

Principle Life

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a magazine of internal guidance and inspiration

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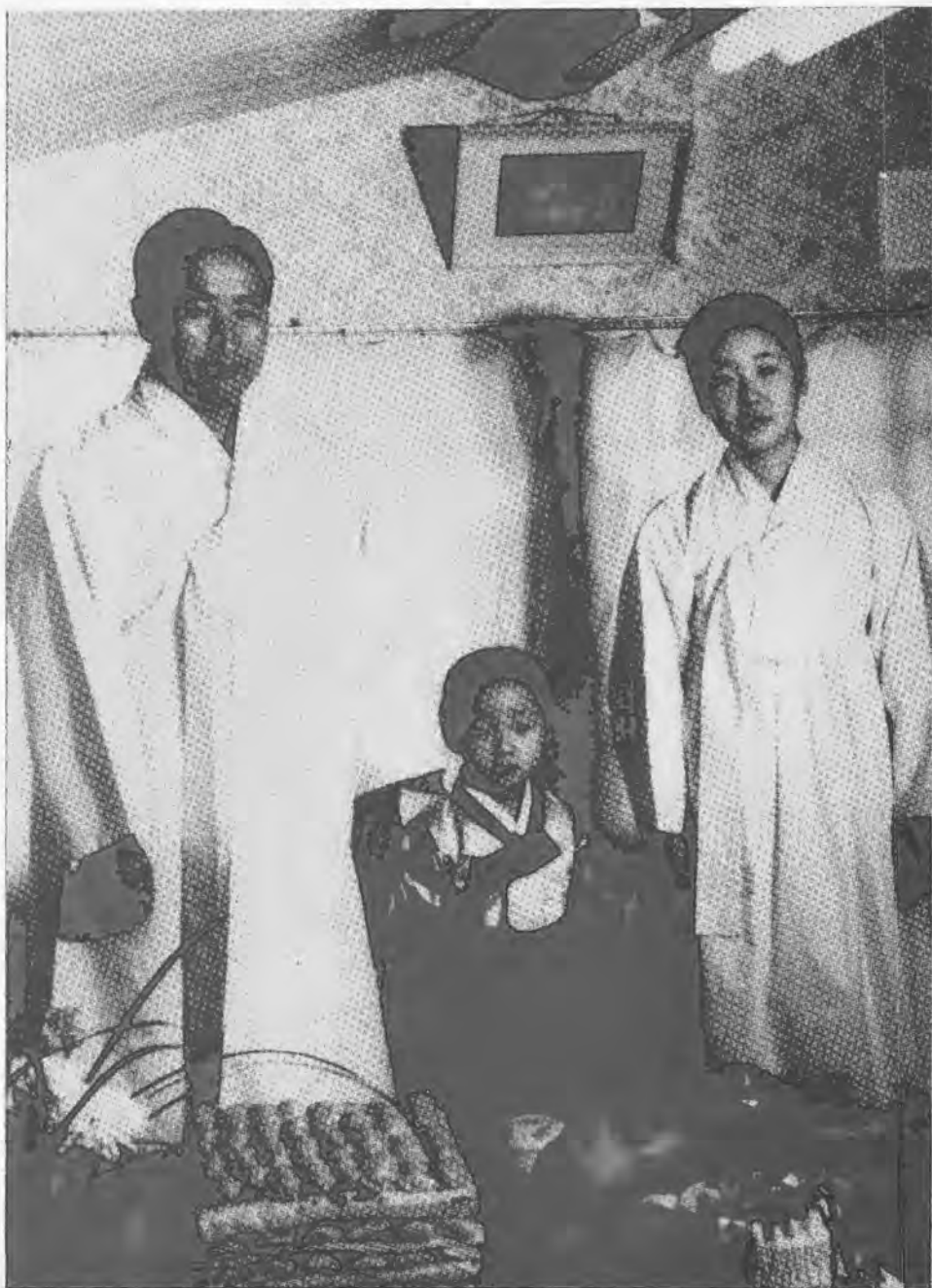
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Father's
first mission
was to restore
the ideal family.

Father's entire life
has been one of sacrifice and
devotion for God and mankind.

Father's First Seven Year Course

By Ken Sudo

Is there anyone whose life can be compared to that of our Father? Virtually none. Someday Father will go to spirit world. Then everyone will want to know more about him, but no one will be able to reach him. Father has revealed two-thirds of the secrets of Divine Principle, but one third of it is known only to God.

Won Pil Kim, who has been following Father since the beginning of his ministry 33 years ago, has said that he never received many revelations from spirit world nor learned much through lectures. Rather he has learned directly from Father's behavior and actions. Father's entire life has been a life of sacrifice and devotion for the sake of God

and mankind. From this, Rev. Kim has understood what kind of man Father is, and that's why he has been able to persevere through tribulation, persecution and negativity. Accusations come against Father because people don't understand what kind of man he is. If people understood Father, how could they deny him or accuse him?

Many religious leaders teach that we can be saved merely by believing in God. But Father's fundamental attitude toward God and his mission is completely different. Instead of thinking only about what God could do for him, Father has always concentrated on what he could do for God. Whatever sacrifices he has had to make, Father's one desire has always been to liberate the suffering heart of God by liberating mankind.

Before Father went to prison, his prayers were filled with tears. But while he was in prison, he couldn't cry because he knew how deeply God was hurt to see his situation. His tears would have burdened God even more. However difficult his situation, Father didn't ask for help, but told God only to keep watch over him and not worry. He sought to console and encourage God:

"I never complained. I was never angry at my situation. I never even asked His help, but was always busy comforting Him and telling Him not to worry about me. The Father knows me so well. He already knew my suffering. How could I tell him about my suffering and cause His heart to grieve still more? I could only tell Him that I would never be defeated by my suffering."

Father's course has been the path that Abel should have followed. It is the course of "restoration of the birthright." Adam lost the birthright as a result of his fall. Since that time, the mission of Abel has been to restore or win back the birthright. According to the Divine Principle, Cain, as the first-born, was to inherit the birthright. Thus, it was natural for him to want dominion over the second-born, Abel. But Abel, who was standing on God's side, had the mission to reverse this order of dominion. The reason Cain began to persecute Abel is because he wanted dominion over him. Dominion should be brought about through God-centered love, but Satan gained dominion over this world through self-centered love. In order to reverse this dominion of selfish love, someone must give sacrificial love. This is the route Abel should have taken, and why our Father's course has been a difficult one of sacrificial love.

First, Father sacrificed himself. Then he sacrificed his family. He always took care of his spiritual children before taking care of his own physical family. When he had the opportunity to visit his family for what would probably have been the last time after a long imprisonment, he took care of his followers instead.

He sacrificed his own people for the sake of others. He sacrificed his own nation to save other nations. He sacrificed Korea, the Abel nation, to save the Cain nations. He has always loved and given everything to Cain first. The fundamental course of restoration Father has tread is best expressed in his own words:

"To restore the world, let us go forth with the Father's heart, in the shoes of a

Someone
must give
sacrificial love.

servant, shedding tears for man, sweat for earth and blood for heaven."

God prepared everything for the coming of our Father. He led Christianity through 2,000 years of indemnity and restoration as preparation for receiving Father. After World War II, Korea was liberated from Japanese dominion and given back her freedom. On this foundation, Father started his mission. If Korean Christianity had united with him in the beginning, the situation of this world would be completely different from what it is today. Communism would have vanished years ago, and there would not have been the tragedies of the Korean War, the Vietnam War and Cambodia.

If Judaism had united with and obeyed Jesus 2,000 years ago, the ideal world would have started at that time. Likewise, if Christians had united with Father, the entire world would have become involved in the new movement to build the Kingdom of Heaven many years ago. Actually, Father's mission was supposed to have been fulfilled when he was still in his late 30's. But because Christianity did not understand him and could not receive him, Father had to build his own foundation. From that time, the influence of Christianity has declined while communism has developed and spread.

Father began to gather his own people and to start the Unification Church movement in 1946. To do this, under the direction of God, he went to North Korea. There he underwent torture, imprisonment and much internal and external suffering. After overcoming all of this, Father returned to South Korea and started his mission. He began the Unification Church on May 1, 1954, in the midst of heavy persecution. By 1960, after many years of lonely struggle, he had set the foundation for the start of the first seven-year course.

The Significance of the Family

If Adam hadn't fallen, he and Eve could have reached perfection centered on God. They would have had a sinless marriage, produced sinless children and begun the ideal family. From this ideal family would have come the ideal clan, tribe, nation, world and universe. It was God's will that the ideal kingdom on earth be established at the time of Adam. But because of the fall of man, God's ideal was never attained. Instead, this became a world of satanic dominion, where God and man have been suffering for 6,000 years.

Jesus came to solve this suffering. His mission was to fulfill the ideal and will of God. But because of the crucifixion, only spiritual salvation was attained. Christianity then spread throughout the world, offering spiritual salvation to everyone. In this sense, Christianity could fulfill the spiritual dispensation on the world-wide level through the resurrection of Jesus. This is the meaning of Christianity.

Inheriting the spiritual victory of Jesus, Father was to substantiate and expand it to the physical world. Our Father's mission is total salvation.

Christianity is not just a national religion; it has a worldwide foundation. Thus,

when Father started his mission right after World War II, if Korean Christians could have understood and received him, Father would have spread his message throughout the world. He was supposed to achieve complete victory within a short time. But, just as Judaism could not receive Jesus, the second Israel, Christianity, could not receive our Father. Consequently, the 2,000-year foundation of Christianity was lost, and Father had to begin again.

The mission of Adam was to create the ideal world; Jesus came to restore this ideal world. The mission of Father is to fulfill the will of God through restoring the ideal world and building the Kingdom of Heaven on the earth and in the spirit world. Then where could he start?

The Kingdom of Heaven doesn't come all at once. It comes through one man and then one family. Therefore, Father's first mission was to restore the ideal family, to indemnify in his own lifetime the 6,000-year history of mankind which had been invaded by Satan. By liberating the past and solving the present, he could open the door to the future.

At the fall of man, the parents, the children and the creation were lost: in other words, the family was lost. In order to restore the parents, children and creation, all of them had to be sacrificed. In the Old Testament Age, things of creation were sacrificed on the altar. In the New Testament Age, the children of God were sacrificed. That is, Jesus was crucified as the son of God, not as a parent. In the Completed Testament Age, the parents are sacrificed. But, because of the disobedience of Christianity, the Old Testament and New Testament foundations were lost, and the failures of 6,000 years had to be indemnified within our Father's lifetime. Through offering the parents, children and creation, Father could start the first ideal family, the family that could not be invaded by Satan. Because Father indemnified the past, Father's family is the first to become freed from Satan's accusation. The establishment of such a family was the purpose of the first seven-year course.

After 6,000 years of human history, Father's family is the first family to be truly centered on God. History has been looking for the one man and one family that could fulfill Father's ideal of creation. The Kingdom of Heaven is the sinless world. It does not come suddenly from nowhere, but must start from the sinless family. This heavenly family is the base of the Kingdom of Heaven. Without this family, there would be no sinless clan, tribe, nation and world. Then how was this fulfilled?

The Restoration of Parents

First of all, it was fulfilled through the unity of true parents. At the fall of man, Adam and Eve, representing the parents, were lost. Even though they were married, their love was satanic, because it was defiled. This is the tragedy of both God and man. From man's point of view, there are many beautiful couples in the world, but the conjugal love

Cain must
protect Abel
even before
his birth.

between Father and Mother as husband and wife must exceed all the conjugal loves of the past, the present and even the future. If this were not so, Satan could accuse them and claim their love.

Who can imagine or understand the depth of such a love? Out of billions of marriages, the love between Father and Mother is the purest, deepest and highest. It is miraculous that this could be fulfilled in seven years. Miracles don't happen through chance or accident. There has to be a deep foundation of truth and sacrifice. Not only Father but also Mother must have given incredible love and sacrifice.

"As much as Father walked the road of the cross and tribulation to be ordained in his position, I also was given an incredible cross to bear in order to become Mother. I had to reach for perfection. That standard is so high that sometimes I felt it was virtually impossible to reach the goal. Through that tremendous ordeal and hardship, patience, perseverance and extraordinary faith were needed to achieve the expectation of God.

"After just a glimpse of my mission of being married to such an extraordinary person who was carrying such a universal burden, I felt it was virtually impossible to even think of fulfilling it. But during this time I felt the grace of God constantly upon me. When I was in agony, God revealed Himself to me and gave me messages and guidance. Those days were a tremendous ordeal of difficulties and tribulations. But at the same time those days were truly most beautiful, a time of grace when God's presence was indeed with me. When I look back, all those memories of hardship have turned into joy, something that I can converse about and have fellowship with Father over.

"On your way to heaven you must not expect only the heavenly side. You must taste the dungeons of hell, too. That will finally be the most precious part of God's grace. By doing that you will become strong and you can mature all around into a wholesome personality, God's personality. Then you will appreciate heaven better and someday you will have something you can be proud of—your record of victory and perseverance. It will give you pride."

Eve could not fulfill this mission. And even though Mary loved Jesus, from the providential point of view, she couldn't restore Eve's role. The restoration or fulfillment of such a love between Father and Mother owes much to Mrs. Won Pak Choi. We all are deeply indebted to her for her love, sacrifice, devotion and service to our Father and Mother.

Unity Among Children

When Adam and Eve, as parents, were lost and the love between them was defiled, the lineage of Cain and Abel was defiled and the children were lost. In order to fulfill the lost mission of parents, the children, Cain and Abel, must be restored.

Cain was the first-born and elder son. Abel was younger. Abel must be protected by Cain from the beginning, even before birth. Father's followers represented the Cain-type children while those born of his direct lineage represent the Abel-type children. Father sacrificed and invested everything to love Cain before the coming of Abel. And even after the coming of Abel, Father sacrificed Abel to love Cain. This was Father's fundamental attitude. He could never give love directly to Abel, but by loving Cain, Father expected that Abel would receive his love through Cain. To do this, just before the Holy Matrimony on March 16, 1960, Father matched three disciples: Won Pil Kim, Mr. Eu and Young Whi Kim. Soon after the blessing, they were blessed. They are Father's closest Cain-like children. As a foundation for Father's Holy Matrimony, Parents' Day was declared on March 1, 1960 (lunar calendar) and seven months later, on October 1, 1960 (LC), Children's Day was declared.

The following year, 33 couples were blessed. Altogether, this made 36 couples, who represented the parental position to mankind. These 36 couples indemnified the past, from Adam to Jacob's twelve sons, and liberated spirit world.

Upon this foundation, in 1962, 72 couples were blessed, representing the position of children. In 1963, 120 couples plus four couples, representing the world, were blessed. Through this blessing, the restoration of the rivalry between Cain and Abel children was fulfilled. Upon this foundation, the position of Parents was confirmed and mankind could receive Father and Mother, become qualified to be born again—not only spiritually but also physically—and enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Then, in order to liberate the suffering of creation, a four-year course was begun. At the same time, in January, 1965, Father made his first world tour. He visited 40 nations, including Japan and America, establishing 120 Holy Grounds. This represented the restoration of the Garden of Eden. Upon this hard-won foundation, Father's final battle to restore mankind could really begin.

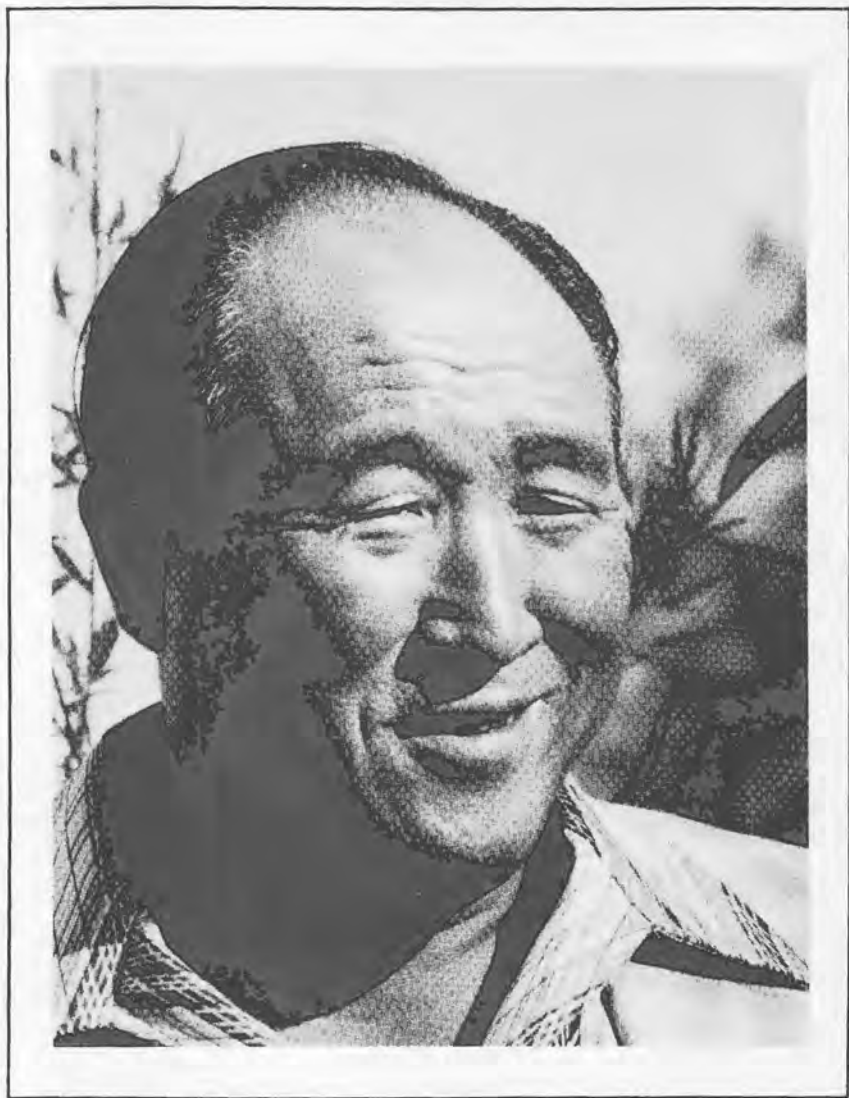
All of this foundation setting was fulfilled under nationwide persecution. Who could understand the depths of Father's suffering? Only God. At the end of 1967, the day of victory came. The first seven-year course was approved by God. After immeasurable effort, love and sacrifice, victory came. The first sinless family where God would dwell was installed here on earth. This was the first time God could live on this earth—how deep was His joy!

Upon this glorious victory of love and sacrifice, on January 1, 1968, God's Day was declared. Actually, God's Day was supposed to have been declared at the time of Adam's marriage, as were also Parents' Day, Children's Day and Day of All Things. But they were all lost. Now they have been restored through the love and sacrifice of our Father and Mother. These days will be celebrated by God and man for all eternity.

The victory of the first seven-year course was not just Father's victory. It was also Mother's victory. Thus, on God's Day, Father prayed in tears: "My Heavenly Father, please look at Your daughter, who is such a saint. She has fulfilled her mission."

This was
the first time
God could live
on this earth.





I want you to know how I feel
so that
you can become a part of
me.

My only desire is to see
God
feeling joyful.

I have been crying out
for my father,
trying so long to
liberate him.

I have come a long way and
my journey is almost ended.

Father is always looking for our good points.

Learn From Everyone

By Won Pil Kim

Father has been loving God and all mankind so much, that he really expects us to love God, America, and all mankind even more than himself. As I have been with Father for all these years, I remember often when I was with the other leaders and I began to get tired, I would say, "Father, it is already getting so late; maybe you should think of the busy schedule tomorrow and finish today's activity." But it is always after one or two o'clock when he finishes. He doesn't say it in words so much, but what he is showing us by this example is: "You are much younger than I, so take responsibility for whatever you are doing. You should be able to do much more than I." That is what I have been feeling from him.

Father doesn't always explain in words, but he is always showing us the way to go. Since he trusts us, he doesn't feel he has to tell us and tries to help us understand him through his example. Even though we are so immature, Father is always trying to learn from us. When we are reporting to him or discussing things together with him, he is at the same time trying to learn from us.

You may be curious as to how Father can learn from us. You think that it is our position to always be learning from him. Of course, Father knows so much more than we do, but Father's enthusiasm is also much greater than ours. Because of this enthusiasm, he is always ready to listen to us in order to really get a point clear. I would like to give a few examples of this.



Father wants us to understand
through his example.

One day Father heard a report from Japan that there was a Japanese member who had been wearing one pair of pants—the same pair of pants—for over seven years. These pants were so worn out, that whenever he went in to take a shower, he always had to try to hide them from the other people. This is not because he couldn't get money to buy another pair of pants, it was because he wanted to save the money to be used for all of mankind. When Father heard this, he went back into his room and cried and cried.

One of the early Korean pioneer members would go up into the mountains and sleep because he had nowhere to stay in the village. Because he was trying to teach the Divine Principle, he was not received by the people. He didn't have anything to eat and nowhere to sleep, so he would just fast all the time. After many days, he came down from the mountain because he became very hungry.

In your country, the dog food is very high quality: even ordinary people could eat it if they had to. In Korea, however, the dog food is so bad that people would not think of eating it. The dog food in a poor house is especially bad. The member came to a house where there was a dog eating. It looked so delicious to the man, even though a dog was eating it. So he began to explain to the dog, even though the dog couldn't understand him, "You are eating that food for yourself, but I am going to eat your food for God and for all of mankind." Father will never forget this story or other stories about the hard work and sacrifice of brothers and sisters.

There is one thing that we should understand. There is no question as to the depth of sacrifice of our True Father. But when Father sees a member who has even one good point, Father really respects this point and tries to learn from this point. We should understand that it is a parental heart to love us for our one good point, even if the other 99 points out of 100 are bad. He wants to forget about the mistakes and only think about and love us for our one good point.

There was one member in Korea who was trying really hard and undergoing a lot of persecution, but he could still not get results. The church leader sympathized with him, but because of no result he felt that this person should change locations. He felt that he couldn't send him to the front line again, so he was sent to a factory. The factory president also wondered where to put this man because he was so incapable. He had a hard time finding a place for this person, so he took the problem to Father. Father knew that this person had been very faithful and loyal to Heavenly Father, so he told the company president that he should create a new position just for this man.

Very often we don't understand how much Father thinks of us. We struggle back and forth. How often have we pledged to Father and did not fulfill? If we really think about the situation, we might feel that Father cannot trust us. But really, Father is always looking for the one good point. Because of this one good point, Father will bless us and try to put us in a higher place.

Often I have been with Father through such experiences. I remember another thing that happened in England. One day I was thinking that since I am the first one to be with

Everybody
is Abel to me.

Treat all
brothers
and sisters
as if they were
so precious and
important.

Father, and the first one who was blessed by Father, I must be the closest one to Father. If you compare the driver to Rev. Kim, maybe you might agree that I am closer to Father than Father's driver. If you ask the driver, he might agree. But I realized that it isn't true. For example, when Father wants to go somewhere, no one has to invite the driver to sit in the front seat, he has no hesitation because he is in the position of Father's driver. But I don't go into Father's car without asking permission, and very often I cannot go in Father's car. So, in this case, who is closer to Father, Rev. Kim or the driver? Only the driver can be responsible for the life of Father, and he is able to drive Father anywhere. I am unable to do this, so in this sense, Father's driver is my Abel. Even though he is a much younger member, and a later blessed couple who doesn't understand as much Divine Principle, actually he is in the Abel position to me, and I must treat him with this kind of respect.

Suppose there is one member in East Garden who is responsible for cutting the grass. He has the responsibility to shape the lawn and by doing this, he can create a very nice atmosphere for Father and the many guests and leaders who come to visit Father. These brothers have a responsibility to show the guests a wonderful and fresh atmosphere. This is a service that I am not in the position to do, so, in this sense, the person who is taking care of the grass at East Garden is my Abel also. That is why these members can live together with Father in Father's house. I do not live there in Father's house, so who is closer to Father?

In the World Mission Center there are many members who are taking care of the building. If they do not take care of the building properly, elevators wouldn't work, and all kinds of problems would come up. So we must help them and support work, because without them we couldn't take a shower or turn on the lights. We would have all kinds of difficulties. None of us could do without the members of the house staff. Therefore, they are our Abels. When we look from this viewpoint, everybody is Abel to me.

Still, from the principled viewpoint, we know that there has never been, or will ever be, another me. Heavenly Father could not experience joy and happiness by Himself. He must have you and me. That is why we must treat all brothers and sisters as if they were so precious and important, as if they were an Abel to me.



I really want
to live a deed
before I talk
about it.
Then I can teach
this way of life
with authority.

God's Original Love

God's original mind never stops thinking about how much He wants to give love to and receive love from His children.

Jung Whan Kwak

Divine Principle explains the indirect and direct dominion of the love of God. What is "direct dominion"? Indirect dominion of love is a territory with limitations. Heavenly Father and Father cannot fully love anything existing in a limited territory. Had Adam and Eve already received Heavenly Father's perfect love before they fell from Him? No, because they were still growing to reach the point of experiencing and sharing God's perfect love. There was a limit in their mutual love. There was a gap: something came between God and them and they fell away. If they had already been under God's perfect



Our deepest desire is to receive original love.

love or in His direct dominion, there is no way they could have fallen away from Him.

What about us? As individuals are we in the direct or the indirect dominion of God's love? We have to admit that we are still in the indirect dominion. But why? Until a person reaches the level of perfection he will stay in the territory of the indirect love of God. Fallen man usually always pleads with Heavenly Father to love him. Man has the potential to receive two kinds of love from God. One kind of love is pitiful or merciful love, and the other is His original ideal love. Which kind of love would you like to receive from your Heavenly Father?

There is no question that all of us would desire to receive His original ideal love if we could. However, because we are fallen men God cannot give us His original, direct love. He can only look upon us and bestow merciful, pitiful love, because we continue to possess original sin and we are far below the basic point where He can reach us directly. When the individual cries out to God and asks for His love is it pitiful or original love which the person seeks? Our purest, our deepest desire is to receive original love; yet actually when we cry out in this way we are hoping to receive *any* kind of love. I must inform you that pitiful love is not at all "ideal" love. Even when we receive His merciful love we grow in our desire to finally receive His original love. If you make some mistake you need to repent. Through repentance you can be connected to God through the pitiful love He bestows. However, even though you may receive pitiful love, as I mentioned before, your main goal is to somehow receive God's original love. It is a desire which we should never give up striving to fulfill.

In his own personal life Father made many conditions. For example, I am sure you have heard Father speak many times about the fact that he never explained or lectured the Divine Principle to his own family before he had converted a certain number of disciples. This was Heavenly Father's rule. Father was the one to receive the Divine Principle. Therefore, he knows best the preciousness and importance of it. You can imagine that he would naturally want to teach it to his parents and other members of his family closest to him. However, he couldn't do this. Heavenly Father and Parents are the owners of love but there is some limitation put on this love.

One example of this is that throughout history Heavenly Father directed many saints and sages to walk a difficult path. This was an expression of His original love—asking the saints and sages to grow in faith and willpower that they would be willing to sacrifice themselves going through even the most difficult circumstances. Original love is not sacrifice. Before original love can be given, sacrifice must be made. Yet, in one way all outside people still receive Heavenly Father's love indirectly. The name to best describe this kind of love is "pitiful" love. Still, it is essential for all people to continue to desire and strive to receive God's original love. Sometimes we are so hungry for love that we desire to be fulfilled by receiving even pitiful love. When we receive even this kind of love, we become joyful. I know this but I must remind you again that our goal is not pitiful love—never be content until you possess Heavenly Father's ideal love.

Original love
is not sacrifice.

The original children of God, Adam and Eve, needed to fulfill their responsibility in order to grow. What was their responsibility? It was to fulfill the condition which God gave them to be able to eventually receive His original love. It is important *never* to concentrate on how physically close or distant you are from Father. When people think only of how physically close they can be to Father to receive his love, they must realize that love from him will never come in an external form. If you have the feeling that it does you must be careful. When you are physically close to Father and study his expressions and actions you also must be careful in your way of thinking. You must check whether you seek pitiful or original love from him. If you discover that it is pitiful love you have been seeking, please understand that this will never bring you true joy for you can never develop a reciprocally happy and good relationship based on Father's and Heavenly Father's pity for you. Their basic desire is not to give pitiful love; therefore, they freely ask us to go the sacrificial way and work hard in order that we can know and experience real joy in their expression of true love for us.

Heavenly Father loved Adam and Eve in his way. Therefore, Heavenly Father ordered them to accept their own portion of responsibility by following the principles he gave them. Even though Heavenly Father is the owner of all love, His standard of direct and indirect dominion of love must remain consistent. If fallen man can reach the goal of perfection he will then step into the territory to potentially receive Heavenly Father's original love. Heavenly Father can never compromise or descend to a lower standard. If Heavenly Father could freely lower the standard why would we ever need the two territories of direct and indirect love to exist? Heavenly Father has the strongest desire to love and embrace mankind as His true children; however, He must follow the Principle and consequently can never go below the level of perfection. His ideal is perfection as his His love and heartle.

Heavenly Father does not change. It is *we* who constantly waver and vacillate. Before the fall, Adam and Eve were so close to their Heavenly Father; even though they were in the indirect dominion they were just preparing to leave this second stage of their growth and enter the perfection stage and His direct dominion of love. God and His children were so close, so full of joy in their loving relationship to each other. However, after the fall how did Adam and Eve feel? They were no longer close to their Heavenly Father. They were in hell; they were absolutely distant from God. Heavenly Father kept His original, unchanging standard. He can never come down from this standard. He continues to want to restore His children back to Him; it was for this purpose that He originally sent His Son. The Messiah is in the position to act as Heavenly Father's mediator.

Never think that either Heavenly Father or Father don't love you. If you have such thoughts I feel you are actually being self-centered and it is *you* and *your* purpose which becomes the main motivation of your life. Yet, if this is really true, are you just pretending to live a life of God-centered faith? There is no purpose in doing this if things are just for

“show.” You must check what your motivation is—each day, each month, each year. When you engage in the practice of checking yourself you will never keep your feeling of distance. Many times when we feel or look at things only in terms of our own standard we feel that Father is so far from us and that Heavenly Father is also far away from us. However, you should never look at things from just your own point of view. If you *do* feel distant from God and Father, how do you think they feel? If you have been thinking about why they apparently don’t seem to love you, you should reverse your thinking and instead realize that when Heavenly Father and Father look at you and feel that you are also far away from them they are perplexed as to what they can do to remedy the situation.

What do you think is the most difficult point of Heavenly Father to contend with? What do you think His heart finds difficult to manage? We remember that He has the power to create; He is the owner of all laws of the heart. Yet the most important thing which He owns is love. His original mind can never stop thinking about how greatly He wants to love and receive love from all mankind. He would never willingly stop or cut this love from any individual. This is Father’s main problem: He never wants to cancel His heartle of love. This is also the main concern which Father has in relating not only to Unification Church members but to all people.

In our own life it is so easy for us to cut off our relationships of love. In the horizonatal relationships between ourselves and our brothers and sisters, we can be the closest of friends one day and the next day we can completely forget about them. It is not too hard to dissolve the horizontal love you have for another person. However, it is impossible to diminish the original vertical love between God and man. This is parents’ love. Even though children may make some terrible mistake their parents can never forget the love they have for their child. This same degree of care and love for all mankind is 100 times greater in Heavenly Father’s heartle. He is our parent. We see evidence of how easily horizontal love is cancelled by looking at the divorce statistics throughout the world. Couples pledge to love each other until “death does us part.” Yet, as we see in so many marriages, *something* happened which *did* cause them to part. Heavenly Father’s original love is not like this. If an individual has a horizontal relationship of love before he reaches the perfection of vertical love, his horizontal love is able to easily dissolve. We need to do our 5 percent portion of responsibility. However, if we are expected to take on responsibility we are actually put in a very fortunate position. You must think whether your relationship with Heavenly Father and Father evokes their pitiful or original love. You need to stop doing things which make them give you pitiful love and you do this through accepting and fulfilling your own portion of responsibility. If you feel that you are receiving pitiful love you must somehow overcome this circumstance. Heavenly Father and Father freely ask us to sacrifice ourselves while we live our life of faith. We hope for original love. It is so important to never stop trying to possess Heavenly Father’s original love.

If you feel distant from God, how do you think he feels?

The love of God comes
to you according
to your own
way
of life.
You yourself
determine
your eternal value.



TRUE LOVE MEANS
both human
Love
&
the pure
Love of God
together.

Love Means Taking Responsibility

Joan Groom

I recently read a speech in which Father said that God didn't want men to cling to Him; He wanted them to cling to each other and then God would dwell with them. I had never heard Father say this before, but I could understand what he meant because God wants us to take responsibility for each other. If a relationship is centered on God, it is impossible to make a commitment to another person without also making a commitment to God. If we love someone with our whole heart and offer everything we do to Heavenly Father for the benefit of that person, God will be drawn to us. He will want to be a part of that relationship. Then we will become partners with God in loving that person. To know that we are loving someone together with Heavenly Father brings the most fulfilling experience of love and of God. We have so much to share with Heavenly Father and with others. It is the reason we were born and the way we were meant to live.

My own life is always at its best—I am the happiest, the most fulfilled and have my deepest experiences with God—when I have someone to whom I can completely devote myself. At such times, all of my relationships are good, and I have the desire to extend myself to many people because I have a lot to give. When we give our heart to someone, God gives His heart to us and fills us up. Then we have so much to offer to everyone because we are experiencing the purpose of life and want to share it. Our purposes as an individual and as part of the whole are automatically fulfilled. What we have to share inspires and benefits others. And because selfless love is a purifying experience, we become liberated from ourself—our life no longer revolves around ourselves but around someone else. Our own problems become secondary—and can even totally dissolve—because our energy is expended for the sake of someone else. Because no one really knows how to love yet, in our desire to do only what is good for the person we love, we constantly turn to God for guidance, and thus our relationship with Heavenly Father reaches a new level.

Become partners
with God in
loving someone.



To love a person as you would love God
is the point.

Unfortunately, many people are afraid to either make deep commitments to someone else themselves or to accept it if someone wants to make a commitment to them. This is probably because they are afraid of losing a part of themselves. But we never lose anything by giving, especially by giving of ourself. When Father said that total prosperity comes from total giving, he wasn't just talking about material things. If we give our heart to someone, if we share our deepest experiences with God, we aren't losing any part of ourself. Rather, we are multiplying the most valuable part of ourself, the part which is connected to God, and in doing so, multiplying our own value because we are sharing the God in ourself and offering a part of God to others. When we do that, Heavenly Father continually fills us up because He wants so much to share Himself with His children. Once He finds a vehicle through which to do that, He will pour out to us as much as we can contain so that we can give it to others. In the process, we will find God and have an eternal connection to Him. The preciousness of that experience is something that no one can ever take away from us. Then we will have something to cling to when we go through difficult times. It won't just be a memory of God, but of the experience we had with God through deeply loving someone.

Selfless love
is a purifying
experience.

Sometimes people are afraid to let someone make a commitment to them because they realize it requires some responsibility on their part and they are unwilling to assume that responsibility. Because of the spiritual dynamics involved in committing oneself to someone, the person to whom the commitment is made is drawn to the person making the commitment, feeling compelled toward that person. Sometimes people say they feel obligated but this is a wrong definition of what happens. It is a self-centered explanation that soon evolves into the excuse to avoid taking responsibility and that often turns into the accusation that what is given doesn't come from a pure motivation. Accusation is the handiest excuse to avoid doing something. But, in the end, the accusation will come back to the accuser because he is the one who is saying he doesn't care. It is natural to feel compelled toward someone who loves us. And our initial responsibility is only to accept what is given. In other words, it means letting God love us, because the person loving us is actually expressing what Heavenly Father would like to express to us personally but for some reason cannot. Rejecting someone's love means rejecting God. When we do that, we commit a serious crime against Heavenly Father, against that person and against ourselves. Most seriously, we become indebted. Father always talks about not becoming indebted. When he says that America is indebted to him, it is because America is not accepting what he is giving. It's not because she isn't returning it, but because she isn't even accepting it. It's all right if we can't return measure for measure what is given. Our responsibility is to accept what is given, learn from it and change. God gives because He wants to offer us something precious for the sake of our eternal life. We often talk about making offerings to God, but fail to recognize it when Heavenly Father makes offerings to us. To reject God's offering is a serious matter and a total contradiction of why we are here in the first place.

Because we are victims of the fallen world, we build barriers around ourselves to protect ourselves. It's a quite natural thing to do. But we can never experience true love if we keep boundaries around ourselves. Love doesn't make boundaries. True love can only exist in an atmosphere of total freedom. There is no reason to close oneself off because true love seeks only the benefit of the loved person. God doesn't draw boundaries. Now there is a distance between ourselves and Heavenly Father because we are fallen people. But in the restored world there will be no distance between ourselves and God. If there is, in the end God says we can only come so close to Him and no closer, He will have been misleading us and making empty promises to us. My goal is to melt into the heart of God. I believe He wants every one of us to become a part of Him and exist together eternally in the closest relationship with Him. And if we all melt together within God's heart, we will ultimately all melt together with each other anyway. This does not mean we will lose our individuality. We will all still be our own unique selves, but we will have completely open hearts big enough to embrace each other and totally fulfill each other.

It may sound like a grand, almost impossible goal, but it is God's ideal and what Father constantly talks about. The time for us to begin striving toward that goal is now, by finding someone to whom we can commit ourselves. When we love someone with our whole heart, we want to give everything we can to that person. Unless we give with this kind of heart, we shouldn't give at all because then giving just becomes a means to draw attention to ourselves. No matter how much material or monetary value there may be in what we give, if we only give for our own benefit, it can have no eternal value and is meaningless. But what we give out of love will remain forever valuable. It will be so precious to us, even if it is not accepted in the way in which we hoped it would be. We can never forget what we have given out of deep love, nor can we ever regret it. It is something we can share with Heavenly Father time and time again. And, ultimately what we receive in return for our love will come directly from Heavenly Father, not from the person to whom we are giving. This is because God's heart is a giving heart which automatically responds to another giving heart. God wants to be where He can see His nature reflected.

If we make lasting commitments to each other, we will find God, find each other and, ultimately, save each other. Father has said that "if you love one person, God's love will be there in proportion to the depth of that love. If you can love many people like this, God's love will come in proportion to the greatness and depth of that love. To love a person as you would love God is the point." This means God wants us to invest our whole selves in someone. If we love someone to that degree and let someone love us to that degree, we will find God, find the meaning of our life, find ourselves, and be well on our way to establishing God's kingdom on this earth.

