It blows you away every time at a stadium event: the moment you enter into the sunlight.

From the outside, a stadium is a formless, too-big-for-any-use massive gray monstrosity. You park miles away. You struggle to find the right gate. You pass through the dark cold tunnel, seeing in front of you a television screen’s worth of green and light and brightly colored seats. Then you enter and gaze upon a new world. A private sky is captured for you and only you by the tremendous bowl.

You feel the energy from the hum of activity on the field in preparation for the event, an event that is drawing multitudes, an event that is worthy of a stadium. The world of the event opens up before your eyes. New sounds, new colors, a world enclosed unto itself for a time. On February 7, 1999, at the Seoul Olympic Main Stadium, some 150,000 people shared that illumination of a stadium entrance. I am quite sure the stadium had never held so many, because even the Olympics did not have thousands of people on the field.

American in Seoul

I was part of the American contingent. We were housed in a lovely hotel, the Tower Hotel on Namsan Mountain, due to the foresight of Rev. Joong Hyun Pak and the sacrificial work of Go-World Travel. We were a scant 15 minute drive from the Olympic Main Stadium on a Sunday morning. We had attended the rehearsal the day before, arriving early. Because we were the only participants there early, the staff allowed us on the stage, where we took many photos and reveled in the sunlit atmosphere.

That evening we gathered in a restaurant on Itaewon. In front of a big window looking out onto the sidewalk, we had the best holy wine ceremony I’ve ever been part of. We had the St. Petersburg directors, Rev. and Mrs. Jeff Tallackson, with us, who had come with their daughter who was part of the second generation blessing. They officiated and gave good guidance. Also Mrs. Tate, whose son was in the second generation blessing (blessed with the daughter of “General” Chang Song Kim), assisted. Despite the secular environment, the atmosphere was sanctified. Word and sacrament together always bring the Holy Spirit.

Sunday morning, the day of the Blessing, we departed our hotel at 10:30 a.m. and were engulfed in the flow of buses arriving from across the Korean peninsula. They had left their homes far away as early as 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. to be there on time. We heard that the church leaders of Korea who prepared the event expected some 3,000 buses to converge that morning. We found our parking place and indeed, rivers of people, literally rivers, flowed past us. These were hardly country folk, taking on the several hours in the frigid weather with a
INTERRELIGIOUS AND INTERNATIONAL

INaugural

by Rev. Sun Myung Moon

I give you great pleasure to host this Inaugural Assembly of the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IFIPW). Although it was last year that I made the official proposal for its founding, in my heart I have been preparing for this occasion for decades.

The purpose of the various ecumenical and interfaith activities and organizations I have been developing over the past forty years has been the realization of a world of peace that God and human beings have been longing for. A vision for peace is the heart of any interfaith activity.

In the 20th century humankind has suffered two devastating world wars, and experienced confrontation and conflict for seventy years under the influence of the most destructive ideology in both human history and the consciousness of mankind. This ideology, based on the absence of God, deprived the human mind of the divine love that unites heaven and earth and man and woman.

It gives me great pleasure to observe that the end of the Cold War era did not lead automatically to a time of peace. Violent conflicts continue to occur throughout the world today. Even now, massacres are being perpetrated in Yugoslavia, the Middle East, Sudan, South Asia, and elsewhere. It is common knowledge that many such disputes have behind them deep-rooted religious conflict. These are only some examples that awaken us to the importance of dialogue and cooperation among religious orders.

Often, in the modern era, religious work toward the realization of their ideals while keeping a certain distance from the realms of worldly power. This is generally accepted as the norm. I believe, however, that it is time for those international organizations that serve the cause of peace and human prosperity to observe that the UN could be improved with serious obstacles. While its accomplishments cannot be denied, one can observe that the UN could be improved in many ways. The time has come when cooperative and mutually supportive relationships among the world’s statesmen and religious leaders is desperately needed.

Originally, human beings were meant to live with their mind and body united, responding to the complete love of God. It is because human beings were created to be God’s sons and daughters, resembling Him, that their mind and body should not fight. Instead, they should create true unity. God’s mind and body are not in conflict: Almighty God could never have any conflict within Himself.

The human ideal of unified mind and body is realized when a person is fully possessed of the true love of God. The words, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God” (Matt 5:9) also promise that the ideal of unity of mind and body is to be attained on the basis of relationship with our Heavenly Father.

It was due to the human fall that people lost the standard of unity and
FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE

ADDRESS

It is now the time for religion to exert genuine leadership in the world. I believe that religious people should feel responsible for the situation of mankind, and for resolving the various inequities of this age. Profound self-reflection is surely prerequisite to this. Religious people have failed to set an example in the practice of love. Now is indeed the time for them to repent for not having exerted themselves fully for the sake of world salvation. Instead, they have been absorbed with the pursuit of individual salvation and denominational interests. Mere belief in love is not enough. It must be accompanied by its practice. God is calling the leaders of society, but in particular the religious leaders. He wants us to challenge the injustices and sins of the world and establish true love in their place. All religious people should become one in heart, representing and carrying out God’s aspiration for all people.

World peace can be realized through the synergy of the statesmanship and measures taken by politicians who represent the body and the secular world, and the wisdom and efforts of the world’s religious leaders, who represent the mind and the world of the spirit. The time has come for us to seriously reflect even on such a matter as restructuring the United Nations. Might it not even be possible for us to seriously reflect even on such a matter as restructuring the United Nations? Could it be that the United Nations could be restructured through religious leaders together? Together, they embrace the total concept of world peace.

What is the existing United Nations comprised of national representatives serving in one house that speaks for national interests? Then a religious council or UN senate could be established, comprising distinguished religious leaders and in the those fields of society pertaining more to the heart, for example, culture and education. As a body representing a global perspective, this religious council would have to address the interests of all people, transcendent of regions or nations.

Through mutual respect and cooperation, these two houses would be able to contribute enormously to the realization of world peace. The political wisdom of the world’s leaders could thus be effectively complemented by the wisdom and vision of the world’s most prominent religious leaders.

I am confident that the moral vision and exemplary lifestyle of religious leaders can be lamp for humankind, not only pointing the way to the world beyond this one, but also teaching the road to genuine happiness and peace on this earth.

Religious leaders should become ideal leaders who not only inherit and pass on the precious and holy wisdom of their great traditions, but also lead lives of unselfish service. The great disqualification of any leader — whether religious or political — would be selfishness.

Through the regular holding of conferences to bring religious leaders together, I have been striving to carry out true-love education transcendent of religious denomination and nationality. Last year, religious leaders worldwide took the lead in suggesting that all religious people donate money of an amount based on the number 7, and thus pioneer the creation of a fund for world peace. Individuals and nations have different economic circumstances. For some, seven rubles would be a lot to offer, but then someone else might offer 7 million dollars. If all religious people of the world were united in heart, they would be able to not only raise funds, but also use the money to effectively promote the ideals of true love and the value of raising exemplary families.

Respected leaders, we should work together to implement a system through which the highest expressions of religious wisdom are brought to the table at which the world’s most serious and urgent problems are being addressed. Such a system can be achieved by creating a council of religious leaders within the framework of the United Nations. Today, I would like to ask you to establish the IFWP as a first step in realizing this goal. In addition, it is my sincere hope that you will generously offer your own experience, wisdom and effort as we work to realize these highest of ideals.

I am confident that the IFWP will make a decisive contribution to the realization of world peace, and I pray that God will bless you, your families and your work.

Thank you very much.
This is based on a report given at Belvedere February 14, 1999.

True Parents have fulfilled the Blessing of 360 Million Couples worldwide. Some couples attended the Blessing in front of True Parents, some couples attended in front of a satellite screen, some attended in front of an internet screen, and some couples who were being blessed in their homes or their hometowns. Still yet there are probably some among them that did not receive the Blessing somehow, somehow and they don’t even realize that they are blessed! One way or another, history was made.

But wherever they were in the world, 360 Million Couples have been blessed! One, three days before the actual Blessing, the Associated Press (AP) news agency carried the story about Blessing ’99. And it was quite detailed. They reported about Revered Moon starting the Blessings in 1960 with the first three couples and that today, 1999, he blessed one million couples. The news media is more and more respecting Father’s history and his sublime and victorious activity to arrive at this 360 million couples Blessing. This brings happiness to True Father.

Just for us to organize a small number of people for the Blessing is not an easy task. So even now with the 360 million Blessing completed, we still cannot believe that such great numbers have received the Blessing.

Opening ceremonies

The World Culture and Sports Festi-
val officially opened with a banquet on February 4, at the Lotte Hotel in Seoul. General Alexander Haig, former Secretary of State in the United States, and former supreme commander of NATO forces, introduced True Father.

Also, on the day before the Blessing ceremony, a reception was held. A thousand VIPs from all over the world attended and were very inspired. General Haig and other worldwide figures joined True Father and Mother in the reception line to welcome the many VIPs.

Prior to all this, on February 1, another celebration was held—the tenth Anniver-
sary of the Seige Times. Korean Presi-
dent Kim Dae Jung attended and offered a 15-minute congratulatory speech. Father gave a concise talk on God’s Providence. President Kim participated with True Parents in the ceremony as well. It was a very meaningful day. All the political leaders of South Korea were there. President Kim knows True Father’s value and he respects True Father very much. Some sources say that President Kim was temporarily removed from his country because of political misunder-
standings. He was welcomed and hospi-
atation for World Peace, the Summit Coun-
cil, the Inter-religious Federation for World Peace, the Professors World Peace Academy, International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences, and others. Actually, all these organizations met in one major hotel, holding their various seminars in separate conference rooms. It was a very economical, efficient and convenient way to do it. It was like one great multi-conference.

Inaugural speech

On the afternoon of February 6, True Father gave the inaugural speech for the newly formed “Inter-religious and Interna-
tional Federation for World Peace.” (Father made the announcement in Uruguay during the God’s Day meetings of his intention to inaugurate this new organization.) True Father’s inaugura-
tion speech was so meaningful. This new organization signifies a great victory for True Parents. There were so many impor-
tant, well-known people in attendance February 6 for this inauguration.

The Blessing

But of course the greatest victory of all was Blessing ’99 itself. Incredible, Korea had 33 days’ notice to prepare for this event. About 20 days before the actual day of the Blessing, I was in my office in New York when I received the news that True Father announced that Blessing ’99 would be held not in the Seoul Chamsil Gymnasium as planned by the Korean Church, but rather at Seoul Olympic Stadium! Outdoors! In Febru-
ary! Wintertime! I remembered how shocked leaders were when they heard in 1997 that we were going to use RFK Stadium in Washington, DC, also an out-
door stadium! In November! Wintertime! The weather at RFK on the day of the 1998 Blessing turned out to be quite good for a November day—not bad at all. The same thing happened in Seoul at Olympic Stadium. The weather was quite good. How come? BECAUSE GOD AND CHRISTIANITY (Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant), Judaism, Buddhism, Shikshism, Confucianism, Islam, and Hinduism representing Catholicism was a top leader from the Vatican. Pastor T.L. Barrett from Chicago boldly proclaimed the True Parents in his presentation and in his prayer on stage. And most interesting of all was Rabbi Herzel Kranz of Washing-
ton, DC, representing Judaism. For Mad-
son Square Garden’s Blessing ’99 Rabbi Kranz offered a video blessing address. But for Blessing ’99 he appeared in person to give his blessing to the assembly. He came from all around Seoul, but nevertheless bravely rallied himself to appear on stage with True Parents. The Rabbi paid quite a price to be there. History itself will reveal the results of his courage.

During the Blessing, True Parents displayed expressions of happiness, joy, and peace. This is our greatest reward. Praise God.

At the victory banquet on the night of the Blessing, held at the Little Angels School, True Father gave a very spe-
cial message. Following that, the Universal Ballet Compa-
ny gave a performance, star-
ing Hoon Sook (Julia) Moon. Primary dancers from their many productions were cho-

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January of 1999 with True Father at Hannam Dong

by Dr. Tyler Hendricks—NYC

True Parents’ home in Seoul, Vailed Hannam Dong, is a stone house atop a steep hill just north of the Han River. The hill is called the UN Village, as many folks from overseas live there, including diplomats. The houses are walled by concrete and brick. On the top is True Parents dwelling, and there are other church houses nearby. Inside the gate one views a lovely oriental garden, with sculpted trees and bushes and manicured lawns. Small Asian statues are scattered about and one walks up the driveway and to the side of the house, downstairs into the hall and front center. After depositing shoes upon the row after row of shoe shelves, one walks down a large hallway and enters a room with a low ceiling. It is brightly lit with a heated floor, a comfort on a winter day. This room is full of display boards, fit for 8” by 10” photos, full-face, of all humanity. Asians—Korean, Filipino, Thai, Japanese, Indian and Pakistani, Taiwanese and Chinese. These are the burning eyes of the unsaved masses, a parched American raised near Ellis Island. The photos give evidence of all kinds of studios, some flagrant with glitz, some humble and plain, all with the eyes staring out at the one behind the camera’s lens, who will match them to their eternal mate from around the corner or around the world. Eyes full of trust, hope, desire for true love.

Africans—Nigerians, Zambians, Benini-ans, Congolese, Ghanaians, Sierra Leon-nians, Cote d’Ivoirians, Mauritians, Angolese, Kenyans, Senegalese, and on and on. In the background beats a contin-ent believing in the ideal of True Par-ents and striving to accomplish that ideal in their generation. God Good Father has prepared for them. Take me to America, to Japan, to Korea, leave me here at home, match me to my tribemen of 1,000 years. Here I am, offering myself.

There are Russians, French, German, Austrian, Dutch, Italian, English—all the shades of white. There are Brazil-ian, Costa Rican, Mexican, Honduran, Guatamalan, Peruvian, Bolivian, Colum-bian, Uruguayan—all the Latin blood flowing into the same river. They have the same eyes, the same hopes. There are older people, yes, but the overwhelming presence is of youth, of revolutionary and searching youth. True Parents are sending out fishing lines with invisible partners as bait and God’s eternal love as the hook pulling them out of the fall- en world of false love. Thousands and thousands of photos, thousands of people, thousands of lives. They are meet- ing at this cosmic intersection, arriving single and departing with an eternal spouse.

The leaders and assistants of each continent arrive hour by hour with pho-tos in suitcases, the easiest way to carry them across oceans. They sit cross-legged in ante-rooms, photos spread on the floor, piles and piles grouped by age and sex, by education, by background—never married or matched, matched but bro- ken, divorced, and so forth. Broke the match or was broken against the weight of Reverend Moon comes downstairs. Upstairs he has been doing Hoon Dok Hae, speaking with leaders from around the world and local as they arrive and depart. Mrs. Moon is about, in and out, speaking her various instructions. Hyo Jin Nim is there, and his new fiancee with her parents.

When Reverend Moon comes into the matching room, the leaders involved with the continent which is displayed crowed around him as he moves down the aisles; the others continue their own prepara-tions. Some have made suggested match-es, especially for those who were divorced or are older, and it is up to Reverend Moon to approve or change the sugges-tions. He passes his hand over these, as if with his own bar code reader, and

changes a few. He will exchange women from one row to another. I looked at a few that he changed. His changes were important. It is a sign that he could see. For his part, Reverend Moon worked with the stacks of women’s photos, holding up one at a time, passing it across the display of men. He actually match-es individuals out of groups of twenty or thirty women to twenty or thirty men, although there will be some remainders from each group carried over to the next. He would often keep a man down the rack to keep up with the crowd. He works quickly, usually find-ing a match for a given sister within five seconds, occasionally taking ten. I never saw him fail to match a sister once her photo was given him, but it could have happened.

The coterie of six to ten aides sur-rounding this computer counter would frantically grab the newly matched pairs and staple the photos together.

Father matched around 11,000 or 12,000 people in a few days. Teenage girls had the job of taking the stapled pairs to a side room filled with tables and computer termi-nals. Here bar code readers would instantly record the matches. From there began a process to get each partner the photo and basic infor-mation about his or her partner. All are expected to do their best to con-tact each other as soon as possible. Rejections come back, but not many, and there are last-minute efforts to match those who are rejected. All in all, the world is knit a bit tighter together through this implementation of conjugal love. It is a work of peace through faith, sacrificial love and pure hearted obedience. It is a wondrous thing to behold and a sign of God in the flesh, the flesh within every photo.

The future

Well, following all the victory of Bless-ing ’99, practically speaking, what do we have to do?

(1) We must launch and begin activi-ties for the newly inaugurated “Interre-ligious International Federation for World Peace.” This very year we must bring results.

(2) As Tribal Messiahs we will con-tinue the Blessings and educate young people for the next matching, especially those in our own physical family, solidly building up our tribes.

(3) We will plan to go as couples/fam-ilies to the Jardin 40-day Ideal Family workshop.

(4) We will accumulate as quickly as possible during this year, our “Living Offering” Family Fund. Let us be grateful to God and True Parents everyday for their True Love and their many victories, in which they allow us to be co-creators and partners.

True Mother’s USA Speaking Tour

This is the tentative schedule for Mother’s Speaking Tour in the USA.

March 19 Washington, DC
March 20 Louisville, KY
March 21 New York City
March 22 Norfolk, VA
March 23 Miami, FL
March 24 Columbus, OH
March 25 Providence, RI
March 26 Philadelphia, PA
March 27 Chicago, IL
March 28 Atlanta, GA
March 29 San Francisco, CA
March 30 Seattle, WA
March 31 Minneapolis, MN
April 1 Denver, CO
April 2 Los Angeles, CA
April 3 Portland, OR
April 4 San Francisco, CA
April 5 Dallas, TX
April 6 Poughkeepsie, NY
April 7 Binghamton, CT
April 8 Baltimore, MD
April 9 Washington, DC
April 10 Boston, MA
April 11 Fort Lee, NJ

T 五月九日

UNification News

February 1999

5
by Chris Garceroan—NYC

I arrived in Seoul on Monday evening, February 1, five days before Blessing ‘99 at the Seoul Olympic Stadium. My mission — to work with the 30 or so members of the foreign press stationed in Seoul. As soon as I stepped out of the airport in Seoul and felt a blast of Arctic air, my heart sank and I immediately had images of a half empty stadium with gale force winds buffeting brides dressed in down parkas. How were we going to pull off an outdoor Blessing in the middle of a Korean winter?

However, faith soon kicked in as I recalled feeling the same kinds of dread just prior to Blessing ‘97 in RPF stadium, and miraculously, the weather wasn’t so bad there after all. God exists and I decided to offer up the weather program to hands more able than mine.

Upon arriving at the elegant Lotte Hotel in downtown Seoul, I noticed several government cars parked in front and soon learned that True Parents and President Kim Dae-jung of Korea were inside celebrating the tenth anniversary of the Sedye Times. The lobby was swarming with our church leaders and Korean government officials. This was a great blessing for the Sedye Times and the first time President Kim appeared in public with our True Parents. He urged the Times to become a special bridge between Korea and the world and he praised Father’s worldwide media network as being uniquely qualified to strengthen that bridge.

Robin Marsh, our brother, who takes care of Public Affairs in Great Britain, soon arrived in Seoul to help with the foreign press and provide international media but they call themselves the ‘Foreign media.’ Robin had lived in Korea for a year and had a fairly good command of the language and knew how to get around in Seoul. Also, he had worked in Korea doing media relations during the 1992 Blessing. He proved to be an invaluable partner.

The next day we visited the Foreign Press Club which was only a fifteen minute walk from the hotel. Many of the 30 or so foreign media use this club/office as their base of operations and it became a good place to meet them. We took our newly created press packet for them and found several of them in and willing to talk. A few of them asked about Mike Breen, our church brother who had been in Seoul as a journalist for many years and was the former president of their press association. It was a great feeling to walk into an office full of journalists and immediately feel welcomed and respected. They all showed a great interest in attending the Blessing as well as the Special Convocation of the Fifth World Culture and Sports Festival that was taking place at the Lotte Hotel for four days.

At the Convocation’s opening ban-quet, Father spoke from a prepared text and was introduced by Gen. Alexander Haig, Jr., the former Secretary of State under Reagan and the White House Chief of Staff under Nixon. Robin and I host-ed a media table that was amongst about ten journalists, including those from the International Herald Tribune, BBC—Tokyo bureau, The Sydney Morning Herald and Diplomacy Magazine (Korone). There were also correspondents from Timpof de Mundo and Czech Radio among the con-vocation participants.

Gen. Haig gave a moving intro-duction and tribute to Father, describing how their lives first intersected during the Korean war. Gen. Haig recalled how his regiment was among those which landed during the famous Inchon attack, and he continued to fight his way up to Han Nam where his forces were able to help liberate the prison where Father was held.

He then praised Father for publicly calling for a more c o n c i l l a t o r y approach to then President Richard Nixon during the Watergate crisis. Finally, he praised Father as one who dealt a decisive blow to communism, say-ing that it was not primarily the arms race which toppled the Soviet Empire, but rather the cul-ture war which was fought on a num-ber of educational and media fronts which was the decid-ing factor.

Two days later, Robin and I organized a press briefing by Gen. Haig in his hotel suite. It was well attended and when asked if he was a Unification Church member he replied, “No, but who couldn’t be behind the values espoused here at this conference? It would be like being against motherhood.”

“Two days before the Blessing, the International Herald Tribune ran a story in the business section which drew attention to some of the financial problems of the Tongil business group. However, the headline said it all. ’Ree Moon Rises Above Alling Businesses’. For me, it was a testimony to Father’s ability to go beyond the temporal problems which would cripple a lesser man.

Every day, Robin and I faxed out one or two press Advisories, informing the media about what transpired the previ-ous day and what was upcoming. These Advisories were necessary. They not only served to keep the media’s interest alive but also served as direct copy for some of the arti-cles that were written.

The Special Convocation was a combined confer-ence of leaders from the ten or so major Federations estab-lished by True Par-ents over the years. It drew over 400 guests from more than 100 countries. The highlight for me was the establish-ment of the new Interregional and International Fed-eration for World Peace, an organi-zation dedicated to bringing the wis-dom of the world’s religions into the political policy mak-ing arena.

Some of the major participants in the convocation were Arnaud De Borchgrave, the new head of UPI news service; Susan Ford Bales, the daughter of President Ford; Carmilla Anwar Sadat, daughter of the late Egyptian president; Hon. Albert Reynolds, the former Prime Minister of Ireland; and Hon. Edward R. Schreyer, former Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

There were two English-language news-papers originating in Korea, The Korea Times and the Korea Herald. On the Sat-urday before the Blessing, The Times wrote a short, objective article about the WCSSP ‘99 and ran a nice photo of the Women’s Federation for World Peace.

Working with the media in a foreign country is a challenge on many fronts, but the main hurdle to overcome was coordinating our message with the mes-sage that was coming out of the Korean UC headquarters. We had to get both messages to agree and when you’re deal-ing with something as complicated as an international Blessing ceremony, there is a lot to work out. Whenever Robin and I needed to speak to Mr. Ahn, our broth-er who was working with the Korean network, we had to go to the office. Fortunately, Mr. Ahn was patient and had his message well outlined, but needless to say there were times of exas-peration.

On the Friday before the Blessing, the cold spell began to change and by Sun-day the weather had warmed up with plenty of sunshine! Robin and I (along with our superb new volunteer Peter Ross) arrived at the stadium around 11:00 am and began looking for couples that would be good subjects for inter-views. A reporter from Agence France Press began the first interview of a Dutch sister currently living in England and her bridegroom, a Czech brother. They gave a very good interview and spoke from their hearts about how precious this day was for them. Soon, a television reporter from the BBC was in on the interview as well.

Much to my amazement, the cavernous Olympic Stadium quickly filled and by 12:45 there was standing room only. Almost everyone who wasn’t dressed in formal bridal wear was wearing a wide, white blessing shawl, which gave a white, holy glow to the crowd. It was awesome and I felt as though I was looking at a glimpse of the Kingdom of Heaven. True Parents’ foundation on earth was palpable.

Before the ceremony, Reuters television and Associated Press television inter-viewed me standing in front of the seat- ed couples. They were short interviews of me explaining the purpose of the gath-ering.

After the ceremony began, Robin and I mingled with the media behind the first section of couples who were arrayed in front of the stage. We just chatted with them and answered their questions. The ceremony was concise and powerful and as soon as it was finished BBC television asked me for an on-camera inter-view. The journalist asked me about the purpose of the ceremony and ended the interview by asking how I thought the event could be a promoter of family val-ues when it appears that at least some of these chil-dren have had some major problems to over-come. I explained that Father and Mother sac-rated personal time with their own children in order to realize their worldwide ministry, and as a result, their chil-dren suffered but are overcoming their prob-lems.

Later that night, the closing ban-quet at the Little Angels’ school, several journalists sat at our table and enjoyed a spectacular evening of ballet, speech-es and gift-giving.

In closing, I can say that in the eyes of the public, the Blessing has become the defining event of the UC worldwide and it is an image which most people call to mind when they think of us. While this is not a negative image, we hope-fully can move beyond this to become known for something even more — namely strong families and extraordi-nary children. I know that it is well known to us, our fruit, we will have accomplished what no public relations cam-paign could ever do, a springboard of our True Parents’ name. 
Blessing '99 by Satellite in New York City

by Rev. Eric Holt—NYC

On a rather chilly Sunday afternoon on February 7, 1,500 people gathered in the ballroom of New York City’s Manhattan Center for the satellite transmission of the 360 Million Couple Blessing (Seoul, Korea). Even before the doors opened, people started lining up for the 4:00 p.m. reception. A brief snowfall did not deter people from coming. As the reception began, guests dozed coffee, soft drinks and snacks as they mentally prepared for the largest Blessing ever. Meanwhile, in a specially prepared area behind the stage, Dr. and Mrs. Dietrich Seidel conducted the Holy Wine Ceremony, assisted by Irene Oliver and Irina Kouznetsova. Expected only 30 couples for the Holy Wine Ceremony. But, after 30 minutes the number was up to 60 couples; this was due to last minute mate-matches and cancellations. Other couples who requested to receive the Holy Wine, including a couple from the United Nations. The Holy Spirit was moving throughout Holy Wine Ceremony, and it took much longer than expected. Most couples were moved to tears during the inspiring ceremony. Towards the end of the reception, the emcee (Rev. Daryl Clarke, UC Westchester pastor) and the ushers re-arranged the seating so that men and women lined up in rows Blessing-style. Especially in the center section of the hall, women wore veils, and were seated behind each other, sitting next to their spouse. When we advertised the event, we had asked everyone to follow a dress code: blue suits and white shirts for men, and white/light dresses for women. In addition to the women receiving veils and hand-bouquets, the men were given buttonholes and white Blessing scarves. The finished product was an event that resembled a mini-Blessing 98 (Madison Square Garden). The large center section with around 200 couples lined up Blessing-style was a beautiful sight to behold. This was all the more inspiring because, when we eventually went to the satellite transmission, we saw a similar sight, although on a much grander scale (1,500, land considerably more chilly), in Korea.

Local religious leaders sat on the stage, facing the audience. In American Christian churches it is a tradition that a visiting clergyman will be escorted to the front/sanctuary section of a church or chapel. So, we honored this tradition by doing this. In God’s providence, America has a unique role especially in regard to the work of Jesus through the Christian church-God’s providence, America has a unique role especially in regard to the work of Jesus through the Christian church. So, we wanted to let our fellow clergy from many denominations participate in the event to the fullest extent. As it turned out, around twenty clergy sat on the stage.

The program began at 5:00 p.m. with a 40-minute pro-family rally, along the lines of the Blessing 98 (MSG) event. The Chambers Memorial Baptist Church Choir from Harlem burst into song. They had participated in the 2,000-voice choir at MSG. Also, their co-pastors, Rev. and Mrs. Lawrence Edgerton sat on the stage later. After the choir, the emcee introduced Harlem activist Professor Preston Wilcox who spoke about family values and transcending racial boundaries. His speech was very well received. Professor Wilcox has been very supportive of FPWPU. Following Professor Wilcox, Margaret Hill-Vanderstok, from the Pure Love Alliance spoke passionately about purity and preparation for marriage. Then, Bishop Eric Figueroa of the New Life Tabernacle from Brooklyn, NY, gave excellent spiritual and practical advice to the couples in his impassioned mini-sermon. The pro-family rally concluded with a rousing rendition from the New Life Tabernacle Choir.

At 5:40 p.m., the emcee announced that the (delayed) satellite transmission would begin. The hall became hushed as we waited in expectation for the curtains to open. After a brief wait, the curtains slowly moved, and we gazed as we saw a packed Olympic Stadium in Seoul, Korea. (Later reports revealed a crowd of 150,000 with 30,000 unable to get in.) The crowd was packed over all the soon-to-be-Blessed couples, dressed in white (the women that is). Several minutes later, it was time for the national anthem. In Korea, the Korean national anthem was sung. We closed the curtains, while Raul Joseph sang the U.S. national anthem. The curtains opened again and we listened and observed as the various religious leaders offered their Blessings and prayers.

When it was time for the Holy Wine Ceremony, three couples in Holy Robes entered on to the stage. This took place at the same time as the entrance of the officiators in Seoul. Then, when True Parents descended the steps in the stadium, our officiating couple, Manhattan pastors Rev. and Mrs. Chen Fong, descended the stairs on the stage followed by two bow-holding, robe-clad sisters. The Fong couple sprinkled the first row of couples at the same time as True Parents sprinkled Holy Water on the couples in Korea. Then, the Fongs read the 4 Holy Blessing Vows, in English, while the sound was turned down from the Stadium in Korea. When it was time for the Blessing prayer, Rev. and Mrs. Lawrence Edgerton, dressed in their white robes leapt to center stage and joined the Fong couple to pray for the newlyweds. Several other ministers on the stage raised their hands to pray for and bless the couples. It was truly inspirational and interdenominational.

As the satellite transmission concluded, we proceeded to the banquet and entertainment. All were treated to a sumptuous banquet served by tuxedo-clad attendants. The New Life Tabernacle Choir sung again as well as the harmonious “His Voice Gospel Ministry Choir”. This was followed by Barney Webster, a modern dancer from Harlem. The event concluded with Electric Duro, a (loud) Latin band. Many people broke into dance and the event concluded with song, dance, wedding cake… and cherished memories.

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Chicago Family Church Joins Blessing ‘99

by Hiromi Umino and Richard Lement—Chicago, IL

The Chicago Family Church conducted a Blessing Ceremony through satellite video at 5:00 p.m. February 7, 1999. The newly married couples and married couples attended our blessing ceremony at Ashland Church. We had over 100 family members, brides & bridegrooms’ families and friends, and our witnessing guests as an enthusiastic audience.

The program began with welcoming remarks by Rev. Bruce Sutchar and an opening prayer by Rev. A.I. Dunlap, pastor of Mt. Olive AME Church. All the brides & bridegrooms were standing in lines, some were together with their spouses and some were holding pictures of their spouses.

Rev. Sutchar explained about the Holy Wine and Holy Water, and then eight attendants wearing white robes entered and an officiant couple, Rev. & Mrs. Reiner Vincenz, entered. The officiators gave Holy Wine to each couple and we watched a video of Blessing Ceremony held in Korea the night before.

When True Parents sprinkled Holy Water in the video, the officiators sprinkled Holy Water on each couple and when True Parents asked for the affirmation of vows of the brides & bridegrooms and they shouted “Yes!” Then we joined True Fathers’ prayer and proclamation of this blessing. 2nd Generation children presented flowers to the officiators and we finished the ceremony with 3 cheers of “MANSEI”!

After the ceremony the brides & bridegrooms remained in the sanctuary and they held the indemnity stick ceremony with 3 cheers of “MANSEI”!

At the end of the ceremony we had a banquet in our dining room. The room was decorated beautifully and the dinner, prepared by Mrs. Song Im Chae Kim, was delicious. We cut the celebration cake and some members presented songs to brides & bridegrooms. Newly blessed members enjoyed the dinner and entertainment, talking with their friends and taking pictures.

The blessing ceremony was very beautiful and the spirit was very high. All brides & bridegroom were so happy and the audience was also inspired very much. Our witnessing guests were so excited and said that they want to apply for the next blessing.

All the Chicago family members worked together to prepare well organizing the program and decorating the sanctuary etc. and Rev. Jack Toren used our new sign making machine to prepare a professional quality banner. After the ceremony we had a banquet in our dining room. The room was decorated beautifully and the dinner, prepared by Mrs. Song Im Chae Kim, Mrs. Kum Ae Jares, Mrs. Kathleen Sometani and the Kodan sisters, was delicious. We cut the celebration cake and some members presented songs to brides & bridegrooms. Newly blessed members enjoyed the dinner and entertainment, talking with their friends and taking pictures.

One newly blessed member said, “I felt sad before the ceremony because I couldn’t go to Korea. But now I’m very happy because all my families and friends are here and celebrate my blessing.”

Satellite Blessing in Montevideo, Uruguay

by Steven Boyd—Montevideo, Uruguay

Despite the 12-hour time difference, a warm and intimate Blessing Ceremony was held via satellite in Montevideo, Uruguay. The ceremony took place in the Conference Room on the 4th floor of the Victoria Plaza Hotel.

Because of the lateness of the hour, 1:30 a.m. local time and because of the heavy downpour of rain that continued up until the arrival of the guests, we really had no idea how many people would participate. To everyone’s delight, our original estimate of 100 people was greatly exceeded by the 360 people who finally attended. Among those in attendance 36 couples took the holy wine just prior to the commencement of the satellite transmission from Korea.

Following the Holy Wine Ceremony and an explanation of the history, content and significance of the Blessing Ceremony, including the 40 day separation period and the use of Holy Handkerchiefs, a crystal clear image of the Blessing Ceremony in Seoul was projected onto a large screen at the front of the conference room. Throughout the transmission there was full and enthusiastic participation on the part of all those present, as an intimate atmosphere was created in the meeting room.

All of us here attributed the success of the ceremony here to the investment and sacrifice of our True Parents, and the invisible support of those in the Spiritual World, and wish to express our deepest gratitude to them.
On February 4-8, 1999, in Seoul, Korea, as part of the World Culture and Sports Festival 1999, a Special Convocation of more than 400 international participants from 97 nations was convened to address the topic of “Family Ethics and World Peace.” The participants included 20 former heads of state, 5 United Nations Ambassadors, more than 40 religious leaders from a wide variety of faiths, and numerous scholars, scientists, journalists, women and youth leaders, and artists.

Building on the Special Convocation held in New York in June of 1998, which also focused on the family and world peace, this convocation offered in-depth exploration of the ways in which family ethics plays a critical, if not central role in the establishment of world peace. It is difficult to imagine any other occasion in the world, if not in world history, where so many world leaders, from such diverse areas of expertise, are brought together to deliberate on the significance of the family. No institution rivals The World Culture and Sports Festival in this respect.

This Convocation, despite difficulties related to the determination of the venue (only established a few weeks before the event began), was blessed with very good fortune. This was due in part to the unity among the leadership and the members of the Steering Committee. In addition, however, there seemed to be a great wave of spiritual support, a guiding hand which seemed to compensate for any particular shortcoming. Most importantly, the quality of the participants was extremely high, representing not only the best which the co-sponsoring organizations could offer but indeed, representing many of the world’s great leaders. Furthermore, while these many leaders are accustomed to attending international gatherings among peers and members of their own respective professional groups, this conference brought everyone together in common collaboration and shared experience. This enriched the experience for everyone. In fact, the response of the participants was overwhelmingly affirmative. While initially there was great concern about proper care of special VIPs, by the end of the conference considerations of class, status, or position seemed to fade in favor of general concern with working together to improve our world.

Sponsored by the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification International, under the leadership of Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak, the Special Convocation was chaired by Ambassador Phillip V. Sanchez, the Publisher of Noticias del Mundo and Tiempos del Mundo. The Vice-Chairman was Edward Schreyer, the former Governor General of Canada (1979-1984).

The Convocation opened on the evening of February 4th in the Grand Ballroom of the Lotte Hotel with more than 800 guests—both international and local—in attendance. After a wonderful performance by the Little Angels, welcoming remarks were offered by Neil A. Salonen, Secretary General of FPWPU, Amb. Sanchez, and Rev. Kwak. Rev. Sun Myung Moon, the Founder of FPWPU and WCSF, then offered his Founder’s Address, which explored the meaning of life and death and, in addition, proposed the establishment of the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace.

The Convocation program consisted of Plenary Sessions, featuring distinguished speakers, and concurrent Panel Sessions, organized by the several co-sponsoring organizations. Panel Sessions, which included the Federation for World Peace, Professors World Peace Academy and Interreligious Federation for World Peace, International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences, Women’s Federation for World Peace, World Media Association, Youth Federation for World Peace and Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (United Nations Office).

The first Plenary Speaker was Hon. Albert Reynolds, former Prime Minister of Ireland (1992-1994) who spoke on the breakthroughs in the work for peace in Ireland. Susan Ford Bales, daughter of former USA President Gerald Ford, spoke on the significance of her own family experience, and particularly her concern with breast cancer awareness. Dr. Wally N’Dow, Special Advisor to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), spoke of his wide experience with international issues and particularly the role of the United Nations in strengthening families. Arnaud De Borchgrave, President and CEO of United Press International, and Editor-at-Large with the Washington Times, gave a penetrating analysis of the promise and perils of modern technology in relation to the pursuit of peace.

There were ten separate panel sessions, each with a roster of highly distinguished speakers, including persons such as Hon. Kenneth Kaunda, former President of Zambia, Hon. Rodrigo Escobar Nava, former Minister of Government for Columbia, Dr. Christine Durbak, Vice-Chair of the UN’s Department of Public Information, Mr. Armstrong Williams, host of the Armstrong Williams Show, Dr. Gwendolyn Mikell, Professor of Anthropology and Director of the African Studies Program in the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, Hon. Jin Nam-Kun, a member of Korea’s National Assembly, Dr. Hanifa D. Muzumi, Chief of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the United Nations (ECOSOC), Ven. Phramahacharn Yongchinda, Director of the Panyananda Institute of Thailand, and many, many others.

In addition to the basic Convocation program there were several other highights. One evening the Martial Arts Federation for World Peace offered a demonstration of a martial arts technique used in the training of blind people. An Indonesian practitioner enthralled people with his ability, while fully blindfolded, to find hidden objects, identify people at a distance and break metal bars with his hands, head and feet.

On February 6, the day before the International Blessing Ceremony, the Inaugural Assembly of the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace, was convened. Neil Salonen opened the event, and introduced the conveners. Dr. Ninian Smart, R.F. Rossy Professor Comparative Religion at the University of California, and Dr.
On February 1, the Segye Ilbo newspaper celebrated its 10th anniversary. Kim, Dae Jung, President of South Korea shared the podium with Rev & Mrs. Moon and gave congratulatory remarks.

On this evening Rev. Moon spoke to the participants one final time, presenting a speech entitled “True Family and True Universe Centered on True Love.” After this speech, several gift presentations were made to the Founder on behalf of the Convocation’s co-sponsoring organizations. The evening then concluded with a stunning and beautiful performance by the Universal Ballet, and the Kirov Ballet. As one participant described the event as a “life changing experience.”

That evening there was a concluding Congratulatory Banquet at the Little Angels School. From this evening Rev. Moon spoke to the participants one final time, presenting a speech entitled “True Family and True Universe Centered on True Love.” After this speech, several gift presentations were made to the Founder on behalf of the Convocation’s co-sponsoring organizations. The evening then concluded with a stunning and beautiful performance by the Universal Ballet, and the Kirov Ballet. As one participant described the event as a “life changing experience.”

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World Religions at Blessing ’99

The third and most celebrated role for the religious leaders present was that of offering prayers for the blessed couples together with Reverend and Mrs. Moon during the Blessing ceremony on Sunday, February 8, 1999. This tradition began at RFK stadium in 1997, occurred again in Madison Square Garden in 1998, and continued here in Seoul this year for the third time.

I think it’s fair to say that this year representation from different religious traditions was the broadest to date. Eight traditions were represented. It should be noted that the desire for broad representation clashes with the impulse to produce a briskly paced ceremony that respects the participants and the international viewing audience.

The papers were heartening and imaginative. Speakers from five traditions each spoke well to the conclusion that instilling a strong particular faith during childhood does not interfere with the establishment of attitudes of inclusiveness, and embrace of believers from radically different traditions. Professor Mumtaz Ahmad spoke from the perspective of Islam. Professor Selengut from that of Judaism, Venerable Kongchinda offered a Buddhist point of view, Professor Smart, a Protestant (Anglican) perspective, and Archbishop Milongo a Catholic view. This session was inspiring and informative. Additionally the faith representatives who spoke themselves embodied these very paired ideals which they insisted could be fully embraced without internal tension.

The Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace (IRFWP) held its “Concurrent Panel” on the theme “The Family and the Interfaith Ideal.” Five panelists took up the topic which was designed to examine the possible tension inherent in the fact the family naturally pursues strong particular faith for the children, which on the face of it can be seen as contrary to the promulgation of strong interreligious attitudes. How then can one be strongly pro-family, and strongly pro-religious dialogue at the same time?

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When you first heard Principles, were you delighted to discover that the purpose of God’s great Creation was joy? Well, it’s time to get happy again. The Garden of Eden, the meadow of joy, has been restored. This is not a metaphor. This is New Hope East Garden, True Parents’ land of settlement in South America. Would you like to help build God’s Kingdom here? Only joymakers need apply.

You are, perhaps, already familiar with the leader of the training in New Hope East Garden, the Rev. Sun Myung Moon. And you may have heard of his desire to welcome you into this True Family, and to take a picture with your couple for his family album, and to register you as a citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven. But you may be put off by the registration fee, and the request to visit one more remote location in one more corner of the Earth. Don’t worry. Be happy. Let’s look at the experiences and inscriptions of some of the participants in the most recent, fifth workshop, coordinated by Umberto and Marilyn Angelucci.

Most of the participants in this 40-day training had some difficulty to get here, but if you ask them how many regret coming here, no one is going to say, “It’s the joy and rebirth that I experienced.” Tessa Hodson Squizzato, said, “It’s the joy and rebirth that I experienced with my whole family from Korea. English at Sun Moon University, “Community day training had some difficulty to get here, anyway. True Father is looking for a steady stream of Church luminaries through this place. The fourth and fifth workshops heard the testimonies of some elders as Won Pil Kim, Young Whi Kim, Mrs. Socrates, Rev. Ken Sudo, and Mrs. Hamasaka, to name a few. Our international, “Western” group was considered the most creative and interesting in the entertainment we presented on cultural nights.

Pres. Kim and Rev. Hideo Oyamada are always in the front row for the entertainment and they give their comments on each act afterwards. They are really determined to win the hearts of the leaders of this area and state, and eventually, this nation and region. So they are paying a lot of attention not only to the internal and external aspects of this workshop and the larger project, the Pantanal project, but also to the atmosphere that we can generate here to inspire the local leaders. To this end, all members are encouraged to participate in the Sunday sports and entertainment programs wholeheartedly. If your favorite musical instrument is smaller than an electric keyboard, you might want to bring it. They have an electric keyboard here, anyway. True Father is looking forward to hearing the beautiful songs that will be written here. He wants to make them the new Holy Songs. The Kingdom of Heaven is a world of art.

because of a language mix-up, someone gave him an insecticide instead of the treatment that he was seeking to relieve the bee sting. Not being able to read the label, he just trustingly sprayed the poison onto his nose. Immediately his body started to twist and turn, then he fell down and lost consciousness. True Father was looking on and said, “It looks like he’s going to die.” Of course, he lived, but he suffered many side effects. The point of the story is that President Kim shares True Father’s thinking regarding living in harmony with the creation, including the insects. He plans to develop the agricultural projects in this area without the use of chemicals. In addition to the health benefits this brings, and the better taste of the products, there is a significant economic advantage as well. Certified organic products bring a much higher price in the marketplace. However, the greater part of the Pantanal project involves the processing and marketing of these and other products and developing the tourism and hobby business; these areas are the fields that will require a lot of our members’ manpower in the near future.

The author’s wife, Yoko Becker, was very excited to be a part of that manpower during the service portion of the workshop. She helped build tanks for raising escargot in the greenhouse. “I really liked the experience of actually building God’s Kingdom brick by brick,” she reported enthusiastical.
I didn’t come to Brazil to attend the Ideal Families Workshop in Jardim. I came to attend the National Messiah’s 40-day Workshop in Fuerte Olimpo, Paraguay. While I was in Olimpo, I saw that many of the National Messiahs there were making plans to meet their wives in Jardim afterwards, and do the Ideal Families Workshop. Having borrowed the money to go to Olimpo, I couldn’t imagine borrowing more money and asking my wife to come here now, even though I felt it would be best. She’ll probably think I’ve gone crazy,” I told Rev. Gerhard Bessel.

“That’s because you have the wrong attitude. If you tell your wife to come, with faith that it’s God’s Will, then she can respond to you, and she will come,” he told me. This immediately brought to mind the way that Rev. Zim Moon had presented the first Jardim Proclamation to us in Olimpo. “When the subject, centering on absolute faith, gives absolute love, the object can respond with absolute obedience. So I went to pray.

The most popular prayer place here in Jardim, at New Hope East Garden, is in front of True Parents’ house. I went there. As I began to pray, I felt that God was telling me, “I want to come live in your family. What’s better, sooner, or later?” I felt the warm embrace of God’s love, and His longing to live with us on Earth according to His ideal of creation. That was enough for me. I called my wife and told her to bring the children to Brazil. My wife, Yoko, went through a lot of difficulty to get the passports, visas and tickets on very short notice, and to prepare everything by herself, but now she’s really glad that she did.

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I felt deep sorrow in my heart, and tears poured down my face. I reflected, and the realization came to me that nobody knew the importance of this holy place, not even the people living there. This small fishing town is so simple and poor, but from the viewpoint of God’s Providence, it has great significance. True Parents accomplished incredible conditions there, unknown to the world. Similar to grace at birth, nobody understood, only a few. God had heard me.

Even we, church members, cannot realize anything deeply unless we prepare our hearts. The crucial, important moment can just slip through our fingers.

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To liberate the spirit world and give the Blessing to many spirit men, saints and sages in the past, I listened to the testimonies of elder members who have witnessed True Parents’ incredible indemnity conditions in Olimpo, Salobra, and Perdido. I moved to great tears and a heart of repentance. Through my repentance I have come to realize that our True Parents have determined with all of their hearts to restore all of mankind even if they must do all by themselves. I hope everyone will come to Jardim to experience a reunion of heart with our True Parents.

by Lawrence and Yuko Mock

It is an incredible blessing to have the opportunity to attend the 40-day Ideal Family Workshop in Jardim. We received so much spiritual guidance, had time for self-reflection, and made the pilgrimages to the Holy Places that True Parents established, and more. We feel their love and unconditional giving as well as their concern that each one of us be engaged into True Parents’ family and enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

The foundation established in the Pantanal is not without the great sacrifice and incredible indemnity conditions by our Parents. They have shed many tears and poured out their sweat and blood to make the condition by without us realizing a thing if our heart is not prepared in time to meet God. The same is true for the whole experience at New Hope East Garden. God is here, but whether or not I can live with Him depends on the condition of my heart. At moments, I could be with Him. But I repent, because the moments were much fewer than God had hoped.

by Marilyn Angelucci

In the beginning of our 40 days, Rev. Oyamada said to us, “God is here.” I believed him. Through our time here we saw many problems, struggles, and inconveniences, but I still believed. Then, I experienced that when I prayed deeply, God answered my prayer. We had already gone to two of the outings to the “Holy Places,” but for me they were just like tourist trips. I didn’t want to continue like that. So, when we went to Fuerte Olimpo, I prayed to experience something more deeply. When we were leaving on the boat after visiting this holy place,
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have this time together as a couple to study and discuss and make some progress in that direction."

It seemed that everyone was really glad to be back in the ideal family life by Rev. Jeung Rho Yoon and Rev. Myung Ki Shin. Rev. Yoon gave a lot of concrete advice on the duty of a husband to his wife and also the duty of the wife. Then he had husbands and wives rate each other's performance according to these standards. To do this in public was challenging for some, but very useful for all. Here are some excerpts from his talk:

"In this world, there are so many men who are not interested in their wife's clothes, food, sleep or the house. And if they have sex, it's only centered on their own enjoyment. It's the duty of Unification Church men to take care of their wives like queens. Animals have no responsibility. If we lose our responsibility, we become like animals. First, we must take responsibility for the perfection of our personality. If you don't worry about your own personality, but tell your wife that "after you die, I'll take care of you," you lose the meaning of marriage. Our life on earth and our family life is different from the one in the world.

My husband, Farley, had attended True Father's talk in Uruguay in 1998. But this year, we were together by meeting True Parents and brothers and sisters in the same conference. The talk re-gained a vision of the power and beauty of dedicating ourselves for our mission country, Mexico. It was strengthening to share testimonies with other brothers and sisters, some who have moved, some who are raising money to move their mission countries.

The greatest inspiration was our True Parents. As Father approaches his 80th birthday, he is actively preparing the land and people in South America. He spoke of the deep anguish he has felt in sacrifying his family. "Father loved you more than my own children," he said. If Father had loved his own sons, they would be filial sons. Again the heart-rending our True Par-

ents have undergone was deeply felt as he cried out to us to follow his guidance during this critical time. Father said, "Have confidence in 1999 of God's power on the ver-
tical axis." He continued, "We are united to get rid of God and True Par-
ents'han. We need to offer all of our assets and efforts, our families are chasing us, but we should go willingly to the bottom of hell.

He spoke as we of our understanding of the spiritual world. On Earth we need to experience the spiritual world. We need to break out of the limitations of the environment. Break all habits. Set spiritual conditions. Do three to four Holy Places where our True Par-
ents lived and worked. The places we visit are Monte Olmey, Rio Perdido "Lost River"), and Sabobra Hotel Fazenda, which is Father's home and "ranch hotel" at the confinement of the Sabobra and Miran-
da rivers. Testimonies about the stunning beauty and deep significance of those places are the subject of another article. There are other interesting and beautiful places to visit in this area, too. If you leave a little extra money, you might want to visit Bonito, and swim with the fish, or take a trip to the famous Itaipu Dam, before or after your 40 days. It's advisable to try to see the "Lost River" during the time when you leave home, however. Here's another travel tip: Your airline should check that your luggage is checked through to your des-
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WORKSHOP from page 13

At that moment I determined to do both in 1999. My husband, Farley, had attended True Father's talk in Uruguay in 1998, but this year we were together as a couple by meeting True Parents and brothers and sisters in the same conference. The talk regained a vision of the power and beauty of dedicating ourselves for our mission country, Mexico. It was strengthening to share testimonies with other brothers and sisters, some who have moved, some who are raising money to move their mission countries.

The greatest inspiration was our True Parents. As Father approaches his 80th birthday, he is actively preparing the land and people in South America. As we沥 of the deep anguish he has felt in sacrificing his family. "Father loved you more than my own children," he said. If Father had loved his own sons, they would be filial sons. Again the heart-rending on our True Par-
ents have undergone was deeply felt as he cried out to us to follow his guidance during this critical time. Father said, "Have confidence in 1999 of God's power on the vertical axis." He continued, "We are united to get rid of God and True Parents'han. We need to offer all of our assets and efforts, our families are chasing us, but we should go willingly to the bottom of hell.

He spoke as we of our understanding of the spiritual world. On Earth we need to experience the spiritual world. We need to break out of the limitations of the environment. Break all habits. Set spiritual conditions. Do three to four Holy Places where our True Parents lived and worked. The places we visit are Monte Olmey, Rio Perdido ("Lost River"), and Sabobra Hotel Fazenda, which is Father's home and "ranch hotel" at the confinement of the Sabobra and Miranda rivers. Testimonies about the stunning beauty and deep significance of those places are the subject of another article. There are other interesting and beautiful places to visit in this area, too. If you leave a little extra money, you might want to visit Bonito, and swim with the fish, or take a trip to the famous Itaipu Dam, before or after your 40 days. It's advisable to try to see the "Lost River" during the time when you leave home, however. Here's another travel tip: Your airline should check that your luggage is checked through to your destination. It's a lie. You have to unpack your luggage in Sao Paulo and take it through customs by yourself. For other practical information about what you need to bring and regulations, refer to Betty Lancaster's article in the October UNews.

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After outlining the wife's responsibilities, we were awarded for each child she had. In each category and ten extra points were awarded for each child she had. Most of the wives did very well. Most of the husbands didn't flunk. Well try hard-
ten times your capacity in a time peri-

d. Man is constantly penetrated by Satan through mind and body, hus-
band and wife relationship. If my mind and body are not harmonized, I waste my time and everything may well go into failure. When you get up in the morning and go to the bathroom, splash water on your face, look in the mirror, and reflect on the unification of your mind and body and husband and wife. After several inspiring talks and hoon dok hae sessions, the next two days were spent on the beach.

"God, take me with you." This phrase came to my mind and heart, and I spoke it out loud after climbing out of the thrashing surf at Punta del Este, Uruguay. On this beach, over seven hundred Unificationists divided into teams for competition in fishing, volleyball, soccer, and leg races. Each team member wore the color of shorts of their team and each had a white T-shirt with the symbol on it. The beach was fully alive with activity. Father and Mother and their party came and watched the competition. At one point, Father and Mother stopped to look at the ocean and just beamed at each other. Mother cameras was clicked. The highlight of the second day was the tug-

of-war between several teams. The struggle was fully alive with activity. Father and

Father and Mother spoke of the rela-
tionship between our activi-
ties on the earth and our spiri-
tual world. Confucius, and Socrates.) This is still the quickest way to perfect your per-
sonality. You must become a man of character for your wife to love you."

Rev. Yoon then quizzed each couple in teams about your own personality, but tell your wife that "after you die, I'll take care of you," you lose the meaning of marriage. Our life on earth and our family life is different from the one in the world.

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When New Eden Academy International opened with 44 pioneer freshmen in Sept. 1997, the idea was to launch a program dedicated to meet the needs of a rising and growing “second generation.” New Eden is a preparatory high school “committed to promoting both moral integrity and academic excellence.” To achieve those twin goals is a major challenge.

Those first students proudly built a foundation upon which over 70 students in total enrolled in 1998-99.

True Parents visited New Eden on Nov. 20, 1998 during an international conference and ribbon-cutting ceremony held on the campus of the University of Bridgeport. The students excitedly lined the entrance way and sang songs, happily welcoming our True Parents. It was the first time for many of them to stand so close to Father and Mother.

The visit was brought to a beautiful climax when True Father wrote a motto for the school. With sweeping motions Father rapidly wrote a message in Chinese characters which translates into English as “The results [or flowering] of an adult’s life depend on the determination one makes as a youth.”

Dr. Hugh Spurgin, headmaster of the Academy, has said: “I see the school building on its foundation each year. We begin with an incredible task before us: to establish a new school in only a matter of a few months. We converted an empty, rundown dormitory into a beautiful ‘home’ for our students. Here in Bridgeport we have an arrangement to use facilities such as the library, gymnasium, recreation center, cafeteria, and classrooms. Students can even take university classes; in fact, we are proud that our high school students have done so well in the university classes which they have taken.”

The first year we created the physical plant, the legal work, recruited students and faculty, and created a mission statement and brochure. The second year we expanded our academic offerings and pulled together a solid academic curriculum and faculty. It is our hope that next year we can focus more on the third stage: developing the character education curriculum and sports program.

In many ways it is this final stage which will distinguish our school as an institution, for we must as Hyun Jin Nim said, “develop a systematic structure for passing on our heritage to the second generation.” It is in the character education component that we must translate the ideals of the Principle into everyday life.

Our second generation must learn the practice of purity and morality, of unselfishness and love. To become model citizens of the world, they need a systematic approach to understanding the nuances of the life of the heart beyond the academic exercise of the mind.

Dorm life in this international and intercultural setting is rich in relationships in an environment where belief in and practice of a Principled life is both accepted and valued. Yet it is a challenge for teenagers to grow to become mature, responsible, loving adults who have the self-discipline to live a good life.

And on to the larger vision: When we think of our international community of second-generation youth increasing in ever-growing numbers, we can get a vision of the future. The world needs young leaders who will go beyond the desire for wealth and power which today’s world has taught them. We can see a future world where the opportunity for education will be equalized by distance learning, where the children of national messiahs will be able to study from any country.
simple suit or sweater. It was an over-cast day, although a sun filtered by haze broke through after the event started. It was as warm as anyone could hope for in a Seoul day in early February.

Finding seats

By the time we got into the stadium, it was hard to find a seat. I sent our matched couples to the field, where they had seating reserved from the day before, and those with photographs to the upper tier, and headed for the observers area. I spotted many friends, European leaders, but it was Heiner Handschin, National Leader of Switzerland, who had an open seat available. The members who were in the upper tier told me later that even arriving there at 12:30 (the event began at 2:00) they had to stand in the very top. All the seats were taken. I heard that about 40,000 people could not get into the stadium. They had the poor judgment to arrive a mere hour and a half early.

The warm-up acts were energetic singers and dancers, covering a repertoire ranging from Korean folk music to contemporary pop and rock’n’roll. Well, that’s what the growing churches in America are doing, inspiring the people through contemporary music. East and West, it’s the same musical style that people wake up to. I recalled my high school days with our town band, Norman Bailey and His Nervous Cats. It’s the same beat. These days, the number one song in Seoul is the 1964 Animals’ hit, “House of the Rising Sun.” And there we were witnessing the rising of the true sun, at the Blessing Ceremony of 360 Million Couples, a band warming up the crowd with Chuck Berry riffs. A marvel to hear, especially from where I was situated, in a room directly below the stage.

The individual

I went there to see two American brothers whose photo matches had refused them. Yes, it happens, it happens. We were there in that big barren room with about one hundred others, either late arrivals for the matching or people who had been refused. One of my Americans was nineteen years old, so we were not as concerned because he is still young for marriage. But the other, Harold, was 36, high time for settling down with a wife. And here, in that bus-station like room, was the deepest part of the day for me. Here was where the massive blessing of 360 million couples assumed a human dimension. And herein is what it all comes down to, the resurrection of love in the life of the individual.

So here was Harold, and Dr. Chang Shik Yong, Regional Director of Washington, DC, was talking with leaders from Japan about him. Rev. Katsumi Otsuka, a prince of a man and president of the church in Japan, looked at Harold and went off searching among the many Japanese sisters there. A few moments later he came back with Michie. Michie was 33, and it was high time for her to marry as well. Her parents had joined the movement ten years ago, but Michie had just joined a few months ago. She was the right age, the right height, tall for a Japanese, very pretty and not a word of English. But she had the right face for Harold—both with soft features and sincere eyes. Harold is all heart.

Now, I was a photo match, so I had never witnessed a ‘live’ matching of two people who had but a moment before been total strangers. I mean, they would have passed each other in the crowd without a glance, two anonymous people among tens of thousands. But suddenly, they were face to face, matched. They were chosen to consider each other as eternal mate. Yes, it was just by church leaders, not by True Parents, and so it was even more a testimony of absolute faith on their part. Would they accept the possibility of the match? They were looking at each other, each exploring the other’s countenance. I knew that Harold was positive, but he had been rejected three times and so surely there was some trepidation of being rejected again.

But they seemed to be agreeable. During the shuttle diplomacy of the Japanese, Korean and American matchmakers, Harold quietly said to Michie, “Will you, I mean, do you want… to be my wife?” She didn’t understand the question, not knowing English, but she was just looking at his eyes and, gee, she’s four months in the church! But there she is, and her eyes are saying “Yes” to this all-heart American.

Just then we heard that True Parents had arrived upstairs and we were off, all hundred of us, to request a last-minute matching. The mob crowded at the door of True Parents’ waiting room. True Parents had yet to change their
clothes, and the program was about to begin. So Father just said, go ahead and participate in the Blessing. The mob turned about face and headed into the stadium.

Ceremony of love
I found my way back to my seat next to Hein- er. And the event began with Dr. Bo Hi Pak’s sonorous baritone resonating in Korean and English, announcing the start of the event to heaven and earth. He introduced the one man “on the ground” most responsible for the filled stadium (at 30-days notice) to give the opening prayer, Rev. Sun Jo Hwang, President of the church in Korea. Rev. Hwang, a UTS graduate and former Regional Director of New Jersey and Washington, DC, is loved by many American members. Moments after his prayer, the representative leaders of the world’s religions ascended the stage. Each gave the blessing of their faith tradition upon the couples.

Among them, Chicago Pastor T. L. Barrett’s prayer in particular was powerful. He gave his entire heart and soul, lifting up God and True Parents to the world. The Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo’s prayer and counsel on stage was extremely meaningful. He is the Head of the Pontifical Council for Refugees, and one of the first, if not the first, active Vatican leader to play a major public role in a Unificationist religious event. When you consider that on the same stage with these two spiritual leaders were an eminent American Rabbi, Herzel Kranz, Sheikh Alamin Osman, Grand Mufti of Eritrea, together with major leaders of Buddhism, Hinduism, Eastern Orthodoxy and Sikhism, you can see that the convergence of humanity’s spiritual paths is finally a substantial historical reality. It is happening in one place, beyond the conference room tables and academic journals, in the midst of God’s holy blessing of marriage.

Grand finale
So I squeezed my way against the traffic to get to the waiting room, and

This can only be the hand of God. In the hand of God is the hope of the human race.

The ones whom God used to set this all in motion, our True Parents, then entered the stadium in glory and with a light spirit to the strains of Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus.” They performed the ceremony as they have done many times. It is at its heart very simple, with a sprinkling of holy water, the reciting of the marriage covenant, prayer and proclamation of the blessing, the exchange of rings, and congratulatory remarks and songs. His Excellency Kenneth Kuanda, former president of Zambia gave the remarks, and the musical ambassador of Paraguay, Gloria del Paraguay, presented the lovely song.

At the conclusion, as thousands of balloons ascended into the sky and fireworks exploded from the stadium roof, I truly felt the resurrection of the spirit world into the ancient shamanist sky. As soon as True Parents departed, the crowd began to leave. There were some further performances, and a lottery giving away cars and television sets, but the event was over. People were hugging and greeting each other everywhere. I watched the crowds making their way out for a bit, then suddenly recalled that I’d better get back downstairs to see if Harold and Michie would make it back.
Dr. Shimmyo cuts the ribbon at the new basketball court dedication ceremony.

Moon as the catalyst who would unite them all in one great God-centered revolution. All the great Churches were to bring their combined knowledge, experience and assets to the great banquet feast. But the invitations were rejected.

So, the beggars got invited, (that's us folks). Unqualified, unprepared and pretty much an ignorant lot, with little to offer except wholesome hearts and a lot of youthful enthusiasm. Because those Christian institutions didn't unite with us, we have been deprived of their collective wisdom and knowledge, which would have gone a long way to complete God's work more quickly, fully and efficiently. Don't you ever feel that we seem to be way behind some of the denominational churches when it comes to social work, organizing, studying, and writing stuff down to complete their providential work. When they didn't, True Father had to get someone else to do the job, (us) and that meant very much starting from scratch.

Now, 40 years later, we're still sticking in there. There is no doubt that we have learnt a great deal, especially in regards to principled interpersonal relationships, and in regard to understanding the spirit world. But, when it comes to taking dominion over the physical and material realm, my experience is that is where we could pay a little more attention. There is a wealth of knowledge out there that we have yet to inherit. I'm quite sure that God isn't investing all this time and energy into us so that we all end up witnessing only in the spirit world. Or from hospital beds, because of prejudice, studying, and writing stuff down has paid dividends for the mainstream Churches today, just like God wanted it to. But they, were supposed to humbly bring all their valuable insights to True Parents, so they could complete their providential work. When they didn't, True Father had to get someone else to do the job, (us) and that meant very much starting from scratch.

The answer is... The one(s) that YOU DON'T understand! Because that is probably the one that will be your undoing! It is difficult to make principled decisions based on what we don't know. So, starting in the next issue, we will begin examining how to have principled relationships with our physical environment. Meanwhile, consider these words of wisdom:

Plant an Act; Reap a Habit.
Plant a Habit; Reap a Virtue or a Vice.
Plant a Vice or a Virtue; Reap a Character.
Plant a Character; Reap a Destiny!

ALUMNI ALOHA

by Dan Fefferman

I wrote this song in the information booth one snowy night at about 2 a.m. It was almost accepted as the school's alma mater, but David Kim felt it was a little too wordy, not majestic enough. I think it captures some of the mood of UTS's very nicely.

Life at Barrytown

As the Hudson returns to the sea
Here we work, here we live
Suffice to say, our love of God and our love of one another, is the most beloved thing in the world

Study the truth of the ages
Our knowledge will free the world
Marrying faith and love
Love's beauteous banner unfurled

And though the seasons pass and the tears flow
Still our motto resonates
Ever strong, ever true
Faith is our life at Barrytown

She endures through our fond memories
Interview with Dr. Sallyann Goodall
Specialist in music and music education

by Melissa Brousseau

Dr. Goodall earned her Doctorate in Music at the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa. She is currently head of the music department. She is teaching a course in music theory and is a specialist in music education.

What do you feel is the value of music education for the childhood years? Music education is very important for the development of a child. It is a way to pick up the lessons of life. It is also a way to develop a child’s sense of rhythm and movement. From an early age, African children see their parents singing and dancing and are inspired to follow in their footsteps. Even at home and church, music is a way to pick it up.

What if you see your child is gifted and enjoys music but they don’t like to perform? If you are considering an instrument, it is best not to be the one to push your child to take lessons. It is also important to consider how much money your child has to spend on lessons. It is not advisable to stop squiggling and name calling. Sometimes it pays to practice and do what you say. Otherwise, you will look foolish.

It is very important to realize that music is a way to bond with the child. It is best not to be the one to push your child to take lessons. It is also important to consider how much money your child has to spend on lessons. It is not advisable to stop squiggling and name calling. Sometimes it pays to practice and do what you say. Otherwise, you will look foolish.

What if you see your child is gifted in music and they are one in a thousand? If the child is gifted, it is important to recognize that a development is going to need facilitation. It is best not to be the one to push your child to take lessons. It is also important to consider how much money your child has to spend on lessons. It is not advisable to stop squiggling and name calling. Sometimes it pays to practice and do what you say. Otherwise, you will look foolish.

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For six years, until now, I struggled chemotherapy, but to go the natural...
**Children’s Christmas-Break Workshop in Detroit**

**by David Kashef—Detroit, MI**

It becomes routine.

For further details about the program, explanations and menus, please call Mrs. Hsu (1-800-628-8420) for a complete program outline and explanation of how everything works. This is merely an overview. There are three levels of the program. I will basically describe the products used in her program:

**Level I**

1. IL Hwa Ginseng Tea—a blood purifier, vitamin C and E are great antioxidants and Vitamin E—helps fill in vital nutrients, Vitamin C with Bioflavanoids, calcium assimilation in the body and production of prostaglandins. Helps the heart, nervous system and to regulate metabolism and weight.
2. Digestive Enzymes—help to break up wastes in the intestinal tract.
3. Acidophilus and Bifidus—beneficial bacteria for the intestinal tract.
4. Olive Oil Creme—A deep penetrate cream that you massage into the skin and it acts as a lubricant of the lower digestive tracts. Also, a great moisturizer and healer for the skin.
5. DC 3—contains pepin and herbs, which cleanse and tone the small intestines. Critical for achieving optimal health in the stomach and small intestine. Helps to stop self-poisoning and putrefaction.
6. 9. Dry Skin Brush—for 5 minutes a day stimulates the flow in the lymphatic system and is especially good for those who don’t have time to exercise.
7. Cod Liver Oil—a terrific source of d, e and d and essential Omega 3 oils. Helps the liver, strengthens bones, helps the brain, nervous system and production of proestroglandins. Helps calcium assimilation in the body and lubricates joints to help stiffness in the body.
8. Multiple vitamins, Multiple minerals, Vitamin C with Bioflavonoids, and Vitamin E with Vitamin C. Green plants that we don’t get in our food. Vitamin C and E are great antioxidants too.
9. Psyllium Husks—the most effective soluble fiber that moves through your body and sponges up looseness wastes in the intestinal tract.
10. Psyllium Husks—vitamins, herbs and amino acids that nourish and clean the liver.
11. Liv-C—vitamins, herbs and amino acids that nourish and clean the liver.
12. Olive Oil Creme—A deep penetrate cream that you massage into the skin and it acts as a lubricant of the lower digestive tracts. Also, a great moisturizer and healer for the skin.
13. DC 3—contains pepin and herbs, which cleanse and tone the small intestines. Critical for achieving optimal health in the stomach and small intestine. Helps to stop self-poisoning and putrefaction.
14. Chlorophyll—a super rich source of chlorophyll which helps the production of red blood cells and acts as a detoxifier. Great source of vitamins, minerals and proteins.
15. Helps—a type of seaweed which is an excellent source of sea minerals, especially iodine which is critical for proper thyroid gland function as it helps to regulate metabolism and weight.
16. Liver Pudding—helps to get rid of the fat from your body and it is a great cleanser program with us. Both can’t believe the breakthrough that has happened. They wanted to know how we could be sure that we had the right religion. The question led to some great give and take on prayer life and the importance of having a personal relationship with God. The older boys had a lively discussion on the creation of the first man and woman. They speculated about whether God prepared for the creation of Adam and Eve by first creating humans without a spirit.

Another aspect of the workshop was food. Hot chocolate was extremely popular. We went through 200 servings in 2 days! Pizza was the most popular food served.

From the reflections written by the children, these are some of the things they learned: How their spirit can benefit from goodness, the importance of proper thyroid gland function as it helps the brain, nervous system and to regulate metabolism and weight.

The children knew that they would be sharing from the foundation of faith and substance. Besides lectures, the children enjoyed many fun aspects of a workshop such as soccer, dominos, karaoke and, most of all, spending time with each other. I was renewed and inspired by the children’s quest for truth. I felt the most important part of the workshop was the bond that they had with each other which deepened as they shared the two days together.

Fast forward to present day, parents who volunteered their time as lecturers and group leaders, and to the parents who entrusted their children to us. We plan to make the Christmas-Break workshop an annual event and to follow it up with one during the children’s summer vacation.
The center is alive through the year with classes and groups sessions in jazz, tap and ballet dancing, workshops and performances for children’s theater and much more. The HSO is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the Department of Cultural Affairs of the City of New York.

The Abrons Arts Center was opened in 1973 and has been cultivating a sophisticated jazz audience on the Lower East Side ever since its founding. Paul West, the center’s music director, has been inviting the legendary Dizzy Gillespie to perform at the center until his death in 1999. Mr. West, an alum of Dizzy’s big band in the 1950s and his quintet in the 1960s, established an annual “Dizzy Gillespie Tribute Concert” with symphony orchestra; the series is meant to keep Dizzy Gillespie’s genius and spirit alive on the Lower East Side.

The other high point of the musical activities of the Abrons Arts Center’s opera is the opera program. The opera company is the fruit of the vision of Paul West, the director of the Music Department since 1973. In fact, from the outset he felt the need to develop opera at the Center for the Lower East Side audience.

The first director of the opera program (1975-81) was Bryan Camp, with the first productions in two languages (original language and English); and four casts, followed by Talma and Karl (1981-84). Kurt Saffir, a German-born conductor from the NYCO, succeeded from 1984 until his untimely death in 1988; since then, Francesco Santelli, an Italian-born conductor and composer, has been the music director.

The Henry Street Opera has been active for 24 years in NYC. It is known in opera circles for its good productions and musical and dramatic preparation. Longer rehearsal time is allowed than in any of the smaller companies of NYC so that the singer can really master the role with the necessary time to go into musical details. The productions are double-casted, and an important addition to the musical staff has been the presence of the talented, well-known stage director Robert Oseranno since 1983. The company produces professional gain experience in standard operatic roles. The opera orchestra is made up of fine NYC freelance musicians and music faculty members of the Arts Center. In New York City, aside from the giants of the Met and the NYC Opera, the HSO stands proudly among the few smaller companies of the city. Effort is made in the artistic preparation to bring out principle elements of the drama at hand both dramatically and musically and they are emphasized in the preparation to draw the highest possible spirt from the drama coupled with good technique. In opera the importance of the words and the libretto is crucial, emphasis on the meaning of the words all along is made to emphasize elements of the Four Realms of Heart and Principle based emotions. The rehearsals are strict in discipline, allowing the singers to learn through time without the pressure of an imminent performance.

A highlight of the opera company’s history and a direct contribution to the Providence was made through the guest performance of the HSO at the University of Bridgeport’s Mertens Theater in November 1997 on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the university. Puccini’s “La Bohème” was performed fully staged and with orchestra. It so happened (and it wasn’t known at that time) that large groups of students were already well underway at that the Connecticut Grand Opera, the group performing opera in Connecticut supported by large state financial grants, had scheduled the same opera (“La Bohème,” the same day, in the same city (Bridgeport) at the same time and just a few miles away from the Mertens Theater. Cancellation became a real possibility. It was natural to think that one couldn’t compete with such a first opera company in Connecticut; however, the events, with God and the spiritual world’s help, turned out positively: while the CCO did not sell out, at UB not only was there a complete sell-out for both performances but there were many people from the surrounding Bridgeport area who could not get tickets even though they wanted to, and after the performances they were asking when the next opera would come to UB. A total of 1,700 guests attended the two performances, including many Bridgeport middle-school students at the Friday matinée; this was a success for the university. A staff member from UB said that this was the first time that the theater (in such a performance event) was completely full. The HSO has been invited next season to return to UB with a production of “Carmen.”

The HSO’s upcoming production is Puccini’s “Madama Butterfly,” one of the beloved operas of all times. It is the musical drama of Cio-Cio-San, a Japanese young woman who marries Pinkerton, an American naval officer; after three years of his absence she returns to Japan, she takes her life when they agree that their son Dolor will go back with Pinkerton and his new American wife Kate. The performances will be on March 20, 21, 27 and 28 at the Abrons Arts Center (Saturday 7PM and Sunday matinees 3PM). Francesco Santelli is the conductor and Robert Stivanello is the stage director. The opera will be sung in Italian. Alicia Alexander and Svetlana Furdui, Anna Tonna Brown will sing the role of Madama Butterfly, Violette and Paul Guthrie and Alejandro Olmedo that of Pinkerton. Robert Stivanello will sing the role of Nakamura, Anna Tonna Brown will sing Sharpless, and Svetlana Furdui, Suzuni. The production is fully staged, with costumes and orchestra. Tickets are $20 and $15 (discount available for seniors and students). For tickets and information call 973-472-3755.
Being the National Messiah to Nepal

by John & Ginger Nicholls
—Kathmandu, Nepal

ast October 1998, John and I were forced to return to England from the mission coun-
try of Nepal on short notice due to problems instigated by several people who threat-
ened our visa situation. We had no choice but to withdraw a small invest-
ment from our understand-
ing Nepalese co-
founders which had been used to co-found a high school. Working part-time at the high school had pro-
vided us accommodation, basic living expense, and a means to obtain a non-
tourist visa (which proved to be extremely difficult and very expensive), besides an inroads to the educa-
tional system. Our hope was to stay in Nepal up to three years on the visa, after which time we had to pray for a miracle, or return to England and start over.

Living in two different countries for part of each year has been a great finan-
cial, mental and physical strain for us, as I’m sure other nation-
ally based groups have also similarly experi-
enced. It is also a very lonely course in many ways, especially when we have to keep upping ourselves to move and try to stay temporarily in a differ-
tent location. Being without children has its advantages, but adds to our loneliness. In Nepal, we continue to be the only elder leader most of the time. Our Japanese national messiah cannot come to Nepal, our Korean NM can only come for 3-4 months each year, and he doesn’t speak English, and we still don’t have a “Cami” NM. Our nation-
al leaders have been always not able to lead on his own. When we were trying to seek guidance from our regional and continental leadership, during our extremely difficult period, we could not get any response and had to make our own decisions with only God to turn to.

In this way, we have come to realize more deeply our True Parents’ course, and our own challenge to become a “messiah” not only for our family, our tribe, our society but for a nation. To be a messiah means the willingness to pay indemnity for others.

When we returned in October, we arrived heartbroken, without a home or car and without knowing clearly where to go next. Do we go back to Nepal in January on a tourist visa for at most five months, which we could just afford to do? Do we take time out to try and build a stronger financial foundation for the future? Many such questions plagued our minds as we wondered where to stay temporarily in England. This time, it seemed more difficult than ever to find God’s guid-
ance, and with winter weather approach-
ing, we strove with the idea of exploring the option of fundraising on the streets. During this period of confusion, we quickly bought a car that we knew would be mobile with most of our belongings to carry around. We began to feel like refugees in our own country. Unfortunately, the

e engine blew out after a long distance trip one week later, which cost us the value of the car.

We had been staying with John’s brother in Scunthorpe, whose wife had warmly welcomed us to stay as long as we needed to make a new start. We made the long distance trip to help us decide where to settle ourselves, and found God’s guid-
ance, we struggled with the idea of where, and with winter weather approach-
ing, it was difficult than ever to find God’s guid-
ance. Therefore, after True God’s Day, we decid-
ed the best thing for us was to return to Nepal and come back to England in the summer-time when at least we can fundraise. We had been doing conditions since our first car blew up, and we felt the support of spirit world after we pur-

chased our tickets. We could fly from Manchester for the same price we paid from Heathrow. A few days later, we received a call from a Russian fundras-

ing team which was looking to rent a car. One of their drivers is a 50-year-

old Korean sister with American citi-

zenship whose husband is the region-

al leader in St. Petersburg, Russia. She came to Manchester to pick up our car after an agreement was made. She had and there would be no cleaning respons-
ibilities—only managing the hotel and contin-
ental breakfast. If we took the job, we could live on £200 a month, minus our expenses. We were really in a turmoil because it seemed God had given us this indication. We were praying and fasted for help to get us ahead financially, visit the U.S.A., where we hoped to give a two-week presentation and relatives and before 2000, and possi-
ble to help John restore his residency in America where we could really find temporary work to continue our mission in Nepal.

At first, we both thought, we have to take this job and delay our trip back to Nepal. It caused us great sadness as we were already expected in Nepal and our hearts were already on the way. We couldn’t help but think. Why didn’t we get this job offer a few months or weeks earlier, before we bought tick-
et and turned over our car? But final-
ly, after deep prayer and contempla-
tion, and a fax which arrived the fol-

lowing morning from our members in Nepal, John felt that God was giving us this experience to pay indemnity again. We were being asked to sacri-

fice what would benefit us materially, rather than what would benefit God and Nepal. Our responsibility was to return to Nepal as soon as possible, and offer to God our willingness to trust in Him.

When we called our former employ-
er, he told us to contact him when we return: the job might be available at a later date. In the meantime, we are leaving Jan. 22 and will try to devel-

op the export of Nepalese jewelry which Steve Clark helped John through-

out last year. As well as being an old friend of John’s, Steve has been sell-

ing Nepalese jewelry as part of his busi-

ness to help support our mission. Recently, we received an e-mail from one of the Nepalese members who had created difficulty for us, and also our heartfelt repentance and explained that he had come under the influence of others who are no longer con-
centrated on their activities. We will return to Nepal for our third year again, and offer to God our willingness to trust in True Father, we cannot do it alone. We need each other’s help, because we must all become messiahs on this level or another. We again offer our grat-

ituation to God and True Parents for all the help received from broth-

er and sisters, and encourage every family along the path of becom-

Huntoon had the best experience of his life. He decided to go to Nepal to be a messiah not only for our family, but for a nation. To be a messiah means the willingness to pay indemnity for others.

When we returned in October, we arrived heartbroken, without a home or car and without knowing clearly where to go next. Do we go back to Nepal in January on a tourist visa for at most five months, which we could just afford to do? Do we take time out to try and build a stronger financial foundation for the future? Many such questions plagued our minds as we wondered where to stay temporarily in England. This time, it seemed more difficult than ever to find God’s guidance, and with winter weather approaching, we strove with the idea of exploring the option of fundraising on the streets. During this period of confusion, we quickly bought a car that we knew would be mobile with most of our belongings to carry around. We began to feel like refugees in our own country. Unfortunately, the

just received a letter from the Japanese

ese wife of our Nepalese national leader, who had worked for three years as a missionary in Russia. She was happy to know that they were helping to support NM to Nepal by renting our car.

The most interesting thing, howev-

er, happened the day after our car was buy-

ed. We received a message from our former employer wanted to offer us a job. It was the same job we had worked at four years previously at the Oxford Hotel in Bayswater. This time, the pay would be higher, we could still live in,

Help Support Mission to Nepal:

If you are interested to help hand-
crafted Tibetan/Nepalese silver with tumbled stone, net, etc., jewelry for your own fundraise-

ing or business, please contact Dr. Steve

Clark for information regarding prices and pictures of jewelry at (317)740-4131 (in Sam.)

—Kathmandu, Nepal — E-mail: jon-
gin@hotmail.com; fax: 00977-4731739

The Nichols on a WFWP-organized health check in a remote village in Nepal
Iber.

sets of clothes on! Then she sat down for else. She went trembling through the because that's what you do in Korea.

ly. She took off her shoes voluntarily,

escape with some of them still on.

taking her clothes off, maybe she could clothes, and over that she put on a third

WERE true? What if she went there and

the building didn't even have a base-

doors at Unification Church. When you

One story proclaimed, “There are three

ment!

pass through the third door, you have
to take off your outer clothes. When you

When he reached the police station,

Mr. Eu anxiously. No one knew.

If they arrest me—well, fine, let it be so.

brought the daily newspapers, and they

When he came Sunday evening, and an investi-

Next morning, everyone eager-

at Father’s return. They

peered down the path, but there

was no sign of him. Then someone

brought the daily newspapers, and they

were shocked to see the headlines, “Moon

Sun Sungim arrested.”

“Does he keep all the young pretty

“Why aren't you in the army?” yelled

“Why aren't you in the army?” yelled

Mr. Eu was told to go into one of the

telephouse, discussing what to do.

Father. Then they waited in a nearby

Mr. Eu and Miss Kim went back
to the church and waited with the others.

But—Father didn't come back.

That night, Mr. Eu could hard-

ly sleep. ‘Why, oh why did I leave Sun Sungim?’ he lamented, toss-

ing the members with questions and

trying to snap pictures of Teacher Moon.

and yelling questions into his face. “Why do

himself every morning with a wet towel.

to keep a very strict schedule and wash

Support. Sweat poured down and drenched

it was not pleasant in these cells, but

it wasn't so easy. ‘I'm sorry, Sun Sungim,’ he

said softly. ‘I just feel that it is because of

our mistakes that you are in trou-

ble. You're innocent, and yet you're
going to jail.’ Tears welled up in his eyes

and he tried to wipe them on his

shoulder.

Father just pressed his lips togeth-

er and seemed to go into deep thought.

He decided to do in this prison what

He decided to do in this prison what

Finally, he was released, and he went
to court.

So he came to understand something

They looked extremely upset and tears

were streaming down, so Mr. Eu stuck

his hand on his knee. ‘I’m going back.

Perhaps now I will see Sun Sengnim.’ Later,

Father came to the door. ‘You can ask

our car right here. We can

have our car right here. We can
nervous. But he could only think how

much worse it must be for Father.

Finally, he was released, and he went

home with the other members. Every-

one looked worried and fortiori—like

sheep who had lost their shepherd. This

persecution was making some of them

stronger in their faith and more deter-

mined, but some of them were being filled

with doubts. Maybe the newspapers were

right. Maybe Teacher Moon really was evil.

The next morning, the members went

to the station to be as close to their beloved

Teacher as they could. Praying together

and singing the song about ‘Can even
dead stop me?’ had given them greater

courage. Again, they waited as each mem-

ber was questioned. By the end of the day,

Won Pil Kim was arrested. There was

still no news of Father.

Four more days went by like this. Then

came Sunday evening, and an investi-

gator appeared at the door to arrest Mr. Eu.

“Good!” he thought to himself. “Per-

haps now I will see Sun Sengnim.” Later,

however, a disappointed Mr. Eu was

released, and he had caught no glimpse

of Father.

The next day, he and two others were

arrested again and held at the East Gate

jail. It was the first time in his life he had
never been locked behind bars, and it felt

very strange to him. But all he could think

of was “Where is Sun Sengnim?”

At dawn, they were taken off to the

Chong No Station—and there, at last,

Mr. Eu found Father! He greeted Father

and Won Pil Kim, feeling more joyful than

he had felt in weeks as the gates clanged

shut behind him.

Before long, the police came in, bound

them all together by the wrists and led

them into a waiting car. They were going
to court.

As the car pulled out, they saw

faithful family members along the way.

They were both thinking the same

thing. ‘He’s an electrical engineer, right?

Why would you give up your educa-

It was May 1955 when the fourteen

young women were evicted from Ewha University. Around this time, Won Pil Kim and Grandmother Oak

arrived from Pusan to join the group. It was a most interesting time to arrive, because Seoul was in an uproar over

Father by this time.

It had started with the events at Ewha

University, and was followed by worse and worse treatment. Now, all Seoul seemed to be out to get Father and his

members. First, the newspaper men had heard

about the students being kicked out, and they wanted interviews. They had heard rumors that, once a person goes into

Teacher Moon’s house, they never come out again. So day after day, they how-

ered around the church building, badgering the members with questions and

trying to snap pictures of Teacher Moon.

‘Who is this dangerous fanatic?’ they asked again and again.

“Why would you give up your educa-

tion, a crazy woman? Did he lock you up? Did he torture you?”

“Does he hide your shoes so you can’t leave?”

“Does he keep all the young pretty

girls in a back room?”

“He’s an electrical engineer, right?

Did he install an electrical gadget that

brainwashes her?”

To make their stories more interest-

ing, they often added details of their own. One story proclaimed, “There are three
doors at Unification Church. When you

go through the first door, you have to
take off your shoes and jacket. When you

go through the second door you have to
take off your outer clothes. When you

pass through the third door, you have to
take off everything!”

Headlines screamed, ‘Naked people

stay in basement of Unification Church’

It didn’t matter to them that no one had
never seen a naked person there or that

the building didn’t even have a base-

ment!

There was one woman who kept won-
ders about the members. Were they

true? What if they were just lies? What

if God DID speak through this man? She

really wanted to know. But what if they

WERE true? What if she went there and

they took off all of her clothes? That would

be just too terrible.

Still, she couldn't get it off her mind.

So one day she gathered up all her courage

and prepared to go. Over her long Kor-

ean dress she put on a second set of

clothes, and over that she put on a third

set of clothes. That way, if they started

taking her clothes off, maybe she could

escape with some of them still on.

Filled with fear, she entered the first

door. The members welcomed her warm-

ly. She took off her shoes voluntarily,

because that’s what you do in Korea..

No one mentioned taking off anything

else. She went trembling through the

second door. Nothing happened. And then

the third door. She had all three sets of

clothes on! Then she sat down for

the lectures and learned the truth about

Unification Church. Soon she was a mem-

ber.

There were people who remembered

Father from Pusan. They watched him,

and they spread some of the same old lies

about him. Negative parents of the stu-
John as Elijah

Throughout the Hebrew Testament, Christ, Elijah is famed for his dramatic coming. "And when he saw the Lord burning with fire upon the altar and the mountain smitten with his withering denunciations. He is mightier than I is coming, the thong bearer, himself must be the long-awaited Deliverer. And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed, he did not deny, but confessed, 'I am not the Christ.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' "Are you the prophet?" He answered. 'No.' "I do not know. ""He, the one who will be forever preparing the people of God for the coming of the Mes-siah... The Church recognizes him to be the one who will be forever preparing the way for Christ... (In Jesus of Nazareth)

An Elijah-like figure

Certainly Bornkamm is correct in describing John as an Elijah-like figure. In the Hebrew mind, Elijah had always been expected as a forerunner to the Messiah. Malachi, the last prophet of the Old Testament, has prophesied: "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the Lord our God, and he will prepare the way before him. (Mal. 4:5). To this day, at Jewish Passover sedar, "... the Jews sang the song of redemption, 'An Elijah-like figure will come among us."


Why Christ Came and Why He Must Come Again

Regardless of such demurrers, all four Gospels, and other ancient historical sources as well, agree that John attracted large crowds and developed a substantial following of his own. The strategy upset Divine Principle teaches that coming in the role of Elijah, it was John's mission to unite with Jesus and give clear testimony to him. However, according to the Gospel of John, when the question of his identity was put to the Baptist, he denied that he was Elijah. (Lk. 3:16-17)

PRISON from page 24

In light of the fact that in the Hebrew mind Elijah had to arrive before the Messiah would come, such assertions by John were extremely damaging to Jesus and the role he was trying to fulfill. Because of John's prestige, any major statements of his concerning Jesus carried great weight, more so than did the words of Jesus, a man of apparently lesser esteem in the opinion of the people.

Jesus was an obscure young man raised in a carpenter's home and was not known to be experienced in spiritual matters; yet, con-travening established authority, Jesus proclaimed himself "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord!'" (Mt. 11:29-30). John, on the other hand, displayed much more impressive qualifications. He was the son of a prominent family, and the miracles surrounding his conception and birth were known throughout the country. "... the one who is 'locusts and honey' in the wilderness, he was regarded by many as leading an exemplary life of faith. In fact, John was held in such high esteem that the high priests, as well as the common people, asked if he were the Messiah (Lk. 3:15, Jn. 1:20). Under these circumstances, we may imagine the people of Israel1 anticipated to believe John more than Jesus. Jesus' view of John as Elijah seemed untrust-worthy, said only to make believable Jesus' claims about himself.
Let us continue our trajectory to approach the love, life and lineage of God. The Bible reveals that God created man in his own image as man and woman. True Father says that True Father appears on the stage of history and proclaims that through emptying himself with a God of love, life and lineage (Rev. Moon, “In Search of the Origin of the Universe,” Oct. 1, 1996). Does this then indicate that just as we humans physically express the inseparable masculinity and femininity of God, likewise reflects his invisible life and lineage with our physical bodies? If it is true that in a human being God makes Himself visible, then it would not be logical to look for the evidence of these three central elements in the centripetal place of the human body. The eyes and the nose, however, which together seem not frightening but encouraging, call us to continue our trajectory to approach the love, life and lineage of God.

Let us observe God’s love, life and lineage from the angle of (1) existence, (2) human history and (3) our personal lives.

**Existence**

Throughout the ages many philosophers and religious visionaries have appeared passing brilliant insight unto their fellow human beings—but none of them conceived of the idea to arrange the essentials of life in this peculiar way: love, life and lineage. Yet, there is one vertical line that none of them could have missed: the fundamental truth that are contained in these three simple words: love, life and lineage.

### 1st of 3 parts

So let us observe God’s love, life and lineage from the angle of (1) existence, (2) human history and (3) our personal lives.

Let us observe God’s love, life and lineage from the angle of (1) existence, (2) human history and (3) our personal lives.
many prominent historians consider the twin main-streams of western thought to be Christianity and Hebraism. These are, respectively, the major humanist and God-centered schools of thought. The Divine Principle agrees, and elaborates.

In the December 1998 Unification News we discussed the Hebraic side of history. This month we’ll look at some Hebraic, or Biblical, issues. The subject demands enough material to fill an entire issue, so we’ll focus mainly on the “hard reality” of things as opposed to the theologies derived from it.

**History**

From Constantine’s time until the Renaissance, Hebraism dominated. The literal reality of the Bible was unquestioned. From the most extreme heretics invoked it, while doubting the Roman Church’s standard interpretations. The Roman first rival, Sci- ence, didn’t even exist then; certainly not as a separate discipline, and hardly so as a rigorous way of thinking.

Following the revival of Hebraism, the Bible was openly questioned. After the French Revolution it came under heavy crit- icism. Next, scholars like Nietzsche and Voltaire sought to banish it—and the spir- ituality it embodied—entirely. In a masterstroke that Christians never tire of boasting about, a Bible Society office now occu- pies Voltaire’s old home in Vienna.) Ultimately, Marx and Lenin sought to liquideate not only Hebraic beliefs, but the believers themselves. Communism has now fallen, in almost every country, but the intellectual debate continues.

In a parallel development, Europe’s age- old undercurrent of anti-Semitism gained intellectual pretensions. It reached its apex in Germany, with a nature centered, Pagan/Aryan revolt. Under Hitler and the Nazis, this school closed directly with the God centered, human elevating, Judeo-Christian tradition.

Hineich Himmler’s occult center, Wewels- burg Castle, was to be the starting post for a newly dominant Aryan religion. A faith proudly spartan, forest loving, piously veg- etarian—and viciously ruthless towards its Christian tradition.

God centered, human elevating, Judeo- Christian tradition. Most prominent Bible scholars, of the very heart of Hebraism. Many have died and no doubt it’ll be very interesting indeed. (Read his lat- est novel, Starfarers, and the Nag Hammadi scrolls found in Egypt, describe Jesus as getting married and father- ing children. The principle concept (a spec- tral poignancy upon this idea, for we under- stand that Jesus fasnest— but unfulfilled—wish was to have done exactly that.

Nevertheless, it would be a good idea to review these ideas. They are very old, and today they’re finding new currency with the New Age movement.

From the Books of the Mac- cabees to the legend of King Clovis, several Tribes of Israel have long been “connected” to Greece, and hence to the heart- lands of Europe, especially southern France. The Graal legends go into great— if oblique— detail, describing the bloodline of Jesus himself. These, and other centuries-old occult writings, trace Europe’s Merovingian dynasty back to children that Jesus (alleged- ly) sired, some say by Mary Magdalene.

The Knights Templar, Masons, Mormons, and various others agree on this. In the case of the LDS Church, unobjectionably—though devout Mormons have told this author that Joseph Smith was born, not of Joseph the Jesus! (Read Holy Blood, Holy Grail by Baigent, Leigh, and Lincoln.)

Is there a Principled explanation? Per- haps there was an actual descent from Jesus Joseph to whom Jesus lamplighters may also have been related. “Technically they’d have been half-siblings, but even so do you remember that he exchangers you’re—turtleshell—was not well known, and Mary and Joseph certainly weren’t going to bring it up! Eventually the reality will be known, and no doubt if it will be interesting indeed.

The Soul

The very heart of Hebraism—that which sets it apart from Hebraism—is the under- standing that man possesses a spirit. Not merely a “fuzzy” divine nature,” but an indi- vidual, immortal soul, the principle concept, which is a separate entity. A unique spirit not shared by the animals, or by any other part of the phys- ical creation.

Adam and Eve, who were probably born in Africa some 130,000 years ago, were the first spiritual beings. They possessed souls, and even the Fall did not alter this. Eve named their three sons, but no daughters. Many have asked: so how did their lineage, and thus the human soul, get passed along to so many generations?

Geneticists are currently mapping the total human genome byte bit of our DNA. Despite racial and other apparent differ- ences, all humans have virtually the same differences in common. Despite the specifications of a best-selling novel, the Maccabees, even Jesus DNA would likely prove “only” human.

What of the soul? It seems there are two ways to look at it: as something you have, and about how you’re regarded. Let’s use circes as an example of the former. They’re so small that it takes a very sophisticated microscope to see them. The soul is even harder to detect. A cold (a phys- ical entity caused by rhinoviruses) can be passed along, and there is no such thing as a “half cold.” Generally speaking, you either have one or the other.

Take citizenship as an example of the latter. It is a purely conceptual entity, which can be “granted” to persons who do not even know how to work (a passport, etc.), is only an outward manifestation. It can be inherited upon being born; otherwise, it must be conferred upon each person individually.

The mortal mind can hardly grasp the concept, but it would seem that the soul has aspects of both. Adam and Eve’s sons could have “passed along” their souls, perhaps to their proto-human wives, and cer- tainly to their children. God would then have recognized them as fully human, and granted them an eternal home in the spir- itual world.

**Conclusion**

We can hope that further discoveries await. Perhaps, as already depicted in fic- tion, sacred objects like the Ark of the Covenant will be located. As the Principle makes clear, Jesus Resurrection did not involve his physical body. Therefore, his final resting place may yet be discovered. If it’s already known to some occult sect, then, revealed to the world.

The soul has been tantalizing hints (and more than a few false starts) that scientists may someday observe it. For instance, Poul Anderson speculates that our mind’s “unique” “quantum states” may be im- plemented upon quasiparticles, and might thus survive the brain’s demise. (Read his lat- est novel, Stranger.)

As we have often stated before, the Prin- ciple is clear that Religion and Science are both aspects of the God’s truth, and meth- ods for understanding His vast Creation. Giving the Bible its due has already enriched Science greatly, and this trend shows every sign of continuing.

**LINEAGE from page 26**

must therefore be handled with greater care than the force of life which just rolls on.

Traveling further down the human face we arrive at our last stop in this connection: the mouth. To imagine that the eyes symbolize love and that the nose allows us to smell, the ears to hear, and the mouth as the symbol of lineage! Is that not a bit fabricated, Mr. Herbst? And I agree that nothing of what I have said can be proven to be true, for truth always lies within you and not on a piece of paper. But let us consider the matter. And we dis- cover that the true origin of the mouth that allows us to perpetuate the line- age. Through the mouth the mother eats food, which goes straight down to the fetus the until time has come to leave this auto- nomous being that he or she is entering the world. Through the mouth creation is trans- formed to become new sons and daughters of God, and thus to new human beings enter the world. Through the mouth creation is trans- formed to become new sons and daughters of God, and thus to new human beings enter the world. Through the mouth creation is trans- formed to become new sons and daughters of God, and thus to new human beings enter the world. Through the mouth creation is trans- formed to become new sons and daughters of God, and thus to new human beings enter the world. Through the mouth creation is trans-
Report on a "Revival of Christianity" Pastors Meeting

February 1999

Unification News

by Michael Inglis—NYC

Recently I had the pleasure of attending a half-day seminar for pastors and lay leaders hosted by Promise Keepers, Mission America and Mainstay Ministries in Philadelphia. (For further information see their websites: www.promisekeepers.org and www.missionamerica.org.)

The theme for the day was the "Revival of Christianity." There was much talk on this theme and there seemed to be some genuine testimony that there was a beginning to a third great revival in the US today. There seemed to be an acknowledgment that the church has been pushed out of the center of the culture and that time has run out. There must be unity among the church.

Mission America is calling for every Christians home to be a lighthouse for God and for all Christians to pray for their neighbors. Promise Keepers are calling for revival events to be held on Jan. 1st, 2000 outside each state capital. Mainstay Ministries were calling for the church to be a lighthouse for God and to send your peace upon it. Second, fellowship with the people. He said that if we do not build friendship, we cannot make friends. Third, after developing relationship with Jesus, and "sending his peace" into each house, He also gave us 7 points for revival: For revival there must be ... 1. A deep seated longing for God—a holy unrest. 2. A concentrated prayer effort across the land. 3. A reawakening of peoples gifts. Tears and love. 4. A conviction and victory over personal sin. 5. An awareness of God's presence. 6. Society will be influenced for the better. 7. Ringleaders in sin will then serve Christ.

He then challenged all to be a part of the revival and not to miss it. I was blessed to be given the opportunity to meet and talk to him for a few minutes about our True Family Values Ministry and I gave him the Lecture manuals for the 1 day and 2 day seminars. He promised to read them.

There was also a very informative handout by George Barna which clearly shows the state of Christianity - $100 million worth of bibles are sold every year in the US, the top selling book, by far. But less that 4 out of 10 read it weekly and 3/4 of all adults say there is no such thing as absolute moral truth. 89% believe that Jesus died, rose and is alive today. 1/3 of all adults— including more than 1 in 5 born again Christians— contends that when Jesus was on the earth he committed sins. 4 out of 10 don't believe in the physical resurrection. 

• Adults are ten times more likely to say that their spiritual life is more important to them today than it was three years ago. But just 3 out of 10 say that having a satisfying spiritual life is a top priority.

• Among the top concerns of Americans is the moral decay of the nation. But upon comparing Christians and non-Christians on 65 common non-religious values there were no instances in which Christians were substantially different. This ranged from getting drunk, getting a divorce and engaging in adultery to gambling and intentionally lying.

• There must be unity among the church. "Then, Coach McCartney, the revival will come, the likes of which you and I can never imagine."

RIVER from page 29

have left. He said that if we do not build a strategy to reach young people we will lose an entire generation (sound familiar?).

He concluded by expounding on the Lighthouse strategy: using Luke 10:5 as his resource. This is the story of Jesus sending out his disciples to witness. Jesus outlined four steps. First, walk by the house and send your peace upon it. Second, fellowship with the people. He said that in his new neighborhood, to which he just moved, he spent time walking and "sending his peace" into each house, and then anyone whom he encountered from those houses on the street were obviously sent to him by God. He would make friends. Third, after developing friendship, he asks if there is a way he can help them, especially in prayer. Fourth, he welcomes them into God's kingdom.

David Mains has a different strategy. He sets up a food drive for a local shelter, and then goes door to door in his neighborhood asking if they would like to donate anything. He does this once every two weeks. Then, after getting acquainted with the people this way, he asks if they had any prayer requests. The next step is to invite them to join his prayer group.

Two Personal Encounters

I was there with HSA Publications Director Michael Inglis. During a break, Michael spotted Coach McCartney coming into the room, introduced himself and gave him a gift of two True Family Values seminar lecture manuals. Mr. McCartney was happy to receive them, Michael said, and gave him a hug. At the moment that was taking place, I was talking with a pastor of a new par- adigm church, one that he started "as a life is a top priority.

Bible study with a bunch of long-haired people outside of Philadelphia. When I told him I was a senior pastor with the Unification Church in Manhattan, it drew a blank, and I helped him identify me with the true followers of Jesus. He knew "Reverend Moon!" Oh yes and he was immediately asking me if we have a relationship with Jesus, and about the current rumors, and if we are a cult. I told him that God anointed Reverend and Mrs. Moon as True Parents and so we are a little different from your standard church. We were on our way to a good talk when the break ended, but he caught me at the end, among the 300 or so pas-tors there, to give him a card.

Why did he give me his card? Here's what I think. The conservative Chris-tians can't figure us out. We're in all their anti-cult books alongside the Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, Scientology and so forth. I think they know we are doing something concerning what they believe in and that we are, for want of a better term, good Chris-tians. We believe in the Messiah in some way, shape or form, and that we believe in the family and faithful marriage.

Because of True Parents' work, God is preserving and prospering the new paradigm Christians. But because of our own lack of love and proclamation as members, they still do not understand True Parents. They still have the "hold" button pressed. Their new paradigm relates to method, not message. When they receive, from God, the message of True Parents, then their "John the Bapt- ist generation" foundation will allow the message to blossom and grow. With Jesus' help, will fulfill her divine destiny. Then, Coach McCartney, the revival will come, in the likes of which you and I can never imagine.
I think the resiliency of evangelical Christianity in America as well. But it does not prevent it is a hollow shell, a dead body of cler- icalism being invaded by Satan's house divided against itself. In such a set- ting, we cannot afford immoral strug- gles. He called the church a gathering place. At the meeting, I met a United Kingdom of God, so great would be our pulling power amid the social decay. It was not to be.

Then how are we to understand the booming prosperity of the new paradigm for which we are looking into the answers provided by the BP would shine as a lighthouse in the darkness. When I was on a mission in 1975 I received an official let- ter from the church leadership telling me that in three years time we would begin the physical establishment of the Kingdom of God, so great would be our pulling power amid the social decay. It was not to be.

I thought he might be the Mes- siah, but he realized that he was not, but that someone greater than he was to come, for whom he was simply prepar- ing the way. Dr. Mains said this direct- ly at the meeting, quoting the Baptist's words from the New Testament. As Malachi predicted the returning Elijah would do, turning the hearts of fathers and chil- dren, so too are these contemporary prophets working on families and mak- ing for the Lord a people prepared. In the process, church hierarchies are breaking down. The new movements are anti-hierarchical, are locally controlled and managed by the members them- selves. At the meeting, I met a United Methodist pastor who is pre- paring to bring an alternative service into his church soon. The new paradigm Christians adjust dogma and doctrine and struggle to speak directly from the scriptures without a super- imposed theological frame- work.

Let me convey a few points from the meeting. It was entitled a Rally for Revival, and the main theme was how to bring revival to America.

Mission America

The first speaker, Dr. Mains, is calling all church- es in America to install a satellite dish, so that the exciting develop- ments can be shared directly to the local churches throughout the nation. (Sound familiar?) He described the origin of Mission America in Billy Gra- ham's ministry many years ago, and how it now includes 67 denomin- ations and 200 para-church min- istry. All the speakers, including Mains, stressed that Christianity has to unite and work together for a common cause, putting aside denominational barriers. (Sound familiar?)

Mains described a "Lighthouse" move- ment, which is similar to what we call home church. I will reserve detailed description of it for later, but Mains point- ed out that denominational barriers can be overcome best on the local level. When he, a Baptist, develops a prayer fellow- ship with a neighbor who is Roman Catholic, or Jewish, or Muslim, there, not in official conference rooms, is where religious barriers are cried out, beyond familiar? He spoke from his personal experience making his house a light- house for his neighborhood, and said that we can lead with integrity only by doing it and then encouraging others to do it. (Sound familiar)

Mr. Glenn described the Lighthouse strategy, and added noteworthy points. He said, "The day of the professional minister is over. The day of the mis- sionary pastor has come. We no longer have local churches; we have mission- ary outposts." He called Christians an embattled cause, fighting an aggres- sive adversarial culture. In such a set- ting, we cannot afford immoral strug- gles. He called the church a “gathering of 2 or more people in Jesus’ name, unit- ing together for the purpose of praying for, caring for and lovingly and appropriately reaching out to neigh- bors and relatives.” (Sound familiar?) He said it is now time that we de- fine the church of the future, and it is in this neighborhood out- side.

Right Brain Food

Threaded through all the speakers was a prayer for God's blessing and war led by Terry and Barbara Franks. They are a couple who write and perform contempor- ary Christian music, and through that the program called everyone to prayer and song in praise of Jesus. It is in re-enchantment, reflection, and in celebration. They made it clear that the most important aspect of their lives is their family. When they travel to perform, they always travel with their two sons-both of whom partici- pated in the program. Mrs. Franks spoke about the restoration of the fam- ily when husband and wife are united. (Sound familiar?) They home school their boys. So the event had an emotional, right brain component intertwined with the cerebral left brain content. All the speakers except Bill McCartney utilized computer-generated graphics and several- short video clips—we viewed some eight videos, ranging in length from 3 to 10 minutes, in the four and a half hour 25 gram. All together the music, the mixed media, the prayer and the interesting content made for an enriching experi- ence.

Unificationists, I believe, may have pioneered this type of semi-religious ex- perience, especially with the CAUSA semi- nars in the early 80s. Our 1996 True Family in America is in this same category with the content mix of prayer, media and content as well. But these people, I dare- say, are surpassing us, especially in one area. That area is the integration of music, worship (a word virtually unknown to Unificationists) and prayer with the intellectual content. Another area in which they surpass us is packaging and integrating their materials.

The final speaker was "Coach" Bill McCartney, founder and guiding light of the Promise Keepers. His greatness, for me, lies in the confessional stance that he takes when he speaks. He con- stantly uses the phrase, "I believe." And he takes what could be controversial statements and turns them into a Satanic house divided against itself can- not in official conference rooms, is where he, a Baptist, develops a prayer fellow- ship. The final point is that Mains made a description of it for later, but Mains point- ed out that Mains had set aside time to hear Bill Clinton's State of the Union address this year. At the beginning, he heard Clin- ton proclaim, emphatically, "The state of the union is strong." Then he heard the Congress explode in applause— not just polite applause, but enthusi- astic applause.

He said that at the moment that Clinton spoke those words and received that applause, he believes, our nation entered a state of total moral anarchy. And he said, as he stood up and turned off the speech, that a major religious figure of this nation would make that statement and take that action is very significant.

Mr. McCartney has been researching about GenX, the generation born between the regression of Janeway and Brainer. He brought to his colorful church his history books on life. He identified several signs of a revival, as evidence that we are already in the midst of at least the beginnings of one. He said, several times, that we are in the last days, that we are out of time, that a massive revival is har- rying us down to earth, that an explosion of love is coming soon. He foresees that "God is coming to visit us in an extra- ordinary way."

He even said that January 1, 2000, is in the beginning of the millennium. The Christians to spend that day first in family devotions, then in church devotions, making a major statement to the cross denominational and racial lines. Also he has commissioned 15 major Christian preach- ers, independently, to pray for two months and then articulate God's message for the new millennium. He asked them to video tape their conveyance of God's message, and send the tapes to him. He will edit them, and he expects it seems- to me a degree of sensitivity. The final prod- uct will be broadcast January 1, 2000. He has commissioned the Barna's study and the Barna's publication that 80% of GenX youth who were raised in the church
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