FFWPU International: A Time to Meet True Father One on One

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The following is assembled from the August 21 weekly message delivered by World Mission Headquarters Director-General Ken Doo (Doo Seung-yeon). - Editor's note.

Respected and beloved blessed families and members around the world: I pray that this will be a blessed week in which we keep Heavenly Parent's love and the words of True Father and True Mother deep in our hearts and carry their will forward through our daily lives.

The Words of Those Who Remember

When do we come to understand a person's life most deeply? Sometimes, after that person has departed this life, the words of those who knew them best help us to see the meaning and value of their life more clearly.

The Roman centurion who witnessed Jesus' death on the cross was moved to say, "Truly this was the Son of God." Jesus had said many things during his life, yet this short statement from a man who saw him die was a powerful testimony to who Jesus was and how he had lived.

Furthermore, when Jonathan died, David composed a song of mourning, expressing his love for Jonathan and the beauty of his life.

Filled with David's longing and love, the song became a lasting testimony to Jonathan for future generations. In this way, the words of those who remember someone who has passed on are more than memories.

They become a testimony to who that person was and what they lived for. When such words come from someone who shared that life most closely, they express deep love and heart. Through them, we can understand the person's life and purpose more deeply.

Meeting True Father Again through True Mother's Words

In this sense, as we mark the 14th anniversary of True Father's Seonghwa, it is especially meaningful to remember him through the words of True Mother, who walked beside him throughout his life and mission.

True Mother's words at Cheon Jeong Gung soon after True Father's Seonghwa convey her deep heart and guidance on how we should remember True Father's life and teachings and carry on his will.

Therefore, let us reflect this week, through True Mother's words, on the purpose and value of True Father's lifelong path, the teachings and true love he left for us - and how we should live today. This should be more than simply a time to remember True Father.

Through True Mother's words, let us each meet True Father again and decide for ourselves how we will carry his will forward.

A Life Based on True Parents' Words and True Love

Immediately after True Father's Seonghwa, on September 3, 2012 (7.17 by the heavenly calendar), True Mother spoke at Cheon Jeong Gung about his life: "True Parents' words and true love! Their words are the truth. They are the Principle. You promised together with Mother, 'Through love, we will build one world of the culture of heart.' I hope you will do your very best for this. In your families and as individuals, you already know how to live according to Father's teachings. I do not need to tell you what to do. You know. Pledge that you will stand as mature sons and daughters."

In this way, True Mother explained that the heart of True Father's life and teachings was "True Parents' words and true love." She asked us to put these into practice in our personal lives and in our families. She also asked us to pledge to stand as mature sons and daughters who live by True Father's words and true love - in short, true sons and daughters of Cheon Il Guk.

When we look back on True Father's life, we can see that he devoted his life to teaching the truth through his words and building a culture of heart through true love. Therefore, the deepest way for us to honor True Father is not simply to remember his life, but to practice his teachings and true love in our lives today.

The Blessed Families Who Will Carry On the Will

True Mother also said:

> "Do you know that, as sons and daughters of the True Family, you are unique in history and before all the generations to come? You are the first and the last of your kind. You are the first people in 6,000 years to be born under the name of the True Family. You must live according to Father's words."

Through these words, True Mother explained who blessed families are and the significance of their position. As can also be seen through the "Great Epic of the Chosen Han People of Korea," which True Mother has recently emphasized, blessed families have a special place and mission in human history and the providence. On this day, True Mother urged blessed families, vertically connected to Heaven, to expand true love horizontally, practice "life in the kingdom of heaven on earth," embrace one another, and build a world of the culture of heart. She continued with these words:

"In the early days, Father raised many members through his words, through love, and through close bonds of heart. I believe that, going forward, the Korean church and our worldwide church should become like this."

Mother also said the following:

> "Even without explanation, we can feel and understand everything through the bonds we share and the deep affection that ties us together, centered on Heaven. When we become one, everything connects and comes together. I will continue to nurture the bonds among Unification Church blessed families, bound together by such deep affection, and the bonds through which they become one with the True Family."

In this way, True Mother expressed her resolve.

Ultimately, our mission as blessed families is not limited to ourselves and our families. We must expand the bonds of heart we have formed centering on Heaven to our neighbors, churches, communities, and the world. For this reason, True Mother also spoke specifically about our attitude, and about what we do and say:

> "In your actions, words, and attitude, you should first be considerate of others, care for them, and care for your surroundings."

True Mother gave us very practical guidance. In the end, our identity as blessed families must be shown through our lives. It is not enough just to know our teachings and speak about love. When we are the first to think of others and care for them, and our lives become connected in heart, the value of the Blessing we have received will be revealed.

Meeting True Father One on One

I will conclude by once again sharing the words True Mother spoke that day.

> "This is a very good time. It is a good time for you to meet Father one on one. Make your pledge and determination before Father. Pledge to him that, no matter how difficult things are, you will unite with me and go all the way to the end."

True Mother then said:

> "It seems Father is listening to everything you are hoping for."

Beloved members, we are marking the 14th anniversary of the Seonghwa of the True Father of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. This week, just as True Mother has asked, let us take time to meet True Father in our hearts, one on one. Let us quiet our minds and attend True Father at the center of our hearts while reflecting on the path he walked and the words he left us. Finally, let us ask ourselves: If True Father asked me one thing today, how would I respond?

This week, rather than making a grand resolution, let us decide on one promise we can make to True Father. Let us not keep that promise only in our hearts but put it into practice in our lives. Remembering True Father means more than calling out his name. It means living today in the way he wanted us to live.

Finally, we must remember that True Parents did not come to this earth only to convey God's Word.

They came to live it. As their sons and daughters, our mission cannot be limited to merely conveying God's Word. We must resolve to live by the values of true love and true family ourselves. I believe this is the truest way to honor True Father.

True Mother's words to us while she was in detention - "Do not pray for me. Pray for yourselves, your families, and for world peace!" - are precious guidance that clearly reminds us where the practice of the values of true love and true family must begin.

The week ahead holds deeper and more solemn significance in our lives and in our faith than perhaps any week we have experienced before.

In all the years we have lived attending True Parents, we are now, for the first time, facing the unprecedented reality that neither of them is physically present among us. True Father is guiding the providence from the heavenly realms, while True Mother, bearing the cross of hardship and trials all alone, remains in confinement.

At this time, when the warmth of True Parents, who have always embraced and guided us, feels so distant, our hearts are filled with an indescribable tenderness and painful longing for them.

Yet the emptiness we feel at this time must not remain merely one of sadness or loneliness. Just as children, in the absence of their parents, come to understand the true meaning of filial devotion and the weight of responsibility, this time of silence, with neither of our True Parents physically among us, is a providential moment when we must make the determination to fully demonstrate our true love and devotion.

It is my earnest hope that throughout this week, we will make this a sacred time to pray and reflect deeply on the nature of this profound longing welling up from the depths of our hearts, and on what kind of sons and daughters we must become as we stand before our Parents' tears and suffering.

I sincerely hope that the resonance of the prayers I share with you today will reach the hearts of our members throughout the world. May you have a peaceful and grace-filled week.

Thank you.