

Hyo Jin Moon: The Legacy of a Filial Son

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Especially, when I notice various instances of internal confusion in our church today, I feel that now, more than ever before, is the time for us to review our eldest brother Hyo Jin nim's life and learn from him the right way to move forward. In this sense, for me to share a few words today is a great honor.

Although Hyo Jin nim is our True Parents' eldest son, he had very few chances to attend True Parents and receive True Parents' care directly, because they had to visit numerous places throughout the world while under all kinds of persecution in the early days of our church. Nevertheless, Hyo Jin nim had a great understanding of the value of True Parents' sacrificial lives and of their providential vision, even under difficult or challenging circumstances. The subject matter Hyo Jin nim paid most attention to throughout his life were True Parents, true love, eternal love, repentance and reflection, determination to do God's will, love toward our church members, and the protection and education of young people. He always worried about any harm coming to True Parents or his brothers or sisters in the True Family, or blessed members, rather than any difficulties he might face personally.



1986, Hyo Jin nim at the 3rd CARP Assembly

He always emphasized “us” rather than “me,” and spoke about how we should not expect only to receive love but also had to make effort to give love. He always encouraged members of the church, especially children in the True Family, to unite. He constantly tried to forgive and embrace his siblings with his big mind. Eventually, all the brothers and sisters of the True Family showed that they understood their eldest brother's desire and were united during the time of Hyo Jin nim's Seunghwa. He was a leader who had strong faith, a chivalrous spirit and magnanimity.

He knew better than most people did about media's social influence, especially over young people. Therefore, in order to protect young people from the secular media, he established studios in New York City, Seoul and Tokyo and produced performing arts of various types on healthy themes such as filial piety, love, reflection and determination.

He especially expressed his sincere filial piety, spirit and love toward his parents through poems, music, prayer and sermons. Ultimately, he created over ten thousand beautiful musical compositions over the course of his life. His

sermons, given January 1, 2006–March 9, 2008 at the Belvedere Training Center, are in two volumes

titled Eternal Love. His fifty-two impressive poems, including the ones on fifteen topics True Father had given him, are in a collection under the title, A Man Who Is Gaining Victory.



1987 in Berlin during a CARP rally, Hyo Jin nim speaking at the Berlin Wall

Though Hyo Jin nim is now in the spiritual world, he is surely helping True Father's providence and is offering his utmost filial piety and loyalty to True Father there. Since Father is still working so hard for True Parents' providential mission in the spirit world, definitely he needs help from his great eldest son and others as well.

As you may already know, True Parents gained victory by Father not only fulfilling the authority of eldest son-ship, parent-ship and kingship but also by declaring God's kingship in the physical world. Now Father has gone to the spirit world and is working so hard there, day and night, to restore subjectivity over the spirit world (as reflected in Family Pledge number five) while True Mother is also working hard to complete the objective position in the physical world.



Accordingly, through True Father and True Mother, the spiritual world and physical world have restored the original order of their subject-object relationship (like the mind-body relationship) and ultimately will become the complete substantial object world to God. Therefore, as you know, it became possible after Father went to the spirit world to celebrate Foundation Day for the first time since God created the whole universe.

That is why I am sure that the son whose name indicates "filial piety" is still assisting Father in the closest place in the spirit world.

Setting a providential milestone

How could Hyo Jin nim become the first-born son who offered filial piety and loyalty to True Parents with his best heart?

I will give a couple of examples, which formed a decisive foundation for filial piety and loyalty and showed extraordinary effort toward and thoughtful guidance of Hyo Jin nim by Father when they were

both here in the physical world. When Father went to prison in Danbury, Hyo Jin nim was nearly twenty-two years old.



December 26, 1992 Hyo Jin nim looking at a birthday card

In those days, one of the issues that concerned Father most was his providential successor. Yet, how could Father raise his successor in an environment where he had no freedom at all? Father used special educational methods with Hyo Jin nim, which not many people know about yet, so I will try to share them with you today.



In mid-January 1985, I visited Father in Danbury. He directed me to finish my mission with PWPA in Korea, where I had worked for over ten years, and come to the United States right away to publish a new gigantic magazine, You and I. (The name was later changed to World and I).

When I came back to New York and greeted True Mother near the end of January, she gave me fifteen poems Hyo Jin nim had written in the previous year. She explained that whenever Hyo Jin nim visited Father in Danbury, Father gave him a topic for a poem. Hyo Jin nim completed each poem within about thirty minutes. Father, who was well aware of his son's poetic talent, called Hyo Jin nim to come to the prison soon after he was imprisoned in Danbury. Whenever Hyo Jin nim visited his father, Father wrote a subject for a poem and gave it to him as homework.

This happened fifteen times between the end of July and September 9, 1984. The fifteen topics were:

- A man who is gaining victory
- A flower of heaven and earth that I respect -- Your dream and Father's ideal

- A spring day will be dancing alone

- Even the high and big world will welcome and respond to me -- I want to become higher by myself!
- The flower and the fragrance are from the root of one mind
- I will fight and move forward
- A flower of hope that was found by counting on my fingers
- Let's live righteously
- I will move forward by looking front and back
- Cry and smile, and determine again
- Awake from the dream now
- I will run powerfully on the open field
- Let's go over the hill
- Endeavor and achievement
- Oh! Now I begin to study

All the topics were primarily to stimulate a motivation for the future, self-determination, a definite promise, pursuit of an ideal and of a vision. I am sorry I could not translate even one of Hyo Jin nim's poems responding to these topics, which were so impressive in their composition and usage of precise and diversified language of heart, which expressed a warm heart of filial piety and firm determination.



Hyo Jin Nim with his wife Yeon Ah nim, his sister Yeon Jin nim and True Mother in Africa

Ultimately, fulfilling these tasks provided a unique form of momentum to unite with Father.

Another event may also have contributed to a great turning point in Hyo Jin nim's life. Ye Jin nim, True Parents' oldest child, led an overnight prayer at East Garden beginning on May 17, 1984, the date Father reported to the prison. I learned that Hyo Jin nim also started a forty-day overnight prayer condition on January 12, 1985, at the holy ground at East Garden. I attended that prayer meeting from February 18, just three days before it ended.

Hyo Jin nim's prayer each night was so meaningful and full of determination that one might have thought it was Father praying. Hyo Jin nim prayed with a tearful heart and united fully with God and True Parents. Because I was so impressed by Hyo Jin nim's prayers, I took the opportunity to interview him right after the condition ended. When I asked him what the

most difficult part during the forty days of overnight prayer was, he said that he did not want to leave the holy ground after the prayer time ended, because he had so many mysterious experiences while exerting his best effort to unite fully with God during prayer.

His public roles in leadership

Hyo Jin nim ultimately fulfilled mother-son cooperation by offering overnight prayers, including those forty days of overnight prayers in very cold winter weather with great support from True Mother. This established a foundation of heart in which Hyo Jin nim could completely unite with Father and Mother.

Hyo Jin nim was already leading blessed second-generation members as the president of World CARP and as the representative of all blessed second-generation members worldwide at the time that Father sent him, in the middle of 1985, to Korea and Japan to lead a forty-day workshop for blessed members of our second generation. At last, on the morning of August 16, 1985, at East Garden, a Holy Water Ceremony occurred and the birthright of the first-born was given to Hyo Jin nim, True Parents' first-born son. This Holy Water Ceremony established a condition for the restoration of Adam's family to sinless status, without the reversal (which became the pattern) between the oldest son and the second son.

Therefore, True Parents' family restored the original relationship between Cain and Abel as eldest son and second son. Furthermore, this symbolized a significant providential condition of unity in the proper, original order between True Children and blessed couples as well as their children, and blessed families and mankind. These successful conditions established the original first-son–second-son relational pattern, which made it possible for True Parents' position to settle.



Supporting True Mother during a speaking tour

True Parents' eldest son, Hyo Jin nim, overcame all persecution and temptation even though he was surrounded by seven billion of the world's people, whom we consider descendants of the fallen Archangel.

Furthermore, he was not able to be with True Parents all the time from the time he was young. Please compare this situation with the story that our human ancestors, Adam and Eve, fell through the temptation from the presence of one archangel in the garden of Eden.

In the end, he gained victory with his affectionate love toward True Parents and with his sacrificial life for True Family members.

That is why Father wrote, in calligraphic writing, right after the Hyo Jin nim's Seunghwa on March 17, 2008, the following: "The lord who will open a gate into the heavenly kingdom, as a son of loyalty and filial piety in the garden that opens the way to the deep, wide and high realms of heaven." Moreover, on October 12, 2008, Father mentioned, "The blood of True Parents' son protects you and opens the way to the heavenly fulfillment of our responsibility.... Hyo Jin nim's sacrifice was a condition to protect the blessed, central families."

I am sure that True Family members as well as all Unification Church members feel sad since we lost Hyo Jin nim in the physical world; yet, we were able to have a new standard through Hyo Jin nim that helps True Family members and Unification Church members unite with True Parents.

Today, I think it is meaningful that we celebrate the seventh anniversary of Hyo Jin nim's Seunghwa here in the Washington DC Family Church, because Hyo Jin nim has completed his role as the permanent eldest son, at least on the family level, while America's providential role has been defined as the eldest-son nation in the worldwide providence. We should think of Hyo Jin nim more than ever before and inherit the tradition he showed to all of us.