

*Masahisa Kobayashi,
Tokyo, Japan, 1964*



Masahisa and Yoko Kobayashi.

I was witnessed to by my brother in 1964, in Tokyo, Japan. After I joined the Unification Church as a fulltime member, I was sent to several cities and university campuses for pioneering.

When Father invited Japanese leaders to come for a conference Korea in 1970, I was one of them. I did street witnessing in downtown Seoul for the first time in my life. Although I spoke little Korean, it was an unforgettable inspiration to me. I attended the “Rally for International Victory over Communism.”

After the rally, Father had a meeting with Japanese leaders at Soo Taek-Li training center; then he gave a new mission to me as a leader of Tochigi region. In 1972, when Father visited Japan to organize the International One World Crusade (IOWC), I was assigned as a team leader to one of the IOWC teams travelling by minibus from one city

to another. When the daily-newspaper providence began in 1974, I was assigned to the newspaper company working as a reporter.

Even in the early pioneering time, I had always had a dream of going overseas, possibly to America or to European countries. When I was a student, my favorite subject was English; I read many English books, and I always got a good grade in English. For me, going to America was a very natural course of my life. Although I could hardly speak or understand English, I had confidence that I would be all right in communicating with the American people. I felt that God had prepared me to do providential work in America.

My wife, Yoko, had been sent to the USA in 1973 as a member of the wives group of the 777 couples. In 1976, I came to the United States to join my wife and to start our family. When I came to the United States, Father showed love to the Japanese 777 couples by inviting us to East Garden and took us to "Six Flags." Those were truly precious memories. In addition, Father visited every organization and church center to educate members and had many meetings at the Hotel New Yorker, the Tiffany Building, East Sun Building, etc., which I remember as being the good old days.

My mission in the United States started with the newspaper providence. I created a newspaper company, "News World Communications, Inc." I worked for the company until 1979. While working to create the newspaper business, my educational background helped me. I really felt that God had already educated me for the day I would come to America, long before I joined Church.

After the newspaper, I got a mission working for the Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles (CARP). Chung Goo "Tiger" Pak, one of the 36 couples, was National Director of US-CARP; he was an outstanding leader whom I will never forget. I learned so many things that were too precious to describe in words. Actually this was the first time for me to work under the leadership of one of the 36 couples. My mission was to serve as center director for

CARP at Columbia University and New York University until 1981. In 1981 True Father gave me a new mission of leading the Japanese Church in the United States; my assigned area was San Francisco.

In 1983 I joined the co-called Business Group (“Happy Group”) when many business leaders were assigned to serve in the United States. Actually, I wondered deeply whether I should change to a business mission or stay in a church mission. Until then, Father had gave missions to me such as coming to USA, working for the newspaper, CARP etc. All directions directly came from Father. But, at that particular time, I chose a business mission by my own decision. I believed I could best serve the providence on a business mission rather than a church mission. I believe my decision was right for the following reasons.

In Happy Group, I served as Director of the Accounting Department for the whole group. Actually, the work I engaged in was pretty appropriate for me since I had earned a business degree. The university I graduated from emphasized business education in English, and that qualified me for accomplishing my job well. Needless to say, I had been trained a lot while I was working for the missions given by Father.

When Mr. Park came to lead the Group in late 1992, he changed the name of the group to “True World Group.” He promoted me to Vice President. In July, 2005, I retired from the group after serving for 22 years. Father told me to go back to my hometown to take care of my relatives, which means I had to become a Tribal Messiah. Now I am working for my Tribal Messiahship, and at the same time, working as a business consultant for a few companies.

Looking back, I deeply appreciate the opportunity to work in the United States, which, without question, is the place God planned for me to dedicate myself for the sake of the providence. I even have U.S. citizenship, because Father told my couple to acquire U.S. citizenship. Without my wife’s presence, my missionary life in America would

have been impossible. She came to America three years prior to me. She also found that America was the place God had been preparing for her to work in. I really feel God works through a family.

How God plans and trains each individual and family is so mysterious and amazing.