

DAILY READINGS

From the speeches of Reverend Sun Myung Moon

APRIL 2005

Includes Ahn Shi Il dates and other
religious holidays

Friday 1 April

Our Position From Now On 11-6-83

From the book " *True Love*"

The new culture

Has it ever been possible in any culture for a black and a white person to get married, with a yellow person in the center, bringing them together? Such a thing has been beyond people's imagination in the past. No national president has ever sat down and thought about the day when a white man and a black woman would get married, even without sharing the same language and needing an Oriental to interpret for them! Such a culture was never even thought about. But in the Unification world, that is an everyday occurrence as normal as eating breakfast.

Without your realizing it, such a new culture is being constructed. Think of the international marriages. When a British and a French person are matched, or when a French and a German person are matched, they may not be so happy with each other, but they do get married! Blacks and whites marry, Orientals and Occidentals marry. As this happens, national, cultural and racial barriers are transcended.

Unification families are multi-colored. When a German marries an Englishman, where does their family belong? When an American marries a Japanese, does their family belong to Japan, or to America? Neither. The only place they belong is in the Unification movement. They belong to a universal nation. Therefore, when the Unification movement eventually stands up and manifests this culture, don't you think that nations and sovereignties will follow this ideology?

You have a very special position in relation to me. America has always taken pride in being a melting pot; whoever comes here becomes absorbed in the American culture. It is a process you call Americanization. But 10 or 12 years after coming to America, instead of becoming Americanized, I have made Americans "Moonized." Furthermore, these Moonized Americans are flying off to the Orient, to Africa, to Latin America; they get married and go away from America. Is this bad news for America?

Reflection: Those who follow True Parents create a new culture, the culture of heart and True Love, breaking down all barriers. They create a new race, the "Love Race". This is how the Kingdom of Heaven comes about. By breaking down all barriers with the power of heart and True Love.

Saturday 2 April

Our Tradition 6-15-80

From "True Love"

Love and its right order

You know that the most painful thing in the universe is not a physical pain, but the pain resulting from the sickness of love. If there are many irregular situations in a country, it is destined to perish and a new nation will appear in its place. That is the situation we find in this country. Americans want happiness, but they must know that it begins with orderliness; only harmony with the universal tradition will heal sickness and pain and add prosperity and happiness.

Happiness must be based on love, which is nothing else but having the subject and object knowingly situated correctly in every area.

If in your teen years you start on this orderly and harmonious level, then you will continue to go up as you mature, never sinking down. If you begin a business on these principles then it will prosper and be admired by others. How happy will the family be whose husband and wife cherish this, each wanting to be the best husband or wife in the world. Such a wife would want to enter into her husband's cells and stay there for the rest of her life. The man would feel the same way.

When such a wife goes to spirit world she is no longer simply a woman, for by becoming one with her husband she has inherited the qualities of a man as well, so she can go anywhere in the spirit world. And it is the same for the man.

Reflection:

Happiness is based on love, but this love has to follow the principles of love, otherwise it is not True Love. A life built on True Love is bound to lead to prosperity. A marriage built on this kind of love will lead to total unity and happiness.

Sunday 3 April

The Dispensation of Restoration and Myself 4-6-80

From the book "True Love"

"Tribal Messiah"

Those who are matched, raise your hands. Think that with your own hands you will make your foundation as an individual, and then when the blessing day comes you can really cherish your own spouse. During that time you will make yourself a perfect man with the love of God, and then as a real man you can really embrace and squeeze your fiancée. If you are saturated with love and power, your spouse will be also.

Where would you engaged couples go to have your children? Where would you go to dance on a happier day in the future? Wouldn't you be happier returning to the home of your own parents? If you wear the glasses of the Principle then you know you should go to your own home church to celebrate. You cannot be proud of your family all alone, but only in your home church area. After that what would you become in your home church? Not only the true parents of the home church area, but true parents for your own clan.

When you have your own clan, what will you teach them? You must have material and tradition to teach them. That is what you will set in your home church. You will make a textbook or manual of love for your clan in your home church. Even though you leave this earth for the spirit world, you will have written down everything you did. Some crystals are big and others small, but they are all the same in structure and clarity -- everything except size. This is the relationship between your family and my family.

This is the first Sunday in April, and it is almost like the first day of spring. Spring is the time when everything lives again. Like the spring season in nature, I want you to have life welling up in you again. I want you to start a new life from now on. You may have an old idea of home church, but throw it away like winter clothing and have a bright, new home church idea, knowing the relationship of yourself, God and the dispensation.

Reflection:

The Tribal Messiah has to be the teacher of True Love in his/her area. He/she must be full of life, must be second True Parents. We need to develop our heart and love to become like that. Exercising our heart day by day brings us closer to that goal.

Monday 4 April

Victory and Peace 1-10-82

From the book "True Love"

The challenge of true love

It is important for all people to find some unchanging principle or foundation for their life -- something that is continuous for the past, present and future. What should be the goals for our struggles in life? Do you have your own concept of life and struggle, as well as a goal? What is it? You say it is true love, but that is very easy to say. Can you just say, "I want true love," and expect it to come and be with you automatically? No, that is not the way it works.

Since true love doesn't come that easily, how will you get it? There is a very simple answer: If true love doesn't come to you, you have to go and get it! Is it easy to find true love? How very, very difficult it is! Let's give a realistic analogy. Pulling out one of your eyes would be extremely painful. Is the difficult path to true love more or less painful than this? Is finding true love more difficult than chopping off one of your arms or legs? You may lose two eyes or an arm and a leg, but do you still need true love? You say yes, and that is a very serious yes.

In human history, has there been anyone who has sought true love and won the victory? You say Father, but how do you know I am not a swindler? Let's suppose there is a great scholar and winner of the Nobel Prize, someone respected throughout the world. We could ask him, "Do you have true love? Have you won it?" Would he shout, without hesitation, "Yes, I have"? Wouldn't he more likely say, "Let me think about it"? If even the greatest of scholars cannot get to true love, then who can? When you seriously pose the question of true love, you might conclude, "Well, it is difficult but there may be one or two people who have won true love in their lives. Certainly not many more than that." When you realize that you are not one of those, you can become very serious, can't you?

Reflection:

True Love does not come easily, especially in a fallen world, where false love dominates everything. That means we have to create True Love, by centering on God and living for the sake of others, and that means by investing all our heart in people, in our objects of love. After that True Love comes to life and God's love can start to flow freely.

Tuesday 5 April

Victory and Peace 1-10-82

From the book "True Love"

A house of love

We know that God wants true love, so we have to understand what "true love" is. When you think of true love, you can think of it as the "house" in which God wants to dwell. We might ask God, "Where would *You* like to live?" Would He say, "Since I am the King of Kings, I just want to live alone in a big palace and sit on a golden throne"? What about you? If I asked you the same question, you might reply, "Father, I just want to be someplace where I can sleep. I'm so sleepy!" Do you think God would say that, since He too is so tired?

Do you think God would like to have a good time and play sometimes? Maybe He would tell you, "I want to live in a place where I can play games and have fun all the time." Or maybe God would say, "I just want to dwell in my mind for eternity; all I want to do is think." Or might He say, "All I want is to work, since I am the God of creation." No? Then where would He say He would like to dwell?

God will say, "I want to live with a smile, to be happy," just as this white-haired, noble-looking gentleman here might say. What do you think makes a person with a PhD. happy? Will receiving his degree make him smile for the rest of his life? Maybe he will smile for a day or so, but then he will get bored.

No matter how great and wonderful and dignified God is, He desires to live His life with a smile. Thus it is important to know what element allows Him to continue smiling. Is it looking at His hands? Is it looking at His own eyes? Maybe He has a big mirror in Heaven -- do you suppose He smiles all the time to see Himself? God's body may have beautiful features, such as long lovely fingernails. Maybe He gives Himself a manicure every morning, or maybe He grooms His feet. Does God want to spend all His time in front of His mirror? No? Then what makes God smile? Since love is the only thing which enables someone to continue smiling forever, automatically we come to the conclusion that God needs a good object, such as a wife or children with whom to have the give and take of love.

Reflection:

God can be happy only when He experiences True Love. He wants to dwell in hearts of True Love, in relationships of True Love. We are supposed to create these "houses" of True Love for God, and be those houses.

Wednesday 6 April

Victory and Peace 1-10-82

From the book "True Love"

Is true love greater than God?

Many people think, "Life is too short to spend it suffering. Enjoy yourself now!" This is the prevalent philosophy today. But the Unification Church goal is not focused on this world. We are looking at the eternal world and learning to live according to eternal principles while we are here on earth. We know that only with true love can we obtain a victorious life here on earth and forever after. Such accomplishments will never change or diminish. In other words, our life's goal must be to perfect ourselves and become unique, unchanging, absolute, and eternal. This is the goal of the Unification Church. Why do we want true love so much? It is because true love will fulfill God and ourselves; the consummation of everything good can come out of true love. Only true love can completely fill the universe -- not God's power, total knowledge or anything else can do that. Only true love can make everything sound and solid. Inside the realm of true love, there can be no resistance or limits. As soon as you touch true love, you become one with it.

Which is bigger -- God or true love? True love is actually bigger than God because, even though God is almighty, He only has an up and down relationship on the vertical line. In order to consummate His love, He needs an object with whom to have horizontal give and take. Thus He requires the horizontal line in order to create the circular motion of love. By Himself, as a vertical being, He could not create that circle. That is why we say that true love is even greater than God. Once you have true love in your hands, you have absolutely everything else in the universe.

You have to be very hungry for true love. You must keep on digesting true love -- on the family, societal, national and worldwide levels, all the way up to spirit world and God's level. Still you should continue because you have such a hunger and thirst for true love. This is why the Bible teaches, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." It is very important to have that urgent hunger and thirst for the righteousness of true love. If you thirst for true love but there is nobody to give it to you, then you must make yourself the perfect object to God. Create within yourself that circuit of give and take with true love. This is what our movement is all about.

Reflection:

In our life we should create as much True Love as possible, by living according to the eternal principles of God, by totally investing our heart for the sake of others. We can perfect our love, we have this potential. Are we aware of this in our daily life?

Thursday 7 April

*Declaration of the Ceremony of Unity Between
Spirit World and Physical World 3-28-82*

True love between a man and woman

When can real true love be found? Do you have it in the center of your minds now? Through whom will it become reality? It will come through your partner. The love comes from God, but your counterpart is required in order for God's love to rest in you. America has become so great and sophisticated that there is almost nothing it cannot do; women even expect love through another woman, and men through another man! American men think they don't need women in order to receive God's love! Men and women are meant to be complementary, with one indented and the other protruding. Can two positive elements be drawn to each other, or would they repel each other? When the central shaft of a machine turns around, everything that is attached to it will also turn. What kind of axis does a man or woman need?

A woman who has truly loved a man has already loved God; a man who has truly loved a woman has already loved God. Suddenly they are aware that God is around them. Even though God is omnipotent, He cannot go just anywhere and find love. He must follow the Principle of Creation and find love with that man and woman also. In order to reach woman, God has to go through man; to reach a man, He has to go through a woman. If you truly love your spouse then God will automatically come to you. Harmonizing true love will spark there between you, for it takes two to emit that spark. God's mind and body will both be overwhelmed by that spark of love. It is simple to conclude that God wants to reside in the family where a man and woman truly love each other. All men must truly resolve to change their attitude, so that they look at women with God's eyes, with God's senses. The same is true for women.

The utmost truth can be strongest and have dominion over everything. The truth has a certain limitation, however. It can know and rejoice, but it can never lead you into the highest joy. Only when your love becomes true love on the foundation of absolute truth will nothing bother you. Would you like to live where truth is, or where true love is?

If there is one axis at the center of each conscience, where will it lead? We cannot deny that conscience is leading us to one objective -- to the unity of an ideal man and woman in true love. Isn't this reasonable? Certainly this is a common point that all mankind can share.

Reflection:

Do we truly love our spouse unconditionally and sacrificially, always giving and forgiving, with a heart that is more concerned about the other than about oneself? This is not so easy to practice day to day. But if we sincerely try our family will gradually rise up to higher levels of happiness, and God will be happy, too.

Friday 8 April

The Textbook of Love
February 5, 1984

The power of true love

To what extent does God embrace the universe? Does He say, "I only embrace the people I like"? or, "I embrace only during the day. I don't like the night time"? Is that the description of God's attitude? Does God say, "I don't like all four seasons. I only embrace in the spring time"? God loves not only during spring but also in summer, autumn and winter. Furthermore, God embraces not only all good things but also the bad things.

What about you? Do you also embrace good and bad together? When you have the spark of true love, it melts and purifies all evil things. Jesus told us to love our enemies. He forgave the Roman soldiers who hung him on the cross, but would you do the same? If you were treated so evilly by someone, could you forgive him? This is the secret. When evil is forgiven and embraced, it is eventually melted and purified.

When you embrace your enemy, the spark of the love of God will melt away evil. Even Satan cannot help but surrender in front of the true love of God. When you are giving the true love of God, the smallest woman should feel, "My love can melt even the biggest man." That is the kind of confidence you should have. That is the way I live my life. I want to embrace the entire world and every kind of person, even the most disagreeable ones.

Once a person tastes true love, he cannot go away from it. An analogy is the honey bee: when it is sucking honey from a flower, you cannot pull it away. Even though its tail comes off, the bee will not release the honey. The same thing happens when people find true love. Certainly, true love has an even stronger power than the power of honey for the bee. True love has the power that enables people to sacrifice their lives. It goes beyond the power of death. That is why in God's world death has no power.

The greediness of human beings has caused problems throughout history. Why did God give man the quality of desire, ambition, or greed? He wanted to fill the greedy heart of people with true love. No man-made object nor anything material can fulfill the desire of human beings. The communists try to explain the world through the concept of dialectical materialism but that does not fill up the heart of man.

Reflection:

True Love can embrace everything and everyone, even the enemy. True Love can forgive the worst enemy. It can melt all evil away and is extremely powerful.. With this power of love and heart our Father made his victories, not with just working hard and teaching a lot. We need to understand that we can learn to do the same.

Saturday 9 April

The Textbook of Love
February 5, 1984

The mind is a tricky thing

Have you ever measured the size of a mind? How many inches or centimeters does it contain? The size of the mind is not measurable; nevertheless, it can be so gigantic that it can embrace everything in the universe. Let me give an analogy: let's say there is a rich man with billions of dollars. His mind tells him, "You have enough money, so why don't you do some philanthropic work? Give some to charity." It happens that he loves Unification Church members, so he distributes billions of dollars among Unification Church members. After that, his mind would not say, "OK, you did enough charity." Instead, it would say, "Now why don't you distribute something to all 240 million Americans? Be like Santa Claus and give money to everyone in the country."

So after he did that and gave money to everyone in the country, his mind would say, "Bravo, well done," but it would not say, "That's enough." It would continue to urge him on, "Go on -- there are four billion people out there, so take care of them too." Even if he did give gifts to each of the four billion people in the world, his mind would still not be satisfied. It would say, "What about the spiritual world? There are 200 billion there!"

Even after he gave something to the population of the entire spiritual world, his mind still wouldn't be satisfied; it would continue to push him forward. When would the mind be satisfied? The mind will only be satisfied when it knows that the ultimate universal center which is God has been embraced. From the lowest extreme to the highest extreme, the whole universe and cosmos have to be taken care of.

Only after the mind can see that the universal center is fully satisfied will it say, "You have done it. Everybody in the cosmos is happy." But suppose that man was so rich that even after all that charity, he had money left over. Then the mind would say, "Don't keep it to yourself. Put it in the treasure store of God." When he does that, the mind will say, "Bravo, you have truly done it."

So if that man gives up everything, is he in a tragic position? He may be empty as far as money is concerned, but he will receive enough love to intoxicate him! He will be drowning in the love of God. The mind is a tricky thing; it cannot be satisfied easily. It always seeks to go another step. When the mind has exhausted every possibility to do more, from that point on love starts to flow from the universal center, which is God.

Reflection:

Only after having embraced the whole world and God Himself will our mind be satisfied. It is because then it can be totally filled with the precious love of God.

Sunday 10 April

The Importance Of Prayer

April 15, 1979

From the Book: A Life of Prayer, 1991 HSA-UWC

Attitude towards home church

What is our goal and destination in the Unification Church? I am leading you where God desires for you to be. It doesn't make any difference whether it is difficult or easy because whether there are many obstacles in front of us is irrelevant. The important thing is not just getting there, but getting there in the shortest possible time. If we go quickly then there is less danger, but when the process is stretched out there are many opportunities for disaster and we must not allow that.

This is a transitional period; we are entering into a new era, a new plateau and history of faith. Therefore, this is a critical moment for you and God. Last night I spoke to the department heads about the true meaning of home church. Home church is the greatest gift God and True Parents can give mankind. It has never existed before and will not again in the future. When you make this gift yours by fulfilling it, you will definitely become a son and daughter of God. I have prepared this precious gift for you for my entire life of sixty years and now I freely give it to you. You can make it yours in six months. This is an incredible opportunity.

Home church should be the subject of your prayer. Pray with a parental heart for your home church people as your children who are struggling in hell. Your heart as a parent must be grieved and desiring to save them. If you don't have that feeling then you are in a dire emergency; you must open your heart to parental feeling of love toward your people. If you don't have real love for them then push yourself until you do. No one has to teach a parent to love his children. If you feel like a parent to your home church then your love will be the same and no one will have to teach you.

Reflection:

Father refers to home church as the greatest gift. We need to pray for the people in our home church, and our prayer has to come from parental heart. We have to push ourselves so that our heart becomes really the heart of parents. People in our home church are yearning for this kind of parental love.

Monday 11 April

The Importance Of Prayer

April 15, 1979

From the Book: A Life of Prayer, 1991 HSA-UWC

About prayer

You need the basic attitude of sincerity as a foundation of prayer, Otherwise, no prayer will work. More important for creating that atmosphere is to go out and serve one more person, knock on one more door, receive more persecution. That is more valuable than sitting for hours in a dark room praying. Prayer is only needed after you have exerted all your energy and it was not enough. Then you can ask God to come help. When you can do it then you don't have to ask God, but can tell Him to relax. The prayer for all seasons is the prayer for God's kingdom and His righteousness.

Do you think God prays sometimes? Sometimes without thinking a parent murmurs to himself or herself, "Oh, I wish my son would do this, or be that way." That is God's prayer also. God is murmuring about you, about me and about the Unification Church because this is an emergency and He is engrossed in His concern. That is God's prayer. You don't even have to sit down to pray; you can just talk to yourself as you go, whispering and murmuring your concern. That's prayer. In our case praying and doing is our life. Praying and waiting is not our life.

If you pray unconsciously in everyday life then undoubtedly you are becoming sons and daughters of prayer. If you give your last ounce of energy but it is not enough, then ask God for assistance and your prayer will be answered. If that were not the case, how could we ever subjugate Satan? Satan has given unending anguish and heartbreak to God for 6,000 years and if there were no way we could finally subjugate him then there would be no end to it. There must be a way.

Reflection:

After we have given our very best for God and people, then our prayer will be most powerful. Then God really listens to it and wants to respond to it.

Tuesday 12 April

The Importance Of Prayer

April 15, 1979 From the Book: A Life of Prayer, 1991 HSA-UWC

Important points about prayers

The power of prayer works wonders, but prayer must be serious and done with one united heart, not a divided heart. When the moment of engagement comes, it is a most serious moment for both men and women and in that moment you become dead serious. But prayer itself is even more serious than that. If you pray with a serious attitude then your prayer will be answered. If your parents are on their deathbed it is a serious moment, and the words you speak then are urgent. There is no way you could doze at that time. Your prayer to God should be even more serious than that.

Prayer is like a covenant between you and God, a promise. Once you make a contract, you follow through and then it will undoubtedly be fulfilled. That is the attitude I am talking about. You must not be disappointed when prayer is not answered immediately. Some answers come late. At other times you should not be overjoyed when prayer is answered quickly. That is not necessarily the best thing.

Because you are surrounded by the world there are many stages to go through horizontally and vertically. The answer to prayer does not come from you but down from heaven and it takes time to reach you. There have been many foolish people who received answers to their prayers up to a point but who didn't go the final inch, and when they weren't satisfied they betrayed God. When you pray for the world you may not see things changing immediately around you, but far away the communist world starts to crumble. The impact of prayer can be felt in a far-away place. If you are in the Abel position, the answer comes from Cain and takes time to reach you.

You must think that your prayer today may not be fulfilled until thousands of years from now. I pray such prayers. I am not praying just for this world today; I am praying for 1,000 and 2,000 years from now. If that prayer makes a bridge between that time and now then the Unification Church will continue to flourish even a long time after I am gone from the earth. That kind of prayer is needed.

Reflection:

If our prayer is serious, it can have much impact. If we pray for the world, it can even have impact in far-away places. Things might not change overnight, though. The answer to our prayer, as Father says, comes from Cain, if we are Abel. Since we all are Abel in some way, we better watch out to not miss the answer from our Cain, whoever he or she is.

Wednesday 13 April

The Importance Of Prayer

April 15, 1979 From the Book: A Life of Prayer, 1991 HSA-UWC

Becoming more sensitive

If you live with a high sensitivity to the spirit world, you will sense what is forthcoming. Your perception will be keen and you can prepare for the future. You should know that you are like two people in one. Your inner man is like a mirror, clean and bright. When the inner and external men are not synchronized you feel anguish, but when they are perfectly aligned you feel joy and power. This is happening every day within you. When you see a person your inner man can tell you what kind of person he is, and if you hear a person's report, a sixth sense will tell you how truthful it is. When someone walks into a room, I can see whether he is bringing good news or bad.

Don't neglect this inner man but consult him all the time. When you are higher spiritually you are always there, always speaking with this inner man. You have a spirit man and he wants to talk to your physical man. You may not have any intention of saying anything yet suddenly you find your mouth moving. That is not you but your inner partner speaking. Even the rats of a ship can sense when a ship is in trouble and run away, but how much more should man, the supreme creation of God, know when life or death is coming? Shouldn't you be alerted when a certain destiny is forthcoming? For your inner and outer man to become one you need the power of prayer.

I have a family but I seldom pray for them. My prayer is anguish for the nation and world and cosmos. God will concern Himself with my well-being because I am concerned with God's. If I only paid attention to my family instead of to the world and God, my family would get sick. I don't concern myself with my family's well-being; I concern myself with the Church and God's work and I know God will take care of them in the meantime. This is the principle of give and take. Those who want to do more for others will receive more; those who want to go down will be lifted up. Don't pray empty prayers. Now you know the power of prayer. Everyone needs to experience these things spiritually. You must know whether the things you do will succeed or fail. You know that certain things will succeed because you feel pulled in that direction and are eager to go ahead. Your body is like the receiver of a radio. Free yourself from self-centered thinking, and then mighty things will happen to you. You must open that valve.

Reflection:

Through prayer we can become more sensitive. We can sense things which are invisible to us, more and more.

Thursday 14 April

The Heart of Reunion
September 11, 1977, Tarrytown, New York
From "God's Will and the World"

Unity of extremes

When the distance between two parts is extreme, there is always greater joy, emotion and drama involved in their reunion than if they had not experienced such extreme separation. I came from a land on the other side of the globe, a land that many Americans think of as being a remote country. In their minds they still envision Korea as being ravaged by war. It is as if the United States was on the pinnacle of a mountain, while Korea was in the depths of a valley. That is why many people cannot understand how a man from Korea can attract such attention in a nation that stands at the pinnacle of modern day culture.

In the vast ocean a tremendous variety of things happen when the warm and cold currents meet. When we gather together we are like five kinds of ocean currents flowing into the same area, and extraordinary things can happen as a result. It is not my will or your will, but some providential will, that makes this so. There must be a universal power that pushes two extremes to unite for a greater purpose.

Exciting music is not made with just one or two notes, but with notes that range from high to low and come from a variety of instruments. That blending of extremes makes exciting music. At the same time, one instrument alone can create excitement. In order to make the drums exciting, the drummer has to combine many motions and gestures as well as rhythms. The violin combines different extremes, using thin strings to create very feminine, beautiful sounds. The beauty of the violin is that even though it has only a few strings, it is possible to produce extreme variation in sound.

The union of people from the East and West can be compared to playing the violin; Westerners are like the low notes of a violin while Asians are like the high notes. Americans walk with a long, swinging stride, like King Kong, but the Japanese: walk lightly, taking small steps. More excitement is created when the two extremes unite to make one harmonized picture.

Reflection:

To unite total extremes we need a heart of love that is strong enough to break barriers and wrong concepts. Are we developing such a heart?

Friday 15 April

The Heart of Reunion

September 11, 1977, Tarrytown, New York

From "God's Will and the World"

Beauty through variety

Why should people from one culture follow someone from an extremely different culture? Why have [Westerners] come and joined the Unification Church, which was founded by a man from Asia? You are here to unite the universal beauty of the two extremes of East and West together into one harmonized culture. When two great cultures meet to form harmony, turmoil is inevitable at first. When a flowing stream hits the rocks in its path disturbances are created. It goes through many convolutions, splashing over rocks and churning at the bottom of a waterfall, but that does not alter its destiny. All streams eventually join the mainstream, which flows to the ocean. All water is connected to the same source and flows to the same destination. In the same way many parents are currently opposing the Unification Church, but the day will come when they will join the mainstream, just as all running water eventually does.

There is tremendous variety and purity of creation in the mountains, and the water from mountain streams is also very healthy. Mountain water absorbs essences from the varieties of creation found there, but rivers that run through the plains and flat lands, like the Mississippi or Nile, have no clean taste or special characteristics. Every pebble on the bottom of a mountain creek, every weed and every leaf play an important part in harmonizing the entire environment. When looked at from this viewpoint, everything becomes more beautiful. The running streams that start in the depths of the mountains will never make you sick, no matter how much you drink. Mountain animals drink the pure water and breathe clean air all the time so they are strong and healthy.

Everything that I am speaking of comes down to one simple word: harmony. The ideal world is not a world of uniformity and regimentation but a world of harmony in which each person plays a distinctive role. It is not one species alone that creates the grandeur of the mountains. They are made beautiful in part by the infinite variety of trees, some gigantic, some crooked, and of all different shades and hues.

Reflection:

When very different entities in nature harmonize, great beauty comes about. The same is true for human beings. If many different types of people can unite in heart, then we also can experience great beauty.

Saturday 16 April

The Heart of Reunion
September 11, 1977, Tarrytown, New York
From "God's Will and the World"

How to survive difficulties

Today's Western culture is equivalent to the autumn season. No matter how much you may want to delay winter's arrival, its coming is inevitable. Even now winter is knocking at the door, and in order to be a fruitful seed, the Unification Church needs a shell of discipline and training that will enable it to survive under any circumstances. In the summertime people go to cool places on their vacation, and in the wintertime they go to warm places like Miami Beach, trying to escape the cold weather. But Unification Church members do the opposite; we meet the seasons head on and conquer them. That is our way of life.

You know you will go through winter but you must also envision spring's coming. Your job is to make yourself a solid seed so that when the spring comes God will cast you on very fertile ground and you will be fruitful. Are you ready to be tested by the cold weather? Could you withstand people who want you to recant your faith? In studying the trends of history it is obvious that people like us must inevitably appear. The existence of the Unification Church is not an accident but the fruit of history.

We are thankful to be chosen for this job because we have the hope that after the cold weather of communism passes a new world will be born and spring will come. That is the day our hope shall be realized. The winter is never permanent. By gathering together people from all races and cultures we are trying to exchange each other's indestructible elements in order to arm ourselves to overcome any circumstance. We can never be destroyed if we are trained for survival. .

In order to become one solid seed, you must draw energy and nutrients from all elements: the soil, water and sun's rays. All year round a seed is gathering the elements it needs. Do you white people still have some feeling of separateness from black or yellow people? Do you black people feel resentment toward whites, even after learning the Principle? Unless each of you can draw good elements from the others you cannot survive to grow in the springtime.

Reflection:

Similar to a sea, which must draw energy and nutrients from all elements, we have to inherit good elements from all kinds of different people so that we can become strong and survive hard times. If we separate from others by clinging to or creating barriers and wrong concepts, we will not be very strong. If we unite in heart with different cultures, races etc., we will become strong and can survive difficulties.

Sunday 17 April

The Heart of Reunion

September 11, 1977, Tarrytown, New York

From "God's Will and the World"

A dream becomes reality

History is advancing toward one spring culture of the Kingdom of God on earth. That is the ultimate goal of human history. You are supposed to be the seed that will grow in that springtime, but where does a seed come from? God is the ultimate origin or root from which each seed grows. You are the seeds of God, created through the process of love, and two gigantic loves are essential for your life and must be harmonized within you — the love of humanity and the love of God.

Love must always freely move into the center and then back out to the world. Love is not stationary but flowing all the time. The center of that circling movement is the Messiah; in occupying that position he channels the heavenly love so that you can transmit it on a horizontal level.

Throughout history man has thought that the ideal society with perfect love between man and God and man and man was only a dream, but the Messiah shall make the dream a reality. The Unification Church is born for that purpose and we can attain that goal. The greatest contribution we can make to the world is to knit all of mankind together with the love of God. Throughout history there has always been conflict between North and South, East and West, not just between nations but within families and on every level of society. Historically unity has proved to be an impossible task, but I am striving for that today.

Even on the small peninsula of Korea the Southerners and Northerners have a sense of different identity and have had animosity toward each other throughout their history. Even in our church, when a southern man and a northern woman were blessed together they were like two knights ready for battle. When they initially confronted each other with animosity their families were also hostile, but as their relationship became happier their joy naturally influenced their surroundings and their relatives. Now their hearts have been melted and they are united as one family.

Reflection:

With the power of love we can unite the whole world. Barriers even between enemies will definitely be broken by the power of heart. Are our hearts at that level already?

Monday 18 April

The Heart of Reunion

September 11, 1977, Tarrytown, New York From "God's Will and the World"

Bombs of salvation

You don't know how hard I worked in witnessing. For 7 years in the early days in Korea I slept only 2 hours a night, and day after day I spent preaching the word of God and teaching the Principle myself. Sometimes members would become drowsy and sleepy and then all of a sudden be chastised by an angel saying, "How can you sleep like this when he is working so hard, day in and day out?"

The things I ask you to do I have already done many times in the past. Now I am asking you to do the same. Throughout my entire life I have accumulated a wealth of experience and spiritual power, and now I am bringing it all to [you].

If you were not here giving me love and listening to me, then I would have no more interest in this country and I would leave. While you are alive and strong you must let the people of your country know that the Unification Church is a movement of reunion centering upon the word of God. Once you harness the power of the heart of God, you will have the energy to be a lightning bolt, lighting up all of the nation. The important thing is whether you have that explosive power in your hearts. You are now like living bombs, just waiting to be ignited and then explode, not for destruction but for salvation.

Today is a new day of reunion and this is the reunion place for the East and West and heaven and earth. The implications of this unity are vast; with this kind of heart New York is much too small to be our stage. When you reach out you must feel that New York is not large enough to hold you. Have you felt, "I am the harmonizer of heavenly culture and earthly culture. I am the focal point of love. I am a messenger of love of God, having the infinite energy that will bring springtime to this nation."

When you live with the heart of reunion, with the heart of God and the heart of parents, constructive and creative power is generated. By having this nation as our center and all coming together as one, we can truly become dynamos to create a new world culture. There must be purpose for having reunion because, otherwise no one would want to meet a second time. We must be ready to meet again after creating some achievement. This morning you should be different, making a new beginning with your heart of reunion and marching forward to the ultimate fulfillment of your goal.

Reflection:

Are we bombs of salvation, ready to explode with the love of God in our heart? Ready to conquer the heart of everyone? If not, we better grow quickly, so that we become such people, as Father always urges us to become. To focus on reaching that level by constantly practicing true love is very important.

Tuesday 19 April

Parents, Children and the World Centered upon Oneself

June 5, 1983, Tarrytown, New York

From "God's Will and the World"

Our ultimate destination

Oneness is a difficult goal to achieve. Distrust, disobedience and disharmony surround us. There is both good and evil in our fluctuating, volatile environment.

However, it is undeniable that each person is pursuing something higher than merely staying alive. There is a drive in people's hearts to pursue their original mind's goal and reach some ideal state. What is that ultimate destination toward which we all strive?

Let us look at ourselves first. Within each individual there is a battle raging between his mind and his body. Where in this universe can we find something solid and reliable? We depend upon certain things, such as our family and nation, our friends and loved ones, but ultimately we find a certain inability to trust. The self cannot completely rely even on its mind and body. The nation and world are far away from the self; even parents, husband and wife are far away from the self. The basic problem of one's life can only be solved within oneself. The solution to world harmony and unity must be sought within the self first. That is the closest place to start.

The goal of the world is to move from the present situation of disharmony to a world of harmony and unity. Likewise, the goal of each nation is also harmony and unity. Every different level in the universe is seeking after that point of harmony, which can be established only through the individual. Therefore, each individual is ultimately the key to the harmony and unity of the universe. Without this key, any discussion about unity is just wishful thinking and empty talk.

Reflection:

Our destination is to grow towards perfection and reach it. This way we can effectively contribute to the unity of the whole universe.

Wednesday 20 April

Parents, Children and the World Centered upon Oneself
June 5, 1983, Tarrytown, New York
From "God's Will and the World"

The personality of a holy person

Is it easy to control and discipline yourself? Your mind usually wants to go in a direction different from your body. There is an Oriental saying that a mountain remains forever but the human mind changes from morning to night. If the human mind fluctuates so much, where can we find a point of unity? There can be no single stationary position if everyone is moving around constantly.

Let us consider the holy men of history, such as Jesus, or Buddha or Confucius. What kind of personalities did they have? These people had a certain stability of mind and body, while ordinary people were always divided.

But even a saint is never absolutely immobile or stationary. People may think that Jesus was a rock who never moved, but Jesus was a human being. As a man, was he totally indifferent to the attraction between men and women? There is always the force of electricity pulling plus and minus toward each other. Do you think Jesus felt some sensation when he looked at a woman? Jesus' feet were firmly anchored but I'm sure his body was turning toward that attraction! However, he was never affected so much that he moved his feet from their right foundation. When an ordinary person feels temptation he usually just jumps into it, but the saints are different. Although a saint may be pulled around somewhat, his feet never budge.

However holy a person may be, he is always bound by his human character and vulnerability. All the saints, including Jesus, began with certain principles. During their own period of instability, they learned to deal with temptation and reasoned out their standards, until finally they had rock-like foundations within themselves.

Reflection:

A holy person has created a foundation in themselves which is unshakable like a rock. He might be tempted in this way or the other, but they do not waver at all. We all can reach this if we do not get distracted by less important things.

Thursday 21 April

Parents, Children and the World Centered upon Oneself
June 5, 1983, Tarrytown, New York
From "God's Will and the World"

Model of love

Every day there are millions of people kissing enthusiastically, but what is a true kiss? Do you think we need the model of a true kiss? People of the fallen world never even think about this. We must come to the conclusion, though, that in order to achieve the ideal world which all people dream of, there must be some standard or scale to guide us.

No individual is capable of achieving such a standard all alone. Therefore, God, who is the Creator and the first cause, must be able to send such a standard to the earth. This is His responsibility. It has been God's plan to send an absolute standard to mankind; thus, throughout history, people have shared the expectation of a Messiah figure. This model man must come from God and raise up a model woman, and together they can show to the world, a model love. When you think of it in this fashion, the concept of a Messiah becomes easy to relate to.

Even if a man and woman think they have ideal love, they are still acting according to their own thinking and standards. Will that fit into God's standard of model love? God's desire is for every man and woman on earth to love each other according to His original pattern of true love. If God's desire were fulfilled, that pattern would become the: central love of the universe. Certainly, every man and woman desire to achieve true love, and God's desire for them is the same. So, there must be one central love which is the scale or model for all people.

There can be no true love between people alone; God must also play a role in it. Can you women declare that you have a true woman's love? Can any of you men declare you have a true man's love? Whether you live a religious way of life or not, if you are living with true love, then you have already achieved the highest goal of any religion. If any two people with such love join together centered upon God, then that couple is a perfectly consummated couple. Such a man and woman can go anywhere in the universe without limitation.

Reflection:

We have the potential to become models of love. Father is always asking us to inherit his heart. If we take this serious and make serious effort in this direction, we surely will become models of true love.

Friday 22 April

Parents, Children and the World Centered upon Oneself
June 5, 1983, Tarrytown, New York
From "God's Will and the World"

The wonderful power of love

The unity of the mind and body is a fundamental necessity, and only the power of love can achieve it. When you understand that true love is your goal and you focus everything in pursuit of it, then at that point, your mind and body are working together.

Especially in the teenage years, the mind and body are looking for one thing — love. When you have a love nose, it picks up the mysterious smell of love. Love has a special taste in your mouth, and love ears want to hear the fascinating sound of love all the time. When you have a love hand, you want to touch love forever. Love power alone lasts for eternity. A teenager in love is dreamy eyed; he or she wants to interpret everything about the loved one in a good way. Everything in love is tasty and turns into joy. Love can digest any ugliness or tastelessness. Love is brave and mysterious and wonderful. All the adjectives in the dictionary cannot describe love. Men and women are always shooting bullets of love at one another. With love bullets, not only the bullets but also the rifle is moving into the heart of the target! Have you ever seen such a gun?

Love, particularly your first love, has a wonderful power. Your first impression when you open your eyes of love can never be erased. So in that sense, your first love should be your most sacred and holy experience. The person who can achieve true love as his first love can truly understand heaven. It is most important that young people fit their first love into God's model love.

The Unification movement has the goal of conforming to God's model of love, and in that spirit our marriages become absolutely important. The sacrificial love of international marriage crystallizes this attitude toward love.

Reflection:

Our goal is to follow God's model of love. In this context marriage is very important. Also sacrificial attitude towards the objects of our love is crucial.

Saturday 23 April

Parents, Children and the World Centered upon Oneself

June 5, 1983, Tarrytown, New York

From "God's Will and the World"

Mind and body unity

Evaluate yourself to see how imperfect you are. Your mind and body are always trying to deceive each other, so before you can ask God for salvation, you have to clean up yourself. You must bring your mind and body together, Should you achieve that unity centering upon your mind or your body? Even though your mind may fluctuate, the mind must become subject over the body. It is the only way you can become an ideal man or woman. Only an ideal man or woman can be a bridge to reach out to God.

Thus, you can say that for this purpose you can give up anything. Does it sound reasonable? Would you follow this road only because I say so, or is your original mind already telling you this is the way to go?

We must understand why the mind and body are separated in the first place. We were not born out of our own will; our lives were simply given to us by our Creator, We may ask God, "Why couldn't You ensure that mind and body would become one when we came to the world?" Since Almighty God created us, how could this separation come about? It is clear that some accident occurred before men could reach their goal.

Reflection:

By uniting our mind and body we contribute to our own salvation. We clean ourselves up and grow spiritually .

Sunday 24 April

Parents, Children and the World Centered upon Oneself

June 5, 1983, Tarrytown, New York

From "God's Will and the World"

God's ideal

In unlocking the problems of the universe, I realized that the greatest discovery was the truth about the fall of man. If the forbidden fruit was a literal apple or pear which God placed right in the middle of the Garden of Eden, then God's plan must have been imperfect. This was not the case. Rather, I have brought a revolutionary declaration to the world that the forbidden "fruit" was a symbol of love between man and woman. From love can spring either good fruit or evil fruit; therefore, the tree was described as one of the knowledge of good and evil.

Love is the point of judgment for humankind. What is the love that God can relate to? God wanted Adam and Eve to grow into the full sensation of love — for Adam to discover all of a sudden that Eve was not just a sister but a woman; and for Eve to discover that Adam was not just a brother but a man. In the sensation of love, Adam and Eve's separate mind and bodies could work together and experience the electricity of touching each other.

Once Adam and Eve realized the explosion of their love, the entire universe would have been like one beautiful, fragrant flower garden. They would feel everything echoing their love. When that electrifying sensation came to God, then He would be pulled to them and His entire creation would have been activated with love. God was supposed to be the matchmaker, bringing Adam and Eve together in the explosion of love.

In the ensuing explosion of love all three of them would be consumed! The important thing is that there be no foreign element there — that men and women be pure when they consummate their first love. Then they become the core of the universe. This core would be so powerful that everything else would be pulled into it, and even God would be a prisoner. Children would be multiplied from that core and it would continue to grow and grow. From a family the core would grow into a tribe, then a nation and a world. How wonderful a world it is, when the universe echoes the love of the core. That is the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. That is the true world.

Reflection:

God's ideal was lost in the beginning and we are the ones who know how to recreate it. How confident are we that we can do it?

Monday 25 April

Parents, Children and the World Centered upon Oneself
June 5, 1983, Tarrytown, New York
From "God's Will and the World"

The difference

In Western society where people pick their own spouses, half of the marriages end in divorce. The Moonies, on the other hand, may have husbands or wives who don't even speak the same language, but they have happy marriages. When people compare modern youth with the couples of the Unification Church, they see a tremendous difference. You are not primarily pursuing fun for yourselves but are living a sacrificial life for the sake of other people — helping your elders and trying to create harmonious societies in your home church areas.

They are looking at you and thinking, "Such strange people." Then it hits them that, according to the standards of the world, the strangest person is God; therefore, you strange people must be God's people.

Dr. Durst reported to me that in his recent travels around the country, the media and officials seemed to have changed and are much more receptive to learning about our movement. However, those people have not actually changed; the difference is that while they used to wear blinders when looking at us, they are now looking more clearly. They have thrown away those blinders and can see who is espousing good and who is evil; all of a sudden the Moonies seem to look very good.

The world is a very muddy place now and people of good conscience are like fish searching for a home in cleaner water. The only clean environment they will find is within the Unification movement. Therefore, it is inevitable that the conscientious, thoughtful young people of America will come to our doors in an avalanche. You can grab any good looking, successful man on the street and confront him, "Do you have true confidence about such confidence. Only the Moonies have that confidence in themselves, their families, their nation and the future.

Reflection:

Gradually people will notice that the followers of True Parents are God's people.

Tuesday 26 April

Parents, Children and the World Centered upon Oneself
June 5, 1983, Tarrytown, New York
From "God's Will and the World"

Live unselfishly

A great dawn is coming to the world. The most precious opportunity God gave to the world was the period from 1945-1948. In 1948 Korea regained its independence; it was God's plan that the Unification movement also achieve independence in that year. In 1948, Israel became independent as well. Providentially, America's awakening should also have been complete in that year so that dispensational events could have spread like a forest fire all over the world. Since the True Parents have appeared, all people and all nations have the right to be brothers and sisters.

Unprecedented things happened after World War II. The victorious nations became almost like servants to the conquered nations. History never witnessed the way the United States helped to rebuild Germany and Japan. Today they are leading nations, surpassing even many of their victors in World War II.

America has become more self-centered and has been declining. Its European allies have been doing the same. If Japan and Germany turn toward self-serving ways, they, too, will start to decline. All the powerful nations are declining according to this principle, but there is one group of people that is rising up. Moonies are rising up because our ideology stresses unselfishness.

We have become a tower of strength within the Christian world, pushing communism out of the planet. The Unification movement has not only the hope but the power to digest both the communist and Christian worlds. That is why we are most feared by the world. For the first time in 6,000 years, Satan is trembling, so God must be feeling good, jumping up and down with joy. If Satan tries to sabotage us, God will say, "No sir! This is my property."

The first generation may oppose me, but the second generation will be on God's side. Even children of the communist leaders will eventually rebel against their parents and support me. One thing I know is God, and He and the Moonies will make it.

Reflection:

As long as we live for the sake of others, we will be victorious, because God will be on our side. Father's life is testimony for this.

Wednesday 27 April

Parents, Children and the World Centered upon Oneself

June 5, 1983, Tarrytown, New York

From "God's Will and the World"

Healing through parental love

The fall of man can be condensed into one sentence: Human beings lost their parents. Therefore, the history of man has been a search for parents. The day people meet their True Parents is their greatest day because, until then, everyone is like an orphan living in an orphanage. You have no place to call true home. Only with parental love can the problems of the world be solved.

People must receive love from their parents; then centered upon that love, men and women can love each other and be blessed in marriage. When they give birth to children, they are creating their own heavenly four positions. You are the center — of the parents, children, and all things. That means you are going to play the prime role; even if the True Parents are here, it is you who initiates the unity between the True Parents and yourself. Therefore, you are your best friend and also your own worst enemy. The biggest problem is your body's tendency to separate from your mind. But upon the foundation of unity between your mind and body, then you seek True Parents, true children, all things.

True love is the factor that brings mind and body together. True love must bring men and women together to have children. True love is the ultimate value. Therefore we feel that more than spouse, children or anyone, God comes first. You must practice that attitude in your daily life — your children may not need it, but you do. "God first" is the absolute credo of our movement.

The conclusion of the Principle is that you must make up your own mind to love True Parents more than your own' self, spouse, or children.

Reflection:

Only with parental love can the problems of mankind be solved. True Parents are on earth, and by uniting with them in heart we inherit their very heart and love and spirit. Then more people will follow this way and the world will be healed by parental love.

Thursday 28 April

Parents, Children and the World Centered upon Oneself

June 5, 1983, Tarrytown, New York From "God's Will and the World"

You Need Spiritual Children

No matter how you look at the whole picture, the problem is always the self, the individual. Your children will not require spiritual children, but for you it is essential. That is because you came out of the satanic world and then received the Blessing in the heavenly world. Do you follow? This is an absolute. Without having spiritual children, it is not right to want to go on with your family life. Is all of this clear to you?

Those who have received the Blessing are always in the most crucial position. Even the 36 Couples have not fulfilled the ultimate standard of loving True Parents' children. My children are in the position to be educated by those couples — the way Adam and Eve should have been educated by the archangel in wisdom. The three primary blessed couples, and also the entire 36 Couple Blessing, were supposed to take that position to the True Children.

The children can take the position of parents only when they understand the love of parents. The parents' position is a loving position. My own children are also bound by this truth. They must look at the True Parents as more than just "Daddy and Mummy." They must listen to the 36 Couples. I have always lived totally by the Principle, and some of my children have complained — but there is no reason for that. This is the tradition of the Principle.

We certainly must consider our own family members — spouse, parents, children, etc. — but the most important person is the archangel or spiritual children. Children of blessed couples cannot marry unblessed children. For blessed couples to abandon their Blessing and marry somebody else is the worst kind of thing. The re-indemnity that has to be established is not an easy path, and you will have to continue that path even after going to spirit world.

When you receive the Blessing and reject it, you are doing something worse than what Satan did: you came into the direct dominion and control of God, then fell again. You may not realize it deeply, but an incredible heavenly principle is at work. Setting the right tradition is so important. You spend your blessed life on earth inheriting and living the God-centered, True Parent-centered tradition, then you enter into heaven.

Reflection:

According to the requirements of our own restoration, we need spiritual children. It is vital also for the spiritual impact it has on our own Blessing.

Friday 29 April

Parents, Children and the World Centered upon Oneself

June 5, 1983, Tarrytown, New York

From "God's Will and the World"

We decide

I want you to understand the seriousness of being a blessed couple. If you have not realized this before, you must know how important it is for you to uphold your responsibility. You are in the most crucial position — you are the problem and you are also the solution. When I am not here, you will automatically seek guidance from my children. You have reached your own consensus of who among my children are the most Abel-like. Even though you may not have direct contact with them, you should know their names, their character, their behavior, and so forth, so that you can learn how to harmonize with them.

Those who were born as blessed children should not feel they are privileged. They face a difficult and challenging path. It is most important that they unite with their parents. Here in America, there is a tendency for blessed children to mingle with children of the secular world — but that is very disheartening and also very dangerous.

Thus each person is his own key to success or failure. Your mind and body must become one, centered upon true love, and you must come totally over to God's side.

Today is a special sermon in which I am teaching you the most important standard. Unless you maintain this standard, you will be unable to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Nobody will push you along this road - you must voluntarily perfect yourself. You should not wait for someone to send you out to a mobile team; you should volunteer, even before you hear the word from me. Husbands and wives should push each other to go out.

We are just like the Israelites moving through the wilderness, or troops on the march. Those who have babies must send them to the nursery so that they can return to the front lines where they are needed. If someone wanders around on the battlefield, clutching her baby to her breast, both will be killed in the fierce fighting. It is good to love your husband or wife, but in the time of war, God and mission must take precedence in your mind.

Reflection:

Our goal in life is to reach perfection of heart and love. But nobody can force us to do this. It only works if it comes from our own will, which is based often on a deep realization.

Saturday 30 April

Love Forever 1-22-84

From the book "True Love"

God is there

Although you can say that God exists, perhaps you feel, "So He does, but what does He have to do with me? And what do I have to do with Him?" The relationship may seem distant to you. You might think about God's qualities, such as His omnipotence and His omnipresence. Those are qualities that people often think of first when they think about God. But just knowing these things does not necessarily make us feel closer to God. In fact, some people think, "I don't particularly like the fact that I have no privacy before God and that He has power over my life!"

There is one quality of God, however, which automatically draws us closer to Him, and that is His true love. Don't you feel good when you think that God loves you?

Many times young people think, "My parents are the ones who always tell me what to do and what not to do." Especially in the West, the relationship between parents and children is often strained. However, we have to realize how important our parents are to us, particularly their love. Even though as children we were spanked and disciplined, we feel grateful as adults for their care and concern for us. Children want to tag along with their parents, even though they may have just been spanked and are crying. They feel they cannot live without their parents.

This is a very serious question indeed. How do we distinguish between false love and true love? We can observe whether someone is motivated for himself or for the sake of something larger. False love is self-centered whereas true love is public. This is the reason God has always taught mankind to give love and live for the sake of other people.

This has been God's endeavor since His dispensation of restoration began -- to teach mankind true love. Do you understand? True love is more than just one's thoughts or one's feelings. True love is living for and even saving others. That is the only way true love can be found. In that endeavor, God Himself can be found. You will never find God in any other place; but whenever a person is working for the sake of others, God will be working there, too.

Reflection:

Children cling to parents because they know they are loved. That is why they do not mind to be told what to do. The same applies to the relationship between us and God. God's love is selfless, true love. He tries to teach us this love by encouraging us to live for the sake of others. As long as we do this, we will meet God right there and then.

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