his life so that we could become God's children. It's the heart of Martin Luther King, whose dream for all races to live as one was more powerful than anything else in his life. He sacrificed everything so that all people could have freedom. And it shows up in the heart of everyday parents who spend their life savings to put their children through college.

God's parental heart inspires and empowers. It connects you with everyone as one family under God and liberates you to contribute body, soul and spirit for the happiness and success of others.

But, as our senior pastor, Rev. In Jin Moon, often reminds us, an "ideal family" is sometimes a family "I deal with." Class 401 also addresses the challenges that come along with family relationships and how to solve them.

[We intend to prepare a video clip of In Jin Nim from a Sunday Service saying this, or a testimony about how we help people through difficult times in marriage and family life. Until that is prepared, you have the option to have someone locally do it.]

13

In **Class 401** we share how to create healthy families that weave the multi-colored tapestry of clans and communities. The scope of God's love doesn't stop at your doorstep; it reaches every corner of the earth.

The parent's heart conveys God's blessing to our family and community, to create a better world for our own children and everyone's children.

Lovin' Life is about doing something for the world, not just saving yourself. When you know God's love and realize that God is suffering over this world, you will want to do something about it.

14

On the Path, we can *be* the change. Peace within yourself leads to peace within your family. Peace in your family brings peace to the community, nation and world.

That's why Rev. and Mrs. Moon's teachings are received everywhere, north and south, east and west, by people of all races and religions.

But again, it begins with you as an individual, and the choices you make in your path of life. I'd like to talk about the opportunity you have to join the Unification Church and connect your path with Lovin' Life.

15

A New Beginning

So the last question is, what's next? Let's talk about joining.

16

What Does It Mean to Join Something?

To join something is to make two—you and that something—into one.

Some things you join diminish your health, dignity and dreams. Other things you join create something greater of yourself and your world.

Musicians join together create a band. Athletes join together to create a team. Entrepreneurs join together to create goods and services. Volunteers join together to create solutions. Neighbors join together to create community.

Lovin' Life presents an opportunity for people of faith to join together, with God, to create a revolution of love.

What is the checklist you want to have when you consider joining something?

17

You ask yourself, am I going to find benefit in this? We've tried to convey that you will benefit tremendously, even eternally, from Lovin' Life, not because of us, but because of the relationship you will develop with God and the empowerment you will find to do something major to help the world.

18

You ask yourself, do I understand it? Understanding means that your eyes are open and you know where you are going. We've tried to provide the information you need to understand the Unification Church's Lovin' Life Ministries today. If you have questions we didn't answer, we want to hear them. Please bring your questions to the Pastor or friend who invited you. All questions are important.

19

You ask yourself, is it worthy of my full commitment? Commitment is a big concept. Let's talk about commitment for a moment.

20

Commitment means to make a choice.

You know the story of Frodo in *Lord of the Rings*, when he made the commitment to carry the Ring. You know the story of Luke Skywalker; of Jake in Avatar; of Neo in Matrix; of the Apostle Paul, of Rosa Parks.

These people felt someone had to do it and believed that they could be that someone. Inside they wanted to do it, and each of these persons stepped forward and chose to do it. That's why we respect them.

Commitment means making an active choice to do what you know is right. It requires maturity and it makes you mature.

21

Writer James Womack said, "Commitment unlocks the doors of imagination, allows vision, and gives us the right stuff to turn our dreams into reality."

Picking up from Mr. Womack, commitment is what links dreams with reality. The dreams you have are limitless, because there is no limit to God's love. When you choose to join Lovin' Life, as you allow God to work in your life, you together with God and all of us are going to change the world.

22

Making a commitment to God will make a profound difference.

Joining requires a commitment to be authentic as you strive to live like Jesus did, to live like True Parents, loving brothers and sisters for *who* they are, not *what* they are.

23

The Unification Church jumps borderlines. Your heart can embrace the religious leader, the cop on the corner, the soccer mom getting a cup of coffee, realizing everyone you meet is a brother or sister, an aunt and uncle, your own children—they become your family.

Becoming a member is like joining a family, and joining means taking ownership based your commitment. **That's ultimately what the path is about: it's about becoming a global family.**

24

So it makes sense that the Path follows the principles of natural growth as in a family.

CLICK FOR NEW ANIMATION HERE

You begin with a rebirth experience as God's son or daughter, learning the realm of children's heart. **The gateway is Class 101, A Heart for God.**

CLICK FOR NEW ANIMATION HERE

You will move into the realm of brother and sister heart, **opened up by Class 201, A Heart for People.**

CLICK FOR NEW ANIMATION HERE

From there you will explore the deep relationship of blessed marriage, **through Class 301, The Heart of True Love.**

CLICK FOR NEW ANIMATION HERE

Your goal is to inherit the true love of God as a parent, **through Class 401, The Parent's Heart.** Here you connect with how God feels toward your own family and community and the world, which the Principle calls "living in the direct dominion of God's heart."

25

The great thing is that **at every stage along the Path, from your first day as a member, you are enjoying and growing through the core elements of Lovin' Life Ministries: Inspire, Empower, Connect and Contribute.** These are your life habits by which you can catch the wave of God's love.

That's why your membership commitment is so simple—it is to inspire, empower, connect and contribute.

By heartfelt **inspiration** in God's presence, by **empowering** through education and reflection, by **connecting** in a community as a family, and by **contributing** your value and your best, you will **inherit** God's true love, and **God's plan will naturally unfold in your life.**

26

Membership is saying you want to take this journey and create a life you love, your optimal life as the best person you can be. Your greatness comes from selflessness, which has the power to turn your life around.

We're not saying you need to become Mother Teresa, Jesus or Rev. Moon. We're saying membership is a commitment for you, as for all of us, to honor God with your life.

It is saying you want to take this journey and create a life you love. In fact, God has already been working in your life. The fact that you are here today shows that God loves you very much and that you matter to your Heavenly Parent.

27

Our senior pastor once said, "God wants us, His children, to be fully human in making the choice to love him. Freedom is a privilege and an honor."

Any decision worth making requires thinking and praying it through. As you consider, we want you to balance openness with honesty. **If you have questions on your mind, we appreciate your trust in bringing them to us and considering our answers. Not just now, but any time.**

Life is a journey, and if you are not ready to take the next step today, then this is a good time to pray it through and figure out what God *is* asking you to do in your life. Meanwhile keep coming to church and participating in our community. It's about respecting your readiness to join.

28 (Blank)

So freely and out of your love for God, I'd like those of us who feel ready, to read along silently as I read The Membership Promise:

29

I understand and support the vision of Lovin' Life Ministries.

I commit to:

30

INSPIRE my spirit each week on Sunday by receiving God's guidance and love through Sunday Service,

31

EMPOWER myself through learning more about the teachings of the Divine Principle and related texts and applying them in my life,

32

CONNECT to my faith community through a small group so that I can share my gifts and heart and be a friend to others,

33

CONTRIBUTE by donating and/or volunteering.

34 (Blank)

So - are you ready to create the life of your dreams?

To make this promise, sign your name at the bottom and offer a small prayer in your heart. Send a simple invitation to God. Invite Him to become part of your life and lead you on your journey. It can be as simple as this—

“Heavenly Father, I really want to live a life that You love and that You can be part of. I invite you to guide me as I begin my path of Lovin’ Life. Thank you.”

Your commitment is totally significant, because you become the commitment you make. Over time it will become more and more real and you will see God work in extraordinary ways.

Please put your Membership Promise on the table (or hand it to a designated person) and _____(name of local pastor) will co-sign it and we will laminate it and give it to you at Sunday service.

(They hand in their paper.)

[Read the next two sentences only if materials are prepared.] We’d like to give everyone a gift, a journal entitled “My Journey with God,” a canvas bag and a pen. To you who joined today, we’d like to give a *Divine Principle* and some invitation cards for Lovin’ Life that you can share with others.

35

We affirm you even if you did not join today, and want to embrace you as you continue on your Path and we hope to see you at Lovin' Life next week.

For everyone who joined today, I'd like to personally welcome you to Lovin' Life and our community, and I congratulate you on your new life! On [announce date, venue] we will welcome you so that you can connect with the community. It is a moving and meaningful experience for us, as it will be for you.

For everyone who came out to support this class today, I'd like to give you a big round of applause.

36

If you became a member today, we would like to invite you to explore the teachings further and build relationships as you commence the Path, through the Starting Point Small Group. It's the best lead up to Class 101.

The Starting Point is a foundation for your spiritual growth. It will help you find a new meaning in your life experiences through study of the Principle. It also includes a study of the life of Rev. and Mrs. Moon. We want you to understand thoroughly God's Word and His heart, as your foundation to create a life you love.

37

Thank you all for coming. Let's take a moment to pray together and offer our hearts to God and each other. (Presenter or designated person pray.) Have a great week and God Bless!

38 (Logo)

Provide refreshments and **sit (one on one ideally) with new members (and those that didn't sign)** and make a plan for their next steps along the path.