



Special New Year's Gathering with True Parents in Korea

Ki Hoon Kim and Michael Balcomb
January 10, 2017

Dear Family,

Dr. Kim and I and a small group of brothers have just returned from a memorable New Year's celebration with True Mother at the Hyojeong Cheonweon in Korea, and I wanted to share some highlights with you. Attached to this letter are some photos of the occasion, and also a summary of True Mother's New Year's message which was delivered on January 3.

First of all, I am happy to report that the success of True Mother's most recent visit to Washington DC and New York continues to make waves in Korea and Japan. It's probably true to say that we rather exceeded everyone's expectations - to their happy surprise-and so of course there is a lot of expectation for what 2017 might bring in the United States and around the world, as we continue to develop and expand the IAPP (Parliamentarians for Peace) project.

In her New Year's address, which I urge all of you to read and to watch, True Mother put a lot of emphasis on the goal of national restoration, and she asked us the same two questions:

- 1) Are you confident to bring about a national restoration by 2020, just three short years from now?
- 2) What does restoration actually look like in concrete terms?

She charged us to think deeply about these questions and to return next month with some definitive proposals that we have worked on together, building off the national goals that we announced last September.

After all the big public meetings were over, we had a smaller gathering with True Mother for just the 9 American leaders and some 25 Japanese. There she emphasized several points

- 1) Her great concern for the environment and for the earth itself, which is suffering. "We have to return it to its pristine state," she said, "and I am enlisting the help of scientists and professors once again through the Science Conferences. So many scientific discoveries have caused great harm to the world, but science, properly directed by True Parents, can solve these problems too." That is one pillar of her vision of restoration.
- 2) Harnessing internet technology to spread the news about True Parents.

It is absolutely vital that we succeed in finding the way to reach millions and tens of millions of people in a short time frame. At one point True Mother referred to the example of the rise of Amazon, which recently surpassed Walmart in retail sales despite - or perhaps because of - having almost no physical presence. She urged us to think of how the reach of the Divine Principle and True Parents' teaching could be spread so rapidly through the internet, rather than just thinking in terms of more churches and more members (though that is important too!)

True Mother had some specific direction and encouragement for the Japanese and the American churches both, promising to visit our countries when we start to fulfill the goals that we already pledged. The Japanese church promised to hold revival meetings with 10,000 people or more, and to rebuild and

increase the church foundation. Mother was inspired by this and turning to our American group said "don't let Japan leave you behind!"

Mother also reminded us that, even with a new president and new senators and congressmen and women taking office, America can only succeed when it comes back to God, through the teachings and marriage blessing of True Parents.

The following morning, we met True Mother again for a breakfast with just a handful of people. It was a happy gathering. We shared a few reflections about True Mother's speech the day before, we sang songs together, including "Generation of Righteousness" which has become our USA battle song, and Dr. Kim asked True Mother to sign some commemorative photos for the upcoming IPEC workshop to honor the Japanese sisters, who pioneered the Kodiak providence.

After that Mother invited us to tour the grounds of Chung Pyung and the nearby village of Seorak Myun so that she could share some of her vision for creating a model of the Kingdom. It was my distinct pleasure to ride in True Mother's car together with Dr. Kim and a couple of the Japanese leaders.

Mother sat in the front and pointed out the places where different projects are being completed, sharing a little bit about her vision. There's already a lot, but soon a hotel, a museum, a performing arts venue and a shopping center will be added, as well as some beautiful lakeside facilities and new cafes and coffee shops. I think it's going to be great.

Once again I was so impressed by True Mother's confidence and can-do spirit. She urged us to involve her in all projects, and never forget True Father's vision and passion to save this world. "Let us finish the job together," she said, "national restoration is just a stepping stone on the way to restoring the world and liberating our Heavenly Parent."

With that in mind, I'd like to invite and request all our churches and communities to think carefully about our concrete goals for 2017, the "Wake Up" year of the Rooster. Of course, our focus will remain on the Blessing and membership growth. We will continue to establish new churches and new facilities around the nation. But, what will we do locally? We need to hear about your hopes, dreams and plans as well!

[True Parent's Special Gathering to Celebrate the Start of the 2017 New Year](#)

[Reflections](#)

Thank you everyone!

Thank you God and True Parents!



Bishop Ki Hoon Kim
Continental Director



Dr. Michael Balcomb
President

**True Parents' Special Gathering to Celebrate the Start of the 2017 New Year
January 3, Cheon Jeong Gung**

One year has ended and a new year has begun, the year of the red rooster. By the heavenly calendar, 24 days remain, but this is the year of the red rooster. They say the rooster is a bird that lets us know when the time has come to wake up.

In light of that, what is the very first thing we, FFWPU, must find so we can realize Heaven's providence, Heavenly Parent's dream, True Parents' dream, humanity's dream? What you must think about today is that only three years remain until our vision's goal in 2020.

Then for the New Year, as we greet the year of the red rooster, in which the rooster tells us to wake up, what are our responsibilities for national restoration?

You must inform all the people of this nation that they are the chosen people that Heaven has prepared. They are the people of Korea, the Republic of Korea, and the people among whom the True Parents were born.

Through this long period, God had waited for the True Parents, who could realize his dream. In that difficult environment, True Parents were born on earth. Christianity, which Heaven had prepared to expand the providence, did not cooperate, leaving no choice but to start again from the very bottom. We have experienced many of those desperate moments over the last 50 years.

However, God had originally planned when he sent the returning lord to send him with a national foundation. Through that nation, all the world's nations would participate in Heavenly Parent's providence. Do you have any idea how much effort it took to create that environment?

In our goal to create the environment for the returning lord, the True Parents, our most urgent priority is national restoration. One of us has gone to spirit world, and while I am still here, we absolutely must create that environment.

We live in an era in which we can connect through the internet in a second, but what have you been doing? Heaven has given you a way in which one person can reach 10 people or a hundred people. Heaven gave you all of those methods. Why are you not using them? Do not lose this chance. Do you understand? That is why I have thought about many things.

From those of you here today, not many participated in the Korean War. If you think in terms of "enemy lines," and that you must regain the most important high ground to be victorious, what is the high ground you are facing with right now? It is the high ground of national restoration. In order to regain the high ground, all institutes must cooperate. That is why we need to strengthen the headquarters' organization. Early members, Ambassadors for Peace, national messiahs—their blessed families must unite with the Korean headquarters for the establishment of Cheon Il Guk, especially for the grand goal of national restoration.

As elders of the Cheon Eui Won (Cheon Il Guk Assembly) you must unite with the Korean

headquarters and fully advance together. In order to regain the high ground, you must all become one. Do not think you are older so you know more. The more important goal is to unite. There is only one goal towards the higher ground. Have you made the determination for full advancement? If you have, then this year of the red rooster will be full of hope. Until now, we have been unable to fulfill our responsibilities and offer this to Father.

We must absolutely achieve this. If we advance with determination to do that, we can accomplish it. While I am on earth, I must take my rightful place for your sake and for the sake of your descendants. It is not possible for you to gauge all of the providence on your own. I have to be involved. That is why I am the True Parent. The True Parents know Heaven's providence. You must live in direct vertical alignment with the True Parents. I am a True Parent; there is no successor without True Parents' seal and blessing. There is no successor in the providence.

Therefore, I am planning many things. There is an educational institute centered on the Sun Moon Foundation for cultivating future leaders. However, there will also be the Sunhak Global Foundation, which will globally tie Korea, the United States and Asia together under one system. Sun Moon will also go in that. Do you understand? I am developing this kind of organization.

I spoke about national restoration, but it does not end with just national restoration. We must also achieve global restoration. The principle is that the nations that unite with True Parents' teachings will flourish and the nations that cannot unite will fail. That is why at the beginning of last year we proposed the IAPP, and throughout the year finished its establishment. In America, I proclaimed I was the True Parent in a place with the same significance as the Roman Senate during the Roman Age.

I said let us go forward united with the True Parents. In the midst of confusion, in front of humankind I said clearly that I am the True Parent and will reveal the truth. You must be grateful to me. The more restored nations there are the quicker Heaven's providence can come about.

Through UPF's Ambassadors for Peace foundation, now we will clearly say that we are attending the True Parents. For them to become the people, the nation, that receives True Parents' will, we must inform them. You have to do that to sink roots in all of the nations and regions where we established IAPP, so that they may restore nations that surrounding them. You must educate them in that way. Heaven has given us the opportunity for this to happen.

In this way, Heaven has prepared a global foundation. Until your last breath, you must do your utmost with the determination that you will absolutely realize, national and global restoration in attendance to True Parents. Do you understand? Will you do that?

We will do our best in order for this nation, this people, to receive Heaven's blessing in 2020. I pray that you all absolutely become the people that will embrace the world as God's homeland. I pledge this! I pledge this! I pledge this!

True Parents' Special Gathering to Celebrate the Start of the 2017 New Year

USA Delegation Reflections

Dr. Michael Balcomb:

Dear True Mother

It was a very great privilege to be invited to celebrate the New Year with you. Your speech was absolutely clear and very serious. I particularly remember you telling us that we have to change 180° or else we will simply continue having mediocre results. We pledge we will do that.

You also told us that when our churches multiply by five or 10 times then you will come and visit. It is a big challenge but a worthy task, and we are looking forward to welcoming you back in America very soon. Even before Japan!

Dr. Kim and I and all our American team will indeed do our very best right away to share true parents' New Year message with all our churches as soon as possible.

As this is the year of the fire rooster, and I am a fire rooster, I feel particularly called and responsible to speak out more boldly and to testify to True Parents. When I wear the beautiful tie you gave to me, I feel it will give me added power and confidence!

Finally, it was a very special blessing to be invited into your car and have a guided tour of Hyojeon Cheonwon and to hear from you directly about your exciting vision and plans for the future. I will not forget it in a long time.

All our American team, and all blessed families in America, join together to pledge that 2017 will be a year of dramatic development and victory!

Mansei for True Parents!
Mike & Fumiko Balcomb

Rev. Miilhan Stephens:

It was such an honor to be able to join such a wondrous occasion. I thought that perhaps this would be a simple celebration but to my joyful surprise True Mother gave us a powerful new spirit and direction to begin the New Year!

The things that stuck out to me the most was national restoration and our responsibility. We need to be clear that the world needs us to step up. If we don't do something it will continue to decline. Not just politically, economically, but environmentally too.

I'm also inspired by True Mother's emphasis on using systems that successful companies like Amazon have used to get ahead of giants like Wal-Mart. I know we can do this too. In fact, we're already applying these new innovative practices.

Very excited for this New Year! Thank you True Mother!

Miilhan

Dr. Thomas Walsh:

Dear Beloved True Mother,

Happy New Year 2017. Happy Providential New Year 2017.

True Mother it is so wonderful to be here in Korea with you to start this New Year. Looking back on the past year, and witnessing the many victories that were achieved, and especially your magnificent victory in America, we feel the mighty hand of God working through you. You are leading us forward without any hesitation, and with absolute clarity of vision and purpose. As a result, our confidence is building, and our determination is on the rise.....and our productivity is increasing.

As we welcome the New Year 2017, we see a year of opportunity to advance the providence. True Parents Birthday 2017, along with the World Summit, the Sunhak Peace Prize, the Global Assembly of the IIAPP, and the re-start of ICUS, will only take us higher and closer to the ideal that heaven has longed for throughout the ages.

True Mother we are proud to stand with you at this time, to learn from you and to support you.....to be part of your team....to be part of your family.

Thank you True Mother.

Tom Walsh

Mr. Thomas McDevitt:

Dear beloved True Mother,

Our hearts are filled with gratitude to have been invited to Korea and begin the New Year with you at Cheon Jeong Gung. There is no place on earth we would rather be, than with you in the realm of True Love.

During the flight from Washington, I reviewed notes taken from the various experiences with you during 2016. Your guidance, wisdom, love and clarity are a cosmic treasure, precious True Mother.

From True Parents Birthday and Foundation Day in February, you launched a new global network of Parliamentarians for Peace; in April we were honored to be with you to celebrate the 56th anniversary of the Holy Blessing of True Parents, and you bequeathed the four Holy Items and pathway of total forgiveness for your children; you visited New York for the 40th Anniversary of Yankee Stadium and shared so much True Love and Life Elements with the American movement; then we were profoundly blessed to welcome you to Washington and New York for the ILC, Sunhak Peace Prize announcement, Little Angels, ACLC True Family Values banquet, Manhattan Center, and East Garden experiences.

I know those are only a partial listing of your 24-7 heart of devotion to fulfill Cheon Il Guk, but they were life-changing for us in America.

Because of your embodiment of our Heavenly Parent's heart and mind as the Only Begotten Daughter, and because of your wisdom, courage, strategic sensibility, clarity, beauty and, most of all, your daily example of principled leadership, America and the global family of nations can have substantial hope for 2017 and beyond.

We are with you with absolute hearts of oneness, faith, love and obedience as you are with True Father and True Parents are the living manifestation of Heavenly Parent the Creator.

We pledge to fulfill our responsibility in the Elder Son nation to move America in the right direction centering on True Love and True Parents.

With all my heart,

Tom McDevitt

Mr. William Lay:

Dear True Mother,

Thank you so much for inviting us to Korea with Dr. Ki Hoon Kim to pay our respects to True Parents at the Cheon Jeong Gung, to draw close to True Father's spirit at the Bon Hyang Won, and to receive True Mother's love and words. We could not ask for a greater blessing to begin the new year of 2017.

The spirit of True Parents was strongly with us in 2016 – making it a great turning point for America. True Mother made two most meaningful visits to America last year – to commemorate the 40-year anniversary of Yankee Stadium, and to deliver the Heavenly Parent's Words to the United States Congress. True Mother also sent Sun Jin Nim to speak at the National Mall in Washington at the 40-year anniversary of the Washington Monument Rally – at the place where True Father brought heaven to earth with his historical proclamation of 1976. These events have dramatically altered the path of America, and all of America can feel it.

At the close of 2016, God's only begotten daughter visited the great cities of America – the nation's capital, Washington, DC, the cultural and financial center, New York, and the new center of the

American West, Las Vegas – to bring the blessing of God, the word of God, and God’s encouragement that we should move forward in 2017 to love, teach, and bless the world with the truth and love of True Parents.

Thank you True Mother for your great courage and deep heart of love. God’s daughter is with us, and we go forth to heal the world.

Bill Lay
