

Remarks to the 20th Annual True Family Values Ministry Banquet

Ki Hoon Kim
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The 20th anniversary celebration of the True Family Values Ministry kicked off with its annual awards banquet at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Chicago, Illinois on December 5, 2015. For 20 years, the True Family Values Ministry of Chicago has sponsored this prestigious event to honor individuals and families for their exemplary service to the betterment of society as a testament to the ideal of living for the sake of others. The ministry hosted its first awards banquet in 1996 and proudly celebrated its 20th anniversary this year.

A morning America at a Turning Point forum was held on Saturday, drawing over 200 guests to participate in this two-hour educational session which provided an important opportunity to consider the principles and values needed to address the political, cultural, social and spiritual challenges facing our nation and world today. It featured interactive presentations and panel discussions in three key areas: “Interfaith and Peace-Building”, “Family: The Cornerstone for Peace” and “The Significant Role of Youth for Sustainable Peace”.

Then, the afternoon banquet featured an awards ceremony and a variety of entertainment and key speeches which celebrated the 20 years of the ministry and were also geared at looking forward at all the work that remains to be done in building strong family across America.

Dr. Ki Hoon Kim, Continental Chair of FFWPU North America, gave a welcome message and introduced Sun Jin Moon, International President of FFWPU, who shared personal remarks prior to delivering the keynote message on behalf of True Mother.

The following day the Chicago Family Church held a victory celebration during their Sunday Service, and Sun Jin Moon shared True Mother’s message with the local community.

20th Anniversary True Family Values Banquet Welcoming Remarks

Dear Clergy, Civic and Social Leaders, Distinguished Guests, dear Brothers and Sisters, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for joining us today to celebrate our 20th Annual True Family Values program.

Two decades have quickly passed since the first True Family Values Awards program at Life Center Church of God in Christ, hosted by Pastor T.L. Barrett Jr. under the inspiration of our Co-Founders, the Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and True Mother Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.

Let us sincerely thank God for His blessing and protection over this great gathering over the years!

Father and Mother Moon joined us here in Chicago so many times. They always taught about the important responsibility of religious leaders to build good families and strong communities, and to help America fulfill its God-given providential mission.



Today, as our nation mourns the victims of yet another mass shooting, and as we see continuous conflicts around the world driven by religious extremism, we are reminded that our work is far from over.

So we are not just here to celebrate the past, but to make a new commitment to the future.

The True Family Values banquet has often been a catalyst for new commitment. In 1999, after Father and Mother attended the banquet for the first time, they immediately called for the founding of the American Clergy Leadership Conference, in which so many of you have played major roles.

The following year, in 2000, True Father called me at 5 am the very next morning after the banquet to launch the famous 50 state "We Will Stand" tour in which Father and Mother went to all 50 States to bring the message of fidelity and faithfulness in marriage, supported by so many ACLC pastors.

Ever since, the ACLC clergy throughout America have kept the Founder's vision alive. Here in Chicago, we meet every month for the prayer breakfast. Our movement has been hailed as a most effective interdenominational gathering for all faiths and peoples.

True Mother was so inspired when she heard about the 20th year anniversary of True Family Values that she sent our International President Dr. Sun Jin Moon as our keynote speaker to share True Parents' message about the historic mission of faith leaders in America. We look forward to hearing her soon!

Once again, thank you so much for joining us here today. We have come a long way; and we still have much work to do. As we honor the great work of so many, let us also redetermine to do God's Holy Work together until we see His Kingdom come on earth.

Thank you! God Bless you and your families, God Bless Chicago, and God Bless America!

