Kaomi Sorenson, Japan 1970

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During the 1960s and early 1970s, communism was sweeping Japan. Most of my teachers and friends were influenced by ideas of the Left. Student uprisings closed campuses, and the riots turned into bloody battles. My father was a high-school teacher. From my early years, he told me that communism was wrong and that God existed. He told me not to forget that. So, this remained in my heart, and I was not influenced by communism. I never paid attention to it. I was an art student, so I was not interested in politics.

In May 1970, my friend from school was passing out flyers to a Victory-Over-Communism (VOC) rally in Tokyo and invited me to go. I was interested because it was an anti-communist rally, and I was surprised that something like that was going on. She invited me for tea the next day at her "apartment." It was a church center, and I received an introductory lecture. I liked it and decided to hear the rest of the Divine Principle. It was so fascinating. I then attended the World Anti-communist League (WACL) rally in September 1970 in Tokyo. After that, I asked a sister, "Why is communism so wrong?" She answered, "Because communism denies God." That was the best answer for me and explained everything. It was so simple. The Divine Principle explained that the Lord of the Second Advent was coming, and I was so happy to hear that. My Christian school and church denied the coming of the Lord.

I joined the Unification Church in December 1970. I came to the United States in 1973 and have stayed here since. I have had the chance to help in all the important rallies that True Parents have done. I am so grateful for that. I was blessed in 1982 to a wonderful husband,

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have four beautiful children, and now one granddaughter. My 40-year church life has not been easy, but I stayed by God's grace. Glory to God and True Parents! I can only say thank you to True Parents.