

The Way of Blessed Families 5: Beyond Comfort-Zone Sacrifice

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February 10, 2017



True Father taught that mind-body unity begins with absolute faith, beyond life and death. What then? “Then,” he said, “is to sacrifice.”

True Father left nothing to theory, so he followed up with a question: “What should we sacrifice?” His answer was indirect: “All people in their mind want to sacrifice.” But “your body is protesting. It doesn’t want to sacrifice.” That’s what you sacrifice: your complaining body, all of its needs and all of its gratifications.

It’s easy to fake the sacrifice. More than that, we can play a shell game with sacrifice, using it to benefit ourselves. In fact, we’ve created a vehicle

that allows us to do that. It’s called religion.

Jesus identified this when he saw a widow in the temple. “As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. ‘Truly I tell you,’ he said, ‘this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.’”

True Father turned the screw: “if you want to sacrifice for your own sake, for yourself to be saved, that also means you will use God for yourself. ...Such a way of thinking is to use God.”

The temptation to make comfort-zone sacrifices is subtle and incredibly powerful, and True Father started with himself: “Anyone who puts ‘I’ in front definitely perishes. If Rev. Moon of the Unification Church puts himself in front in order to do God’s Will, will the Unification Church rise or perish? [Perish.] ... The central figure has to take the responsibility and become a living offering.”

True Parents call their followers, and children, to be living offerings, to give “all we have to live on.” What do children live on? Home and family, centered on parents. This is the parents’ greatest joy as well. True Parents sacrificed home and family for the world. True Children were the living offering. The pathos of the children!

To go beyond comfort-zone sacrifice is an arduous, never-ending discipline. It brings us blessings, each of which become increasingly difficult to sacrifice. So True Father said, give and give, forget that you have given, and give again.

(References: “The Way Our Blessed Families Should Go,” pp. 18-22; Luke 21:1-4; artwork: mattanslow.files.wordpress.com/2011/09/jesus-widows-mite2.jpg.)