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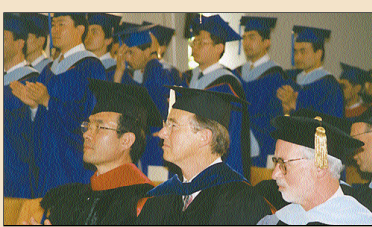
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Unification News

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Volume 16, No. 7

THE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIFICATION COMMUNITY

July 1997

The Washington Times Celebrates 15 Years Western Literary Conference held DC

by Michael Marshall—Washington, DC

Almost 1,000 Washington VIPs, including senators, congressmen, ambassadors, city leaders, religious leaders and scholars, joined members of the staff of the Washington Times Corporation, as well as the 340 participants in the Western Literary Conference, at the Grand Hyatt Regency Hotel in Washington D.C. on the evening of June 16 to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the Washington Times newspaper.

The gathering received videotaped greetings from former presidents Reagan and Bush, while Senator Orrin Hatch delivered the keynote speech. In it he noted that, after the demise of communism, we had to be careful not to think that the free market triumphant could by itself solve all the problems of society. Only with the practice of spiritual ideals could that goal be achieved.

Reverend Moon delivered the Founders' Address, the first time he



PAOLO GALLI

has given a formal speech at a Washington Times function and therefore an event of historic providential sig-

nificance. The speech was carried live by C-SPAN and repeated twice later by them. The text of Father's speech was

meant to appear on two video screens as he spoke but a technical glitch meant that those at the banquet had to try to follow Father's English which was far from easy. However, it says much for the regard in which Father is now held that a mere handful of people left during the speech, the others attentively trying to follow.

Fascination

For the participants at the Western Literary Conference, or, to give its full name "The Search for a New World Culture for the 21st Century: Western Literary Perspectives" this was the second time to

hear Reverend Moon speak, since he see **WASHINGTON** on page 17

3.6 MILLION COUPLES TAKE A STAND FOR ETERNAL LOVE

The transformation of the world through the Blessing is proceeding at an exponentially increasing pace. Wednesday, July 16, in Seoul, Korea, at 7:00 PM Korean time, Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak held an informal ceremony and cake cutting to cel-

brate the accomplishment of the pre-blessing of 3.6 million couples worldwide. He prayed softly but full of emotion, giving thanks to Heaven. The accumulated results from around the world meant that the numerical goal was passed on July 15. Rev. Kwak said that Father was very happy with

the news, and had asked that Rev. Kwak hold a simple celebration.

In this issue, we have reports from around America and the world giving a taste of what is happening as our community prepares for the great Blessing in November and the even greater one to occur next year. Rev-

erend Moon has stated that on August 9 he will deliver a proclamation concerning the providential significance of the 3.6 million Blessing. We expect that, at that time, he will discuss the next stage in the providence centering on the Blessing of 36 million couples. ❖



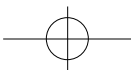
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FOUNDER'S DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

True Family And True Universe

by Reverend Sun Myung Moon

This is the Founder's Address at the 15th Anniversary of The Washington Times, June 16, 1997, Washington, DC.

Respected guests from Washington D.C. and abroad, dear staff of The Washington Times, eminent world literary leaders, ladies and gentlemen. I deeply appreciate your taking time from your busy schedules to attend this meeting.

Today, as we celebrate The Washington Times' 15th anniversary, I cannot help but feel deep emotion. Fifteen years ago, when the world was adrift on the stormy waves of the Cold War, I established The Washington Times to fulfill God's desperate desire to save this world. Since that time, I have devoted myself to raising up The Washington Times, hoping that this blessed land of America would fulfill its world-wide mission to build a Heavenly nation. Meanwhile, I waged a lonely struggle, facing enormous obstacles and scorn as I dedicated my whole heart and energy to enable The Washington Times to grow as a righteous and responsible journalistic institution.

Today The Washington Times Corporation can be proud of its development into a world class global media enterprise. Since the end of the Cold War, the world began to realize that the direction taken by *The Washington Times* was correct. History will not forget our contribution. The efforts of The Times to revitalize the moral and spiritual values of the United States and the world are being recognized as absolutely urgent and necessary at this time.

I want to convey my warmest appreciation to all The Washington Times staff

who have worked so hard together with me to develop The Times. I would also like to express my deepest gratitude to the American and world leaders who have offered their unwavering support.

The most precious thing that I can offer from the bottom of my heart as a token of my appreciation on this special day is to introduce you to what I consider to be the two most significant lectures that I gave during my most recent world tour.

I refer to "View of the Principle of the Providential History of Salvation" and "In Search of the Origin of the Universe." Today, we need a complete solution for the problems of sexual immorality, family breakdown and alienation among our young people. These two speeches provide fundamental solutions for these problems. When each one of you goes back to your home, I hope you will take some time for self-reflection. Whenever you want to bring more love into your family, read these speeches together with your family and think deeply. I believe this can help you and your family to achieve harmony and real happiness.

I suggest that you read these two speeches as many times as the number of your age. If your age is over 80, then read them more than 80 times. The more you read these speeches, the more heavenly blessing and fortune will be with you. The more you read them, the more peace will flow in your family naturally and automatically I invite you to read more!

The title of the first speech is "View of the Principle of the Providential History of Salvation." To summarize: Because of the failure and Fall in the family of the First Adam, Jesus came as the Second Adam to restore the failure of the first family at the national level. The First Adam had become fallen Adam. Thus the Messiah, Jesus, came as the Second Adam. However, since Jesus was not able to realize a family based on being True Parents, the Messiah needs to come back as the Third Adam and restore the mission of True Parents on the world level. This is the mission of the Second Advent, who is coming as the Third Adam. This speech

also introduces the fact that the fundamental issue of salvation is the restoration of the original lineage.

The title of the second speech is "In Search of the Origin of the Universe." Since the human Fall originated in the misuse of love, humankind lost True Love. Thus the problem arises: How can we recover True Love? The loss of True Love means falling through adultery. In other words, True Love became degrad-

ents, teacher and leader?

When I say you should become True Parents, True Teacher or True Leader, what do you think is the highest standard or central model for those three positions? That is God. God is the True Parent among parents, True Teacher among teachers, and True King among kings. God is the Eternal True Parent, Eternal True Teacher, Eternal True Leader and King. If we are children of God, we need



ed by misusing the sexual organs, and in order to restore it, we need to use these organs in the right way. Just as the seed of fallen love was planted in the Garden of Eden during the first ancestors' youth, so in these final days, mankind will harvest the fruit of the Fall among our young people. That is the reason why today we find so much chaos and confusion, centering on the issue of sex. This problem can only be solved with what I call "Absolute Sex." Only the concept and practice of Absolute Sex can prevent the destruction of the family and reverse the corruption of our youth.

This evening, because time is limited, I would like to share a speech with a new title: "True Family and True Universe Centering on True Love."

Everyone here has parents and teachers, and you also have the leader of your nation. Correct? These are things everyone undeniably needs. However, when compared to the true standard, there are many different levels of parents. What do you think? To what extent have you, yourself, become True Parents? In the same way, if a person is a professor at an Ivy League university such as Harvard, Yale or Columbia in the United States, or Oxford and Cambridge in England, does this mean that he or she can be called a True Teacher? Similarly, there are different types of leadership in a nation compared to the true standard of leadership. Even if someone is the president of a superpower such as the United States, does this mean he or she is a True President?

In fact, today in the family, children do not trust parents. Between spouses, there is no complete trust. Brothers and sisters also don't trust each other fully. Furthermore, students do not trust the teachers in the schools, and the people do not trust the leaders of their nation.

So the problem is, how can we attain the true standard of even one of these three most important positions of par-

to become True Parents first, just like God. We should also follow the way of the True Teacher, just like God. And we need to follow the way of the True Leader, just like God. This is the idea of the three primary positions. The ultimate model is God.

Who is the Messiah sent to the people of Israel, promised in the Old Testament? The Messiah is the one who comes as True Parents, True Teacher, and True King. However, because Jesus was prevented from establishing the True Family and uniting his people, he needs to come again. In other words, because he did not accomplish the national-level foundation, the Messiah of the Second Coming will come as the Third Adam and teach the way of the True Parents, True Teacher and True King at the world level. This is the messianic concept. Wherever the family, nation, world and Heaven exist, the idea of the three primary positions of parents, teacher and leader should always be established.

To exist in the spatial dimension, human beings need to stand in relation to what is above and below, right and left, front and back. In this way, one's position is determined. One's shape and situation depend upon where one stands relative to above and below, right and left, and front and back.

This same formula that applies in the relation of above and below, right and left, and front and back also applies to the family, the nation and the world. Just as there are above and below, right and left, and front and back centering on the individual, in the family there are parents and children, husband and wife, and brothers and sisters. Similarly, in the nation, centering on the leader, families should embrace all the civilizations of East and West and all the civilizations of North and South. Then they can embrace all people of the world as brothers and sisters. Ultimately every level will form a family pattern. All these models have the



CALENDAR

JULY

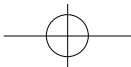
- 1 Declaration Day of God's Eternal Blessing 2075 Couples' Blessing (New York, '82)
- 18 Kook Jin Nim's 27th Birthday
- 19 Sun Jin Nim's 21st Birthday
- 24 124 Couples' Blessing ('63)

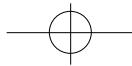
AUGUST

- 1 Day of Returning to the Home Country
- 14 Shin Goon Nim's 14th Birthday
- Shin Kwon Nim's 8th Birthday
- 16 Total Victory Day
- 20 In Jin Nim's 32nd Birthday
- Declaration of the Providential Age of Salvation by Love
- 25 30,000 Couples' Blessing ('92)
- 360,000 Couples' Blessing ('95)
- 31 Day of the Settlement of Eight Stages

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Shin Ji Nim's 3rd Birthday
- Declaration Day of Heavenly Parentism
- 3 Shin Joong Nim's 4th Birthday
- 7 Hyung Jin Nim's 18th Birthday
- 16 Soon Ju Nim's 25th Birthday
- 18 Foundation Day
- 27 Day of Dispensational Reversal Toward Unification





FOUNDER'S DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

Centering On True Love

same pattern and the individual self is the central model. In the same manner, one's existence expands to the level of the family, nation, world, Heaven and Earth, and eventually reaches God. Each person has the desire to live as the center of the cosmos and the potential to make this a reality.

Thus, the core concept of the universe is the concept of the family. Heaven represents parents. Earth represents children. In the concept of East and West, East symbolizes man, West symbolizes woman. When a woman gets married, she usually follows wherever the husband goes, but they have equal value. When the West side reflects the sunlight, it has the same value as the East side. The relationship of brothers is the same. When the older brother works, the younger brothers naturally help him.

Therefore, people should exist in the relation of parents and children, husband and wife, and elder and younger siblings. And these three relations meet at one central point. There can be only one center. Above and below, right and left, and front and back should not have different centers. If the central point is different, then the balance of the relationships between above and below, right and left, and front and back will be broken. Eventually above, below, right, left, front, back and the central point all together comprise seven positions. Thus, the number seven represents all elements uniting to become one centering on God, with perfect True Love. Together, these seven elements form a complete sphere and eventually a family structure of harmony and unification. So, as you can see, seven is truly a lucky number.

When this sphere completes itself and revolves, it becomes a new entity based on the number eight. As long as True Love remains unchanging, the central point can revolve without change. But because of the human Fall, God was expelled from the central position. Since God's True Love was expelled, the True Family ideal collapsed.

There are many differences in lifestyle between East and West. In many ways, they are totally opposite. For example, when Koreans call someone to come to them, we motion with the palm down, like this. But if we do this in the West, people go the other way. We often misunderstand and wonder if people don't like us, because they go away from us when we are actually asking them to come closer. Also Western writing has a horizontal structure, proceeding from left to right. Oriental writing originally is vertically structured, starting from top to bottom and proceeding from right to left. So Western books open from left to right. But in the Orient we open a book from right to left. Thus Western civilization is more horizontally-based, while Oriental civilization is more vertical. As another example, shaking hands is a horizontal greeting, while bowing is vertical. In the Orient, there is a tradition that the ancestors are the core of the family system. But in the West there is no strong concept that considers the ancestors as the core. There is mostly a concept centered on the self.

Because everything is connected through the core, without the movement of the core, the whole entity does not move. Therefore, all the positions of one, two, three, four, five, six and seven, the

central core, have equal value. Once they are divided, they comprise twelve segments. These twelve will fit wherever they are placed. Whatever the grandfather wants, the grandchild is not against. The children of the grandfather also want whatever their parents want. Ultimately all three generations become united in one desire. All of the elements — grandfather and grandmother, father and mother, husband and wife, son and daughter — resonate with the center. Let us look at the family, centering on love. Since the relationship between parents and children is one of unity, they are said to be one body. The relation between husband and wife is also said to be one body, as is the relation between brother and sister. In the family, all are one body. Centered on what are these relations called one body? They are one body centered on God's True Love, which is the center of all love. Centered on True Love, parents and children become one, husband and wife become one, and brothers and sisters become one. Through this process, the value of each element becomes equal.

Then what did God want for His children? To become billionaires? To have more power than anyone else? What God wanted for His children, Adam and Eve, was for them to grow to become children of filial piety, loyal citizens, saints, and a Holy Son and Daughter. Did you ever consider that, in accordance with God's desire, we should become children of filial piety in the family, loyal citizens of the nation, saints in the world, and Holy Sons and Daughters before Heaven and Earth? In history the saints and sages have taught that we should become children of filial piety, loyal citizens, saints, and Holy Sons and Daughters.

This evening do you think you have mastered the way of filial piety, loyalty, sainthood, and Holy Sonship which is needed to become an ideal human being and to complete the human personality? Without knowing this, you cannot perform the function of True Parents in the family. True Parents need to teach their children progressively to complete the way of the filial child, loyal citizen, saint, Holy Son or Daughter, and eventually even to reach God. If there is someone who truly teaches and exemplifies these things, then God will see that person as the ultimate True Parent, True Teacher and True Leader.

When you are qualified as True Parents and True Teacher, you also will be qualified as a True Leader; and furthermore you will be qualified to become a True King or Queen. Fallen man lacks this concept of filial piety, loyal citizenship, sainthood, and of becoming Holy Sons and Daughters. That is why this world is perishing. Who wants Holy Sons? God does. Who wants saints? The world does. Who wants loyal citizens? The

nation does. Who wants children of filial piety? The family does. This is the way of truth.

The truth centering on love continues eternally in one direction. We did not know this, and that is why we could not be True Parents, True Citizens, True Saints, and Holy Sons and Daughters. When Jesus came to this world, there was no True Parents in the family, no True Leader in the nation and the world, and ultimately there was no True King in all of Heaven and Earth. People did not know how to follow the True Way. However, now you should know.

True Parents do not tell their children,



"Once you become children of true filial piety, do not become loyal citizens." True Parents should teach children of filial piety to sacrifice their family by following the way of a loyal citizen in service to the nation, and to sacrifice the nation to fulfill the way of saints in service to the world. And then parents should teach their children to sacrifice the world in service to Heaven and Earth, and to sacrifice Heaven and Earth to come to God.

To achieve this, individuals should sacrifice for the sake of the family. By sacrificing for the family, a person becomes a child of filial piety. To become a patriot, a person will sacrifice even their entire family to save the nation. That is the way to become patriots. To be a saint, you will sacrifice even the nation in service to the world. The Holy Son should establish the Heavenly Kingdom on Earth and in Heaven, even sacrificing the world. Therefore, among all parents, those who live more for the sake of their children are True Parents. Teachers who do more for the sake of their students are True Teachers, and the president who sacrifices more for the nation will be the True President. We did not know this concept of investing and sacrifice. But without it, we will never have one eternally peaceful and unified world.

What is the basis of individualism? One cannot claim anything as "mine alone." When the child, through the love of its parents, grows from an egg in the mother's womb and is born, 99.999 percent of its existence is from the mother's

bone, blood, and flesh, which was combined with the 0.001 percentage from the father's sperm. There is no concept of "myself alone" in nature. Nobody had a concept of "myself" when they were born.

Anyone who considers that they are the best cannot say they became so by themselves, including Reverend Moon. Bone, blood and flesh are all received in the mother's womb. We should recognize that the important parts of our body are the extension of our mother's body. All the essential elements of our body were included in the egg and sperm. There is no exception. Therefore, there is no basis for self-centered individualism.

When we say the word "above," that word automatically recognizes "below." Can individualism stand only with the concept of "above" by itself? There is no way that a being can be only individual.

Talking about the "right" side presupposes the existence of "left." In the relation between front and back, "front" presupposes "back." The word "man" also cannot exist by itself. It presupposes "woman." This is not just the claim of any one person, but a cosmic fact.

Why was man created? Usually, men say that they can live by themselves alone, so they don't care why they were created. But man was born for the sake of woman. Without woman, there is absolutely no need for man. Actually, nothing was created for man by himself or for woman by herself alone.

Look at our five senses. Were my eyes created to look at my

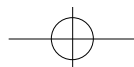
eyes? Nose, ears, mouth, hands — all of them were created for the sake of the object. The force that mobilizes and focuses all five senses is True Love. Eyes, nose, ears, mouth, and hands were created for True Love as a tool for the use of True Love.

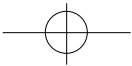
Nothing is created only for myself. On the contrary, a person who says that what belongs to others is "mine" is called a thief. When someone takes the things of others and uses them as his own, isn't he a thief? Therefore any man who uses his five senses and his body as he wants for himself alone is a thief, since these exist for the sake of woman.

What is the difference between man and woman? Their bodies, including the sexual organs. Then to whom is man's sexual organ absolutely necessary? Man's sexual organ exists for the sake of woman. The human sexual organs are shaped as concave and convex. Why are they shaped that way? Both of them could be pointed or both could be flat. Why are they shaped differently? Each is for the sake of the other. Woman absolutely wants what is man's. And man absolutely wants what is woman's. Until now, we did not know the fact that, absolutely, woman's sexual organ is man's and man's sexual organ is woman's. By owning each other's sexual organs man and woman come to know True Love.

Only through the experience of two becoming one can we know the highest level of love. No one can absolutely deny

see TRUE on page 5





REV. JOONG
HYUN PAK

Rev. Pak is the Continental
Director of the Church
in North America.

*This is from an address given at the
Regional Leaders Meeting, NYC, 6/24/97.*

Registration is coming soon. Heavenly Registration. So we need to learn what God and True Parents have to say about Registration from the Word in the New and Completed Testament Eras. We know that we need to bring our tribe in order to register for the Kingdom of Heaven.

We within our Family Church are all very much aware of what we must fulfill. Leaders must stand in the forefront, setting the best example, sacrificing the most, in order that others will be inspired to follow their example. We will speak with our actions. Everyone is aware of their personal responsibility. Let us remember one important thing: responsibility comes with privileges. If we want to be granted privileges in our life of faith then we must accept the responsibility that makes it possible. Just act!

Citizen of Nation

Thirty-seven years ago, True Father began teaching and preparing us for this Era of Registration so it isn't as if we were hearing it for the first time. Father is now speaking often about registration because the time is now upon us. It will come very soon, not off in the far distance anymore.

Let us think for a moment in terms of nationality or citizenship in a nation. One either has citizenship in a nation, or one is a refugee, having no nation. When we have a nation, our nation guides and protects us. It gives us some authority. We may travel to other nations but if some trouble comes to us we have our nation's embassy representative to turn to for protection. If we are without a nation, having no citizenship, then we have no protection. We might also equate it to being orphans versus having parents.

Before Jesus was born, Joseph and Mary journeyed to Bethlehem. The Roman Empire required that all citizens be enrolled, so Joseph registered his family (Luke 2:2). This was registration for citizenship in the secular world. Two thousand years ago, Roman citizenship was very meaningful. St. Paul, for example, used his Roman citizenship effectively during his public ministry. When an enemy approached him, he would say "I am a Roman citizen." That brought him protection (Acts 22:22-29).

Citizen of Heaven

But St. Paul knew that we register for citizenship in Heaven as well, for he said in Philippians 3:20-21 *"our citizenship is in Heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself."*

What are the benefits of heavenly citizenship? "God is love" (1 John 4:8); "God is life" (Ps. 36:9). So if we become citizens of Heaven we then naturally receive life from God. And we become the loving children of God, living with Him in the eternal Kingdom of Heaven, having give and take love forever.

Twelve Tribes

Jacob had 12 children; Moses had 12

tribes. On the foundation of these twelve tribes, the chosen people entered Canaan. On that foundation came the period of the United Kingdom. Jesus had 12 disciples. True Parents have to restore the number 12, both vertically and horizontally, equalling 144 or the symbolic number of 144,000 people in the First Resurrection (Rev. 14:1).

When Jesus' disciples returned one day from witnessing, the disciples were happy with the results of their witnessing but Jesus told them in Luke 10:20 *"... do not rejoice in this... but rejoice that your names are written in Heaven."* Already Jesus and True Parents have addressed this subject. Jesus said to the twelve in Matthew 19:28 *"truly, truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."* Already the registration, the ownership, and power of authority, is given to the first generation people. In Revelation 21:12 we read of the names of the twelve tribes of Israel which will be written on the high wall with twelve gates and twelve angels. This is the registration of the first generation which must be fulfilled in True Parents' lifetime. Our names must be registered in 'the book of life'. This is the reason for rejoicing; we rejoice because we are fulfilling the purpose of creation.

The First Resurrection

In the *Exposition of the Divine Principle* (pp. 143-44), regarding the First Resurrection, registration is connected with resurrection. In my point of view, registration is the final climax of the fulfillment of the first resurrection—that is, when God officially stamps His seal of approval upon our tribes' names in the Book of Life.

The third Adam, in his lifetime, has to completely restore everything—IN ONE GENERATION. The first Adam lost everything in one generation! As first generation people we are very important. We have to fulfill in our generation.

How do we become a part of the First Resurrection?

- By accepting the True Parents;
- By believing and coming to resemble the ideal of True Parents;
- By serving God completely;
- By following God in obedience to practice True Love;

We must restore ourselves from the fallen state to the original state, separating from Satan, How?

- By actually reversing the process and going back to the original state—moving out fallen nature, by the grace of God;
- By following True Parents' example and growing to divine spirits at the perfection level, fulfilling God's purpose of creation;
- By passing Heaven's qualifications (being separated as wheat from chaff);
- By registering in the twelve true tribes and heavenly citizenship (such as the symbolic 144,000 as written in the book of life).

The Book of Life

In the New Testament, "the book of life" is mentioned seven times:

1. *He who overcomes shall thus be clothed in white garments, and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father*

and before His angels (Rev. 3:5);

2. *And all who dwell on the Earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain* (Rev. 13:8);

3. *The beast that you saw was and is not, and is about to come up out of the abyss and to go to destruction. And those who dwell on the Earth will wonder, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that he was and is not and will come* (Rev. 17:8);

4. *And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne and books were opened, and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds* (Rev. 20:12);

5. *And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire* (Rev. 20:15);

6. *...nothing unclean and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life* (Rev. 21:27);

7. *Indeed, true comrade, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel, together with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life* (Phil. 4:3).

Preparation for Registration

We can clearly understand from the verse in Philippians that while St. Paul was registered as a Roman citizen in the secular world, he understood well that his name must also be registered in the book of life. That was his goal as an apostle in the faith, to be registered into citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven. To understand 'registration' more clearly and the position of ourselves in relation to the Messiah, let us look at its meaning in more simple terms. When a man (the bridegroom) takes a wife (the bride), his wife then becomes his family, his tribe. She is registered as his wife, with his name. In the same way, the Brides (all of us) enter the family of the Bridegroom (Messiah, True Father). And there must be a ceremony and a banquet and then registration.

We must become "divine" sons and daughters before registering in the Kingdom. Actually, our goal is not only to be registered as citizens in the Kingdom of Heaven but also to become Sons and Daughters of God, Divine Sons and Daughters in the citizenship of the Kingdom of Heaven. That is our Family Pledge #2:

Our family pledges to represent and become central to Heaven and Earth by attending God and True Parents; we will perfect the dutiful way of filial piety in our family, patriotism in our nation, saints in the world, and divine sons and daughters in Heaven and Earth, by centering on True Love.

These are our four duties: to be filial sons and daughters in the family; to be patriots in the nation; to be saints in the world; and to be divine sons and daughters in the cosmos. We are registering in the book of life as divine sons and daughters. Someone once gave me the following viewpoint which I will share with you: 'holy sons and daughters' and 'divine sons and daughters' have two dif-

ferent meanings. 'Divine' is connected with God's blood lineage. 'Holy' is not connected with blood lineage. For instance, we say "Oh, he is a holy man." We refer to many people as being 'holy people' but they may not be connected to God's blood lineage. There are also many saints, but even a saint is not necessarily of God's blood lineage.

In the Gospel of Matthew, beginning from the first verse, we can read about the 42 generations of Jesus' family tree, his family tribe, his blood lineage (Matt. 1:1-17). His family was a special one. His family tree was very special. His top ancestor was Abraham, as mentioned in the first verse. Abraham was a chosen person, a person blessed by God.

People of the world have many concerns—physical health, survival, material possessions—but for us, our main concern is our Blessing and inheriting God's blood lineage. If we can say we are really connected with God's blood lineage, then we can say that we are divine sons and daughters. This is the primary qualification for registration in the heavenly kingdom.

Fruit of the Kingdom

God gives many warnings about those who will not enter His eternal world. In the *Exposition of the Divine Principle* (pp. 396-97), we can read clearly that when the Lord of the Second Advent returns, the people producing the fruit will receive the Kingdom; those who do not produce fruit will perish (from the Parable of the Vineyard, Matt. 21:33-43).

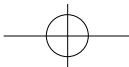
Again in Matthew 3:10 *"And the axe is already laid at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown in the fire."* And Matthew 7:17-19, *"Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. So then, you will know them by their fruits."*

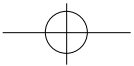
In Luke 13:7-9 *"And he said to the vineyard keeper, 'Behold, for three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree without finding any. Cut it down! Why does it even use up the ground?' And he answered and said to him, 'Let it alone sir, for this year too, until I dig around it and put in fertilizer; and if it bears fruit next year, fine, but if not, cut it down.'"*

Further warnings come from John 15:2-8 *"Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it, that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch, and dries up, and they gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. By this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples."*

We can say that those who become true families and who are registered in the Twelve Tribes will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Those who are on the satanic side will not. We must take responsibility.

This is interesting to us. We lost the Garden of Eden so we wonder at times: what kind of place was it? We can only see **REGISTER** on page 5





TRUE
from page 3

these facts. Everyone should recognize this. At the place where husband and wife become completely one, the ideal couple will be created. In that very place, absolute love exists. That place of love, which is absolutely unchanging, is the dwelling place of God.

Absolute Sex is centered on God, and free sex is centered on Satan. Historically, world literature and the media have often stimulated free sex. But from now on, you literary figures and journalists should lead the way to prevent free sex. Free sex should completely disappear.

Now that you have heard Reverend Moon's speech, you can change your current position 180 degrees and become a new person, new nation, and new world.

Definitely you are being changed. It is an absolute necessity to change this evil world. This world must be transformed.

People in the evil world, including Satan, don't like people on God's side. Therefore everyone in the world has opposed Reverend Moon; even at the level of the nation and the world they opposed me. But because Reverend Moon belongs to God, God has protected me. Satan doesn't like Reverend Moon; but God likes me. No matter how many times the world pushed Reverend Moon down or ignored me, I did not care. Reverend Moon never went down. Rather, he came up to the highest position. Therefore, now nobody can oppose me.

How could I establish this worldwide foundation even under all kinds of persecution? With what kind of power could Reverend Moon create these foundations to teach eminent world scholars and leaders? That was possible because God gave Reverend Moon a special kind of power. God has protected me and directed me, and even now God continuously protects and teaches me, so I am moving toward the way of success all the time.

Throughout history, there have been

numerous religious leaders who could communicate with the spiritual world. You should know there is only one, Reverend Moon, who fully understood and unified the spiritual world and commenced work in this world. Since unifying the spiritual world, I received the Heavenly seal of recognition from God. Otherwise unification on the Earth cannot be done. You should know that in the same way that God has trained me and raised me in the spiritual world, He continuously leads me on the Earth.

For more than 20 years, since I came to the United States, I received enormous persecution. But I knew that God's plan for Christianity has endured through bloody sacrifice for 2,000 years, ultimately settling in the United States. Therefore I could not give up on this country. Please consider, if America had accepted Reverend Moon even 40 years ago, how would this country be today?

Then from where does True Love begin? This is True Love: After you sacrifice your own life and are resurrected, you try to invest again, more than three times. Since we have inherited fallen lineage, even at the cost of our own lives we have to persevere and overcome. Therefore, "whoever seeks to gain his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will preserve it." (Luke 17:33) Jesus followed this way when he came to this world. That is why he could lead the world, not by selfish individualism, but by altruism. Therefore, although I have created great wealth during my life, none of it, not even one penny, is mine. I invested everything for the world and then I forgot what I had done for others, and then I sacrificed and invested again. I repeated this process again and again.

Which do you prefer, "One Nation under God" or "One World under God?" Among Americans, some people do not like the concept of One World under God. Some white people do not like black people. White Anglo-Saxon Protestants occupy dominant positions in the United

States. America, led by this group, should have the idea that this country exists for the sake of the world. If America lives only for its own sake, America will ultimately perish.

Now the times are changing. The coming time is the age of One World under God. God is working for this kind of world and will always help those people who also are working for that kind of providence. But there is a problem with many people wanting to lead the world but not wanting to participate in that providence.

In order to make one peaceful world, I have poured myself into various efforts. Let me give a few examples. We need to establish an ideal, world-wide academic institution like a U.N. University, transcending the barriers of race, religion and language, in order to complete the foundation for the future world. Also, to exchange knowledge globally, we need a university system for distance learning. We also need to develop a unified medical science. We need not only to cure the diseases of the body caused by the Fall, but also to end the conflict between Orient and Occident through harmonizing Eastern and Western culture. By uniting Eastern and Western medicine we can cure formerly incurable diseases, such as AIDS. In Korea, among the people of the countryside who never had formal medical education, there are many gifted healers who can cure serious diseases that are incurable through modern medicine. These healers have received teaching from the spiritual world about special treatments. Without recognizing certain realities of the spiritual world, problems will continue to grow.

Already these projects are being implemented at the University of Bridgeport and Sun Moon University. I have also created The Washington Times and other newspapers to cover the entire hemisphere, and I am expanding this media foundation into 185 countries to help all the people of the world learn from each other and cooperate as one. Since I came

to America, I never had any debt to the American people. Rather, America should feel indebted to me. I shared the blessing I received from Heaven with America. I didn't receive any blessing from America, but my entire blessing was given to her.

Regardless of the degree of opposition, the person who loves the most will become the owner. Those who love more, invest more, who give more and forget what they have given, will become central figures. This is cosmic law.

In the future, please follow the way that in the family you offer filial piety to your parents, become a loyal citizen before the nation, become a saint before the world, and become a Holy Son or Daughter before God. Whoever can stand without shame before the family, nation, world, and Heaven and Earth, will be protected in the center of the cosmos and can then realize a family that receives God's highest love.

Such a person shall transform this world into the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth, being registered in the Kingdom of Heaven in the spiritual world and entering into an era of kingship both spiritually and physically centered on God. Such a person shall receive the International Ceremony of Holy Blessing, which is to establish a world of victory, freedom, happiness and unity. I invite each of you to participate in this year's 3.6 million couple Blessing Ceremony, and so become a person welcomed by Heaven and Earth and find the way of eternal life.

Today literary leaders from all over the world are gathered together here. I hope the staff of The Washington Times and all the world literary leaders will become major figures to create a True Family and True World (cosmic) culture centered on God's True Love, ushering in a world of peace and unification in the forthcoming 21st Century.

May God bless you, your family and all your endeavors. Thank you. ❖

REGISTER
from page 4

imagine. But in John's Revelation we get a better picture: Those who can live in that brightness, that fantastic world, that utopia, that blessed land, that land of dreams, that happy valley! will be those who enter the First Resurrection, those divine spirits and those who are written in the book of life and those who are a part of the Twelve Tribes.

Learn from History

Moses' twelve tribes did not obey and follow him so Satan attacked Moses and the people of Israel and they died in the wilderness. Jesus Christ's twelve disciples and the chosen people did not believe and trust Jesus but rejected him. Consequently, Satan attacked Jesus Christ and the chosen people. An internal point to make here is: Joseph's family and Zechariah's family should have surrounded Jesus with care and protection but did not. And now today, Tribal Messiahs have to restore their physical relatives and hometown people. In their mission areas Tribal Messiahs must work to gain 185 couples. This number represents the number of nations in the world. (160 was used previously because at the beginning of tribal messiah work, the number of nations in the UN was 160.)

TRUE FATHERS WORDS

We quote excerpts here on True Father's own words concerning registration from the *The Tribal Messiah* (pp.175-178)—

1) Registration

When I say "You should return to your original hometown in order to register," do you know what I mean by register? When a bride marries a bridegroom, she has to enter her name in her husband's family roster. She must cross her name out of her original family roster and move it to some other place.

Everyone living on this Earth has a hometown. After one is born, one is immediately registered in one's nation. Regardless of which town, district or region within the nation in which one is born, one must register under that nation. This registration becomes the proof that one is a son of the parents in that house and a citizen of that nation. As long as that nation and those parents exist, the registered child cannot be taken off the roster.

...Therefore, we must have a nation that we have established or can register in. We have to seek such a nation and register in it. Why do we need religion on Earth today? It is because we could not register in our original homeland. From God's point of view, these people are not the citizens of God. They are not people who have a relationship with the original homeland and are registered there.

As God sees it, the homelands that men and women are born in today belong to the enemy. The homeland within that kind of nation is not a place where God can have dominion and be happy. This is the problem. For this reason, we have to return to a level higher than that of the religions today.

Today, we were all born in a period in history and registered in our homeland, but that registration has nothing to do with God. We have a nation that we have registered in, but that nation has nothing to do with God. We come to the conclusion that although there are many nations like this, they all have no relationship with God and the Earth itself has nothing to do with God.

2) The Advent of the Period for Registration

As the spring dawns upon the Earth and the fresh green leaves of tribal messiahs sprout everywhere, the spirit world of that nation will come to our side. The time of registration centering on Heaven will come. They say that twelve tribes and 144,000 will enter. Do you know what the number 144,000 signifies? The time of registration is approaching. Centering on the time of the unification of North and South Korea, we must head toward the Era of Registration. Your tribe must all stand in the same position in order to register as citizens of the heavenly kingdom.

I am not talking about individuals. Do you understand? The time of individual salvation will pass behind us. In the future, as long as the president of a nation joins the church and makes the pledge, the people will also become a part of the heavenly household, and as long as they perform the ceremonies that the church sets forth, they can all escape from the satanic world. (1991..8.25. Headquarters Church)

3) The Requirement for Registration

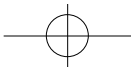
What position are the people in this world standing in? They are caught between good and evil. If they did not fall originally, they would have been good. They were supposed to be only good. They have to be born as good. However, although they received life and were born, they could not complete the principled process of growth because of the origin of their birth. You have to understand that they did not bring consummation to this matter. An imperfect work still has a long way left to go toward perfection.

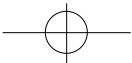
Even though something is eighty percent completed, the remaining twenty percent might stand as the subject and thus negate the value of the eighty percent. As we look at it from the perspective that desires one hundred percent perfection, something that is only 95 percent perfect still cannot enter the position of perfection. Consequently, it will also fall under the desired standard.

A creation made by the absolute being, God, has to be absolutely perfect. If something has attained absolute perfection, no one can criticize or correct it. It must be absolute. For something to be treated by the absolute subject as its object, it must also possess absolute character. It makes sense theoretically only when it possesses such absolute content. This is the problem.

So, how are people born? Before registering, what must be done to be born as an absolute being? Without knowing this clearly, one cannot enter the position where one can represent absolute

see REGISTER on page 7





Minnesota: 3112 Couples Blessed in 2 Days

by Jim Gavin—White Bear Lake, MN

On July 4th and July 5th 3112 couples were blessed at a Hmong sports festival, at Como Park, in St. Paul, MN.

Like all breakthrough events it was proceeded by humble beginnings. Our focus since January had been with the Native American people of the Oglala Sioux Tribe on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota. Over the next several months our region invested a lot of time and resources in the area learning to work with these wonderful people. Our approach was to invite people to events and give the Blessing at a community center or church. Over the course of four months some 70 couples were blessed.

A few weeks prior to Easter we held an event at Rev. Emerson Spider's and Rev. Renee Mill's Native American Church of Jesus Christ. Over the course of the weekend 13 couples were Blessed. However 5 of the 13 couples were blessed after the main event by the Hoffman's and Weigel's of South Dakota in peoples homes. Like many events there were people who said they would come and for various reasons were unable to make it. Rev. Hun Suk Lee our regional director suggested they go back to the homes of these people and make the Blessing available in their homes. This proved to be a breakthrough for our approach to Blessing couples. Instead of spending so much time and money on events that few people came to we brought the blessing right to peoples homes. It seems so simple now but at that time it was a big breakthrough.

Fresh from that door to door success we met with Mr. Pao Yang and his wife in a Chinese restaurant in Minneapolis. Mr. Yang has his own auto repair business and is a community leader in the Hmong community. On one occasion Mr. Yang brought over 100 people to hear Rev. Moon speak at the Raddison Hotel in Minneapolis. Esther and Edward Batino who had worked with the Yang's over the years arranged the meeting and Rev. Lee asked me to explain to them the work of the Family Federation for World Peace

and invite them to receive the Blessing. The Yang's consented and instead of waiting for an event to give them the Blessing, I suggested we hold the Blessing in their home like we had recently done with the couples in South Dakota. The Yang's and his sister and her husband received the Blessing a few days later on May 10th in their home.

Divine electricity

From that day on the Hmong Blessing began from home to home. Rev. Lee formed a handful of teams and over the next several weeks 100's of Hmong couples were Blessed in their homes and in parks. Rev. and Mrs. Lee's team made up of the Lee's, Batino's and Marika Hoegl were in the forefront of this effort, they set the pace by working day and night to bring the Blessing to the Hmong community.

Steve Schutte said, "A breakthrough blessing for me was a week into our 40 day condition in region #7. It was at the home of Tou Xiong Vue. Noriko Pearson and I worked as a team. We were joined on this evening by Eri Pehling. We met him and his family while going door to



Jim Gavin, Rev. Hun Suk Lee, Gudrun Gavin, Jeanette Henry and Eric Pehling at the True Family Festival table in Como Park

gathered or flowed.

Before large numbers of people began to arrive some of us went from concession stand to concession stand and blessed the couples who ran them. By 8:00 or 9:00 am thousands of people began to flow into the park. Over 30,000 people a day attended the gathering and unlike other events of this size, there was no alcohol and no fighting. The Hmong gathering was a family affair held by a warm and loving people.

Do you love each other?

As families passed by each team's location they were stopped and presented with the opportunity of the blessing. Couples were asked if they loved one another (and of course they said yes) and if they were committed to never getting divorced. The couples were then asked to take a stand with millions of couples all over the world to keep our families strong, healthy and together by rededicating their marriages. They were asked to each drink * a cup of "true love juice" as a symbol of their commitment to one another. We then asked God to bless their families and future generations with his true love, good health and prosperity. All couples were invited to attend the Family Festival on Nov. 29th officiated by Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon. Each couple filled out a Blessing application form and two Polaroid pictures were taken one for the couple and one for the application. Each couple was warmly congratulated as we held their hands and asked for God's blessing for their family and then they went on their way.

For 15 hours a day couples were blessed non stop. Each blessing took about 10 minutes from beginning to end. The more blessings that were given the more energetic and confident we became. There was no time to sit down. We were always on alert to meet the next couple. And the couples were so receptive. They always stopped to listen and most couples consented right away to participate in the rededication and blessing of their marriage.

The first couple my wife and I blessed

let us set up our table in the corner of their concession stand. On a few occasions he served as a translator to explain the blessing to someone who couldn't understand English. The Hmong people are incredibly warm and gracious. We were sincerely thanked by many of the couples. We received many warm embraces, smiles and handshakes from the newly blessed couples.

Jim Bard who played in high school football games on the fields in Como Park said "all my prayers for my home state were answered on July 4th and 5th at the Blessing in the park. The Mayor of St. Paul, Norm Coleman, who had presented

Parent's Day awards last July, approached me at my table and thanked me for participating in the festival. He said that it was good that the Family Federation for World Peace was present and expressed that he wished that more St. Paul residents could come and participate in this terrific event. I am grateful to God that the long suffering Hmong people could immigrate to Minnesota bringing their tenacious work ethic, their deep hearted family traditions, their delicious foods and all their love to my hometown. What great fortune do I have that I could now show my gratitude by giving God's blessing to them. Our True Parents have paid and continue to pay a great price that God's blessing might now be given so freely. Glory to God and True Parents forever.

Keith Anderson said, "I was impressed by the seriousness and hope with which the Hmong couples responded to our offer to bring the blessing to their families. One couple childless after many years of marriage and so obviously desiring a child became the object of my sincere prayer for God's greatest blessing, the fulfillment of the four position foundation. I was deeply moved by the hearts of the Hmong couples."

Sachiko Johnson felt she got so much more than she gave. "I came back from Chung Pyung lake on June 29th and my whole family came down with bad cold sickness. It was very hard to do anything. When I was in Chung Pyung I prayed for victory of 160 couples and the 3.6 million blessing. Minneapolis members were working very hard going door to door every day. I felt so sorry for Heavenly Father because even though I wanted to go door to door, I and my children were so sick. When July 4th and 5th came I really wanted to get out of the house even though I didn't feel well, so I went to the park. When I looked at our members they all looked like strong soldiers and I felt like a little lamb. But when I started giving the blessing to people I felt so much power and energy, people who received the Blessing gave me so much power. That day I was able bring the Blessing to 30 couples. I felt so grateful that I went out even though I felt sick in the beginning."

By the end of the first day, July 4th over 1700 couples had been blessed. We were all happily exhausted and went home to replenish our supplies and get a little sleep. At 5:00am the next morning we were out of bed and set up in the park again by 6:15am. Some of us again went from booth to booth Blessing con-

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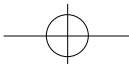
FFWPU members who participated in the 3112 Blessing

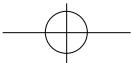
door. After the holy juice was shared, I felt the Holy Spirit move through me and my hands into their hands as I prayed for their couple- like divine electricity. He was so grateful for the blessing and the work we are doing. He was inspired to help us and began to explain how active he is in the community. He offered to work together with us and introduce us to family, friends and his other connections

At the end of June, Steve received an invitation from Tou Xiong Vue to attend a "family picnic". The "family picnic" was in fact a soccer tournament with vendors selling goods and food and people generally socializing with one another. Steve, Rev. and Mrs. Lee and several other couples found over 2000 people at the "family picnic" and blessed 150 couples on a rainy Sunday afternoon.

Prior to this event Rev. Lee had arranged for booth space at a major Hmong gathering on the 4th and 5th of July. Buoyed by the picnic blessing of 150 couples Rev. Lee invited members from South Dakota, North Dakota and Wisconsin to attend the July 4th event.

On the 3rd of July 10 teams of 3 to 4 couples were formed. Very early on the morning of July 4th our teams converged on Como Park and set up tables all around the soccer fields and in the concession areas, anywhere people





Boston: Testimony of Home Blessing

by George Howe—Boston MA

Another Pre-Blessing adds to our spiritual bank even more experience and inspiration for us to work with. This Pre-Blessing had an interesting way of bringing together both the family and friends emphasis of a home Blessing and the opening up of a possibility for another True Family Festival (TFF) to be held later (with its characteristic church and minister emphasis). As such, it was hosted by the head of a Blessed family, who represented and was in the place of the regional and/or state leader.

Rev. Esaho Kibuke visited Boston Church with his whole family—his wife Beatrice and four children. They arrived 20 minutes early. Dinner was scheduled for 7pm. Before that starting as we planned at 6pm, I spoke with them a bit, gave them a tour of the building, shared with them an 18-minute video of the last True Family Values (TFV) ministers' conference in Washington DC, and gave them an update of developments since that conference, especially speaking to them about the meaning of this time and True Parents. After this, it was natural to have both Rev. and Mrs. Kibuke

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cession stand owners until around 9:00am when the crowds began to flow. By now our 10 teams were well seasoned, any trace of shyness was gone as our members warmly greeted and blessed people as they strolled by our tables.

It's good for you

Steve Henry was amused and moved by one experience he and his wife Jeanette had. "My wife and I came across an older Hmong couple and having experienced in the past the open heartedness of the Hmong families, we felt an immediate connection with this couple. The wife was smiling so bright as she walked with her 2 daughters and rather stoic husband. With the older daughter as an interpreter we explained what we were doing to the couple and offered them the holy juice to drink. The wife drank but her husband shook his head and walked away. We followed after him until we found him and approached him again with the holy juice. "How do I know it's not poison," he said. I said your wife is still alive isn't she? He laughed and then he drank. Afterwards he was beaming with joy and

sign the "Affirmation of Our Marriage Commitment" form, joining the tens of thousands who are doing this worldwide.

Because I had spoken before we sat down to dinner, I just offered the "True Love Toast (Holy Wine)" and the "Holy Water," followed by a Blessing Prayer, leading right into a "Chastening Exercise," and finally we all toasted together. As friends, there being trust and good spiritual support among us, it all proceeded very smoothly. Because he is a minister, rituals and ceremonies are not foreign to him. He understood about the heart behind the practices perhaps even more than a non-religious person might.

Rev. Kibuke attended this last TFVM conference of Dec. 10-12, 1996. He responded to an invitational mailing we sent out, by registering via fax that he would like to attend. I called him up and he came. We first met at the airport to go to DC and through the conference we became good friends.

With tonight's dinner, there were some special and unexpected highlights. Rev. Kibuke is on the video we watched (he was there). Another nice touch was that Vince Carty's 40-day mission country was Zaire, which is the home country of the Kibuke's, so

thanked us very much, he was truly grateful."

Rain moved in off and on and many blessings took place under umbrellas. Nothing stopped the administering of the Blessing. I'm sure everyone got more tired, voices wearing down, legs aching, however, the spirit of what was transpiring as couple after couple was being Blessed lifted us up and energized our efforts.

Michael and Esther Moyongo said "I felt so grateful and thankful for the great opportunity to be with brothers and sisters to give the pre-Blessing to a big sports festival of the Hmong community for two days in Como Park. I felt and observed peoples spirit resurrected on those days. Spirit world was so close to us and inspiring these people. It's so easy to invite them to receive the blessing. I was able to give the Blessing to so many kinds of families. Black couples, white couples, Spanish, businessmen, Hmong husband and white wife and the organizer of the Hmong sports festival. God has prepared them all, they are so beautiful and wonderful couples. I am so moved by God's creation."

Wonderful peace

As each couple was blessed they

they could have much in common to share.

Beforehand, I was a bit concerned that because we did not spend so much time together, there might be some problem finding something in common. At the same time though, I really felt God's support, guidance and expectation for the dinner to be successful. These extra, unexpected points above, combined with God's overall guidance, made for a wonderful evening. There is surely a very special authority and power that God is now dispensing to all mankind through the Blessing. He is really coming to live with us.

From this time now, Rev. Takeda suggested that another Tribal Messiah in the area act as host for the next event. Everyone should have experience so that anyone and everyone can become confident to offer the Home Blessing in their own homes from this time on, as God opens the ways (and relationships) for us to do so.

For follow-up, it would be good for Rev. and Mrs. Kibuke to hear the video "A Glimpse of a Life" (to understand the history of the Blessings); also, even though he received Home Pre-Blessing, he understands about TFFs and the possibility to have this with his

were given a brightly colored sticker to wear on their shirt or dress. After two days at the park Terry and Kazuko Walton still needed 13 couples to fulfill their goal. "As each couple passed by I realized that every couple, among the crowd of 1000's of people, was wearing a sticker. My wife and I decided we needed help, so, we began to pray and then we found another couple but then again we were facing a sea of bright colored stickers, so, we prayed again and then met another couple. We continued to pray and bless, pray and bless in the almost deserted field with the sun going down when a family of parents and their daughter and son-in-law walked up to us. Miraculously no one had spoken to them and the 2 couples received the blessing fulfilling the goal of the final 13 couples."

Keiko Borer was deeply moved by the experience, she said, "when Rev. and Mrs. Lee gave us the holy juice and holy water

whole congregation. The fact that he had to leave his country due to his speaking against his government at the risk of his life seems to suggest that he has a certain autonomy about him. Perhaps he is free to host a TFF there without any hierarchical interference.

Rev. Kibuke determined a long time ago to become a pastor; he studied and graduated from Boston University, and is going for his Masters in Counseling at Assumption College in the Worcester area. He is now the pastor of St. Andrews United Methodist Church in Worcester. He is very much involved in counseling. He says that he and Dr. Dubinga (a close ministerial associate of ours who attended the KICC) know each other very well. Also, Viner Dangirwa—who previously received the Blessing from his friend (a Tribal Messiah living west of Boston)—is a member of Rev. Kibuke's congregation.

Special thanks to all who are making these events. Let's continue to become even more fruitful, to multiply and to establish God's dominion. Important note: these Pre-Blessings are not just for us to give—just as ICC was not only for us to educate ministers. We are to receive and learn, as well! ♦

I felt so much blessing from True Parents. When we think about ourselves we are not qualified to give people the blessing but because of True Parents conditions we are qualified to do so. My sisters family came to Minnesota in June and I was able to give them the blessing. I am grateful to Rev. and Mrs. Lee that we have had the opportunity to give the blessing to the Hmong community. "

At the end of the day, around 9:30pm, on July 5th, 3112 couples had been Blessed. There was a wonderful peace that filled our hearts. Our members from South Dakota, North Dakota, Wisconsin and Minnesota had witnessed the outpouring of God's grace and Blessing on the lives of 1000's of couples. All of us are deeply grateful to True Parents and are determined to bring the Blessing to thousands more couples by August 9th.♦

Blessings in Washington, DC

by Claude Aubert—Washington DC

Washington DC and Region 3 have surpassed 12,000 couples who have rededicated their marriages, including a city official, important ministers, and a national level leader. The providence is developing rapidly, and our mind-set needs to keep up with it. Father wants to finish and proclaim 3.6 million couples by July 20, and move to the next level of blessing. To inherit and support TP's restoration of 185 nations, tribal messiahs have been asked to bless 185 couples.

Mrs. Joong Hyun Pak at DC Church:

Sunday June 13 Mrs. Pak, wife of continental leader Rev. Joong Hun Pak, spoke to the Washington, DC, congregation about her experience with blessing couples. Mrs. Pak joined the church in 1955. She has raised 5 children into

public life; one of their sons is married into True Family.

By June 13 Mrs. Pak has blessed 561 couples. She started on June 17, working hard from early morning until late at night (16 -hour days). The first day she found 10 couples, the next another 10, then 21.

Mrs. Pak's guidance to the audience consisted of two main points: 1) Volunteer 3 hours every day to God and go out with the goal of blessing just one couple. If you volunteer with the right heart, you will be able to bless at least one couple per day. 2) Let's work together. Everybody should get involved in the campaign, not only some people, while others look on.

Mrs. Pak also said that our responsibility is to bless. We don't need to worry immediately about educating the couples. That will come later. Rev. Schanker mentioned in his introduction that plans are being developed for educating through video and television. ♦

REGISTER from page 5

perfection, a position where, having won all victories, one can assert one's subjectivity before God. (1988.5.22. Headquarters Church)

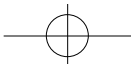
...After persevering on to eliminate all the sorrowful results of the fall and become victorious children who can guide all nations with love, you should worship God and True Parents in your bedroom, then the registration process will automatically come to an end. From that moment on, the Kingdom of Heaven will continue on forever. (1988.5.22. Headquarters Church)

...Registration cannot be undertaken by the clan, but by the people. The reason that we are restoring tribes

is that by forming the twelve tribes, we can create the sovereignty of a nation, a foundation of national sovereignty in the original homeland. Therefore, according to the amount of effort that you put in and the amount of contribution that you make in forming the tribes, you can contribute to establishing the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth.

...

In conclusion, we need to take all this information which we have from the Bible, from Divine Principle, and from Father's Words, and learn them well. Teach it to all people so we don't stand accused later. Then we all go forward to fulfill our great missions that God and True Parents have given us. ♦





Denver Celebrates Blessing of True Love

by Joy Garratt—Denver, CO

A petite Taiwanese grandmother looking with glowing eyes at her husband of over 50 years as he gently helped her down the stairs of the bridge; a romantic Russian-American couple embracing on the bridge before taking the chalice of love to renew 47 years of marriage.... Parents faithful to each other for 52 years crossing the bridge of peace only to be followed by their daughter and son-in-law who wanted to inherit the love and longevity of their parents' marriage. These are only a few of the moving images which infused the Celebration of True Love on June 1 in Denver with remarkable warmth and closeness. Cosponsored by the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification and the Women's Federation for World Peace, 33 couples renewed their commitment to one another as families and friends filled the Parkside Mansion overlooking downtown Denver's City Park.

Express Love in the Way your Spouse Needs it

After master of ceremonies Peggy Yujiri welcomed the participants to the celebration, Dr. Linda Schupp, president of the Being and Becoming Institute, reminded the couples how important it is to "express love in the way your spouse needs it, the way your children need it." A nationally-acclaimed speaker and seminar leader, Dr. Schupp described how we must discover our spouse's love language. "Ask your spouse specifically what makes them feel loved. Make a list. Some people want dinner dates or concert dates. Some want to hold hands. Some just want to be listened to without interruption. You must do what is meaningful for your mate, not what is meaningful only for you."

Dr. Schupp, a psychologist, also emphasized the importance of learning to apologize to your spouse. "What you do not talk about will destroy your relationship. What has hurt you does not go away because you don't talk about it; it hovers beneath the surface

of your heart waiting to strike again."

World Peace Begins with the Sacred Commitment of Husband and Wife

After Dr. Schupp's dose of practical guidance, the regional director of the Rocky Mountains FFWPU, Jim Flynn, summarized the purpose of the Federation: "The core of the family is the sacred commitment of man and wife. The FFWPU recognizes that a peaceful world begins with peaceful families, families wherein that sacred commitment between husband and wife thrives. Government leaders can't impose world peace without that foundation."

"We ask people of all backgrounds to look for the commonality of true love among ourselves. True love takes effort; it is something you build. This ceremony and the November 1997 worldwide celebration by satellite underscore our mutual commitment to establishing world peace beginning with building true love in our families."

Crossing the Bridge of Peace and

Renewing True Love

Taking these words to heart, 33 couples then crossed a symbolic Bridge of Peace and renewed their commitment to one another by drinking the Cup of True Love together and being sprinkled with holy water. As a remembrance of this special day, each couple was presented with the glass cup (engraved with the words "Bridge of True Love, 1997") following the ceremony.

While some participants commented that they felt as though they were feasting on true love already, everyone welcomed the international banquet which completed the evening. As over 120 people sat down to fresh salmon and grilled chicken, Lasting Love Awards were presented to seven couples who had been married for over 40 years, including a couple celebrating their 50th anniversary on the very day of the event! Finally, the lights were dimmed and the audience joined to sing "Let There Be Peace On Earth" as the Flame of True Love and Peace was passed from candle to candle, hand to hand, heart to heart. ♦

Kenya Responds to True Parents Blessing

by Adruma Victoria—NYC

God's Blessing is taking root in Africa. Malawi and Nigeria have already Blessed over 100,000 families each. Since the inauguration of FFWPU-Kenya last November, Kenya has received her four National Messiahs: Rev. Im, Rev. Tsuboi, Rev. Victoria and Rev. Capone (from Korea, Japan, America and Italy, respectively). Heaven has much hope for expansion in Kenya and has found a beautiful response in the heart and deeds of Mrs. Caroline Ojow. Mrs. Ojow was blessed just three months ago. She informed me that before the Blessing, her husband used to go to the disco. But now after the Blessing he's home at night, and her marriage has never been better.

Caroline says, "I feel True Parents in my heart and I must go give people the Blessing." Caroline has done just that: she gave Blessing to over 1,000 families. She works tirelessly traveling to many churches and groups to spread this heavenly fortune. Our East African region includes Rwanda, Burundi, Seychelles, Tanzania, Ethiopia and Uganda.

For nearly a year, Rev. Dow Soon Im, the Adam-nation National Messi-

ah, made many conditions spiritual and physical to deepen the foundation for Heaven's Blessing to settle in Kenya and the region. He traveled extensively to give Blessing, finance fishing projects and inspire the region, sharing his wealth of experience from living so closely with True Parents and conveying deep insights and heart. The Blessing will save Kenya and the world from the destruction of the family. AIDS and all forms of human decay are the results of premature sex and immature parents. The Blessing strengthens the family unit. God is desperate to Bless all of His children.

Elevated

After Caroline raptured and invited me to Bless her contacts, I got the Blessing spirit. While daydreaming about Batman, and his "Utility Belt" ever-ready to fight crime, I thought of what I could design to make a mobile Bless-

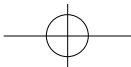


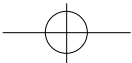
come right on in!" The next day Sarah was so grateful to have received God's Blessing. So I could give Blessing to 200 families, a phone call from Nairobi informed me that Rev. Capone just Blessed 1,000 families yesterday, all this love and more, because of our Beloved and awesome True Parents. Caroline, representing over 21 women's groups and church organizations throughout Kenya, requested support to empower their villages and communities to become independent. There is so much need: farming equipment, sewing machines, carpentry machines, knitting machines, poultry keeping, water tanks, fishnets, tractors, and health care and finances.

If you would like to help, please make your contributions to: International One World Crusade, Inc., c/o Adruma Victoria, P.O. Box 1755, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. e-mail: adruma@usa.net♦

ing unit. God peeped my thoughts as I was leaving our office to go bless with Caroline: she said, "Rev. Victoria, this sister needs the Blessing!" We were running late to our appointment, so I said, "Get in the elevator; I'll bless you right here!" With my children's lunchbox in hand and my elbow in a sister's face, the Blessing was given, right in that elevator car on the way down and up. Entering passengers said, "Are you getting off?" I said, "Don't mind us; just

need: farming equipment, sewing machines, carpentry machines, knitting machines, poultry keeping, water tanks, fishnets, tractors, and health care and finances.





Blessings in Chicago

by Bruce Sutchar—Chicago IL

Although I grew up in Chicago, I joined the church in San Francisco and did not return to Chicago for about 6 years. After living and working on both coasts, the thing that amazed me the most about Chicago was the unity of the departments and the community. Several years later, after pastoring our churches in New Mexico and Wyoming, I had the opportunity to move back to my “home town” and I have now been here for the last ten years. Every area of the country is unique in its own way. The one experience which I still find so special about Chicago is the unity of the community.

Somehow God put a package together back in the early 1980's and when the CAUSA Ministerial Alliance began, the African American community in Chicago responded tremendously. Ministers got involved in CAUSA, and in each subsequent activity, including the Religious Freedom Coalition, the ICUSA, the American Leadership Conferences, USA, and basically every project and tour over these past 15 years.

Because Father has pushed us so hard, we have had to keep coming back to our ministers—and they have continually responded—now, on deeper and deeper levels.

Often we would lament, because it seemed like every time we were calling one of our ministers, it was to invite them to something, a conference, a trip, a project or one of Father or Mother's tours. But in between times, we visited their churches, we worshipped with them, we attended their banquets, celebrated their birthdays and developed a deeper and deeper relationship, with them, their families and their congregations.

As we have progressed, we have been able to include the key members of their

congregations to events like the Women's Conferences and the True Family Values Conferences. This has made a tremendous difference in having not only the ministers, but their congregations embrace our movements and our members. More and more the ministers and their congregants are even visiting our church, not only as speakers, but as visitors.

It is in this vein that we have emerged into the 1997 3.6 million blessing providence. In August of 1995 one of the most influential ministers in all of Chicago, Rev. Dr. Amos Waller learned about the blessing of 360,000 couples. We had originally planned to hold a number of blessings all over the Chicagoland area. However, Dr. Waller got really inspired and invited all of the blessings in Chicago to be unified into one blessing in his Mercy Seat Missionary Baptist Church. And so on that wonderful day in August, 1995, 42 couples joined Dr. & Mrs. Waller and received the Holy Wine and the Blessing together. Dr. Waller was inspired because he feels that the young members of his church need to see their parents re-dedicating their vows in front of God. And Dr. Waller was so inspired that he suggested we hold a blessing in his church every year.

Little did we know that the 3.6 million blessing would be just around the corner.

Belongs to God

In the meantime, God inspired another major Chicago ministerial leader, the Rev. T.L. Barrett, Jr. Rev. Barrett leads a beautiful church on the side of Chicago which holds upwards of 2,000 people. As we have already shared, Rev. Barrett was inspired to host True Mother during her tour of America last fall. Rev. Barrett is a leader of a major church with a consistently growing congregation, but he was so humble and serving when True



The Blessing at Rev. Barrett's church and (below) Rev. Barrett.

Mother spoke in his church. Shortly after True Mother's speech, Rev. Barrett hoisted up the first FFUWP in America over his church which stands on a street which the Mayor of Chicago named in his honor. Continuing in this spirit, Rev. Barrett hosted the first major blessing in the 3.6 million couple providence in Chicago, two days after Christmas.

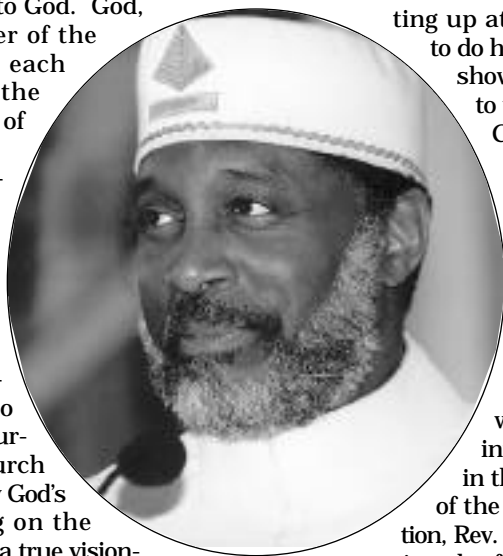
And Rev. Barrett has continued in this spirit throughout 1997, hosting two major blessings on March 15th and then again on May 31st. The May 31st blessing was quite exceptional in that Rev. Barrett asked to be the host and sponsor of the blessing—rather than having the UC host the event. He explained, that he felt that the Blessing belonged not to the Unification Church—not to his own Life Center COGIC, but rather to God. God, himself was the owner of the blessing and we were each being called to open the pathway to the people of America to receive it.

In this vein, Rev. Barrett came to our first planning meeting with a 9 page outline of what was needed to make May 31st a success for God. And he mobilized his entire staff of assistants to lead the way to victory. He explained further how his own church had been re-directed by God's movement centering on the family. Rev. Barrett is a true visionary who always sees ahead. Therefore, he planned every Sunday in June to be a special Sunday service centering on some aspect of the family i.e., Couples Sunday, engaged couples Sunday, young adults heading toward marriage Sunday, etc. On the first Sunday in June, (the day after the May 31st blessing) Rev. Barrett invited Rev. Ki Hun Kim to give the Sunday Service to kick off his family month and it was a huge success. It is obvious that God has a strong hand on the life of Rev. T.L. Barrett, and that Rev. Barrett is responding accordingly.

One side note about the power of the family of Rev. Barrett's church is that when one of his assistant ministers was applying for a Community Directorship with the University of Illinois, Rev. Barrett and several of the church leaders accompanied her to the interview.

Beauty and tradition

Afterward, she was told that although she did not, at that time, have all the necessary qualifications and educational credentials, Rev. Barrett's promise that hiring her was equivalent to hiring the entire church, became the basis on why the University decided to hire her. And today, now having achieved all the necessary credentials, she is continuing to lead and grow her children and community curriculum at the university.



The Blessing itself, on May 31st was a great success. 61 couples renewed their wedding vows in a holy and sacramental spirit. Rev. Barrett believes deeply in beauty and tradition and thus, the event, while following the traditions of the blessing ceremony had every aspect of a beautiful wedding ceremony, including a beautiful arch and thousands of balloons which were released immediately after the service—each filled with a little note from the Bible.

Now, as we are marching toward the completion of our 3.6 million couple goal, Rev. Barrett continues to be on the forefront of God's work. From getting up at 4am everyday to do his morning radio show, to continuing to work to coalesce Christian ministers from all over the midwest, Rev. Barrett is constantly marching to God's drumbeat and inspiring all of those with whom God brings into contact. And in the true tradition of the Family Federation, Rev. Barrett is always putting the family first. He leads his congregation as a true parent would lead his own family and he is inspiring all of us to understand God's precious love of the family as the pathway toward the heart of God.

Likewise Dr. Waller has developed a deeper and deeper relationship with us ever since the August 1995 blessing in his church. In addition to arranging police escorts for Father and Mother each time that they come to Chicago, Dr. & Mrs. Waller have been fellowshipping with us on an intimate basis. Last Summer Dr. & Mrs. Waller were given the “Parents of the Year” award by the American Freedom Coalition. The award incidentally, was presented to them by U.S. Congressman Danny K. Davis, who has himself spoken at many of our events ranging from CAUSA (in 1984) to the Women's Federation (1996). Dr. & Mrs. Waller then accompanied Rev. Michael Jenkins to the inaugural celebration of the Family Federation in Washington, D.C. representing our region. And to bring things to an immediate conclusion, the Waller's hosted a beautiful blessing ceremony in their church last weekend (June 28th) where 25 elders, leaders and members of their church were blessed.

A 20-minute videotape of the 61 couple blessing ceremony at Rev. Barrett's Church is available from the Chicago Church for \$30. ♦

Blessings in Germany

by Nina Makarova—Frankfurt, Germany

We are able to report some exciting news from Germany, too. Last week a door-to-door Pre-Blessing strategy was introduced in Germany for the first time. As a result of the members' determination 44 couples and 17 singles were blessed in one week.

This number might seem to be small, compare to thousands in Africa or Philip-pines, but one should remember, that such action in a country like Germany often means knocking at the doors not of some modest flats, but rich villas, where people think they already have everything they need. Also, it is just a beginning.

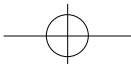
While reporting about the Pre-Blessing at Sunday Service in Frankfurt, Werner Lindermann, a city community leader, said, that the response of the people was very clearly positive or negative. Surprisingly, they met couples who seem to have been waiting for somebody to visit; there were people out there who were prepared, thus breaking the concepts that Germany is a very tough country for a spiritual work.

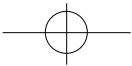
Shortly before this 40-day Pre-Blessing national campaign was lunched in Dusseldorf, a group of the German Church leaders came back from Chung Pyung lake, where they spent together 40 days

at the workshop. They were totally inspired and Andreas Rath, the national leader, personally led the campaign together with national messiahs Hans Wagner and Mrs. Kumagawa. That was a very important condition for success, for it happened often before, that leaders had good ideas and strategies, but left reality-test to the members. More than 10 other brothers and sisters joined them, coming to Dusseldorf from other cities as well.

Makoto Noguchi said, that he had met the person blessed by him the next day and this person said he felt somehow completely different from before. At Sunday Service Werner Lindermann explained the “technology” of the Pre-Blessing Process to those who would like to try it out, and demonstrated the “Blessing case” which they used. When you visit homes with such a case, people might take you for an insurance agent. In Germany there is a very well established social system, however, spiritually the country is going down. The “Blessing case” contains no insurance papers, but the Holy Wine (Holy Nectar, etc.), Holy Water and True Parents picture. The newly blessed couple receives a special certificate with True Parents' signature.

The Pre-Blessing team will continue their activity in Dusseldorf and surrounding area, while members in other cities will join in the same joyful work of love. ♦





Blessings Confront New and Old in Nigeria

by Michael Kiely—Lagos, Nigeria

Femi Martins is a twenty-year Nigerian member witnessed to by one of the original missionaries to the country. Darcy (Turner) Hovard approached him as he was preaching in a crowded city bus in Lagos. He joined in 1977 and has himself given birth to numerous spiritual children since that time. During the 1995 Blessing he was one of the first to pioneer community Blessings. He traveled from village to village introducing the Blessing to the chief and elders of each village and having them call their people together to be blessed. Now his main responsibility is to supervise all the Blessing activities in and around Lagos in an area within a radius of about 300 miles. It is a densely populated region where most people belong to the Yoruba tribe, one of the four main tribes in Nigeria and the tribe with the most Blessed couples in Africa.

Rev. Kevin Winter, the assistant to Continental Director Rev. Kathy Rigney, related the following testimonies by Femi. More will follow—reportedly he has many such stories to share.

New Blood for a Witch Doctor

In one Nigerian village there was an herbalist, more commonly known as a witch doctor, who was well known and feared by the population. People were afraid that if he simply looked at them or pointed his staff at them, something terrible might happen to them. He was feared even more than the Oba, or King. But his strong point of character was that he was a true traditionalist. He respected African traditions, hierarchy and rites. Particularly, he was absolutely obedient to the Oba. Also, he was unusual among witch doctors in that he had only one wife. Most witch doctors were polygamists with several wives.

One day Femi came to see the Oba and made a presentation to him about the Blessing. The Oba thought the Blessing was a good idea for his village and decided to call together all of his people. He sent out the town crier, or “gong gong,” to hit a large cowbell and call his people to gather. When the witch doctor heard the gong gong, he had a premonition that something sinister was about to happen. He looked at the sky and saw dark clouds even though those around him said the sky was clear. So he hesitated to go, but his sense of duty to the Oba told him he had to attend because he had been called. He reasoned with himself, “After all, I am a very powerful witch doctor. People fear

me. I don’t think any evil force could possibly disturb me.” Nevertheless, he took many beads, amulets and other sacred objects which he wore like a sash over his shoulder outside his clothing. He also took his staff which he employed in his rituals as well. Then he went off to the meeting with his wife in tow ready for spiritual battle.

At the meeting the villagers, including the witch doctor, listened to Femi’s presentation about the blessing, then with the Oba’s encouragement, they all participated, receiving the holy wine, the holy water and True Father’s prayer. The witch doctor and his wife also drank the Holy Wine and participated in the Blessing. The villagers received the blessing joyfully, then when the festivities were over, they — along with the witch doctor and his wife — all returned to their homes.

When he arrived home, the witch doctor decided to consult the oracles at his shrine where certain spirits usually gave him guidance. The moment he bowed down before his shrine, however, he was startled to hear a loud voice from the shrine speaking to him as if someone were standing in front of him. The voice said in anger, “You are no longer my son because you now have different blood flowing in your veins! From this moment forward I will never speak to you again or answer your questions! Go away!”

The witch doctor was shocked and dismayed. His practice, which depended on this spiritual guidance and support, was his whole life and his source of power and respect. That guidance and support, and consequently his profession and position of respect, had all quite suddenly been taken away from him. With growing anger he concluded that the young Femi Martins had come to him with the Holy Wine in order to steal his powers from him. He wished out loud that there was some way he could purge himself of the holy wine so that he could recover his powers. Perhaps the only way to do that, he reasoned, was to kill Femi. Then perhaps his pow-

ers would return.

In a rage he picked up his machete and returned to the Oba’s courtyard in search of the young man who had robbed him of all that was important to him. The Oba, seeing his witch doctor beside himself with rage, told him to sit down and asked him what was going on. Out of a sense of obedience to his Oba, the former witch doctor explained all that had just happened to him and declared that he intended to kill Femi in order to regain his former powers. The Oba empathized with him but told him that

Femi had gone home and would not return till later that week. The Oba promised, however, to send Femi to him on Femi’s return.

After the encounter with the Oba the former witch doctor returned home frustrated that he had failed to accomplish his plan and, as a consequence he presumed, had not been able to regain his powers that day. That evening in his sleep he had a vivid dream in which all the powerful ancestors of his lineage lined up over him looking down at him. They told him

When he arrived home, the witch doctor decided to consult the oracles at his shrine where certain spirits usually gave him guidance. The moment he bowed down before his shrine, however, he was startled to hear a loud voice from the shrine speaking to him as if someone were standing in front of him. The voice said in anger, “You are no longer my son because you now have different blood flowing in your veins! From this moment forward I will never speak to you again or answer your questions! Go away!”

sternly, “You have been a powerful witch doctor until this day. But from today you must become a new person and start a new life.” Then they left him. When he awoke the next morning, he realized that what had happened to him was much larger than the plan of some young man to steal his powers. It was nothing less than the manifestation of the will of his ancestors, of heaven itself, that he create a new life for himself from that time on. So, he quickly forgot his anger against Femi and felt, instead, grateful to have been called in that way. He returned again to the palace of the Oba to report his experience with his ancestors and his new realization.

Later that week, Femi returned to the palace and met with the Oba. The Oba told him everything that had transpired with the former witch doctor and sent him to meet him. When they met each other, the former witch doctor told Femi all that had happened. Then the former witch doctor smiled and said, “You are a lucky man that I did not find you right after the Blessing! Otherwise you would be dead now! But I have come to understand that these events were the manifestation of heaven’s will and not just the fruit of your machinations, as I had at first imagined.” Word of these happenings spread quickly throughout the region.

After their meeting, Femi worked in the area with a local pastor who had a small church in a nearby village. Femi suggested to the pastor that he set up a branch church in the former witch doctor’s village because there was no church there and that he make the former witch doctor the head pastor. The pastor followed his advice, and everyone was amazed at the results. Because of the former witch doctor’s fame and because of his dramatic and widely publicized conversion through the Blessing, in the first week over 500 people assembled in his new church. Virtually overnight he had gathered a large congregation. How many church founders

would be delighted to find 500 members in their first week! This new congregation was the direct fruit of the Blessing.

Miraculous Homecoming

On another occasion, Femi was performing Blessings house to house. For a person whose spouse is absent to receive the Blessing, his or her marriage must be intact and the absent spouse must accept the Blessing. In rare cases when the spouse who is present is considered trustworthy and is absolutely confident that his or her spouse will accept the Blessing, then he or she may receive the Blessing. In one home, a man presented his wife’s picture for the ceremony, claiming that she was simply away. He was able to convince Femi of his story, and Femi blessed him. After the ceremony a neighbor revealed to Femi that the man’s wife had abandoned him and his two children and had not been seen at all for two years. She had simply disappeared. So, their marriage was not at all intact.

Femi was angry with the man for having deceived him about his wife’s status. But the man begged Femi to forgive him saying that until the present he had always prayed for his wife’s return. He felt strongly when he heard Femi’s presentation that this could be the event that would answer his prayers and bring his wife home. When Femi heard the man’s words, his anger left him and he admired the man’s faith. All he could do was to wish him well and go on to the next home.

About ten days later Femi came back to check on that household. The man’s attitude had changed completely. While before he had been depressed, now he was beaming. He told Femi he had good news to share. Exactly a week to the day after his Blessing he had returned home from work quite tired and had sat down in the sitting room. Suddenly he heard a quiet knock on the door. He got up, casually opened the door, and without even looking up, turned to sit down again. When he did look up, he was shocked to see his wife whom he had not seen in two years.

She was fearful that he would be angry at her for abandoning him and their children for so long and that he might even want to kill her. As a result, her first words to him were a challenge. “Don’t I have the right to visit my own children?” she asked with nervous defiance. The man was startled by her tone and said, “Oh, of course. You can see your children. Please go on in.” She rushed into the bedroom to see her children. Shortly afterwards she came out, but instead of leaving, she went straight to the kitchen. There she prepared the man’s favorite meal and set it on the table for him to eat. The man was so astonished by the whole scene taking place in front of his eyes that he had no appetite and told his wife when she called him to eat, “No thank you. I’m not hungry.”

The wife, once again, mistook the man’s refusal to eat and his silence after her long absence as anger and decided she should leave. As is customary when a guest wants to leave, she asked her husband, “Won’t you see me to the door?” The husband felt deep disappointment that she was going. He did not realize that she also felt disappointment that she had to leave. So, he sadly escorted her to the door and opened it for her. After she had gone out, he closed the door, went back to his seat and began thinking about what had happened, wishing he had said something to stop her. At that moment

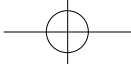
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Pre-Blessing Door-to-Door in Italy

by Antonio Ciacciarelli —Bergamo, Italy

I want to share with all of you my first experience in door to door pre-blessing ceremonies. I think it can help those who have my same problem—using reason too much.

The first day I decided to go to pre-bless people door to door, my wife was busy, so I asked a sister if we could go together. She said yes, and my elder daughter (9 yrs old) asked to come with us. So the three of us went out, but I was a bit doubtful about the success of our mission. I felt a deep urge to realize God's request, but my mind felt that it was difficult to pre-bless people the way we were supposed to.

Before starting we went to the center, where the blessing of 5 couples was scheduled. After the ceremony we went out, and we started knocking at the

doors of unknown people. We found three or four ladies who allowed us to enter, but their husbands didn't want us to speak. Then we entered a building, while a man was going out of it. We greeted him, but his face was very dark, and he didn't even answer to us.

We rang a bell, and a very kind, middle aged lady told us to enter. She introduced to us her 92-year-old mother, who was living with her family. We explained her about the Federation and the blessing. She was enthusiastic, and told us to wait for her husband. So we started discussing about many things: family values, her social work, and so on. Then I asked her: "By the way, is your husband the man going out of the building just before we came here?" and she said yes. Then I began to sweat: if he was so dark, he would have kicked us out as soon as he would have

come back. And the lady added: "He is a very good man. He just went to the Church, he helps the priest a lot." This made me to sweat even more. There was the possibility that he was a religious fanatic, that could consider us just like heretics and would have shouted at us.

I was not worried for myself of course (in my 25 years in the UC I had many nice experiences of being kicked out, insulted, rejected...) but for my daughter. Another thought was worrying me, anyway. I was thinking that I was not worthy to giving the blessing, that Catholics have strong prejudices against any other religion, and so on. There was an incredible battle in myself. Now I can say that it was because a foundation had to be established: it was not only the first time I was going to give the blessing door to door, but it was the first time anyone had done it in my city.

It was getting late and her husband was not returning, so we told the lady we would return another time and we went to the door...which opened, and the husband entered. It was actually the man we had met entering, but he looked completely different. His eyes were very bright, and he had a nice smile. His wife explained him what we wanted to do, and he said it was OK, in a very natural way. I invited also her mother to join in the ceremony, and she agreed happily.

I started to explain the meaning of

the blessing, when someone entered the house: it was one of the sons of that couple, accompanied by his fiancée. His mother had already told us that this son and his fiancée were deeply religious, so I explained about the blessing to them too. Right away they accepted to participate. We just added a glass, and I said: "...the husband will drink a half of the wine..." and suddenly my daughter interrupted me: "No! It's the woman that should drink first, and then should pass the glass to her husband!" She had seen the blessing at the center, and she remembered how to perform the blessing better than I did.

We performed the ceremony, and everyone was happy. It was a deeply meaningful event: the first door to door pre-blessing ceremony in Bergamo had been performed, and three generations together had accepted it.

I was uplifted, stressed, enthusiastic, tired, in a mixture of feeling I never experienced before. I returned to normality only 24 hours later.

This experience and the following ones are changing my heart, my relationship with my wife and with my daughters. What moves me the most is that my elder daughter always wants to come with me when I go out for the pre-blessing, and she urges me to hurry up if I am late in getting ready.

I wish everyone to be successful in accomplishing our goal of 185 families.❖

Blessings in Peru

by Fritz Piepenburg—Lima, Peru

After holding many Blessings seminar—introducing the Blessing and having people sign the Blessing applications—we finally embarked upon our first Blessing ceremony on May 25 in Lima. Altogether 155 previously married couples attended, and we had a very beautiful and high-spirited celebration. We hired a folklore musical group and everyone got up and danced at the conclusion (dancing is a vital part of virtually any social event here in Latin America).

Immediately after this successful event, we organized similar celebrations for the five other cities where centers have been established. Blessed couples from 1995 helped invite the guests and organize the ceremonies. By now we have close to 500 Blessed couples here in Peru. We are now holding Blessings anywhere and at any time. Our teams of Japanese and Peruvian brothers and sisters are going out every day, re-contacting those who already have signed the application and inviting them to one of our central ceremonies taking place three times and week at our center, or giving the Blessing right there in their homes.

One challenge here is how to work on a large scale without upsetting the Catholic Church. After all, some 95% of the population is Catholic. Catholicism has a powerful foundation and, because of it, people are quite religious and have a solid faith in God. We are always making the point that the Blessing is not for changing anyone's faith, but affirming our common Chris-

tian values and the need to live up to the teachings of our respective churches. In fact, our Korean president of the Federation likes to tell those attending that they should go back to their church and serve their Catholic priest even better than before. They should from now on behave as true Catholics and become exemplary families for their fellow believers. This is a very good approach, I believe.

Also, from recent speeches it is obvious that even the Pope is very concerned about the family structure (especially in Latin America) and calls for the establishment of sound and strong families as building blocks of a healthy and harmonious society. Well, we are doing exactly this job. Because of the vow of celibacy, the entire Catholic leadership for 2000 years up to the present could give little or no advice on the correct husband-wife relationship and how to establish sound families. We can, because we have the experience and the Blessing. If the Catholic Church realizes that we can help do what the church was trying to do for the past 2000 years—or the past 400 years in Latin America—namely, putting the teachings of Christianity and Catholicism concerning the family into a living reality, it should be able to appreciate the Family Federation and willingly cooperate with it. I do have this vision of the Catholic priest in every tiny village calling upon his people to come to the church by pairs and attend the Blessing ceremony, where all families can rededicate themselves to living up to the highest Christian and Catholic values.❖

NIGERIA from page 10

the door slowly opened again. His wife poked her head inside and said timidly, "It is very dark outside. If you would allow me to spend the night here, I will go first thing in the morning."

The husband happily assented. That night the wife spent the first night at home for more than two years and did NOT leave the next morning as she had proposed. The two of them have been together ever since. Because of the Blessing, their long separation ended and

their marriage was healed.

When Femi gives his testimonies, he always asks brothers and sisters, "Where would these people be if someone had not knocked on their door to offer them the Blessing? The witch doctor would still be bewitching people. The man would still be lonely without his wife waiting with his children for her return. Because we get out and offer this grace of the Blessing to people, their lives really do change. The Blessing is so powerful in the way it can alter people's destiny.❖

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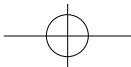
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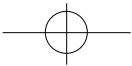


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by Bismarck Bamfo—Accra-North, Ghana

Ghana can be considered the center of the earth because of its geographical location: the equator (latitude 0°) and longitude 0°, all in Ghanaian waters. It has a population of about 18 million. The nation gained her independence in 1957. As the nation celebrates her 40th anniversary of independence, it's also time to take deep reflection as a Unificationist, a nation and people, in line with God's providence—where are we coming from, where are we now, where are we going and how can we get there?

As the first nation to gain independence from her colonial master in Africa, the first president, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, declared to the world on Independence Day, "The independence of Ghana is meaningless unless it is connected to the total liberation of Africa."

With this vision in mind, he was able to help many African countries who were under their colonial masters to gain independence by 1960. Despite being trained and educated in the West, he aligned himself with the Eastern bloc. Dr. Nkrumah adopted socialism from the East and encouraged other African nations to follow this example. He dramatically improved the education system in Ghana, information and communication, infrastructure like highways, Akosombo Hydroelectric Dam, hospitals, etc. However, the introduction of socialism in Ghana, coupled with the Alien Compliance Order—the expulsion of illegal aliens, especially Nigerians—which was adopted by succeeding governments—brought a double curse to the nation. As a mother and land of freedom (as many call her), Ghana had the responsibility to embrace all people and show the way to continental peace centered on God. She could not share God's word with other nations; rather she propagated Socialism (the younger brother to Communism) which denies God. She was not able to embrace the oppressed ones who sought refuge—the Nigerians who escaped from the Biafra War.

The nation went through a wilderness course. The nation became a land of oppression, corruption, bloodshed, coup d'état and famine. Most educated people, including university professors, medical doctors, engineers, the young elite, sought refuge outside Ghana.

In 1975, after years of suffering, God sent Unificationist missionaries to save the nation. That did not work. They even had to escape to Nigeria for years. Inter-

nally, Ghana Unificationists, and externally, ordinary Ghanaians in Nigeria, went through terrible difficulties.

The situation changed when True Parents finally paid the price with Danbury, the 7000 Christian leaders workshop in Korea, and the success of CAUSA activities world-wide. The decline of communism opened the way for the introduction of democracy and the salvation of Ghana and the world.

New Hope

The suffering and difficulties the nation went through from independence to the fall of the Soviet empire revived religious people, especially Christians, to turn to God and Jesus for solutions. This ignited the establishment of many denominations throughout the nation. The Unification movement returned from Nigeria in the late 1980s to prepare for the harvest. True Parents' 40 year course ended in



Prophet Tahu M. Appiah
Blessing members of his church

1992. In the same year, True Parents started the globalization of the Blessing. By God's grace, over 30 Ghanaians received the Blessing on Aug. 25, 1992. The introduction of democracy and general elections brought greater freedom of Assembly and worship in the country.

Preparation for 1995 Blessing

At the end of 1992 Blessing, True Parents declared 360,000 Couples to be the goal of 1995 Blessing. Ghana was asked to bring 10,000 couples for Blessing 1995. Members were mobilized inside and outside Ghana, with the support from Women's Federation for World Peace volunteers, to achieve the goal. True Mother's speech,



Prophet David Nkansa (Blessed 95) who is bringing thousands to the '97 Blessing

one-day chain fasting, 40 and sometimes even 80 "bows-to-God" until the Blessing day—Aug. 25, 1995.

Mother's speech opened the way for openminded as well as controversial pastors to find out. They wanted to know more about True Parents and the Blessing.

Workshops and seminars were conducted in various churches in the country. Most of them accepted the conclusion with mixed feelings, thinking that our motivation was to draw and capture their members. Others rejected, but a few wholeheartedly accepted.

By the middle of August 1995, we had hope that over 7000 couples would participate in the Blessing. However, to our dismay, fewer than 3,000 couples and about 120 matching candidates participated. The above skepticism coupled with other factors—transportation, financial constraints—resulted in a low turnout.

portation, financial constraints—resulted in a low turnout.

Single Persons Blessing Oct. 1995

After Aug. 1995 Blessing, our movement became popular through inter-faith activities. We were in John the Baptist position: bring the churches to God and True Parents. Those who participated saw True Parents and the number of participants at the Olympic Stadium. They went home with pride and dignity. They said, "We have been Blessed. We were part of the 360,000 Couples." Those who did not participate regretted it, after hearing others' testimonies about its magnitude.

Fortunately, we received instruction to continue the Blessing for a time. The churches were very happy when they heard about the extension of the Blessing. Rev. Chung H. Kwak's visit to Ghana during the same period, coupled with the announcement to conduct the Single Persons Blessing, broke the camel's back. All along, the churches had been asking how their older single persons could be Blessed. It was a short time noticed, however, with great enthusiasm, they were able to mobilize 250 candidates. On the day of the Single Persons Blessing, Rev. Kwak explained about the position of True Parents, the significance of the Blessing, and that they would be matched after they go to the spiritual world to another spirit person. To be matched with a spirit person? Sometimes even members found that difficult to digest, but they accepted it and responded boldly, clearly and loudly: Amen. Amazing! What is happening in Ghana? God, True Parents and the entire good spirit world are with

us!

Ghana: Secret of our Success

In Ghana, over 10,000 couples from different denominations participated in the 1995 Blessing. A majority of them were from made-in-Ghana (i.e., native Ghanaian) churches. The news about the Blessing reached most of the churches after Aug. 25, 1995. After the Single Persons Blessing in October 1995, brothers and sisters were mobilized to continue the Blessing. From that moment, thirty to forty-five minutes was enough to convince a church leader for their members to receive the Blessing. By the end of the extended period, we were able to achieve the above goal of 10,000 couples. How did we do it?

First, Ghana brought the highest result during the Single Persons Blessing 1995 for matching to spirit world. If they were truly matched, what sort of spirit world were they? Were they good, great saints and sages? Maybe True Parents will be in the best position to answer us.

If those spirits have the opportunity to support True Parents' activities, which country will they support the most? Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. The answer is obvious that they will assist the Ghanaian providence.

Second, True Parents' visit to Ghana is another major factor. They were well received by the Ghanaian government and even exchanged gifts. As the Bible says: "He who receives my son receives me and he will receive my reward." The Christian community from Nigeria and Ghana also received them with enthusiasm. In addition, only 40% of those who came to see and listen to True Parents at the conference center could enter. The rest (over 5,000) were not able to fit inside. They were ambassadors, government officials, religious leaders, etc. The hall (capacity 3,200) was jammed and packed two hours before the time Father was to speak. Instead of ushering people in, they had to usher people out.

The audience was so inspired by the contents of the speech that after the conference the church leaders read the speech several times in their churches. This also served as another foundation for the spirit world to work. With this foundation, they were ready to receive the Blessing.

Third, at first the churches felt we had other motives—to take their members. (Of course, all Blessed couples are the Children of God and True Parents. Family Federation is not for Unificationists alone. It was created for God, True Parents and world peace.) Yet after the Blessing we were free with them. We invited them to our conferences (fish powder, RYS, Inter Religious Federation for World Peace, AIDS, etc.) and still we did not impose any laws and regulations on them. Is the Blessing beneficial to the churches or not? Beneficial! The church leaders now feel comfortable and they are proud to work with us. Miracles are now happening in their churches. Most of their problems have disappeared.

Fourth, Ghanaians by nature are religious and they have cool, submissive and subservient character. Many people consider Ghana as the mother and Nigeria as the father of Africa. Others say they are twins or sister and brother respectively. Nigerians are more aggressive, subjective and masculine in personality. Ghanaians have learned a lot from her mistake in promoting socialism in Africa, as well as the Aliens Compliance Order. As mother and land of freedom, she has opened more to her neighbors



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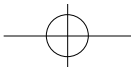
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and to foreigners than ever before. It is a place where no one worries foreigners when they enter. She is now considered as the most hospitable country in Africa by foreigners. This character of Ghana has created the foundation for people to be humbler, more tolerant and willing to follow. This is also another major factor in our success working with the churches. However, in many situations and circumstances, it has been misconstrued as weakness and abused by many foreigners who come to Ghana.

The victory of Aug. 1995 Blessing, the Single Persons Blessing and the spiritual foundation laid the base for Ghana to stand together with the advanced nations to lead the world into the 21st Century. The election of the Secretary General of the United Nations, the Honorable Dr. Kofi Annan—the first black African to occupy that office—has a providential reason and meaning. Moreover, Dr. Annan will lead the United Nations into the 21st Century.

Our national goal for the November Blessing is 400,000 Couples, which is also very significant. It symbolizes separating the nation from Satan after 40 years of independence.

The Way to Achieve Our Goal

As commented by one Nigerian member, "Ghanaian members are slow but sure." We have few staff members, but we have the "Can Do" spirit. How are we going to achieve our goal: 400,000 couples?

As stated earlier, good spirit world is with us, the churches are more prepared and have full confidence in Unificationists than ever, and they are willing to work with us. Above all, the people are ready to listen and receive the Blessing of God and True Parents.

So far, we are reaching out in three ways. First, Unification members (candidates and Blessed members) have been assigned to church leaders who received Blessing in 1995. Some of the churches have mobilized brass bands and they are campaigning from town to town, city to city, Blessing their members and non-members of their churches. Initially, the results were not encouraging—an average of 70 couples per day. Nowadays, some are Blessing 2,000 per day. What do you think, if this trend continues? Can we meet the goal of 400,000 Couples?

Second, Unification members are working day and night in towns and villages conducting Blessing. Some are doing house to house, explaining about sanitation, the dangers of AIDS and the need to maintain one spouse. Those who pledge to maintain one spouse before God, Jesus, True Parents and for the sake of their own future generations (lineage) are given Blessing. We literally shake the dust off our feet when any home refuses to accept us. This method also brings a very good result in our campaign.

Third, Youth Federation for World Peace (YFWP) gained national recognition through our first National Seminar on AIDS. The government, through the Ministry of Education's recognition letter, is serving as a license to reach out to all churches, schools and other institutions including the public and private sectors.

YFWP is therefore reaching out to new churches, schools, police, fire service, immigration, customs and excise and many others. We approach them through AIDS education and conclude with lectures on meaning and purpose of life, then giving them the Blessing.

Wherever we go, our Blessing materials are with us. Couples are given Blessing right away. Single candidates are also invited to the center for further training.

Those members who are working in towns, villages or homes are also bringing single people for workshop. The director of Ghana's National Fire Service has granted us permission to educate all their staff and Bless them. Over 200 couples

anywhere else who are finding it difficult to witness can join us here in Ghana. Our people want to meet Christ by meeting a white or oriental man. As Unificationists, we are not meeting Ghanaians just for meeting's sake, but to convey God's Truth and God's Blessing to them. Our combined effort (Ghanaians' and other members') will increase our moral results dramatically and thereby achieve our national and world-wide goal—3.6 million couples.

Apart from that, members working in villages and towns are receiving a warm welcome everywhere they go. Sometimes the chiefs, assemblymen and the general public express their appreciation by giving them sheep, goats, food and transportation to the next town. Amazing! It is not by our own effort. It is Heavenly Father's and True Parents' foundation. We want you to join us to bring victory together—to God and True Parents.

Our Future Goals

The activities in Ghana are not just bread and butter issues. There are many problems but we can't allow those problems to stop God's providence. One of the areas which needs attention, if not today then soon, is education. The churches are receiving the Blessing with minimum education—Divine Principle and Unification traditions. Sometimes it is



Rev. & Mrs. James Stinard giving the Blessing

Thousands of AFTC members registering for the Blessing



have been Blessed already from the Fire Service. We have over 10,000 more to be Blessed throughout the country.

In the meantime, the Police Force and Ministry of Defense (military) have also agreed for us to teach and Bless qualified couples in the military. Immigrations and Customs program for education and Blessing is in the pipeline. In August 1996 we had the Religious Youth Service project in Ghana. After the project, some of the students from the University of Cape Coast decided to inaugurate a chapter in their University. It was finally inaugurated on Dec. 15, 1996 with over 80 students registering with RYS. RYS is also working at the University Campuses throughout the country to open chapters, teach them about Godism and the Blessing. We are expecting many candidates from RYS. The national Blessing campaign started in the middle of February at a very slow pace but now we are gathering momentum day by day. So far, over 100,000 couples have received the Blessing (by the end of May 1997).

Together with You

We have few months to go. The question is: Is it possible to achieve the goal before Nov. 29, 1997? The answer is: Yes! Despite the fact that we have limited logistics, including manpower and funds, we also need your prayers and moral support. There is something peculiar about Ghanaians when it comes to their relationships with Americans, Europeans and Asians. Their respect for white or yellow people is beyond description. To Ghanaians, on your way to church, if you meet a white or yellow person, it is enough. There is no need to go to church because that man represents Christ. You have been blessed already by God in that regard.

Ghana is ready to bring the result if members in Europe, America, Asia and

not easy for most of them to receive True Parents as messiahs when detailed lectures are given before Blessing them. However, once they receive the Blessing, it is very easy for them to accept True Parents as Messiahs. The expansion of our activities with different denominations and religions call for the need to train more members who can deal with these religions, denominations and VIP's on a higher level. I think the time has come for more members to prepare for the task ahead of us in Ghana at the Unification Theological Seminary and at the University of Bridgeport. Since the number of Blessed Couples in the country is increasing, there is a need to translate Divine Principle into local languages and teach them using television, radio and the print media.

One of our major problems is in the area of financing. We are extremely handicapped in our economic foundation. We hope to create strong economic foundations for our future activities. Already, International Seafood of Alaska is working things out to help start the fish powder business in Ghana. We hope to establish business agents with some of our companies abroad in Ghana as their representatives.

Let us pray and support each other for total victory for God and True Parents—3.6 million. How can we love God and True Parents? By accomplishing the goal of 3.6 million Couples Blessing.

Bismarck Bamfo is a member of the 30,000 Couple Blessing of August 1992. He is national chairman of YFWP in Ghana, and the national director of education of HSA-UWC there as well. He can be reached at Box 11626, Accra-North, Ghana. ♦



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Ministerial Alliance Meeting Held Chicago

by Rev. Marie Hudson—Chicago IL

On June 17, 1997 the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification hosted the Illinois Ministerial Alliance meeting. In attendance were Bishop Little, the leader of all COGIC (Church of God in Christ) churches in Illinois. The late Bishop Ford's son, Rev. Charles Ford, and the Rev. Stan Davis attended, along with many others. The alliance is made up of not only black Christian ministers but white ministers and rabbis as well.

The alliance was formed in the winter of 1996 in order to spearhead a movement to change the name of the Calumet Expressway to the Bishop Ford Expressway—successfully!

Our church was asked to join this organization at that time. Rev. Spicer, Rev. Hudson and Rev. Tonkumoh worked hard to make the alliance a success. As time passed, the alliance asked our

brothers to be on the committee to write their statement of beliefs.

Rev. Ford asked our brothers if we could hold the meeting in our church; the alliance had invited the parents of the young men charged with the beating of Leonard Clark to come to our meeting. The parents accepted, but they could not attend this meeting because formal charges have been pressed against their children, and they have been advised not to attend any more public meetings.

The Ministerial Alliance seeks issues to work on which seem to be a huge burden for the people of Chicago, and they also want to show the people of Chicago that we must come together

as one to solve our problems.

Rev. Stan Davis gave a short homily about the passion ministers must have in order to save this country. He emphasized love, unity and forgiveness.

movement. They were excited to see pictures of their friends who have already rededicated their marriages, and asked questions about how they could have a marriage rededication in their church.

As Bishop Little closed the meeting, he asked our Bishop, Rev. KiHunKim, to speak at the next meeting. This is such a great victory. Through our members' hard work, our movement is finally being recognized as something which can help heal the city of Chicago. As we put our True Parents' words into action,

we can see how we can help to be a point of healing not only for the people of the city of Chicago but also for the ministers of Chicago. ♦



As the ministers toured our church building, met our members, and saw and heard of our True Parents' activities, their hearts moved closer to our

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Symposium on Unification Thought

by Dr. David Carlson—Barrytown, NY

Last month, we reported the sudden death of Dr. Sang Hun Lee, President of the Unification Thought Institute of Korea, during this symposium.

The Ninth International Symposium on Unification Thought, under the theme of "The Creation of a New Culture in the Age of the Global Village," was held in Korea on March 19th

to the 22nd. Jointly sponsored by the Unification Thought Institute of Korea and Sun Moon University, scholars from Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Thailand, the United States and the Philippines gathered on the Asan campus of Sun Moon University to present and discuss papers dealing with a wide range of issues and ideas. UTS was represented by President Shimmyo, presenting a paper titled "Humility and the Harmony of Cultures," and by Associate Professor David Carlson, who presented a paper on "The Ethics of Healing and the Healing of Ethics: Reconciling Eastern and Western Perspectives."

Prior to the formal beginning of the Symposium, participants were invited to the Lotte Hotel in Seoul to hear Reverend Moon speak to a packed audience of community, military and government officials.

The symposium opening was graced by the presence of Dr. Sang Hun Lee, President of UTI-Korea, and Dr. Se-Won Yoon, President of Sun Moon University. Dr. Lee delivered the keynote address, "Let Us Create the Renaissance of Godism," in which he encouraged those



Dr. David Carlson addressing the symposium

attending to use their expertise in order "to actualize an ideal world full of peace in which people with various views of value can share together prosperity and mutual respect, transcending national, racial, cultural and religious barriers."

Over the course of the next two days, papers were presented on such topics as "Zero-Sum Game," "New Science and Unification Thought," "Reconstructing Evolution Theory," "The School in the Global Village," and "The Modern Sig-

nificance of the Ethics of the Year (Liyue) Community." Classes were in session at SMU during the symposium and numerous students and faculty sat in as observers during the sessions. Throughout the symposium, participants were deeply moved by the warm hospitality of their Korean hosts. ♦

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DP on TV

by Erling Lea—Austin TX

Getting DP on TV is not a short cut for the Blessing this year, but it is a good way to influence all the others.

After three years and 500-600 hours with our church program Unificationism, I personally think with the number of members we have here in the USA it is the best way to wake up America. The reason True Father still has not received the Nobel peace prize is because most people do not know what True Father is doing. When I witness to ministers, they bow their head in respect to True Parents—or, they politely say they do not agree with our theology. I know for sure around thirty to forty political decisions have been influenced by our programs—maybe more.

The best way to vindicate Father's going to Danbury is to show the video of the congressional hearings over and over again; the people of Texas know for sure that Father was innocent going to prison; combine that with the ATF raid in Waco, and it is shocking.

The cost to headquarters for airtime with national broadcasting is around \$100,000; more primetime (6pm to 11pm); and \$30,000 to \$40,000 after midnight. This price is for one airing

only. The cost for me on public access each week is \$10 a week for one prime-time airing.

It cannot be done, some may say; we need 3/4" broadcasting tapes from HQ. Not necessary; today's machines are so good that a VHS in SP speed works fine; the stations have machines that keep the signal strong all the way. It looks even better than you will play it in your home VCR. Labor involved is approximately two hours for each program.

Why is "60 Minutes" so famous? Because for years and years they kept the same time spot and same type of show over and over again.

Christian churches are now imitating our teaching style with slides and overhead projectors.

On the last election, the talk of the town was not who the president was going to be; it was Unificationism, with old CAUSA reruns as an educational program about communism. Who has most influence here in America: the common preacher or television?

By studying people's lifestyle, it is easy to see which has most influence. If interested, write, phone, fax or e-mail me.

LP Time, P.O. Box 141744, Austin TX 78714. Ph 512 837 8705; Fax 412 837 8731. E-mail: LP Time @ AOL.com ♦





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Nature of God and Man, the Purpose of Life

Volume 1 • Part 5.

The Third Blessing, “Having dominion,” is fulfilled when spiritually mature men and women understand and appreciate the creation as God does. The creation then would respond with beauty, abundance and a festive glow.

Divine Principle suggests that before He created the first person, God made all things in man’s image. Therefore we share various qualities with the things of nature. The beauty of a rose is precious because it corresponds to the quality of beauty in ourselves. The majesty and nobility of a mountain are striking because they reflect something deep in the human spirit. Because things in the universe reflect the many aspects of man, we feel joy through the stimulation given by them.

God feels joy when his children are living joyfully. Therefore the Lord created the things of the universe to bring man joy. When a perfect individual has a productive relationship with the created world centered on God, a four-position foundation is established among God, man and the universe. The result is joy. According to the Bible, the creation eagerly awaits the revealing of the sons of God (Rom 8:199). Although we may sometimes glimpse a vision of eternal beauty in and behind creation, mankind as a whole has never realized the earth’s true value, nor presided over it in a true dominion. Though man was to be the lord of creation, he has often shamefully exploited his physical

resources, particularly in the modern age.

Co-creators with God

Instead of a dominion of care and love, our rule over the earth has been one of indifference and waste. In return, we have suffered from a harvest of polluted air and water, ravaged landscapes and filthy cities. Again, we have abused the environment because God’s image within us has not matured. Divine Principle anticipates that as we fulfill the first blessing by uniting with God in heart, we will come to have a proper dominion over the universe. Then we will be able to co-create with God a joyful and harmonious world—the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

Although the coming of the Kingdom of God on earth was a central conviction of the Hebrew prophets, the hope has largely faded in the centuries since then. One reason for this is that after the crucifixion of Jesus, the developing Christian Church tended to focus its faith on the cross rather than on the Kingdom of which Jesus so frequently spoke. In addition, of course, the record of human history in the past 2,000 years has not given us much reason to hope for a promised world of justice and peace.

Regardless of the present situation, Divine Principle reminds us that the Heavenly Kingdom is still the central purpose of God. Indeed, for God to be God He must one day achieve His ideal. When people throughout the world fulfill their purpose of becoming united with Him, forming God-centered families and taking dominion of love over the creation, we may have hope for the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

Peace and well-being

Divine Principle, in other words, reminds us of the original purpose of God a purpose which finds clear expression in the Scriptures. The Old Testament is replete with visions of a coming age of peace and well-being. Isaiah, for example, is the author of one famous passage:

“...they will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks, nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.” (Is 2:4)

Likewise in the New Testament Jesus stresses repeatedly the promise of the Kingdom, ultimately encouraging his disciples to pray “Thy Kingdom come Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven” (Mt. 6:10). The Apostle Paul anticipated a time when God would unite all creation, “things in heaven and things on earth” in Christ (Eph. 1:10). The writer of the book of Revelation, envisioning the ultimate triumph of goodness over evil, foresaw the day of “a new heaven and a new earth” (Rev. 12:1).

Today, many people feel humanity has entered a new age and that a new day will dawn in the not-too-distant future.

What will the Kingdom be like? While Jesus gave some vague hints in his parables, comparing the Kingdom to a pearl of great price or a wedding feast, Paul tells us that we mere mortals have no way of imagining what God has planned for those who love Him (1 Cor 2:9). Indeed, the average person who has been ravaged by the sufferings of

a mature man and woman would serve as the well-spring of love for their children and the larger society. Parents would be in the position of communicating God’s love to their children and children would find in their parents love examples by which they could live. From such a family would come the society, nation and ultimately the world centered on a true way of life.

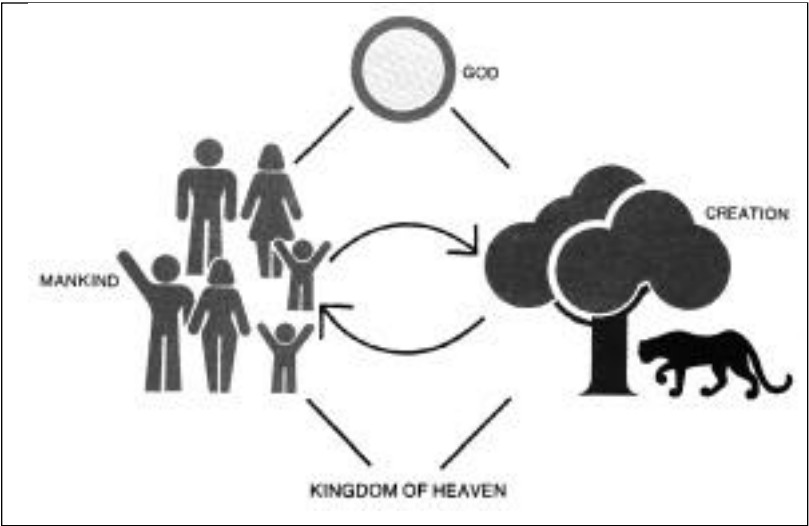
Also, in the Kingdom contrasting elements would find their point of harmony in God. Black and white, occidental and Oriental, believer of different faiths a saints and scholars would all, through higher truth and love, find reconciliation and harmony. To paraphrase Rauschenbusch, the reign of love would tend toward the progressive unity of mankind, while preserving individual liberty and national distinctiveness.

Since the standard of living for all members of a family is the same, Divine principle teach-

es that in the global family of God, the all-too-familiar disparities between industrialized and Third World nations will be eliminated. God’s children are all to know health and well-being, both spiritual and materially.

For Divine Principle then, the Kingdom is no idle dream. The Principle perceives that throughout history God has sent such men as Moses and the prophets, Mohammed, Buddha, Confucius and Krishna, as teachers of the way. In His greatest effort God sent Jesus Christ.

Will the Lord let these efforts go unfulfilled? Can He allow His children to continue to suffer without end? Definitely not. As later volumes of the Divine Principle will explain, with the advent of then new Messiah God will initiate a further effort to overcome the suffering of the world and to establish His Kingdom on earth. ❖



the real world cannot easily imagine such a Kingdom.

One Heart

Nevertheless, based on our understanding of God’s original ideal, some educated guesses are possible. First of all, the Kingdom of God is a kingdom of one heart. In the words of one of the original innovators of the social gospel, Walter Rauschenbusch, the Kingdom of God implies the “reign of love in human affairs.” Divine Principle would agree. In the Kingdom of God, each person would be one with God, triumphant in love. The citizen of the Kingdom would love as Christ loved. He would be a person of absolute value, living not just for himself, but for the whole world,. He would indeed be a citizen of the world.

For Divine Principle, the redeemed world is to be rooted in the family as the heart of life. The relationship between

Homeland of Your Heart

Quickly come to the gate,
Don't become a prey.
Quickly come to the gate,
The gate of Chung Pyung Lake.

Circle of light, circle of sound,
Sacred trees where angels abound.
Heavenly heart forever dwelling,
Shimjung showers sin dispelling.

Pounding drums loosen spirits,
Many voices keep the beat.
Clapping hands create the forces,
An soo power brings release.

Grace is here but you must strive,
Break the granite, come alive.
Dividing point of life and death,
Repent, forgive with gratefulness.

Heavy burdens lifted from you,
Gone is sorrow, pain no more.
Cycle of tears is so cleansing,
Peaceful calm bathes your soul.

Daemonim, Hak Ja Han,
Faces bright, hearts are one.
Loving smiles, loving eyes,
Comforting spirit, precious light.

Once your heart has found its home,
Wash your robe, enter the gate.
Thank your Father,
Thank the Spirit,
For the grace of Chung Pyung Lake.

by Paula Fujiwara who attended 10-day Chung Pyung Workshop April 18-27, 1997. (This poem can be recited to a steady drum beat)

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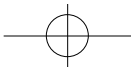
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UTS Class of '97 Graduates

by Gareth Davies—Barrytown, NY

UTS Founder Reverend Sun Myung Moon set new heights for graduation challenges on Sunday, June 29th by exhorting the 48 members of the UTS class of 1997 to become "true parents, true teachers and true leaders." In his Founder's Address, which was read in his absence by Continental Director, Reverend Joong Hyun Park, Reverend Moon said "There are many parents, teachers and leaders in this world but the question is who among them are true parents, true teachers and true leaders? In my opinion, they are those who can not only teach how to become children of filial piety in the family, loyal citizens in the nation, saints in the world and holy sons and daughters in front of God, but also exemplify this way of filial piety, loyalty, sainthood and holy sonship and daughtership within themselves as parents, teachers and leaders."

Many of those sentiments were echoed by guest speaker Dr. Kevin Ryan who included, among a series of aphorisms, words of the Founder which he had encountered on a walk around the property. "If you want to be recognized by God," read Dr. Ryan, "you must live for the sake of God and for the sake of humanity." "If you don't recognize that one," he told the grad-

uates, "you should give back your diplomas!"

Dr. Ryan will have understood better than most the notion of the "True Teacher" described by Reverend Moon. He is the founder of the Center for Advancement of Ethics and Character at Boston University and in 1990 he was cited by the Associa-

Reverend Joong
Hyun Park,
Dr. Kevin Ryan and
Dr. Kieran Scott



tion of Teacher Educators as one of America's outstanding educators. In his address, titled "The Moral Crisis in Contemporary Education," he lamented the fact that teachers have lost their sense of moral authority and have instead become mere "information dispensers" or "knowledge jockeys." He traced this regression to the late 1960s when "an array of shattering intellectual conflicts" involving race, sex, drugs and the Vietnam War created a division and a loss of trust between young and old. It was during the confusion of those years, he said, that teachers began to privatize their morality and "lost the sense that they had something to tell the young."

The consequence of this loss of confidence and moral consensus, said Dr. Ryan, is that now our government, parents and schools are recognizing that we are raising a generation which receives little moral guidance. He described this time as a crucial moment in which there is a hope see UTS '97 on page 18

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Western Literary Conference Opening Plenary headtable: front row: Sharon Skeeter, Paul Johnson, Father & Mother, Richard Rubenstein, M. Gazarian-Gautier; back row: Mr. Joo, Robert Ross, Neil Salonen, Michael Marshall

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delivered "View of the Principle of the Providential History of Salvation" at the opening plenary session of the conference. By this time several of the participants had developed what can only be described as a fascination with Reverend Moon. In part this was an interest in and support of his message, particularly on marriage and family. But they also sensed his passionate conviction and were moved by it.

The literary conference itself was a significant success. It followed on the Asian Literary conference held in April. Frankly, with the strong place that critical secular thinking holds in Western tradition, I thought that this conference would be more difficult than the Asian conference. This turned out not to be the case, although the logistical challenge was greater. The participants came from 110 different countries with the term "Western" being stretched to include Latin America, Africa and Oceania as well as Europe (including Russia) and North America.

The conference followed the same format as the Asian literary conference, with several guest speakers, committee session on topics such as "Tradition and Modernity," "Literature and Human Rights," and "The Interaction of Cultures," and presentations of the Principle through the True Character and Family Life Education sessions developed by the International Education Foundation.

Paul Johnson, the noted popular historian, gave the keynote address at the opening plenary session, taking a broad view of the coming century and making bold and imaginative predictions. He was not afraid of being controversial — some participants thought

certain of his remarks were too Eurocentric — but most agreed that his speech provided much food for thought.

The other guest speakers were William Buckley, editor of the "National Review" and former poet laureate Rita Dove. Buckley spoke about the need for an educated citizenry as a basis for democracy to work. Rita Dove was a huge hit with the participants, giving an intimate account of the genesis of the collection of poems "Thomas and Beulah," based loosely on her family history, for which she won the Pulitzer prize.

Radically new

After the opening plenary, Reverend Moon hosted a small luncheon for a few representative participants, including Dr. Johnson. During the luncheon, Reverend Moon discussed with Dr. Johnson, who is a Roman Catholic, some traditional Christian beliefs particularly whether Jesus should have married. Dr. Johnson was very forthright in explaining his beliefs and after a while Reverend Moon remarked that Dr. Johnson was an international celebrity and that he was probably never challenged on his views in most places he spoke but that Reverend Moon was really challenging him. "Yes he is," responded Dr. Johnson dryly. Then Reverend Moon told him not to take it amiss, that he was doing it because he liked him.

Dr. Johnson was not the only one challenged by Reverend Moon. Several participants, especially those of strong Christian faith, found the account of Jesus family situation radically new. One lady said she went to her room after the speech, took out her

rosary and prayed. She then went out and found a Catholic church and attended Mass. What was interesting and different was that such participants did not simply become negative and run away as they might have done

in the past but stayed and wrestled with what they had heard.

The lady mentioned above listened to all the True Character and Family Life Education presentations and

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ended up saying that the material on the True Resolution of Conflict should be heard by everybody in the world. A Russian participant, a famous actor, theater director and film producer, was very shocked at first by Reverend Moon's opening speech, considering him a dangerous man. But he thought through his emotions and at the end was excited at the possibilities of a film based on Reverend Moon's account of Jesus' family.

True families

The True Character and Family Life series were presented by three unificationists, Thomas Corley, Tony Devine and Philip Schanker. While not attended by all participants, they were well received. For many participants they were a bridge to help them understand the ideas in Reverend Moon's speech. A dozen participants made very specific requests to the speakers that the material be brought to their country. One of our concerns in organizing the conference was linking



Rev. & Mrs. Moon receive an award from the Time's General Manager

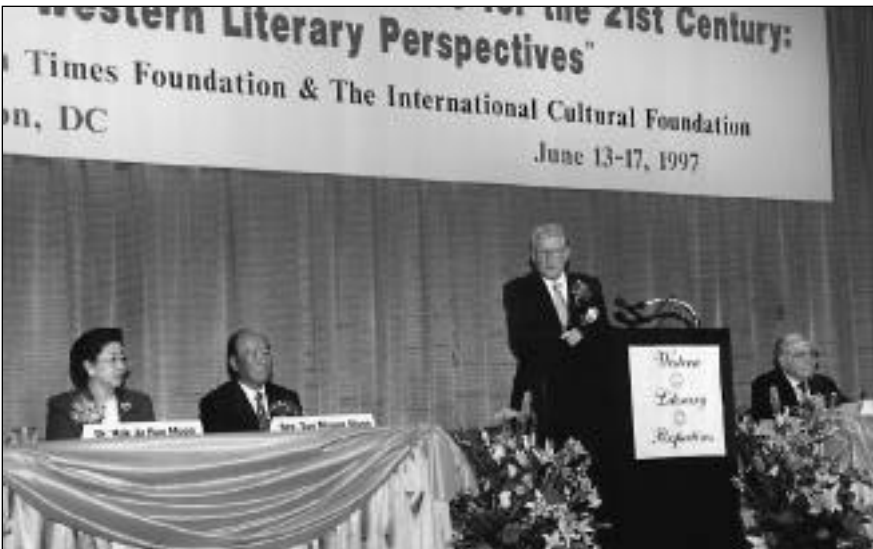


PHOTO GALL

Paul Johnson delivering the keynote address to the Western Literary Conference.



Sen. Orrin Hatch

the connection between future global culture and the ideal of true families. About thirty participants from the Asian literary conference also attended this conference and they joined together with the western participants to establish a new organization, the Literary Federation for World Peace, to continue the work of the conferences. A board of directors and an international advisory board was established. The Federation will work to harmonize different cultures through literature and to encourage writing that can move the imagination and hearts of people in all societies towards a global culture based on true values. ❖

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of recapturing the founding spirit of the American school system. That system, he said, was established "not to make people better burghers or shopkeepers but to make them able to handle the demands of democracy; to sit in judgment of one another, to make good laws and elect good people." This crucial moment is, however, in Dr. Ryan's opinion, endangered by the way in which this new effort is being interpreted. He described three approaches to the current lack of moral guidance - "the three Vs: Values, Views and Virtues." The "Values" approach, he said, does not represent something of great moral purpose but is aimed at helping the young to clarify what they believe and want. The adult community stands back in order to let the young discover on their own. Dr. Ryan characterized this approach as "optimistic, dangerous and very ineffective." The "Views" approach, he said, involves passing on to the young correct views or ways to think about such topics as their gender or the distribution of goods. Again, said Dr. Ryan, "this is a far cry from true moral guidance."

Dr. Ryan expressed hope that the third approach, the "Virtue" approach, will prevail. This is the realm of moral excellence and "character education" which helps individuals to acquire virtues such as respect and love and to take on for life the development of their own character. The word "character," he said, comes from the Greek word for an engraving tool and he urged the graduates, as future teachers, to think in terms of engraving and making an indelible impression on people's souls. In this context, he praised

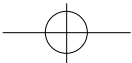
the work of the International Education Foundation and Tony Devine, a current UTS student. President Shimmio's congratulatory remarks to the graduates focused on "The Most Powerful Weapon" which he said does not mean money, knowledge or power but instead means to "do things exactly the same way God does." He said that "since the foundation of the universe, God has always been working hard. Even the fall of Adam and Eve couldn't interrupt God's commitment to hard-working....In human history," he continued "no one ever worked hard the same way God has done. That is the reason why God's providence of salvation has been prolonged until today." He therefore urged the graduates to "dash into the realm of full responsibility to do things the same way God has been doing." In the graduate response, Jesus Navarro spoke of the way in which America is viewed in his native country of Venezuela. "We see America like the Kingdom of Heaven, the paradise where you can fulfill all your dreams," he said. When he actually arrived in this country, however, he found immorality and hatred and it was not until he encountered the Unification Movement and came to UTS that he could feel any hope. "To resolve the problems of America," he said, "is not an easy task. It takes a life of service and sacrifice. That's why we come here, to experience multi-cultural, multi-racial and multi-religious, fam-

ily-like relationships. ...We are trained to become peacemakers. Peacemakers know that lasting and substantial peace comes only after true reconciliation from the bottom of the heart as in the family setting not with treaties or agreements of peace that hold back urges for revenge...Today is a day of hope, the 21st commencement. This is a new beginning for all of us, a spiritual awakening for the world lies in our hands. Let us become true broth-



ers and sisters and parents. Let us build the American dream of loving and peaceful families. Let us work hard to save America." **Celebration Banquet** When "Bridge Over Troubled Water," "O Sole Mio," and "Nzila Zulu" are listed together on a program, you know it's either a Unificationist celebration or a Paul Simon concert! An eclectic gathering of gifted performers (the UTS Band, pianist Dr. Richard Arthur, soprano soloist Mrs. Moon Sook Choi Yoon and the UTS Africa choral group)

made for a very entertaining graduation banquet with loud demands for encore performances. Once again, the drumbeats and bright spirit of the African brothers and sisters brought a roar of approval from the audience. Dr. Kathy Winings drew on her personal experiences as a UTS graduate in offering the Faculty Greeting. While working with the International Relief Friendship Foundation, she has been exposed to the suffering of people in Haiti, in North Korea and in North Dakota following the recent floods. It is easy, she said, to become discouraged in the face of so much need and so much heartache but she told the graduates that "because of my training and experience here at UTS of experiencing and feeling the living God, I've been able to maintain a vision so that I can give these people more than just physical goods." Dr. Winings assured the graduates of the world's need for their services. "Our society needs your wisdom, your pastoral counseling skills, your ability to teach religiously, your newfound acumen for interfaith and ecumenical dialog and it needs your very presence...God bless you and thank you." Several of those attending the event expressed their appreciation for an inspiring and enjoyable day. Reverend Joong Hyun Park commented on the spirit of the students and graduates and told President Shimmio that "perhaps I should encourage more of our members to come to UTS." *Reprinted from The Cornerstone.* ❖



A Mother's Heart with Her Son in Korea

by Gertrud Yasutake

How much will we need to cry for our children? I am the parent of one who has already cost me some tearful prayers, but who is maturing in ways unimaginable to us, and in ways I could never provide as a parent. Our son goes to school in Korea. He has found his own world, a world full of academic challenge, friends from many countries, and an austerity that one can only achieve in dorm life in Korea. Has your child ever been so grateful for a glass of milk or a slice of cheese or the lasagna you cook for him? Well, dorm life and life in Korea gave such a sense of gratitude to our son. We decided to home school our children when they reached school age. It was always assumed by us that our first son Chris was not "artistic material", so to send him to the Little Angel School was not a viable option. We felt his strength was in science, or any other field, just not art. But the possibility to send him to Korean opened up and made us change our mind. There were several reasons why we changed our minds: 1) his best friend had gone there and now our children were with-

out this precious comrade, 2) Chris and his younger brother Tim did everything together, they were in fact viewing life through each other. This, we felt, was becoming to be an obstacle to their development, and a change was needed. 3) Though home schooled, he had experienced one year in public school and stood up well to the influences a group situation brings. 4) Chris had learned some Korean and most importantly, he himself wanted to go. We sent him off with the feeling that this was a good step for his growth and getting-equipped-for-life. I was ready to create a scrap book about his experience there, planned to collect his letters, documenting his adventures there, with our correspondence, with photos, and memorabilia. In the first letter that he wrote home, he said that he was fine, he only missed seeing the stars at night and the green grass of Hawaii. I was moved by this show of sentimentality. When in tearful prayer I randomly opened my DP book, it was the quote from the Bible

When he returned for summer vacation I saw clearly that I had to discover him again ... he was a new person, a child of Heaven who had come into his own right, his own path, his own world.

in Genesis where God shows Abraham all the stars in the heavens. From then on I determined to give our son to God as Abraham was ready to give Isaac. After that experience, hardly any letters came. He was fully immersed in his new life. We talked on the phone several times, and we noticed that his voice started to change. I still missed the close-up observation of his development into puberty, but it was also precious beyond words to see our son again after he developed. The strides our children can achieve are astonishing. When he returned for summer vacation I saw clearly that I had to discover him again. He was not the sum of my concepts of him anymore, he was a new person, a child of Heaven who had come into his own right, his own path, his own world. In the dorm "family" he holds the position of a hyung, an elder brother. The social structure is very clearly set up according to the Korean tradition. The dorm parents' care, the different

responsibilities within the group, and being responsible for his own studying, cleanliness, etc. have shaped our son into an attentive young man. Our concerns about the art issue dissolved in a very clever way. After the 1 1/2 years of preparation time, Chris and one other student were the first to attend a regular Korean public school. It is only about a ten minute walk from the dorm in Kuri City. Again we took it as a sign that heaven wanted him there. And so it is. He has a home, a safe haven to grow and develop, and we could become wandering pioneers again to do the National Messiah mission in Bosnia & Hercegovina without distracting him from his chosen path. I believe our children will live in a world culturally more intermixed than ours, pursuing jobs and missions unimagined by us today, bridging and criss-crossing the world. We need to give them a linguistic und cultural advantage. Our children are definitely not ours alone. As Khalil Gibran said, we are only the bows from which powerful arrows shall fly. May our children's lives be rich and full of spiritual treasures. Then they will master the physical and emotional treasures as well. ❖

by Joy Pople

When we arrived in Moscow after the long ride from Latvia, our train family of teachers and students who had spent days or sometimes weeks together studying the teachings of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon. Alla invited me to accompany her and her daughter Olga to their apartment in a southern suburb of Moscow. We will take the Metro downtown, change to another line, and then transfer to a bus. Alla is very proud of the Metro. Some stations have artifacts and sculptures of museum quality. The cars are quite noisy. It is still evening rush hour. Alla says that it used to be the tradition for young people to offer their seats to older people, but that is no longer common. Then suddenly one young girl gets up and points Alla to her seat. Alla tries to get me to take it but I defer to her as my elder. Alla is concerned about what I will think of their apartment. I ask her if it is typical. Americans don't know much about ordinary Russians, and I would like to give them some idea of how Muscovites live. Yes, she assures me, her place will be fairly typical. At the bus stop, we follow a path to her nine-story building. A small elevator takes us up to the eighth floor. Alla unlocks the door. To the left is the bathroom and kitchen. Ahead is the bedroom that Alla and Olga share, and further back is the living room and the bedroom of Alla's married daughter and her family. Off that room is a small balcony. There is a crib for the little grandchild, and the four-year-old sleeps on the living room couch. Outside glimmer the lights of the high-rise apartment buildings on the other side of a freeway. What used to be a stupendous view of Moscow to the north when they moved into this apartment some 25 years ago was blocked by the apartment buildings constructed fifteen years later. The air is warm and hazy. Alla bustles around. She makes phone

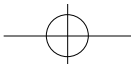
REMINISCENCE FINDING GOD IN MOSCOW

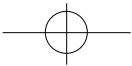
calls and goes to the neighbors for borrow some fresh bread. I wash some dishes and sort through the food leftover from our trip, slicing tomatoes, cucumbers, cheese, salami, and hard-boiled eggs for supper. Alla's face brightens. "Oh, you have already made our supper!" She gets out hot dogs to cook and rummages around for tea cups. Finally, Alla sits down. I tell Alla about my sister Louise's apartment building in Queens, New York. She, her husband, and their two children have a two-room apartment similar in size to theirs, minus the smaller bedroom. And do they have a balcony? No. Alla seems surprised. She asks what kind of place I live in. Our two-story house sounds mighty spacious. We take turns bathing. Alla is sleepy, but she wants to show me her treasured books. We go to the living room, with its piano and bookshelves filled with collected works of English masters, encyclopedias, art books, and novels in English and Russian. It's nearing midnight. I head for bed and soon fall asleep. At 7:15 am Alla knocks on the door. It's time to get dressed. We drink tea and eat more bread, cheese, and salami before heading out for their school, which is located in the same housing development. Alla wears a tailored black-and-white dress. Olga has a white blouse and a short denim skirt they bought in Latvia for 400 rubles, a third of what it would cost in Moscow. School is a five-minute walk. It has classes from first through twelfth forms. A large crowd is gathered at the entrance

of the school. Parents and children are waiting, almost every child carrying gifts of flowers-large zinnias, roses or gladioli. Alla regrets that she did not have time to get flowers for Olga to give to her teacher. In front of the building, where students are assembled behind signs indicating their form, and section A or B. Proud parents stand by the youngest children. The little girls wear black dresses with white pinafores of various styles, and the little boys wear dark blue suits. The older children do not wear uniforms. September first is commemorated as the Day of Knowledge. The principal congratulates the students on this special occasion. Finally, the youngest pupils enter the school, each one hand in hand with a student from a higher form. The young faces are a study of excitement, anxiety, and seriousness. The parents are dressed in their best, bursting with pride. With the seventh form students, Alla tries some simple conversational English, with little response. Then she tells them to open their textbooks, and she asks them questions about a drawing of a beach scene. She asks students to read in turn from an essay about the Day of Knowledge. Afterwards Alla complains to me that these students are beginning their third year of English studies but have never learned to talk English. It's hard for them to understand the need, because to meet an English-speaking person is very rare. Alla herself had never met an American before this spring.

Alla tries to inspire the fifth-form students who are just beginning their English studies. She is handicapped by the lack of any classroom map to show them how many English-speaking countries there are. We walk around the school. There are three floors of classrooms. We stop in the dining room where pancakes and raisin pastries are available; the cooks put some water on to serve us tea. As we wait, a boy comes in shyly bearing a bouquet of flowers as a gift for the cooks. We stop to say good-bye to the principal. Alla asks for tomorrow morning off to be with her visitor. The principal graciously agrees and offers me a bouquet of gladioli. We board a bus and head for the Metro. Sidewalk vendors display their wares at the exit downtown. My mental image of the Kremlin is that of the long red brick wall facing Red Square behind which mysterious meetings take place. I learn that the Kremlin is the site of the medieval fortress built on the highest hill of Moscow. The original wooden ramparts have been replaced by massive brick walls. Over the centuries, the Kremlin has been the center around which the Russian people rally to fight off foreign invaders. We walk through a long series of immaculately-kept lawns and gardens, past the eternal flame memorializing an unknown soldier who died defending Moscow during the Great Patriotic War (1939-45), past memorials to the heroic cities that withstood the invasion of Hitler's armies, past a reconstructed battlement, past a monument to heroes of the revolution. Floral tributes lie on the granite slabs. Entrance to the Kremlin itself is through a small gate and down a long cobblestone walkway to the Troitskaya

see **MOSCOW** on page 20





MOSCOW
from page 19

Tower. On our right is the newest building, the enormous glass-and-marble Palace of Congresses. Built in 1961 to house Communist Party gatherings, it has many meeting areas, including a theater hall with 6,000 seats. On the immaculate lawns we see a tsarist cannon and a massive iron bell, the largest ever cast.

Up the hill and to the left is the government office building. Behind a second-story window is Lenin's old office. A guard blows a whistle sharply and holds up his hand. Pedestrians stop abruptly. From the entrance to the office building come three black limousines. Standing on the sidewalk, I smile and wave enthusiastically. "What are you doing?" Alla asks nervously. Probably only an idiotic American would wave at officials in the Kremlin.

"Do Americans really hate Russians?" I am often asked. No, we don't hate the Russian people; we don't know much about them. Our government has been afraid of the Soviet government and its repeated threats and attempts to destroy freedom-loving people. That answer seems sensible to the Russians.

There is distrust and despair in the hearts of many middle-aged Russians. I tell Alla that in these uncertain times the task of government officials is very difficult. I hope they pray to God for guidance.

I had no idea that the heart of the Kremlin consists of cathedrals. The core of Russia's faith was never obliterated. A quintet of gold-domed churches built between the fifteenth and seventeenth centuries graces Cathedral Square, on the highest hill in Moscow. Under Marxism-Leninism they could not be used for religious services; for years at a time they were boarded up, to be opened on occasion to tourists as museums of Russian art. The highest form of Russian medieval art was religious art, in particular icons. Some of these icons have been restored to resemble their original glory. Russians can now see evidence of their glorious spiritual heritage.

For one whose exposure to religious art has been primarily Protestant or Catholic, to step into an Orthodox cathedral is to enter another realm. It reminds me of my sunrise pilgrimage to the huge statue of Buddha on the east coast of Korea near Kyungju. In its presence I began to understand something of the Buddhist ideal of the serenity that comes from renouncing worldly desires.

The overwhelming dimension of an Orthodox cathedral is vertical, drawing the eye up and up, past seven or more layers of religious images, to the cupola, which also is covered with painting. Inside the dome of the Cathedral of the Annunciation, which served as the tsar's private chapel, a huge, sad fresco of Jesus stares down at me. Here he is given his proper role as the center of faith, but his heart must grieve at the failure of his followers to carry out his example of sacrificial love.

This cathedral contains a famous array of icons depicting the complex hierarchy of religious figures in Orthodox tradition. The best artists from the Orthodox world, including the renowned iconographers Andrei Rublev and Theophanes the Greek, contributed to these panels. Like little children Alla and I exclaim to each other as we discover one marvelous art treasure after another.

The Cathedral of the Assumption has an austere, Romanesque exterior. In the ornate interior the tsars were crowned, ecumenical councils were held, and patriarchs were laid to rest in sepulchers.

In the Archangel Cathedral I stand for a long time looking at a painting of the Archangel Michael, considered the patron saint of Russian soldiers. He is portrayed as a young warrior in his prime, with wings rising from behind a coat of mail. Around his image are the faded scenes of what was supposedly his boyhood. The childhood of an angel? This compelling portrayal of a warrior angel fascinates me and causes me to ponder the special role of archangels in combating the forces of evil.

We walk down to the heavily-guarded museum displaying the crown jew-

els of the tsar and other magnificent treasures of jewelry, gold, and platinum. "Do you have anything like this in America?" Alla asks mischievously. She says the greatest masterpieces were sold off by Khrushchev and his successors to finance their luxurious private life.

Then we go back to Red Square to see the goose-stepping changing of the guard at Lenin's tomb. St. Basil's cathedral, with its multitude of onion domes and gold decoration, keeps vigil over the far end of the square. We cross the huge plaza to the GUM, which resembles a suburban shopping mall in the United States, and then head for the Metro and home. Olga will be hungry for supper.

I want to get some food for Alla and her daughter before I leave. At the market where we exit the Metro, I buy cheese, salami, bread, and milk. I purchase some corn, potatoes, and cucumbers from a sidewalk vendor. There was far more food available last summer in the Central African Republic.

When she can, Alla takes Olga for weekend retreats to the country cottage which her husband and his brothers bought along the Volga River. They spend a good part of every summer in the country and grow fruits and vegetables in the garden there. This is the only way she finds peace, she explains.

The phone rings after 10:30 pm. It is Rosalia, the artist who became close friends with Alla during the seminars. Suddenly, as she was preparing for bed, Rosalia realized that ever since the first seminar she hadn't been going through her usual nightly panic about dying. With great excitement, she calls Alla to share the good news.

Olga, also, had been having trouble sleeping at night for the past two years, after watching a horror show on the television. At the first seminar this summer, they went out to pray at night, and Olga saw two streaks of light illuminating the sky, and she began to believe in the reality of God. Nobody else saw the lights, but Olga believed that the lights had special meaning for her and that they were a sign of God's presence. Now she is not afraid of the dark. She likes to pray and eagerly responds when

I suggest that we pray together before going to bed.

On the way to the train station, we pass a bookstore. How can two book lovers resist the temptation to browse? There Alla sees a book on contemporary Russian Christian art. We are in a hurry. I look at a couple of pages and know I want to buy it. It is worth far more than the 300 ruble asking price. Published just last year, its images are testimony to the power of the spirit to penetrate decades of official atheism. Particularly fascinating to me are the modern interpretations of the classic icons.

Alla boards the coach with me and talks to the two young men and the young woman already in the compartment. This second-class coach is newer and cleaner than the third-class coach we shared two days ago. None of my compartment mates speaks English. Alla asks the young man on the lower level bunk to relinquish his space. We embrace in farewell.

The train ride to Riga is slow and seems lonely. I offer my compartment mates some fruit. They shake their heads. The whole ride they are absorbed reading pornographic tabloids. I write in my diary. When the girl sets out her meal, I offer her some cheese and she accepts it. She offers me dried fish, and I pull off a small piece and chew on it. I walk to the window and stare at the endless forest.

At the airport in Riga, the last group of Americans returning from the summer seminars slowly assembles. Some have been sightseeing in Riga. Two of them haven't eaten anything since last night, and they quickly finish the rest of my cheese, bread, salami and fruit. Now I know why I was given so much food.

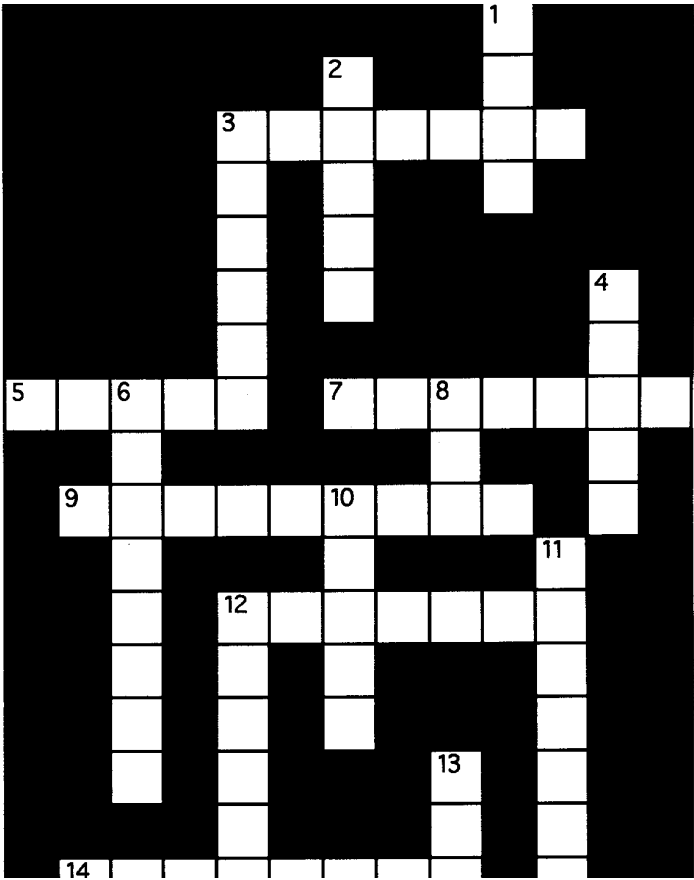
On the plane, Louise and I share stories about our adventures in the capital. Both of us were astounded by the cathedrals in the Kremlin. Louise had deep experiences of communing with Jesus there. We pore over my book on Russian Christian art. Both of us feel we were led there to help understand the heart of Christianity in Russia. ♦

by Clopha Deshotel

True Family Values Crossword Puzzle

The answers can be found on page 22.

First Family



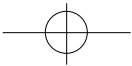
ACROSS

- 3 James 1:4, But let patience have its ___ work, that you may be ___ and complete, lacking nothing.
- 5 If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body. (___ 3:2)
- 7 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners...He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season...whatever he does shall ___. (Proverbs 1:1-3)
- 9 John 15:8, By this My Father is ___, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.
- 12 But did He not make them one,

- 14 I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings. (___ 17:10)

DOWN

- 1 John 5:8, By this My Father is glorified, that you bear ___ fruit; so you will be My disciples.
- 2 Psalms 1:3, He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its ___ in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.
- 3 He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season...
- 4 Gen 2:24-25, The leaves his father and he cleaves to his wife and they become one ___. and the two shall ___. So they are but one ___).
- 6 The Second Blessing comes AFTER the first of the First Blessing (Genesis 1:28)
- 8 Malachi 2:15, But ye shall make them ___, remnant of the Spirit of the Lord? He seeks good ___? He seeks good ___?
- 10 Deut. 28:1, Now it shall come to pass, if you do not observe the voice of the Lord your God, to observe care...



TRUE PARENTS' HISTORY FOR CHILDREN

Father Endures Pyongyang Prison

by Lesa Ellanson

Father was put into the Pyongyang prison on August 11, 1946. This was several months after Mrs. Ho and the other members of the Inside Belly Church were put in that same prison. In fact, Father was put into the same cell as one of their leading members.

Soon Father learned that the communists had told the members of that church that they would be set free if they would just sign a paper saying they were wrong. But they refused to do that.

Father told his cellmate he should go ahead and sign the paper and save his life. That man obeyed Father, but he was already so badly beaten that he died a short time after he was released.

Father wanted to tell Mrs. Ho the same thing, but she was in a different cell. Somehow, he managed to write a note on a little slip of paper. It said, "Tell them you are wrong. Pray to find out who wrote this." He slipped it to her in a bowl of rice.

Mrs. Ho knew she was supposed to meet the Messiah in prison, but she didn't realize this note was from him. She did not pray to find out who wrote it, she did not obey the note, and later she and all the other members of the Inside Belly Church were killed. After all the hard work they had done to prepare for him, after their thousands of prayers to meet the Messiah, they never even saw him.

The note Father wrote to Mrs. Ho was discovered by the guards. They asked him over and over who he was and why he had written the note. They hit him many times. The guards asked so many questions trying to catch him, but he never denied his mission, and also could not let them know he was the Messiah.

Give up God

The communist guards were angry because Father was not afraid, they decided to torture Father. They wanted to break Father's spirit and make him a weak man. Because so many other Christian ministers had given up when they received many beatings and other punishments, even cursing their captors, the communists believed that Father would do the same. They said, "If we beat this man hard enough, he'll give up his God."

But Father never changed.

Father prayed, "Heavenly Father, help me to withstand the torture and

live so that I can work for You. I will take responsibility for mankind's sin, and free You from suffering."

Father knew that if he could not live through this, then God's broken heart would continue for many more years to come. Even if every cell in his body cried out in pain, he would not allow his spirit to deny the love of God. So Father stood up straight and strong and told God he will not die.

The first thing they did to Father was to not let him have food or sleep. Since the body can go longer without food than without sleep, they tried to make Father so tired that he would become crazy. But the unity between Father's mind and body was far greater than the guards could believe. Father willed his eyes to remain open, even though his body was asleep for short periods of time.



The communists had to change shifts every three hours to watch him and be sure he didn't sleep. After nearly one week of "no sleep", the guards thought, "Surely this Reverend Moon has some sort of magical power." They became afraid of him.

Since Father's will was so strong,



the guards met and said, "We must try and break his fighting spirit with more severe physical torture." Then they began to use the "water treatment"—a hose was forced into Father's mouth and nose and then a powerful jet of water was shot into his head. They wanted to make him feel as if he were drowning, until finally he would faint.

Then once the water drained out, and Father recovered, they would do this water treatment again.

Since Father still refused to give in, Satan became desperate. Satan said, "If this religious man cannot be broken, he will fight against evil if he lives." Finally, Satan made a last try to break Father's iron will and stop God's plan to use Reverend Moon to save mankind. Satan made the guards feel more and more angry at Father.

The guards tied Father's hands behind his back with a very heavy rope. Using a large beam in the ceiling, they pulled the rope which lifted Father up high over the heads of the guards. Suddenly they let go of the rope, causing Father to fall. But before hitting the floor, they violently jerked the rope upward, causing Father's arms to be jolted from their sockets. The pain was so terrible that it was impossible to stand it without fainting. Father called this awful torture "the crane dance".

Do Not Worry

But all the time he was being tortured, Father never stopped praying. He said quietly, "Heavenly Father, please do not worry about me; I know your painful situation has been far more miserable than my own. Give me the strength to endure this torture. I want to continue Your work of restoration and finally free Your heart. Please forgive these guards; they are being used by Satan, your enemy, to destroy mankind. Forgive them, forgive them..."

Finally when Father's strength was about to

give out, the communists began to beat him with bats. They hit him in the face so hard that his back teeth shattered and blood gushed from his mouth. Father tensed his muscles against the blows, but he was struck in the stomach so hard and so many times that his intestines turned into pulp. He began to throw up, covering his body with so much blood that it dripped onto the floor. He could hold on no longer, and Father finally fainted from loss of blood. His body was so

beaten and scarred that the guards thought, "After what we've done to him, surely he is dead."

And on the night of October 31st, 1947, Sun Myung Moon's limp, bloody body was thrown out into the snow. The communist prison guards thought he was dead. That night, one of Father's disciples came to visit him in prison. As he walked through the snow outside the prison gate, he saw the bloody body of Father thrown on a pile like a bunch of old clothes. The disciple turned white with fear.

"They have killed him," he gasped. He moved closer—he felt Father's body. It was still warm. "Oh God, save him!" he prayed.

Running home he quickly gathered several other followers. Sadly and tenderly, they carried Father's body home. One by one they touched him and washed the blood off.

"He is dead!" they cried. They began to prepare for the funeral.

But then a miracle happened—Father began to move. He was coming to life. When his followers saw this, they lovingly and hopefully nursed him back to life. Father threw up large amounts of blood. He was terribly weak and sick. Won Pil Kim was there. He helped to find herbs and medicines to give Father. He was so determined to live and do God's work. His first thought always was of Heavenly Father.

"I must begin to preach again," Father said, as soon as he had enough strength to talk. ❖

There is a Stillness

There is a stillness that brings peace to all life —
Like a winter's wind silenced by the cyan
Touch of spring, her sky even bluer
Than the summer when I was born —

It is this quiet that I know when my heart
Opens thus to the eager smile of your
Prism-colored joy, the likeness of which
I have never felt nor seen before —

What emotion! What sensation!
What a daring event that captures the history
Of our lives in a chronicle of righteousness
Upon the path of eternal heart!

And in my moment of reflection and discovery
I see your face set the spark of knowing
That this stillness I feel is God's love for you and I —
For the whole of all mankind.

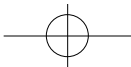
Kevin Ribble

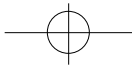
Declared by Rev. Moon
as a witnessing tool
for the providence!

TO THE WORLD

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THE FOOT-WASHING: MEETING WITH GOD

by Martin Herbst—Barrytown, NY

This is the second of two excerpts from the Sunday sermon given at Unification Theological Seminary, April 20, 1997. Martin is currently at UTS and was the church leader in Slovenia for the last three years.

A second lesson we can learn from the Biblical story of Jesus washing his disciples' feet is that God's love is given for history and the entire world. It is, in other words, universal. Whenever God does something, His motivation is universal. When God created the very first human beings, Adam and Eve, it was with a universal purpose in mind. If Adam and Eve had understood the cosmic significance of their existence and relationship, would they have fallen?

To connect truly to the vibrating love of God, our motivation and attitude must resemble that of God. When Jesus bowed down and washed the dirty feet of the disciples—even the feet of the one who betrayed him—he did it, not just for them, but for all mankind. Jesus saw in them the representatives of all mankind and all human history. This heart of universal love created a very solemn atmosphere, which made it possible for them to sense the presence of God. But at first Peter does not really catch this aspect of Jesus' heart. Peter exclaims, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet? ... You will never wash my feet" (John 13:6-8). And when he finds out that his connection to Jesus depends on this act, he changes and says, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" (John 13:9) Again Jesus has to correct him, for Peter has entirely missed the point. For the point is not just little Peter—it is the whole world. It is not just a question of individual salvation, but a matter of universal restoration; it is a matter of setting a tradition of love.

My concern is not to judge Peter, but to share a lesson with you. If we just look at Christ from our own personal perspective, we will—simply speaking—not catch his heart, and might even lose our connection with him altogether. Many people have lost faith in Christ out of personal reasons, but our connection to the Messiah must be historical and universal beyond everyday reality. Here Jesus is revealing a fundamental aspect of God's love. In order for us to connect to it, we must likewise look at our spouse, children, neighbors, friends and strangers with more than just personal viewpoints.

When I came to America, I realized that many brothers and sisters have lost their faith or inspiration. But when I analyzed the matter more deeply, I found that usually these breakdowns were motivated by personal reasons. Personal reasons and emotions are important, but they must not rule our relationship to God's Providence and True Parents. Many times we have to go beyond our own personal perspective and see the Messiah and our lives from an historical perspective. We are historical beings with historical motivations.

Today I came here to deliver this Sunday sermon. But the real question is: to whom am I speaking? Am I speaking to a group of faculty members, students and guests who are more or less

supposed to be here? Or am I addressing the very representatives of all mankind, God's holy sons and daughters, my beloved elder and younger brothers and sisters? With what kind of mind-set did I prepare this sermon? And when I come home, do I look at my wife as a representative of all women, even of God, or do I just see my wife? That is the question, isn't it? And only I can answer it. Each one of us is called to decide. It is a decision made in secret within your own mind, but it makes a world of difference. To truly encounter the explosive, liberating sensation of God's love, we cannot drag Him down to our level. Instead, we must take a step into the darkness, over the cliff of our own limited world, into a realm of a different mind-set—a universal motivation. As much as Jesus saw God and the whole world in his disciples, so must we attempt to do the same. This is the way of a disciple of Christ.

A passage of *Principle* concerning Abraham's offerings states: "These three sacrifices symbolized the cosmos, which was completed through the three stages of the growing period" (*Exposition of the Divine Principle*, 1996, p. 209). How on earth did Rev. Moon come to the realization that these three offerings actually represented the entire cosmos? Did he read it somewhere in a theological journal? I doubt it. Or did some angel whisper it into his ear during an early morning prayer? I don't think so. The reason he could sense this motivation behind God asking Abraham to bring the offering is that he lived precisely with this motivation himself. Living with this motivation made it possible for him to discover God's universal heart in the smallest of things. It is the same for you and me. Our motivation and purpose must be for more than ourselves. We too must live our lives with a sense of history and for all mankind.

A Deeply Personal Level

The third and final lesson we can learn from this story is that as much as true love is universal, it is also shared on a deeply personal level. The love of God is universal but the universal finds its expression in the personal. There is no contradiction. Here in our story, there is a moving conversation between Jesus and Peter. Jesus is very well aware of Peter's character, but in a loving way he guides him to the proper perspective: "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me" (John 13:8). Jesus then continues: "So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you" (John 13:14-15). It is interesting that Jesus criticizes Peter. It is often through criticism that our personal relationships are developed, for it takes both courage and personal concern to point out a friend's mistake, as well as humility to receive the guidance. Despite Peter's obvious lack of understanding, let us not forget that he of all the disciples

was the only one who had the trust and courage to speak out what the others might have felt.

Again and again I have come to the conclusion that what really makes a relationship or organization efficient is the depth of the personal relationships, not just the loyalty to abstract positions. There in the personal exchange of ideas and feelings, we make it possible for God to work in the most profound way. Think about how True Father would care with all his heart for each



single member in the early days in Korea. Through these personal bonds, the roots were made for what we know see unfolding on the world-wide level. We must remember this element in True Parents' ministry and apply it in our own lives.

During my years as a pastor, I have had a recurring experience which perhaps you may recognize in your own life. It has to do with counseling. Often I would counsel a person, and sometimes the person would thank me ever so much for my advice, which he had never heard before—he claimed. But the point is that I had been repeating exactly that advice at least a hundred times during my sermons! Why was he never able to catch it before? Because sometimes, indeed many times, we only discover the truth when it is brought to us in a deeply personal way.

We need to nurture heart to heart conversations; otherwise, we will not be able to create the environment for things to grow and bear fruit. This is especially true if we want to be vessels through whom God may work to fulfill His plan to save the world. Let me illustrate this with an example. Do you sometimes watch action movies? Most action movies follow a similar pattern. We have a hero or heroine, a terrible devil of some sort, and usually the world—perhaps even the entire cosmos—is at stake. Naturally, our hero must have universal, unselfish motivation, but when you watch closely you will find that his real strength lies in his abilities to establish a personal connection to someone, be it a friend, a son, a father, or even an animal. In other words, the final power and secret to win the victory over evil and the liberation of the cosmos lies in his personal commitments and relationships. This is also true in our daily lives. When someone remembers us or discovers aspects of our character which we thought only we knew, we

feel moved and invigorated.

I want to share a little story with you; you may find it silly, but it means a lot to me. Just recently I had a birthday. It was remembered by some friends but, given my modest reputation, it was—as you might suspect—forgotten by most. But then this little letter came in through the letter box. It was a birthday greeting from the president of the European Family Federation for World Peace and Unification. I was actually moved, for there is no reason why he,

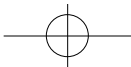
who is responsible for so many projects and people, should remember my birthday. My critical mind began to operate, and I felt compelled to check whether this was just a print-out from the computer. But, after having scrutinized the letter and the signature, I came to the conclusion that this was indeed a real card with an authentic signature! I think all of us have similar experiences. Yes, we humans are

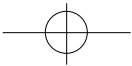
sensitive beings, and we will never forget it when we are loved in a personal way.

So, to truly meet and live with God we must remember these three points: 1) We must not be afraid of going to the lowest possible place. 2) When we give, we must give to God and all mankind with a sense of history. 3) We need to practice this in a deeply personal way.

The final question you might ask is: "But where? Where can we practice these three dimensions of love?" Can we do it alone? No. A person working alone might feel he has an historical mission or responsibility, but he will find it hard to develop personal relationships, and he is in constant danger of being swallowed up by arrogance and pride, especially if success comes his way. Both Karl Marx and Rousseau felt they had an historic calling, but lacked humility and depth in their personal relationships. On the other hand, if a person is too centered on personal relationships and opinions, and little else, he might never get started. He might never discover his true potential.

The only place where these three dimensions of love can be completed and balanced out against each other is not in some formal organization or church, but in a married couple and family which truly lives for a God-centered public purpose. In such a family, we have the ideal training ground for all three dimensions of love. In the day to day reality of family life inspired by a higher purpose, we find ample opportunities to go to the lowest possible place, to look at our spouse and children from a universal and historical perspective, and to do this in an atmosphere of personal trust and intimacy. The continuous practice of such a way of life will lead you and your family closer to the love of God. ❖





UNEXPECTED SINGLE PARENTHOOD

An Interview with Kaarina Jager by Kasia Stevens—Albuquerque, NM

Nov. 27, 1985. In Albuquerque, New Mexico at Coors Road and Paradise Boulevard, a drunken truck driver killed my husband. My life changed forever when the police came to my door the night before Thanksgiving and told me the terrible news. Shock ran through me. I was alone in a foreign country with my two sons Risun and Austhan, who were one and two years old at the time. In an instant, their precious father became a vague memory and a set of pictures.

I decided to stay in America and not return to my native Finland. With the help of two friends, Marie-Yvonne Carbonneau and Chihei Sawada, I prevailed over that first heart-wrenching year. It would take several years to settle the court cases, to finalize my immigration and to grasp what had happened. I stayed in Roswell, New Mexico (south of Albuquerque) where I felt God had asked me to be. With His help I have been able to educate my sons, give to the communi-

ty, and work on my teaching certificate. Currently, our elder son is studying in Korea.

I have been a member of the Unification Community for 23 years and was Blessed in 1978 in London. Our Blessing was specifically for the unity of Europe. We started our family in 1981 in New York City and moved to Roswell, NM in August 1984.

Q: Kaarina, thank you for sharing your experiences and insight with us. What do you think was the cause of the accident?

A: It has taken me over 10 years to fully understand the situation, but ultimately, I think Reinhard's family background was a very heavy spiritual burden for us. Reinhard is from Austria and his father was a Nazi. Even today some of his family deny the holocaust and are very antisemitic. In my lineage, the women are controlling. There were also several illegitimate children who were mistreated. These specific sins, as well as the myriads of sins we all encounter in our lineages, created a heavy spiritual burden for us to carry.

This difficult family history and our young marriage in combination with our intense church life kept us from being able to protect Reinhard. Furthermore, before and after Reinhard's death, three quarters of his family died—one right after the other. During that time our family met with several near-fatal accidents and assaults. Thank God we survived! I felt these deaths and attacks were also a result of the heavy sins in the lineage.

All of our negative paths need to be restored even if we are living in difficult situations. Our weapons in the battle of restoration are hope, a positive mindset, and positive actions towards others. True Father teaches and exemplifies this attitude. Without our church and Divine Principle, I can't imagine how I could have coped. Although there was little understanding or help available from anywhere before Reinhard died, throughout the years after his death, many church members have helped us. I am grateful for True Parents and the Principle as well as for brothers and sisters who have written, called, visited and prayed for us.

Q: What effect did the accident have on your children?

A: They were so small that they do not remember Reinhard, and he hasn't contacted them or me since. They never really knew what it meant to have a father. Surely, they would love to have a Dad with whom to play sports, go fishing and just talk.

Q: How did you deal with the loneliness?

A: I stayed active in my missions of CAUSA, ICC, Tribal Messiahship and now the 3.6 million Couple Blessing. Of course, I also take care of everything financially. First, I fund-raised and then I was a substitute teacher. Soon I will finish my teaching degree. Plus, I keep our sons in school, take care of this old house/center, the car and our dog!

I love to read and watch movies in order to gain insight, and I made several conditions throughout the years. Some of them were quite extensive. The conditions included prayer, study and service to others.

Still, there is some pain, especially when True Father so lovingly talks about the relationship between husband and wife. I certainly wish that we could have spent more time together and been able to share our deepest hearts. I wish also that we could have spent time in Finland and Austria together as a family. I dream about a big banquet for all our relatives with my husband, me, Risun and Austhan in attendance!

Q: What important things did you learn from Reinhard's passing?

A: 1. Don't take your spouse for granted, and don't expect your spouse to do it all. It is so much more rewarding to be able to share your thoughts and everyday life with a substantial person than to try to connect "spiritually". [This is especially true because we hardly knew each other due to the intensity of the mission and the shortness of time.]

2. Get a life insurance policy. [We didn't have one.]

3. Get a life! I have to cultivate my spiritual life, continue my education and work at my mission.

We are products of our family, lineage and national history. If there are serious problems in the lineage and

nation, we must exert great effort to make progress. Our family, tribe and nation rises and falls with us. Now I am fighting in the educational arena as a teacher and by being involved in organizations and activities. There is plenty of work to be done!

Q: What process did you go through to learn those lessons and how long did it take?

A: I had no choice but to start learning right away. However, it has taken me years to overcome feelings of betrayal and disappointment, especially since I am left alone to deal with his difficult family. It is only by cultivating a grateful heart that we can protect our immediate and extended family. Our good attitude and actions can hold back the floodgates of judgment against our family and tribes.

I have always maintained communication with my central figures—my spiritual lifeline. I also made conditions of studying the Principle and being active in my community. I have participated in Neighborhood Watch, Crime Prevention Council, Chiefs' Forum, Roswell Historic District, Parent Teacher Association, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and other volunteer work.

I realized that Reinhard's and my family and similar in some ways, yet his indemnity was really heavy. Before his death, my husband was struggling with many issues. I had to forgive him and his family, which still at times is not easy. I am grateful that Reinhard brought us to America. I am also grateful that Reinhard persevered for four years of our family life and that we were able to have two wonderful sons! Reinhard had been in the church just 13 years.

Q: What were your priorities before the accident and have they changed since then?

A: I always wanted to live for a good cause and to share my life with someone working for the same cause. Now the priorities are the same, but it is much harder! Practical things like plumbing and taking care of the house and car are not my forte. Being a widow for many years, it is much more difficult to witness about the Blessing. Obviously, raising two sons without a husband and father is the biggest challenge. Luckily, my family (especially my father) has been quite supportive.

Q: What would you like to say to others?

A: Get help fast if there are spiritual or physical problems and talk to someone if there are family problems. On the practical side, get a life insurance policy, because you don't need extra financial pressure when you are grieving. We must continue to improve ourselves and help others rather than dwell upon what might have been. Also, appreciate your spouse and be grateful for the good things which happen to you.

Interviewer's note: This article is dedicated in love to all those precious members who have lost their spouses. I am sure each of you has a story to tell and profound lessons to teach. I wish I could have interviewed all of you.

Kaarina is making an album for her children. She is looking for people who knew Reinhard and is hoping that you will send her any pictures, mementos, or thoughts you have of him. Her address is: Kaarina Jager, 205 S. Lea, Roswell NM 88201 or call her at 505-622-5176. ❖

Raising Children of Peace

In his timeless classic, *The Great Learning*, Confucius declares: *If there be righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character. If there be beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there be harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. If there be order in the nation, there will be peace in the world.* This book is written to trace some of these linkages and to see how righteousness, beauty, and harmony can be nurtured and established in the hearts of our children, thereby truly fostering peace in them and in the world.

Those who contributed articles to this book are all parents who bring the voice of experience to this endeavor. They are writing not from theory, but from experience. Further, each brings a unique perspective to implementing those stable family values that can best sustain the happy and peaceful lives of our children. Though the writers come from different quarters professionally, some important common themes emerge from their insights.

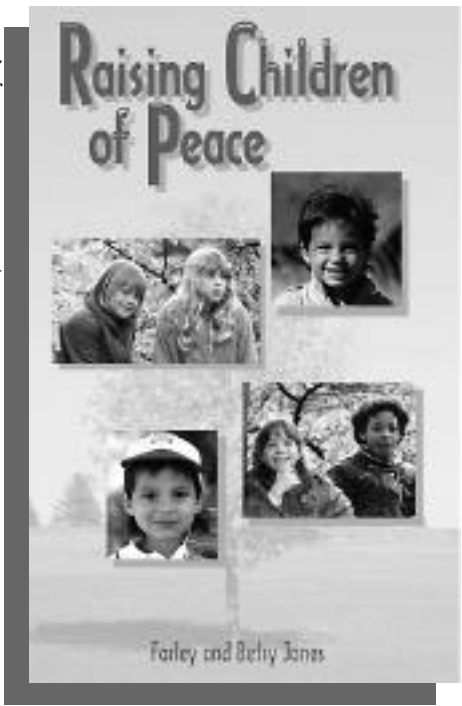
To minimize problems of family dysfunction in the future, and to support the health of our families and society, we must renew on a society-wide basis the ideal of parenting.

Prior to this, however, must be the renewal of the idea of committed marriage. Beyond doubt the most successful parenting experiences are provided by those who have been successful in their relationships with their spouses.

Ultimately, both marriage and parenting must find their place in a transcendent order that links marriage and parenting in a unified whole. It is for this reason that religious faith can play such a constructive role in harmonious family formation.

While parenthood seems the most private of arenas, the effects of this parenting are ultimately cosmic in scope and character. What each of us do individually now as spouses and parents will have enormous collective effect in the future. When we parent our children, then, we parent the future and we parent the world.

It is because parenting is so important to our children and to our society that this book has been written. It is offered to stimulate active caring and investment in the central relationships of each of our lives, those being first with our spouses and secondly with our children.



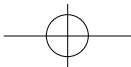
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by Alex Colvin—Glen Burnie, MD

I must confess, I can't deny, that I do not play golf. Nor do I generally watch golf on television. However, this past Sunday, I got caught up watching Tiger Woods in the Masters. I was sitting in a pizza parlor, about ready to go home, when I saw that the TV was on and a few folks were watching the Masters. I was curious because I had seen Tiger Woods on the front page of the Sunday paper and I wondered what all of the fuss was about.

Before I knew it, I was late for dinner. I hurried back home and blurted out to my wife Linda, "We've got to turn on the TV, the Masters is on." She looked at me like I was crazy. I went into the living room and turned on the tube. My 13 year old daughter was sitting on the floor writing something on the laptop. She wondered why I was putting on something as dull as a golf tournament.

We were at the 18th hole. Tiger had just missed his first putt. He had a four and a half footer. If he made it he would finish 18 under par breaking Jack Nicklaus record. The crowd fell silent. I started to tell my daughter how critical it was. "This is history in the making." "This may be his only chance in his lifetime to break this record." etc. As tiger finished his calculations, we hushed and watched intently. Tiger tapped the ball. It inched its way toward the hole, then - Plunk - it was in. "Yes!" yelled Hanalyn, flushed with excitement.

Then we watched as Tiger made a beeline for the Gallery, a path cleared,

and he walked into his father's arms. They embraced for about a minute. The camera focused in, and I saw a tears of joy in Tiger's eye.

The Beauty of Father-Son

Earl Woods received his discharge from the Marine corps and married a lovely girl that he met in Thailand. They had a son and named him Tiger after a friend of Earl's in the Marine Corps. Earl had a dream that his son would become a great professional golfer. He was a good loving father. He raised his son with tough love. The boy in turn loved his father. He inherited his father's desire that he become a great golfer and made it his own. He concentrated his mind on achieving his goal — their goal — and disciplined himself to become the greatest player in the history of golf. And he stuck to it!

Their embrace that evening in Augusta was a dream come true for both of them. A father and a son united in a common victory. It's an example and a testimony for us all.

It has become commonplace for us today to lament the rise of single-parent homes. A predominant percentage

of the problems of modern youth are endemic to single-parent families. Now, research is leading us to the conclusion that a critical factor is the lack of the father. Single-parent homes in

which the father is raising the children do not have the same incidence of problems as those in which the sole parent is the mother.

This is in no way to cast aspersion on single mothers. They do their best to provide for their children. But the fact is that the father provides an important psychological role in the development of the child. The father provides vision and goals which help the child to develop self discipline. A good father helps a child to make sense out of the world and to define his direction in it. The relationship between Tiger Woods and his dad are a perfect example.

Axis of the Universe

It is not surprising that the role of the father is important. The family is a paradigm of love which God created. God is the original parent. We are created in his image. God's desire was that we could understand his heart and will

just as Tiger understood the heart and will of his earthly father. God's desire is that, as we grow, develop our mind and body to reflect his nature, and share in the creation of a loving and just world, He can share the same type of embrace with us that Earl Woods shared with his son. The tragedy is that we became fatherless children when we abandoned God. We are the prodigal sons and daughters.

Winning a golf title is nice. But how much more valuable is it to be victorious in achieving an everlasting relationship with our eternal source of love? We can rejoice that Tiger Woods and the Woods family have established such a fine model for others to follow. But let's take the lesson and go further. Let us strive to discover the heart of God, the desire of God, the will of God, in the same way that Tiger related to the will of his father. Let us make God's will and desire our own, just as Tiger made the dream of his father his own. Let us focus our efforts to achieve a loving character, loving families, and a loving world to the same degree that Tiger focused his efforts to become an outstanding athlete.

It is more difficult to become a true child of God than it is to win the Masters. We need to master ourselves. But the prize is also greater — infinite and eternal love, profound and everlasting joy, and the healing of our wounded world. ❖



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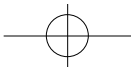
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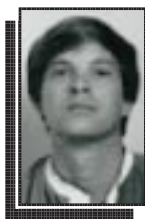
For those of you still with me, if you never want to worry about money again, let me assure you, you are in the right place at the right time. If you are skeptical, that's OK... So was I. Just look closely at this dynamic opportunity and see for yourself. If won't cost you a dime to take a good close look, and I have all the information you need to make a relaxed and intelligent decision.

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I look forward to speaking with you soon and have a great day!

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**PAUL
CARLSON**

Mr. Carlson is involved with marine aspects of the Providence in the Bay Area

PART TWO

In the previous article I discussed how crowded this planet Earth is becoming. Empty stretches remain only because most everyone prefers to live in developed areas. Humanity needs room!

New worlds beckon. We've developed space flight, and astronomers are finding planets around other stars. No one knows whether any of them bear life, much less, the familiar kind. Apparently there aren't any civilized aliens living on them. If there are, they are deliberately avoiding us.

Humankind may soon settle the Earth's oceans, and then the Moon and Mars. Eventually, millions will dwell there. The centuries will roll on, and we will expand. It won't be easy. The stars are immensely far away.

How far? It takes several days to drive a car across the United States. The Apollo spaceships reached the Moon in several days. But NASA's space probes require *years* to reach the Sun's outer planets, such as Neptune. (Currently the farthest.)

The fastest existing probes, the Pioneers and Voyagers, would take *tens of thousands* of years to reach the nearest star, several light years distant. Would, that is, if they were aimed directly towards it, which they're not.

Past explorations were carried out by hardy pioneers, as were the first air and space flights. (As depicted in *The Right Stuff*.) It wasn't long before air travel became routine. Soon, space will also be opened to regular travel. The *Delta Clipper* and *Venture Star* spaceships now being built will likely provide the means. However, those ships (like today's Space Shuttles) can only reach low Earth orbit—only a fraction of the way to the Moon. Better ships will have to be built for routine flights there, much less to the Sun's other planets.

Yet even Neptune is nearby, compared to the stars. They are thousands of times farther still. Presumably, we'd like to complete the journey to another star within our own lifetime!

Starships

Enthusiastic scientists are already planning genuine starships. (Unfortunately, the galaxy-crossing ships depicted in science fiction depend upon imaginary propulsion systems that might as well be sheer magic.) The actual plans take many forms. Most of them would

accelerate to a substantial fraction of the speed of light, and still their journeys would take many years.

The first starship might be unmanned: a tiny, swift *Starwisp*. Or crewed: a fusion-driven *Daedalus*. Or even a populous space ark: a lumbering *O'Neill Colony*. There are books; one can also visit several web sites. (See: <http://www.tasmall.com.au/drmatrrix/starship/rockets.htm>.)

These plans are entirely realistic. Any computer-company billionaire could, if he wished, invest a portion of his wealth to back such a venture. What a legacy!

The universe has a built-in "speed limit," the speed of light itself. Nothing material can reach, much less exceed that velocity. The universe does provide one helpful advantage, first posited by Einstein. It's called "time dilation." Crudely put: the faster you go, the slower time passes. Atomic clocks flown aboard airliners have measured this effect. Above 90% of the speed of light, time "slows" dramatically. A voyage of a century could seem like only a year—but back home, the full time would have passed. Such voyages will require true pioneers.

Only a handful of people would be able to make such a perilous journey. The first starships will be small, and the cost enormous. Nothing but wilderness would be waiting at the end.

Similar objections were raised when Christopher Columbus planned his voyage across the Atlantic Ocean. Tiny ships, a long and arduous voyage, and no assurance as to their eventual landfall.

Those Thirteenth Century Europeans couldn't imagine that, mere centuries later, jumbo jets would routinely fly thousands of people across the Atlantic, and in a matter of hours. Or that bustling cities like New York would receive them.

It is said that the gap between the stars is too great. We shall see.

Settlement

Settling the new planets will be different. The Earth is covered by the works of humanity. Graded road and rail beds, dams, mines, and canals. Miles of metal and wood pole lines. Huge factories and power plants. Farms large and small.

Need a new world be similarly developed? No!

Technology *already* in use will enable the settlers to dispense, almost entirely, with those things. Even now, several Third World nations are leaping ahead, installing cellular phone sys-

tems instead of wires.

Eventually, flying cars (perhaps hydrogen powered) will be common. Graceful, elevated trains, speeding along on magnetic cushions, will carry passengers and freight between cities. These could supplant surface roads almost entirely!

Prodigious energy, whether from fusion or some other source, will be needed to power a starship. That same source will also power the new cities, so pole lines will never be strung. Such energy could distill plenty of fresh water directly from the seas, or any convenient source. And pipe it, underground, across great distances. Dams and canals

will not be as important.

Robotic fabrication, perhaps nanotechnology, will bring clean, compact manufacturing closer to homes and business. Large factories will only be needed for special purposes. Bulk facilities like warehouses could be located underground; this is already done in several cities.

Genetic engineering will allow hardy, custom-tailored food crops to be grown anywhere. Huge, commercial farms and ranches would be nearly obsolete.

The new worlds can remain virtually unspoiled.

Immigration

Such paradises will be popular destinations. Today many nations are embroiled in arguments over immigration. Whether of the skilled and hardworking—or of the benefit-eligible, the severely ill, or even the known criminal. (Not to mention *illegal* immigrants.)

Which agency, if any single one, would provide transit to the new worlds? Will it be corporate, governmental, or both?

Who, if anyone, would control immigration? No doubt every nation, company, specialized organization, and visionary religion, will feel that *they* are best qualified.

If there are many such worlds, all of these entities will probably have a chance. But if, at least initially, there are only a few available planets, this could become a source of great contention.

These same players will vie for control of the new worlds. The initial landings will be tightly organized exploratory parties. The first colonists will be scientists and pioneers; people too busy to quibble. They will have plenty of chal-

lenges as they settle their new homes.

Soon enough the populations will grow, and various factions—in the broadest sense of that term—will arise. Each colony, or settled world, will have unique conditions, and differing inclinations.

They will be starting with a "clean slate." Internally there will be no Providential history to replay. Externally, rival castes and cliques can be left behind. The opportunities for manifest wisdom will be great. (Or, all too familiar tragedy. Read Kim Stanley Robinson's *Mars* series.)

Earth societies host countless "parasitic" individuals and occupations. (To usurp an old communist term.) Investments, advertising and art can help a free society flourish. Bloated bureaucracies, criminal outfits and financial hustlers contribute less than nothing.

Yet the new worlds won't need the infamous communist "no visible job lands you in the gulag" policy. True Father speaks instead of an ideal "hobby culture."

The Ultimate

Hopefully, many habitable worlds will be found. Also, some way to break the "lightspeed barrier."

If only a few temperate planets are found, humans could alter *themselves* to live on harsher worlds. Gills to live underwater, special livers to neutralize alien toxins, blood that endures tremendous heat; the possibilities are endless.

Still not enough? There are ways to *make* more room. Asteroids, which are numerous, could be converted into orbiting colonies, each housing thousands. Barren planets could be "terraformed." Robots could go on ahead to begin that work.

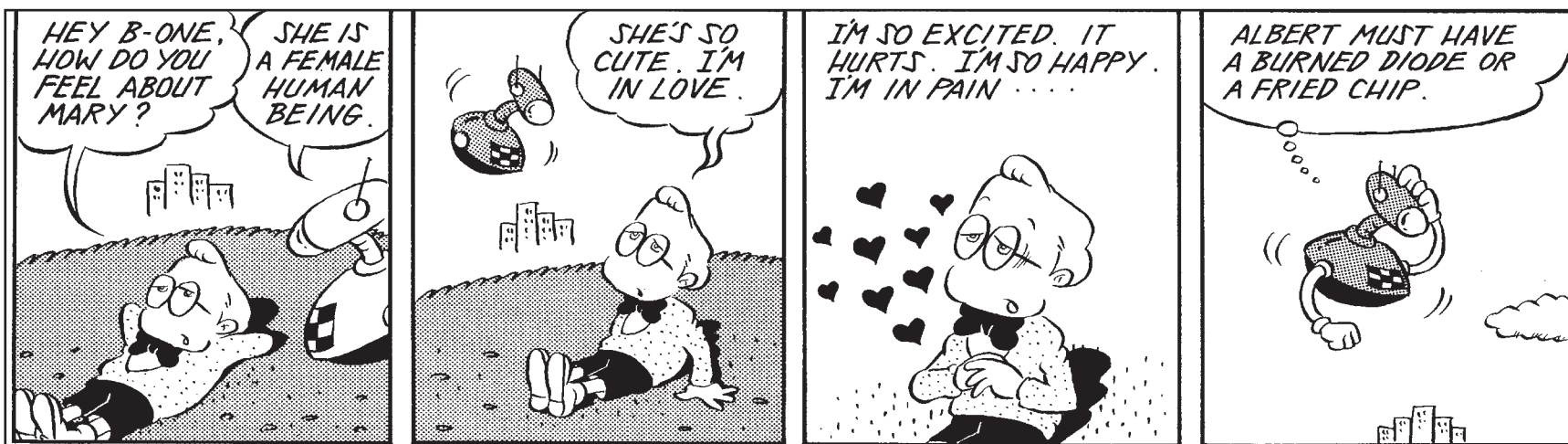
Ultimately, a star's Jupiter-sized planets could be dismantled, and a *Dyson Sphere* built. This fantastic construction would completely surround a star, its entire inner surface made habitable. The livable area would equal a billion Earths!

Spiritual restoration *must* take place first. The science mentioned above could be turned into weaponry. Among the threats: an unbraked lightspeed ship, impacting a planet, would shatter continents. Chlorine-metabolizing organisms, let loose in an ocean, would convert the salt into poisonous gas. Nanotech machines could inflict bizarre tortures.

Everyone hopes that humanity will "export" its best to the stars. In this regard, we Unificationists have our own special dreams. Perhaps our children will have an opportunity to fulfill them. ❖

ALBERT

by Rick Nishio





Article removed in Internet edition

UTS on the Hudson



Springtime fishing for striped bass is now a regular fixture on the Seminary calendar. Dozens of students traveled down to Croton Harmon throughout the month of May to go out on the Good Go boats from Half Moon Bay. The biggest fish of the season was caught from shore by staff member Mr. Tony Formby who hauled in a 39 incher. “Almost 40,” said Tony, fully extending his long arms.❖

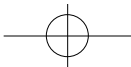
**True Family Values Ministry
Web Site**

The True Family Values Ministry has a new web site at www.tfvm.org. This web site is a resource for anyone interested in True Family Values.

It is also the official web site for the True Family Values Ministry. Some of the features of the site are: What's New, From the President, True Family Values Seminars, Blessing '97, True Family Times Newsletter, Catalogue of educational products, Articles & Columns, Discussion Forum, Response Forms, File Archive and Resource Links.

Soon the website will contain educational materials you can download.

Our email address for information about the website is tfvm-info@tfvm.org.



UTS Rhetoric Contests

by Gareth Davies—Barrytown, NY

19TH ANNUAL DIVINE PRINCIPLE LECTURE CONTEST

Martin Herbst, a junior, took first place in the Divine Principle Lecture Contest on May 15th. Speaking on The Purpose of Creation, Martin used his own experience as a father of four children to effectively portray God's expectation of humankind. "Parents always want their children to be better than they are," he said. "I want my children to be smarter than me and more beautiful than me — if that's possible! God too wants humankind to be better and that's why he gave us the three blessings."

Rollain Muanda placed second with Prince Tambi in



third. While presenting the prizes and trophy, President Shimmyo spoke of the importance of mastering the ability to effectively present Divine Principle to the world.

KOREAN SPEECH CONTEST

Noriko Maeda of Japan spoke fluently and passionately on the topic of "The Heart of God and Absolute Faith" to win the Korean Speech Contest on May 29th. Dr. David Carlson, Kazuhiro Tsusaka and Yoshihisa Fujino were the other prize winners. The event was organized by the UTS chaplain, Reverend Taek Yong Oh who also judged the contest along with Mrs. Moon Sook Yoon and Dr. Jaekil Park. President Shimmyo thanked the organizers for preparing an excellent event. ❖



Noriko Maeda receives the trophy from President Shimmyo. Left, Martin Herbst.

by Jim Stephens —Bloomington, IN

This is from a "sermon" published in a column titled "From the Pulpit" in our local paper.

Of the many sermons I have given, one point always continues to amaze me. That point is that Jesus loves us as individuals and not as a group. He speaks through a sermon to individuals in the congregation, not to a faceless crowd. Sometimes a whole sermon is intended for one particular individual, who is unknown to me. The rest of the people of course can benefit from listening, but they are not the precise target of the message.

"The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand," Jesus declared. What is this Kingdom of Heaven in today's world that Jesus

is saying is at hand? Simply put, it is the realization of true families as a precursor to the ideal world. I'm not speaking of ordinary families as we know them, but the type of families that are the culmination of history, the goal of God's history. These are families where the father and the mother have become Christ-like.

In society today you are seeing everywhere a lot of talk about "family". God is working behind the scenes to develop these ideas. We are seeing whole movements emerging like the Promise Keepers for men and Free Teens for young people (no drugs, no premarital sex) inspired by ideals of faith, commitment and purity.

The leaders of our church have even suggested that we drop our denominational name and become just "The Bloomington Family Church".

My wife and I have joined an international group called the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification and been trained in a wonderful "Blessing" and Re-dedication ceremony for families. Any husband and wife, regardless of religious beliefs, may receive this blessing on their marriage and family.

You must be willing to agree to the following commitments before God.

1. absolute faithfulness to each other (no adultery).
2. eternal marital commitment (no divorce).
3. raising your children to abstain from sex until mar-

riage. 4. work together with other families of all races, nations and religions to propagate these commitments.

Already 1.2 million couples have received this blessing and re-dedication ceremony throughout the world. The Phillippines is leading the way with over 250,000 couples and the African nations are close behind. Taiwan has over 170,000 couples who have participated. America is getting a late start but can still catch up.

The original goal was to have 3.6 million couples by Nov. 29, 1997, but it is now projected that we will far surpass that goal. On Nov. 29, there will be a huge rally and celebration in RFK Stadium in Washington, DC. It will be broadcast via satellite simultaneously to sites all over the world, making it the largest religious event in history.

The first couple in Bloomington to receive this ceremony was on June 23rd and we have set a goal of 160 couples, one for each day remaining until Nov. 29th. Please join us.

The ceremony takes only five to ten minutes, but it can be very emotionally moving as husband and wife make the above vows to each other. We can do it at your house or at our house. It involves only the recitation of the commitments above, a sharing of holy wine (actually grape juice), a sprinkling with holy water and a closing prayer by my wife or myself. We encourage pastors to be trained to do the ceremony in their congregations. It will help your marriages. We encourage friends to have the ceremony as a whole group. It will be a lifelong memory. We especially encourage senior citizens to re-dedicate your marriages. Even widows and widowers can participate to offer your marriage to God.

Please ask Jesus if your couple should re-dedicate your marriage in this way, receive this blessing and participate in this historical world-wide event. I trust that you will know the answer.

Call or write us to schedule the ceremony or for further information, Rev. Jim and Hiromi Stephens, (309) 662-8029, P.O. Box 1802, Bloomington, IN 61702. May God bless you and your family. ❖

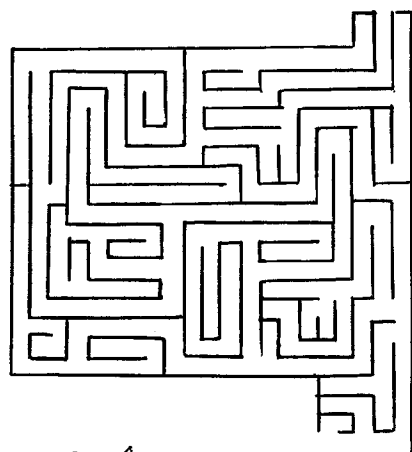
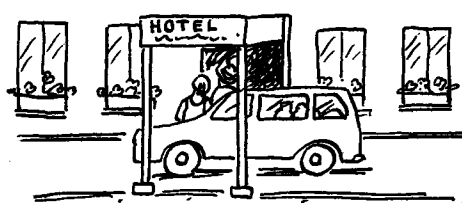
The Kingdom of Heaven is at Hand

FOR KIDS

by Françoise



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DR. TYLER O.
HENDRICKS

Dr. Hendricks is the
President of the
Unification Church of America

We learn important lessons from the Bible. The Old Testament teaches that “every man is wise in his own eyes.” Jesus commented that the wise and the prudent could not receive the kingdom of God. (Luke 10:21) This was spoken after his 70 followers had returned from their tour of Israel’s towns. Jesus had told them to “heal the sick, and say to them, ‘the kingdom of God has come near to you’.” (Luke 10:9)

The disciples returned proclaiming that they were able to subjugate demons, but apparently this was not what Jesus really wanted. He told them to rejoice not at their power over the enemy, but “rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.” (v. 20) He then rejoiced himself, praising God even in the midst of his own difficulties, praying, “I thank You that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight.” (v. 21)

He then was tested by a wise and prudent man, a “certain lawyer,” who asked him a wise and prudent question, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” (v. 25) Jesus affirmed the Old Testament teaching, the absolute and absolutely simple answer, to live for the sake of God and others (v. 27). This was not enough for the lawyer, who wanted to justify himself. Let’s be clear, now, Jesus; I just want to make sure about whom you are saying I should love, “who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied with the well-known parable of the Good Samaritan,

IT IS NEITHER WISE NOR PRUDENT TO FOLLOW THE MESSIAH

in which he taught, or warned, that the “babe,” the Samaritan, was going to inherit eternal life, and the “wise and prudent,” the priest and Levite, would not.

The chapter ends with the story of Mary and Martha, in which the sister who made herself worried and troubled (read: “wise and prudent”) based upon her external view of Jesus, was shamed before the sister who simply sat at his feet and heard his word. Note that Martha actually reproached Jesus for his indulgence of her sister (v. 40).

Let us draw a lesson. God is now dispensing His blessing of marriage freely upon all who will receive it. Blessed couples are visiting homes across America and around the world with this good news, God’s free gift of family salvation. In North America, it is the “babes,” the “Samaritans” who are humbly receiving it. I am sorry and

U VIEWS

A Unificationist Perspective on Religion and Society

miserable to observe that too many of the chosen ones, the white descendants of the Christian world, are failing to choose the good part.

My experience recently in Portland, Oregon, is starkly illustrative. I spent an hour in an apartment complex. The whites, the “Yanquis,” were rude and arrogant. One abruptly asked, as he opened the door, “what d’ya want?” “I’m a volunteer with the Family Federation for World Peace, . . .” “Ya selling something?” “No, I here to give you something. This is an outreach for married couples. Are you married?” “That’s none of your business. Get outta here.” Slam.

The other white person (I could tell by her voice) wouldn’t even open the door. “What is it?” she said. “I’m a volunteer with the Family Federation for World Peace.” “I don’t want any.”

On the other hand, there were Hispanics in the complex. They were friendly. They listened and took me seriously. Three were married couples, and they all participated in the Blessing. Uneducated people? I suppose so. Poor? I think so. Childlike? The “babes” understood Jesus. Marginal? The Samaritans were the marginal people of Israel.

These Hispanics, these Vietnamese, these Hmongs, these Ukrainians, these Filipinos, these Russians in America: they are not the movers and shakers right now. But they have open hearts. Sure, maybe it is because they are poor, maybe they have nothing to lose. You could say that, seeking to justify as the lawyer did in front of Jesus. It was those

who had nothing to lose, perhaps, who stuck with Jesus when he went about as one whom the polite society deemed offensive, blasphemous, claiming to be king, pretending to forgive sin.

We overflow with joy for the literal millions of families around the world who are receiving the free gift of the blessing as children. We cry with sadness for those at ease in Zion, those invited to the marriage feast, who may be distracted with much serving, or seeking more explanations than we can give or they can understand.

As I meet couples, and invite couples to the wedding banquet, Jesus’ words, “the kingdom of God has come close to you” keep running through my mind. Someday, my white, influential, wise and prudent friends, the kingdom of God may knock on your door. As Paul and Linda McCartney sang many years ago, “Somebody’s knockin’ at the door. Somebody’s ringin’ the bell. Do me a favor. Open the door. Let’em in.” Don’t be, as Bob Dylan sang, among those who “have many contacts/ among the lumberjacks/ to get you facts when someone attacks your imagination,” hoping to get by with a check to a tax-deductable charity organization. ❖

Adultery: Today’s Issue

by Michael Inglis—NYC

The last few weeks have seen the issue of adultery leap to the forefront of our attention. The many articles and TV newscasts document the moral confusion that pervades American society at the end of the twentieth century. A people who have lost hope in true love because they have not been true.

There are many causes for marital breakdown, but one root cause is our society’s misapprehension of love. This misapprehension of love is sexually-based, and it is perpetuated in the popular media *ad nauseam*. How many acts of adultery take place on an average day of network television? How many songs celebrate lust and casual sex? Popular culture romanticizes the “affair,” encouraging people who might otherwise be faithful to risk their family’s welfare for an elusive “love” and cause incalculable suffering. Is it surprising then that adultery is broadly committed but lightly regarded.

The views of sexuality presented in the popular media are not healthy ones—sex as a commodity, sex as the center of all value and power, sex

as the *raison d’être* of all there is. While sexual fulfillment is an essential ingredient of human happiness, attempts to “liberate” or revolutionize sexuality in modern times, a k a the Sexual Revolution, have left many people with a decidedly disillusioned feeling. At the extreme end of the spectrum are wrecked lives, abused children and broken homes.

This is why all the great spiritual teachings point out that adultery is the greatest sin. If we are to avoid inevitable decline, our country and its citizens must come to a new commitment to a family culture. America has long exalted individualism but sex is not an individual thing. But if the American experiment is to survive, its families need to come before its individuals.

The family is our learning ground of love. All the other relationships in our lives are patterned after these primary relationships with our mothers, fathers, siblings and relatives. When I read about the young girl in New Jersey who threw her baby into the trash can and went back to dancing I can’t help but wonder about the state of the culture that produces such events. There must be very little understanding of family in it.

As we fail to learn how to love successfully we take with us wounds that need healing, wounds which prevent us from being successful in family life. Whether these affect our ability to type or command soldiers in the field I don’t know but they sure affect our ability to love.

We may try to draw a line between public and private but all too often there isn’t one. Are human beings so mechanistic? In the long run, adultery affects one’s entire life, and the lives of those around us. Should we not try to teach what is right and wrong? ❖

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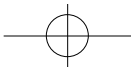
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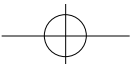
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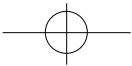
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