

Transcript of The Significance of the Family in Nation-Building and Peace

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Thank you, Dr. Jenkins. I was honored and humbled by the invitation to share with you what we are doing in Asia. First I'd say that we could develop these presentations because of Dr. Yong's support. The approach we took when we first met in 2008, in Kathmandu, Dr. Yong said, I want you to teach the Principle. Wherever it might be needed, I'd like you to go there and teach. I told him, I have one condition for you: I want to teach to the audience. I will teach by the book but not to the book. I will teach to the audience because they are the ones that have to be inspired by these teachings.

In Nepal we decided to put this on national television. Then Hon. Eknat sat down and had a serious conversation and said, I have only one condition. When we teach the Principle, no one can get angry. He explained that he is a member of Parliament and represents the people. His salary is not to one religion or to one people. I told him, OK, but I'm not going to deviate from the Principle. I will take the challenge of holding on to the Principle and reaching out to the audience at the same time.

The third thing I want to mention is when Dr. Yong emphasized HTM for us in Asia, we struggled with exactly the same things that you are struggling with now: how do you teach the 3-day ceremony, the Blessing, bring people to understand the value of this sacred gift TP have given us and the world.

We realized we can't do it in one lecture. It has to be part of every lecture. So we had to go through and tweak slightly every presentation we did, and said our focus for these presentations is ultimately to conclude with the Blessing and get people to do the Blessing ceremony. We introduced marriage in every area that we can, appropriate to the topic, but in every lecture of DP.

Rev. Jenkins asked me to talk about the significance of family in nation-building and peace, to include teaching the Blessing and 3-day ceremony. This is actually the conclusion of our education, so a lot comes before that. For this audience I don't need to go into it, but I will bring into it some of the necessary foundational work in terms of making it more logical and presentable.

There is an English saying, In the fruit of prosperity are seeds of destruction. We've heard that before. It almost seems universal. As a nation develops economically, inevitably it collapses morally. It has happened over and over and over again in history. We must solve this problem. If we are a peace organization, we must be a problem-solving organization – solving not only this problem, which is big and historical, but all problems.

The question is, why is it that when nations develop economically they collapse morally? The answer is very simple: prosperity without principles. They become prosperous but they don't have the principles to sustain that prosperity. What it means ultimately, it is easier to be selfish. The more prosperous you are, the easier it is to be selfish. That's why civilizations collapse, because they can be more selfish. And the weight of selfishness is ultimately unsustainable in the long run.

The question arises, what are the principles? This image is repeated in every presentation, and many times in each presentation. Two fundamental, absolute, eternal, unchanging, universal principles: the dual purpose principle of mind and body, and that defines the essence of goodness. We call that the pillar – the vertical relationship. The pair system principle, the equal value between man and woman, they are horizontal in nature and equal in value and they come together and that creates the essence of true love. So we need goodness and love together in order to have sustainability.

Actually in the first presentation of dual principles, it takes more than one hour to explain. I will just mention there's a lot that needs to be said about that.

Essentially, living for the sake of others, where the mind dominates the body and the pair system principle means the sacredness of marriage. Both of these principles are learned, imbibed, experienced, understood and lived within the family. So the family is central to both of these universal principles.

Let's look at history – lessons learned from history. Why did the Roman empire collapse? Wine, women, sexual orgies, and then it collapsed. That's history. We know that. (audio gap) emphasis on nudity and sexuality.

This is Rabbi Sacks (ph). He passed away last month. He was the chief rabbi for the Jewish community in England. Prince Charles here is giving him the Templeton prize a few years ago. Rabbi Sacks said this: empires fall because of rampant immorality. The decline and fall of both the Greek and the Roman empires were attributed to falling birth rates because nobody wanted the responsibility of bringing up children.

Well, they didn't have abortion, they didn't have contraception. They had sex and they didn't want children, so they had to figure out a way to solve this problem. Archeologists dug underneath Roman bath houses. Here is one; I'm sure there were many. And they discovered a mass baby grave under the Roman bath house. Assembling the bones, the archeologist said the child was less than one year old. They did a DNA test, and said it didn't die of any disease. So this is how they handled unwanted children. Other ways that are equally grotesque. Sometimes they would leave them by a tree and walk away and let animals eat them. It was horrific.

And not only the Romans. The mighty Moghul empire in India, Emperor Akbar (ph) was the great emperor, but they brought into his court wine and women and prostitution. They married prostitutes and this empire collapsed. This is history.

This is the Han dynasty, the largest, most powerful dynasty in Chinese history. Emperor Wu had both a concubine and a legal wife. When he died, they fought. The empire was divided because these two women fought, and also because of the immorality in the Forbidden City. I've seen the Forbidden City. It has many small rooms around the outside of the inner courtyard, which were basically places for women to stay at the pleasure of the emperor. These things are historical.

America today. The number of abortions in the US since Roe v. Wade is approaching 60 million. That's more than the population of the countries in our region.

This is Detroit. In July it declared bankruptcy, the largest bankruptcy scandal in human history. Again, you destroy the family and what comes in? Crime, violence, sex, single parenthood. These things are unsustainable. I looked up the number of bankruptcies in the US from 2010-2014 – there were 68 municipal bankruptcies or pending bankruptcies in the US.

This is England. Family break-up costs taxpayers 50 billion pounds a year through subsidized housing.

These are some of the expenses given to the state when families break down. Subsidized housing, escalating crime rates. Somebody has to pay for the police, the courts, the jails. Health care costs rise. Social care, disruption to education. And the cost is rising. Again, it's a universal problem. It's not attributable to one nation or one culture and not one period of history.

So here's the problem in a nutshell: family breakdown. Two things happen. Number one, (audio gap) very expensive. And the people that receive these social benefits generally do not pay it back. So there is a low tax base. What starts off as a moral problem ends up as a math problem, and that is called bankruptcy. It's that simple. It's not complicated, and everyone can begin to understand that, especially lawmakers, religious leaders, educators. Everybody says, that makes sense.

Arnold Toynbee, the British historian talks about moral decline and the decline of civilizations. Of the 21 notable civilizations, 19 perished, not by conquest from without but by moral decay from within. So this is a big historical problem. We must solve that.

Here is a question: how can we build a family-friendly culture that is economically sustainable? This is the genius of our True Parents. They solved the problem. Nobody else did. This is amazing. Why are we such optimists that we can change the world? Because it's easy to do. It's hard to get people's attention, but if we get their attention then it's very easy to change things.

Here's how you do it. Celebrate marriage. People say, you've got to explain that a little bit more. It's very easy. If you celebrate Easter and Christmas, you create a Christian culture. You celebrate Yisak (ph), you create the Buddhist culture. You celebrate divali (ph), you create a Hindu culture. You celebrate Eid, you create a Muslim culture.

Well, why don't we celebrate marriage? Then we could build a culture that honors marriage. All religions celebrate marriage already. We're not asking them to do something new or strange; we're just saying, let's work together. It's that simple. Celebrate marriage together. Because when we celebrate marriage individually, it's like the one-one-one family – one family, one religion and one couple. That's good, and we don't take anything away from that. But let's celebrate marriage at a higher level of society.

Let's celebrate marriage beyond religion, because it's already there within our religion. It's a solid foundation to work with. It makes sense. Let's celebrate marriage and choose the best place to do that, because we really want it to be a celebration.

Here's an example, and everybody here will recognize this – Madison Square Garden. Father decided to have a marriage celebration at the biggest, best venue. Governments should do the same thing. Presidents, prime ministers, mayors – the biggest venue in their city. Choose the best venue. World Peace Through Ideal Families, July 1, 1982.

At this point I give an honest testimony that I have three brothers, two older, one younger. All three of them have been married and divorced many times. The two older ones are not married now, in their late 60s, and it's going to stay that way. But my marriage, we were married once, we stayed together, and the only difference is Father Moon's teaching.

Why did Father do that? The next day on the front page of the New York Times.

This is education. The reason Father chose that big venue was to grab the attention of America's leaders. If you have the prime minister or president or mayor or councilor or senator attend a Blessing, that will be education. You will start to change the culture, which is what we want to do.

And Father Moon said, well, you didn't quite get it. This is the United Nations, January 2001. You can see all the couples came in their native costume. Let's celebrate the diversity of culture. It's a wonderful thing. On the dais, who's sitting there? Look at the religious leaders sitting behind Father Moon – a Buddhist, a Sikh, a Jew, a Native American. Father's not trying to change other people's religion. He's building on the foundation of religion because marriage is something already sacred in every religion.

This is what he's doing. He said, let's do it again, and I'll go to my home in Korea and fill the Olympic stadium. Father and Mother Moon are officiating, let's look at who's in the background. A Hindu priest, a Sikh, Pastor Barrett, the Muslim leader from ___, Archbishop Milingo. Father Moon is honoring and recognizing religion at the time of the marriage Blessing. This is his tradition.

Wade Horn wrote this book, and I think it's very true. "The state's foremost obligation is to respect, defend and protect the family because without it, no state can survive." So we tell the lawmakers, you have certain responsibilities – judicial, executive, legislative. Yes, those are there. But you also have the responsibility to respect, defend and protect the family.

It's also in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights – the family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society. It is entitled to protection by society and the state. The lawmakers may think, oh, I have another responsibility. It's a joyful and fun responsibility and it's not just a burden.

Father Moon said, "Many years ago I said I was looking forward to the day when we could bring an end to the Unification Church. On the foundation of pure love education and true family values worldwide, I inaugurated the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, July 31, 1996, Washington, DC, the capitol of the US.

Father moved beyond the church to this ecumenical, interfaith Family Federation. Mother has basically renamed it and called it Heavenly Parent's Holy Community, I believe the same function and purpose.

So how do you celebrate marriage? It means we need to do two things: to teach filial piety to young people, and we need to teach interfaith marriage festival Blessings and hold them for the adult population.

Let's look at the first one and see what we are doing. The photos here are from Asia because this is the audience we're working with. Youth and Students for Peace. Father said the most serious social problems are youth problems and family breakdown. Mother Moon launched YSP. Of course we had many youth movements before, decades of work, brought them together so there could be one kind of spearhead.

She went to Bangkok, Thailand, the international launching of YSP at the United Nations ___, the Escat (ph) hall, the Economic and Social Commission of the Asia Pacific Region. This is the UN HQ for the whole Asia Pacific region. We went there and (audio gap) ministers of education from nations throughout our Asia Pacific region.

The next day we rented the Impact Arena, the largest indoor stadium in Bangkok. It seats 12,000 young people. We worked with the government. The Dept. of Education brought 6,000 young people out of school, put them in buses and brought them to the Impact Arena. They wanted to bring more but we said you can't because we have an audience that we want to be a part also, our YSP, FFWPU, and WFWP. We brought over 8,000 and had overflow.

You can see the young people. They all came to listen to this. The deputy prime minister. And the Pure Love Pledge.

Then we took this program to different parliament buildings to launch YSP. This is the Knesset in Israel; here is the parliament in Jakarta. We've been to a Jewish parliament, now a Muslim parliament. Here in a Hindu parliament in New Delhi, launching YSP. The parliament of Kosovo, a former communist country. Then to Sydney, Australia. Mother has this program in Sao Tome and Principe.

Note here, this was the first time we've done this where the Pure Love Pledge was part of the Blessing.

This was Mother's direct intervention. It was the morning they were going to hold the Blessing, Mother said, I would like to have young people. These are two representatives. And they made the Pure Love Pledge.

This is in Cambodia, and it continued in Niger as well.

The question is, why? The answer is simple. Everybody is concerned about their young people and this is the heart of a parent. I don't have time to go into it. We can re-write the pledge to work with governments that we are dealing with. The Thais wanted the pledge to the king. We said, OK, he's the parent. When we went to Palau, we didn't write the strong sexual pledge, instead focused on filial piety. So we have to and should work with the governments so that they become co-owners.

This is a generic one: The love between a man and a woman is a sacred gift from God. In Buddhist countries we can substitute "heaven" because there are certain principles in the heavenly realm. To be cherished and honored for the sake of building – and here's the key, five things: good character, loving family, healthy society, prosperous nation, and a world of peace. And we've got education to go with this. I don't have time to go into it.

When we showed this in Cambodia and the Vietnamese media there saw it, they were super-excited. They said, we can ask our young people to maintain purity for the sake of the nation. It becomes patriotic. You want to be a patriotic young person? You've got to remain pure and prepare for marriage. They broadcast the summit in Phnom Penh in Vietnam because of this connection. They said, this is the answer we're looking for. It's not just remaining pure for their sake, so they don't get disease, or get pregnant, or get accused later on by somebody else. We have to take it to a much higher realm.

From this day forward, we don't look in the past to judge or accuse or blame or criticize. We're looking forward. We have to acknowledge the past in order to move forward. I will pledge to remain pure as the best way to prepare for being faithful in marriage. The sociological data backs that up. 100%. So help me God, or so help me heaven.

The second part, to celebrate marriage, we have this interfaith peace marriage festival. I tell them, this is Father and Mother Moon's mission. I put these two photographs together and say, how many people get married twice on the same day? It's hard. But Father Moon got married in a tuxedo and also in the traditional Korean dress. Why? Because they realize their marriage is not just for themselves. If it were for themselves, get married once and that's enough. But just this photograph at the time of their Blessing shows the mindset of Father and Mother Moon regarding the institution of marriage, and connecting it to his life work and mission from heaven.

Then we quickly go through the numbers – 36 couples in 1960, 72 couples, 124, 430, 777 – because then they realize this is a Blessing movement that Father is building. 30,000 couples, 360,000 over several years. Bringing together religious leaders so they also can get blessed. Arch. Milingo, George Stallings.

Then Father Moon filled the second largest indoor stadium in Asia, second only to the Tokyo Dome. Why? He's a marrying man; with a big stadium, let's have a big wedding.

In 2008 Mother came to the Asia Pacific Summit, meeting the prime minister; seven current heads of state came. It wasn't just a celebration. The heads of state there helped officiate and be part of the Blessing ceremony. In the audience were 4,500 people, including 700 mayor couples – 1,400 people. We had gone throughout Nepal to the seven districts and held education programs prior to that, explaining that the most important thing in the development of their country is to support the marriage Blessing. So they came and attended.

This was the Sao Tome program, the parliament building in Sao Tome, the couples there. These people waited for five hours. We had to feed them lunch and dinner to keep them there because the president went off on an army celebration that was mandated by the constitution, and we had not seen the schedule conflict. Kathy Rigney went to the army HQ uninvited, demanding that he come to the Blessing and brought him there. For the first time we had a head of state, prime minister and speaker attending onstage.

In Phnom Penh the same thing at the invitation of the prime minister in his peace palace. There were 500 international guests, nine former heads of state, two current vice presidents, speakers, like that. Mother was treated as a head of state, leading a delegation of representatives of all 46 nations that were there. They spoke together.

The next day we had a marriage blessing, 4,000 people. It's not just the ceremony, but these people understand that there will be a 40-day separation, a 3-day ceremony, and that they need to get 430 couples also.

In Niger, same thing. Inside the parliament building. Instead of sprinkling water she held their hands after

dipping her hands in holy water.

Why can we go around the world? Because every religion honors marriage and family. This is universal.

Please pay attention; this is really important. "If we create division by insisting that our own religion is the only path to salvation, we go against God's desire. The answer: people should put their family first." Father is asking us to change one thing. If our religion is the primary thing, it will divide us because religions are different. We try to minimize that division. We talk about toleration, but that's not unity.

Look at what happens. Watch carefully. (some visual) That will change the world. My family is more important than my religion. That's what father is saying. Put your family first. Don't change your religion. Keep your religion. We're encouraging them not to change their religion because it might make difficulties in some cases. Put your family first. This is the change that we want.

So no need to change your religion. We say it to them so that they can be comfortable. Then we ask them, don't be too comfortable. We do need to change our priorities, our attitudes, our behaviors, our culture and our character. Changing religion will not solve the problem. But changing these other priorities will.

So let's look at the interfaith peace blessing. Normally the next few slides are not part of this, but it's a necessary foundation and I think interesting for you. So WWW – that is, what went wrong. (audio gap) So again, we go back to this slide. They will see this slide 100 times throughout the Principle education. Here now we're taking the same slide and applying it to the fall of man.

There were two elements to the fall – it meant we lost the vertical standard of public-mindedness. That's the first problem. In other words, we have two minds. We are supposed to have one but now we have two. We became confused; we don't know what is right and wrong, what is good and evil.

Let's look at some religious texts. St. Paul – for I know that nothing good dwells in me that is in my flesh. I can will what is right but I cannot do it, for I do not do the good I want. The evil I do not want is what I do. Two minds, clearly. Where did that come from? That's not from God. That's the first element of the fall, what we call fallen nature.

In Hinduism: for those who have conquered the mind, it is their friend. For those who have failed to do so, the mind works like an enemy.

Buddhism: It is easy to do what is wrong, to do what is bad for oneself. It is very difficult to do what is right, to do what is good for oneself. The mind flies from what it knows is right and chases after evil. Reluctantly.

The Quran: It is possible that you dislike a thing which is good for you and that you love a thing which is bad for you.

Every religion acknowledges this. God knows you do not. We've got to go back to God. God is going to give us this universal standard of good and evil. That is the most important. That was lost before sex was misused in the garden of Eden. So where does this double-mindedness come from? Well, the first man and woman were supposed to develop a heartistic love relationship with God. In order to do that, there are four loves that needed to be developed in the garden of Eden.

The first two loves meant man became confused. We lost filial piety. This is huge. I would love to go into in; in the section on the fall we do go into it. The fall was not only sexual. First it was the loss of filial piety, where Adam and Eve were given a commandment by God. There was no communication. God gave a commandment but his son and daughter were not talking to him. She was talking to the archangel, and they lost this relationship. They cannot understand the commandment. They cannot have strength to follow the commandment if they lose filial piety.

Then they lost the brother and sister relationship. So this created a confusion of the mind. Do not eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil; the day you eat of it you will die. And Satan said, you will not die. When you eat, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.

Adam and Eve should know good and evil before the fall, not after the fall. This is really important. Adam was the tree of life, and Eve was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. So it was Eve's responsibility to have a very clear mind of what is good and evil: in the four realms of heart, who is her father; the brother-sister heart, who is her elder brother; the conjugal heart, who is going to be her husband; and the parental heart. Eve lost this knowledge. This was the fall, the loss of the four realms of heart; the tree of knowledge was lost.

This is a verse from the Quran: He, Satan, led them, Adam and Hawah (ph), by delusion. And when they tasted the tree, their shameful parts were revealed to them. (audio gap) part of the fall. We have two

minds.

The second part of the fall is we lost the horizontal standard of true love. In other words, we have two lineages. This is the fall – two minds, two lineages. We've got to solve both problems.

Again, multiple religions teach this. In the Bible, Gen. 31:15: I will put enmity, hatred between you, Satan, and between the woman, Eve, and between your seed and her seed. Now there are clearly two seeds. Because of the misuse of love there are two seeds. But because of the lack of filial piety, there were two minds. Two minds, two seeds, big problem. And Satan is called the god of this world, the ruler of this world.

In the Quran it says the same thing: And do you take him, Satan, and his seed to be your friends apart from me? And they an enemy to you? How evil is this exchange?

This is a very important verse so I looked it up in three different translations. I don't read or speak Arabic, and it is translated as seed or offspring or descendants. Clearly there was an exchange.

In Hinduism: When unrighteous disorder prevails, women sinned and are impure. This disorder is carried down to ___ the family and destroys the righteousness of birth. The first right is destroyed. The seed of goodness is destroyed.

According to Buddhism's Time Immemorial we are endowed with two seeds: abadhia (ph), delusion or ignorance, and prajina (ph) wisdom.

And from the Bible we know this, the fornication, but it also talks about in the Quran when Satan tempted Adam and Eve so that he might reveal to them their nakedness, which they had never seen before. Satan did cunningly seduce them. It's pretty clear. Let not Satan deceive you as he deceived your parents out of paradise, stripped them of their garments and revealed to them their nakedness.

The second part of the fall that created two lineages – the conjugal love was defiled. God's lineage was defiled and parental love was lost. So again, we go back to what happened in the garden of Eden and we get a more complete picture by looking through the prisms of the four family loves, four realms of heart.

Father said this: Every human being is connected to two lineages. One is Satan's lineage, and we are connected to it through the historical line of ancestors. That happened because they had a self-centered consciousness.

That was the cause. Not because of sexual love. A self-centered consciousness.

And what is the other lineage? God's lineage. It is to live not for one's self but for the sake of the whole. This lineage lives for the sake of others. Do you know what has pained God's heart most, caused him the greatest grief in the long history since the fall of our first human ancestors? God lost his lineage, and with the loss of his lineage he lost the right of ownership.

Mother said this in her 1993 world tour: If you read the scriptures carefully, you will see that the fall of man involved the loss of Adam's entire family. First the position of parents was lost, and second, the position of children was lost when Cain murdered Abel. God's blueprint of the ideal family was lost. This is the tragedy. Of the four family loves, the ideal was lost and instead we have illicit love and murder in the first family.

I usually try to lighten things up before I go into the actual meaning of the Blessing, and I do so by looking at America in the 1950s, when we had a culture that honored marriage and family. I usually sing along with them, Blue Eyes, by Frank Sinatra. Love and marriage go together like a horse and carriage.

(audio gap)

Now we start the interfaith peace blessing festival. There are six parts, and I've added one more that Dr. Yong insisted on, and you'll see that at the end, Principle education. With the extensive education that they've gone through, we've done that. (audio gap) or we can call it unity and harmony ceremony. This is husband and wife share one cup of juice together. The juice that we use is usually grape juice but you can use whatever you like. We use grape juice because they are very sweet and that's the love between a man and woman. It's oftentimes red, which represents the lineage, the ancestry of a people. And they come in bunches, like children and grandchildren. So it's a good symbol for the concept of the love of man and woman to be renewed. Instead of separate cups, they share one juice cup together.

In this process the woman will drink first because we are going in restoration, reversing the process of the fall. The woman committed the first mistake so she needs to take this responsibility. Then her husband drinks the remaining half. We have couples on stage participating in the ceremony. When we invite

people to our live presentation, we usually try to invite them and prepare them ahead of time so they realize. As you've seen they'll wear their best dress, like saris and suits for men. It's really a dignified program.

We explain to them through this unity and harmony that it will be a new (audio gap) the forgiveness of all of your past mistakes, whatever they are. You need to now bury them, forgive each other, and don't need to bring them up again but move forward. It's a new beginning for your family and for your lineage, including even your ancestors and children to come.

We can explain that this is a unique ceremony for them, that if their children are born after this ceremony, they do not need to go through this ceremony. These interfaith blessing festivals, we emphasize that it's not just marriage. It is a marriage celebration but it is marriage for the sake of the nation. We are now taking marriage out of the family level social setting and bringing it into a national social setting. We are building social awareness about the importance of families.

Here we have at the national stadium in Nepal. Interestingly, here we had too many people come. It seats 70,000, so we closed the gates and they broke down the gates to get in. We had to pay for new gates after the ceremony was over. And the holy water ceremony, where the religious leaders make this condition to work together to merge water together as one. If we look at it historically, all religions have this ceremony individually. They sprinkle water. The Buddhists have the water purification cup.

The Buddhists offer water on the altar because they need to offer something that they have no attachment to. If you have some attachment to an offering then that selfish attachment makes that offering impure. It's a wonderful thing. So they choose water to offer on the altar.

The Hindus go to the Ganges River at the festivals. Even in Islam the ___ from the ___ water, they have these ceremonies. So let's work together, all religions, and have this water of harmony ceremony.

Then we do the recitation of vows. We explain it briefly here. Husband wife must always trust and love each other. They must not cause pain to the heart of their partner, and must educate their children and grandchildren to maintain filial piety.

The next we call the forgiveness ceremony, the indemnity stick. This is the most exciting part of the Blessing, honestly speaking. We explain to couples and we demonstrate beforehand, sometimes my wife and I, during the lecture, and also right before the ceremony, so they'll have it twice. This will restore true love between a man and a woman. It will bring an end to domestic violence.

If you hit your wife in a private setting, that is called domestic violence. We tell them, shame on you. But this time you'll hit your wife in public. If you hit your wife before, this will be the last time. And if you never hit your wife before, good for you. This will be the first and the last time. You still need to do it. So we will end domestic violence. We set up groups where they work together and it will remove historical resentment.

You can see the smiles on the faces as they do this ceremony. We had difficulty because we had only 6 or 7 sticks, and the hesitation of people to come into the audience. So we decided to bring the indemnity stick in the audience. We end up getting 100 indemnity sticks, and at the right time pass them through the audience, and line by line, row by row, everybody gets a chance. It is a wonderful time.

We pass on to our descendants either the solution or the problem, so we can choose. If we indemnify the resentment between man and woman now then we can change the course of history for ourselves, for our children, and for our ancestors. Through this ceremony we pass on the solution. We indemnify the past and bequeath the model of forgiveness and true love to our descendants. And that's it.

Usually when this happens, everybody takes out their cell phones and starts taking pictures of couples there. It's a wonderfully liberating experience and you can feel spirit world is liberated at the same time.

Next, the 40-day separation. Why 40 days? It's based on the number four, which is the foundational unit, the four position foundation between God, husband and wife and children. The number 10 is based on the three stages of growth, with three levels in each stage, which total 9. The number of perfection, or the returning number where you can then re-start, so there are 10 levels. Four represents the family, 10 represents perfection or a new beginning, so 4×10 .

What are they supposed to do during these 40 days? No sexual relationship. Sexual fasting. We put it very clearly to them and say, this is going to be your situation for the next 40 days. Do not look, do not eat the apple. No relationship for 40 days. But then we explain what is happening here. In these 40 days you are going to set a period of sexual self-control and purification. You must represent your ancestors. The men need to represent all of the men, women all of the women, not only of our lineage but really of the histories of our nation. So you must live together as brother and sister. Focus on your relationship with

God that Adam and Eve should have done in the garden Eden, and then prepare to be a new blessed couple.

The 40-day separation is the hardest part. If the couple will do the 40 days, they will easily do the 3-day. The 3-day is actually very simple; just explain and they will do it. But if they understand the meaning of what they are doing then we can go through it together happily. We emphasize this because we get out a calendar, print out a commitment paper that they can sign together as a couple if they are there, and we do the math for them as well so that it becomes very clear.

This was the last one we did in Bangkok. We tell them, you can't start today because we don't know what you did last night. Everybody laughs. We can only start tomorrow. Our program was Sunday, so the Monday was the first day – January 13th, 2020, and 40 days is Friday, Feb. 21. Then you are finished with your 40-day separation period. We make it as clear as we can, give the reasons and rationale. During that time we suggest you get one or both of these books and read them together – Father's autobiography and Mother's memoir.

The next part is the 3-day ceremony. To explain this, I need to go back a little bit. The first part we have already given before but I'll give it because it's foundational for what needs to be explained here. When we look at this, if there had been no fall then our first ancestors, Adam and Eve, would have grown, received the marriage blessing at the top of the growth stage. They would have joined together and become one with God, not only for the remainder of their life on earth but for eternity.

Sadly, that didn't happen. The fall of man took place, so instead of that we lost the path to God, and our first ancestors became fallen ancestors. So the beginning point of restoration now is animal sacrifice. Let's look at what happened in the Bible. We look at Abraham's sacrifice, and joke with them and say, imagine you are a farmer living off the land and you've got a herd of cows. The one on the left is old, no milk, soon it's going to die, might even be sick. And you've got the other cow, healthy, strong, lots of milk, good lineage. Which cow do you offer? Sometimes people say, the one on the left. I say, that's convenient, it's practical, it makes sense. It's true that's the common thought.

But if you choose the one on the right, the healthy, young cow, that's inconvenient, impractical, unreasonable. So we have to explain to them what is happening here. If we choose this cow then my self-interest is part of that offering and that will defile the offering and God can't use it. Look at the Bible. When Abraham made his animal sacrifice, three years young, unblemished, the most precious thing that he had. This is what God wants.

God does not want a dead cow. That's not the purpose of the sacrifice. The purpose is that my heart can grow and the only way my heart grows is if I make a sacrifice. Father Moon said, sacrificing for others allows our heart to grow. That was the foundational stage of the beginning of restoration, the animal sacrifice. Our hearts need to grow.

Without sacrifice, love is not love. If we love God then we must make this sacrifice. That's why Abraham was chosen, is because he took the most precious offering that he had and made it as a sacrifice. That's like Jesus' sacrifice is acceptable to God, the most precious offering.

Father said the basis of love is the heart that sacrifices everything for the sake of others. The reason parental love is true love, parents are willing to give everything to their children, and when they have given everything, they want to give more.

This is the standard of heart that we are trying to restore. It's not conditional. It's heartistic. So that's the first stage, the foundation stage.

Now we need to restore the three levels of formation, growth and completion. We know from the Principle this is the age of love, faith and attendance. So the next areas are combined together. Adam and Eve would grow and this time is called the age of religion – the formation and growth stage of restoration. Let's look inside of that and see what is happening.

All religions emphasize they are led by individuals, not by couples. They may be married but the religious leader is one. They focus on law, living for others. They call it the dadema (ph), they call it the sharia, they call it the Logos, they call it the Tao. They have different names but all religions have a legal system or a law-based structure. They emphasize faith, and keeping purity is very much part of each. We could go through the Scriptures.

And many of them advocate celibacy because that's the time of purity, where we're not supposed to have these relationships. Of course if everybody is celibate then there would be no children. Anyway, within this.

That is the age of religion. It combines the formation and growth stages together. On that then blessing

should come, and that is called the age of attendance. But we will use the term the age of blessing, because that's what it really is.

In order to attend God, you need to receive the Blessing. Let's look inside of that. The focus here is on the family, led by parents, not by individual people. And it's centered on the importance of lineage. The emphasis is on universal values, marriage and family, fidelity and one family under God. You can explain more if you have time. Then husband and wife come together. They have established a new relationship. They fulfill the original ideal of becoming one with our Heavenly Parent. This together becomes the age of the Blessing, which carries on into the spiritual world for eternity.

The age of the Blessing. Father and Mother Moon's mission, very simple, to build a worldwide, interreligious movement celebrating marriage and family. If we do that, Cheon il Guk will come. It's that simple. Father said marriage is the path by which a man and woman become one, create new life and establish true love.

Let's look what is happening. Now each of the couples needs to go through this process. This was an historical process taking thousands and thousands of years, but you're going to be able to go through it in a matter of days. What is your animal sacrifice? You need to make a sacrifice. That is your 40-day sexual fast. That is the foundation for you to become a blessed couple.

What is the age of religion? The first day represents the formation stage and the second day represents the growth stage. But you're not quite there yet. You need to go to the third stage, the third day, and after that then you become a blessed central family.

So the first three days of family life are very important. We tell them, do not do this by yourself. You will make a mistake and you'll have to do everything over again.

__ Kitswami, I think many of us know him, came to our program in Bangkok in January and he and his wife decided to go through the 40-day separation. After the 40 days he called the national leader, Krishna, but he said, I can't come all that way right now. After another 40 days Kitswami called and said, it's been 80 days, when are you coming?

We will give clear instructions at that time. Those instructions just need to be straightforward, just tell them what to do, the first day, second day, and why they should do that. They will listen to you. This is the easy part. Then we give a gift from Father and Mother Moon, the picture, the autobiography, they can put it on their altar and they become a blessed couple.

The beginning of the three days, you maintain your religious heritage. Don't change your religion. This is a ceremony to participate in nation-building, building a heavenly lineage and culture, not only from the future but also the past. We tell them, once you reach this stage and complete the 3-day ceremony, watch out because now spirit world, your ancestors are free, without accusation from anyone else, to work with you. Many, many spiritual experiences. Spirit world helps us with the follow-up and when people have spiritual experiences, they are profound and will resonate with whatever we're teaching and then they'll be more engaged. Don't worry too much about that because I guarantee that will happen.

You'll become a blessed central family. What does this mean? It means that your religion becomes an adjective instead of a noun. I am a Buddhist blessed central family. OK, keep your Buddhism. I am a Christian. Keep it. Be better at it. That's what we're telling them.

The last part is 430 HTM blessing. We explain to them that they now need to take this blessing to their tribe, their relatives, their friends, their contacts, and we will help work with them to do that so that we can build a culture that honors marriage and family. This is the way to do it.

In summary, the family is the place in which God's ideal is realized. The ideal is to bring about a world in which love is made real and the family is the place where this love overflows. We've got to restore our families, our communities and our nation. There is no other way. And it's not that difficult.

Thank you very much.