Interview: Park In-gyeong Director of Exhibitions and Collections, Central Administrative Council

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July 2026

A Commemorative Ceremony Marking the 20th Anniversary of the Cheon Jeong Gung Entrance and Coronation Ceremony of the True Parents as the King and Queen of Peace in Heaven and on Earth, was held on July 29, 2026, with members of True Family and staff members from providential organizations in attendance.

The ceremony offered a meaningful opportunity to look back on the course of Heaven's providence and honor True Parents' noble achievements. An awards ceremony was also held to recognize long-serving staff members who have devoted themselves faithfully to their responsibilities over many years.

True Peace Magazine is featuring the stories of some of the long-serving staff members whose years of service have unfolded alongside the history of Cheon Jeong Gung.

In this issue, we meet Park In-gyeong, Director of the Exhibitions and Collections Department at the Central Administrative Council, who has been responsible for collecting, preserving and exhibiting materials related to True Parents' lives.

Having served on the Cheon Jeong Gung staff for more than 20 years, beginning during its construction and continuing to the present day, he shares what it has meant to him to attend True Parents. - Editor's note

A Path That Began with a Promise Before Heaven

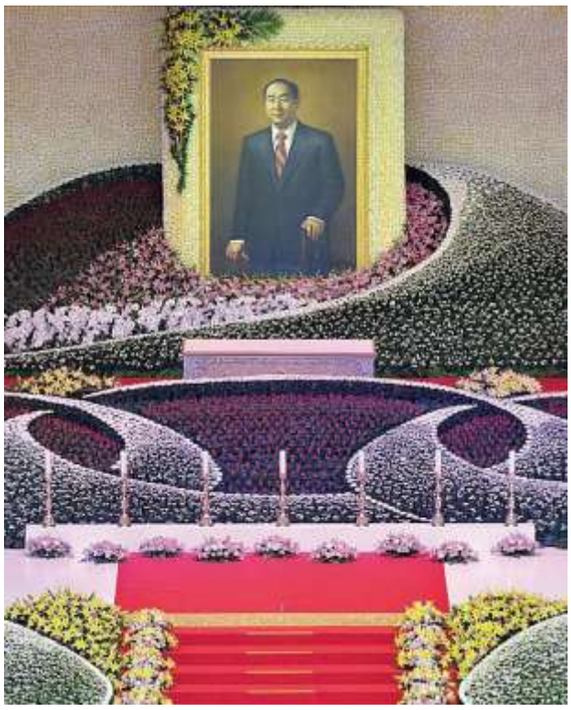
Question: Please introduce yourself.

Answer: I am Park In-gyeong, and I work at the Central Administrative Council as the director of exhibitions and collections. My main responsibility is to collect and organize records and artifacts related to True Parents' lives, as well as materials related to events, especially those held at Cheon Jeong Gung. I'm also responsible for planning and managing exhibitions at Cheon Jeong Gung.

Question: Could you also tell us a little about your family?

Answer: I received the Marriage Blessing in 1992 as part of the 200 Couples Second Generation Blessing, and we have two daughters. Our older daughter has also received the Blessing, and we already have two grandchildren. Our younger daughter is in her final year of university and is in the process of looking for a match so she can attend the Blessing.

My parents received the Blessing as part of the 430 Couples, and both of them spent their lives attending True Parents directly. Perhaps I have inherited that responsibility from them, and that is how I ended up working at Cheon Jeong Gung.



The floral alter at True Father's Cheonju Seonghwa Ceremony (15 Sep 2012)

Question: When you first came to Cheon Jeong Gung, did you expect that you would be working here for so many years?

Answer: Not at all. But I did come here determined to fulfill my responsibilities to the very end.

Actually, when I first came here, it wasn't because I had made up my mind that I wanted to work at Cheon Jeong Gung. Looking back, I remember True Father asking me when I was in second grade, "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

I answered, "My parents have attended True Parents, so I will attend Hyo Jin nim." Looking back, I feel my answer somehow became a promise that I made to Heaven.

Reflecting on the course of my life, I believe Heaven created the circumstances that enabled me to come here and called me to this position.

So rather than expecting that I would be here for such a long time, I have continued working here with the determination not to forget my promise to Heaven.

Question: Do you remember what Cheon Jeong Gung was like on your first day of work or during those early days?

Answer: I officially began working here in 2004, so that was 22 years ago. It was around the time construction of Cheon Jeong Gung was just getting started.

They were still finishing up the foundation, so the whole place was a chaotic construction site. It was all mud, and I remember walking around the site every day to check on the progress, right up until the Entrance and Coronation Ceremony.

So rather than remembering the beautiful Cheon Jeong Gung we know today, what first comes to mind is the busy, constantly evolving construction site that it was back then.

Question: You have spent so many days at Cheon Jeong Gung. If you had to choose the one day that stands out most in your memory, what would it be?

Answer: The day I remember most would have to be the day of True Father's Cheonju Seonghwa. You could say that from the very beginning, as we were preparing Cheon Jeong Gung itself, we were also preparing for the Cheonju Seonghwa.

From the outset, our approach at Cheon Jeong Gung was not to wait until something happened and then respond, but to anticipate what might happen in the future and prepare for it in advance. One thing we absolutely had to think about was being prepared for all the arrangements and observances surrounding True Parents' Seonghwas, so we gave a great deal of thought to how we could attend them properly when that time came.

Because True Father's Cheonju Seonghwa came after all those years of preparation, that day is deeply significant to me personally as well as historically.

I even decided to become qualified as an official funeral director, so that I could personally attend True Father at the time of his Cheonju Seonghwa. There were a number of places where I could obtain that qualification, but because I felt that we had to attend True Father according to the very highest standards, I chose a program operated directly by a university.

There was one such program in Busan and another in Wonju. Busan was too far away, so I studied in Wonju for a year to prepare.

I was grateful that the preparations I made enabled me to attend True Father directly at such an important historic moment, even though I still felt I could never do enough. That is why the day remains so memorable to me.

At work during the Cheon Jeong Gung Museum preparation period (23 Aug 2004)

While construction was underway at the Cheon Jeong Gung Museum (20 May 2005)

Holding Fast to True Father's Final Request

Question: There must have been difficult times over the years. Did you ever think about doing something else?

Answer: I would be lying if I said there weren't difficult times, but I never thought about doing anything else. I was determined that, no matter what, I would fulfill my responsibilities at Cheon Jeong Gung as long as I was asked.

One reason I was able to maintain that determination goes back to 2012, just a month or two before True Father's Seonghwa. After a Hoon Dok Hae session, I met True Father in the hallway outside the Hoon Dok Hae room on the third floor of Cheon Jeong Gung. He stopped me there and spoke to me for about 30 minutes.

True Father writing the calligraphy for "Cheon Jeong Ru" (14 Jan 2007)

He told me, "A hundred years from now, a thousand years from now, our descendants will not be able to see True Parents or have any direct experience with us. The museum will be the only way for future generations to know what True Parents were like during this time. You are responsible for the museum, so you must fulfill that mission." He also told me, "When True Mother is here on her own in the future, make sure you attend her well and that she lacks nothing."

I felt that this was True Father's final request to me personally. I have held on to those words ever since, and they have helped me endure many difficult times along the way.

Question: When have you found this work especially rewarding and thought, "I'm really glad I chose to do this"?

Answer: Every moment has been rewarding and something to be grateful for, while at the same time there have been many difficult moments. Still, I think what has meant the most to me was being able to remain at True Father's side during the final 13 days before he went to Heaven.

Among the many exhibitions I have worked on over the years, one that particularly stands out was an exhibition of True Father's calligraphy held to commemorate his Seonghwa.

I had the opportunity to guide True Mother and some of the True Children through that exhibition and explain it to them. As I explained the meaning of the characters in each inscription and True Father's intentions behind each piece in the exhibit, True Mother listened very intently. She then told me, "Don't

keep all of this knowledge to yourself. Make sure you share it widely with our members."

At that moment, I thought, "I'm finally becoming an expert whose work True Parents recognize." To me, her words affirmed the value of the work I had done over the years, and I was deeply grateful. It remains one of the most rewarding moments of my life.

Guiding guests around the Cheon Jeong Gung exhibition on True Parents' lives and achievements (18 Jul 2008)

Cheon Jeong Gung and the Commitment Shared by My Family

Question: What does Cheon Jeong Gung mean to you personally?

Answer: As I mentioned earlier, my being at Cheon Jeong Gung represents a promise. It represents my ongoing commitment to Heaven, and now also my determination to carry out the request True Father gave me in 2012.

That is why I feel I cannot walk away from this responsibility, no matter what difficulties I may face.

I sometimes joke, perhaps a little bluntly, "Whatever happens, I just hope I don't get fired." But behind that joke is my sincere desire not to break the promise I made to Heaven.

I want to keep offering my filial devotion to Heaven until the last possible moment. That is why, to me, Cheon Jeong Gung is a place that represents a promise.

Question: What would you like to say to your family, who have stood by you all these years?

More than anything, I feel sorry for what I have put my family through. The reason I have been able to remain in this position is that they made sacrifices and patiently endured so much.

For example, in the early days there were many times when something urgent would come up at Cheon Jeong Gung. I always had to sleep with my cell phone right beside my ear, and if I was summoned by True Father at 3:00 in the morning and told, "Prepare for a new calligraphic inscription," I had to jump up, rush in and get everything ready.

I remember one particular time when I had my bag packed and ready for a family vacation, and we were planning to leave as soon as we woke up. What happened instead was that in the morning,

I picked up that same bag and went straight to Cheon Jeong Gung, where I ended up staying and working for the entire week. I heard later that my young daughter had quietly wiped away her tears in a corner of the room.

In that sense, this life of attendance has not been mine alone. My entire family has walked this path with me. I feel deeply sorry toward them, and deeply grateful as well. I know there will be times like this again in the future, so I hope they will continue to be patient with me and stand by me.

Showing True Mother, members of the True Family and guests around the Cheon Jeong Gung exhibition on True Parents' lives and achievements (1 May 2023)

Question: Finally, is there anything you would like to say to True Parents?

Answer: I think the most I could possibly say to True Parents is, "Thank you."

Even though they have always known my shortcomings, they have kept me close, believed in me and entrusted me with this position all these years. What more could I possibly ask?

So the very most I can offer is, "Thank you." That is really all I can say.

Many years from now, when the time comes for me to meet True Parents again in the spirit world, I hope I will be in a position to attend them there just as I have been attending them at Cheon Jeong Gung. Until then, I will continue living with a heart of gratitude.