

Manhattan Family Church: Rev. Miilhan Stephen's vision for New York City

Miilhan Stephens
October 10, 2022



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our FFWPU NYC Team would like to thank all of you for coming to our Metro Service this past weekend! We hope that each and every one of you had an incredible experience as we did! We are very excited to start this new chapter and moving forward toward Rev. Miilhan Stephen's vision for New York City!

We also like to welcome and thank all the new members that joined our service and now our community! We welcome you with open arms and look forward to working with all of you!

In case you have missed yesterday's service, you can watch it here:
www.facebook.com/themanhattanfamily/videos/1196156177629317/

Don't forget to like and follow the Manhattan Family Church's Facebook page for future Metro services:
www.facebook.com/themanhattanfamily

We would also like to share the vision via pdf that was presented during yesterday's service! We have attached it at the bottom of this email!

Last but not least, we like to thank all of our volunteers that was able to help with lunch prep setting and cleaning up. And we thank those that graciously donated food and drinks for our lunch potluck!



We look forward to meeting everyone for our next quarterly service beginning of 2023! Let us continue to work together with God and True Parents by our side!

Thank you and God Bless you and your families!

Sincerely,

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Scroll down for *Rev. Miilhan Stephen's vision for New York City*

Sunday Morning

I wake up in NYC on the Sunday morning of October 24, 2027. It's 2:30am in the morning. I look over and see Sayaka and the kids sound asleep. They had an eventful day yesterday and got some well deserved shut-eye. I'm bouncing out excited to discover what God is about to reveal to me for today's sermon, the theme of which is "God is a waymaker, we are the proof".

As easily as I kiss True Parents' picture first thing in the morning, I do my 10 minute intense workout, 10 minute hoon dok reading, then 10 minute journaling with points of gratitude, repentance, and victories. While showering, inspiration fills my mind. I jot a few notes on my phone, get dressed and scribble as fast as I can in my notebook, but I'm unable to perfectly capture all the glorious things that fill my heart. However, the abundance of ideas doesn't overwhelm me, but rather serves as a reminder of how much I trust God and His guidance. I review the scriptures that I chose for this Sunday and decide on the perfect stories that can bring those scriptures to life.

Hello New World!

I join Morning Devotion with Dr. Yong and find God confirming revelations I've been having lately. He shares speeches from True Mother about how USA, Japan and South Korea with China, Russia, and Cambodia are helping North Korea connect with the world centered on True Parents' vision for world peace. They are not yet one nation, but they are both booming with development nonetheless as the North has been denuclearized for some years now. At least the world's superpowers are at peace.

At 7:25am I wake up Sayaka for Morning DeLite. I especially didn't want her to miss today because I wanted to thank her for the effort she made for the event yesterday. She didn't have her camera on, but I know she's smiling from behind the camera with our little Hopey-chan asleep beside her. At 7:30am, a majority of NYC ministers join in. The Mayor's Faith Advisor offers the representative prayer. Everyone's minds are filled with victory and hearts united in love as we enter the unison prayer. You can hear shouts of "Glory to God!" "Thank you Jesus!" "Thank you True Parents!". I pause for a moment to listen and imagine myself swimming through the currents of God's absolute promise to make our prayers into reality. We have time for only a couple testimonies of miracles, but we acknowledge that God is working in each of our lives in very real ways. I'm asked to share the final word, but there's silence for a full 10 seconds. I couldn't stop the tears and the wailing of God's heart inside of me. The unprecedented hope and joy of his children standing together like a forest of trees of life, flag bearers of an everlasting kingdom of forgiveness, love, and unity. I take a slow deep breath and unmute my microphone to deliver a message: "We did it! We made peace in Korea and around the world. We did it!" All the prayers and action, prayers and action. The Prayer Coalition for the Holy Community of Harlem has given birth to a wide range of comprehensive, community-run initiatives that effectively shut down crime overnight. A new generation is growing up never having to hear the sound of a firearm while on the playground. A new generation of parents are learning how to raise the hearts and minds of the future leaders of the world. After I acknowledge the specific contributions from each of those on the call (including Sayaka), one of my early members suddenly unmutes himself and exclaims that everyone give me a round of applause.

The New New York Family

At 8:05am, already dressed, I walk downstairs where one of my spiritual children awaits to drive me over to church. We've had hundreds of new tithing members join in the last few years. Each

of them have studied the Divine Principle and are actively sharing it with others. We walk into the New Yorker Hotel where the Sunday Service staff greet me on the second floor. I look out the giant glass windows to see Madison Square Garden and the Empire State Building still standing there as the people walk by. I can't wait for the people across the street to look in and see God's people smiling and singing together from all ages, races, cultures, fused together. It is a world wonder, a sight they won't be able to find anywhere else. Better than any Macy's display. We don't have the biggest gathering on Sunday, but I've raised up a few young high impact pastors leading their own congregations throughout NYC and around NY State. We're on the same accord.

This day marks the 6th anniversary of my starting here at the Manhattan Family Church. So there's an air of pride reflecting on how far we've come. This service is particularly filled with testimonies from those new members that owe their lives to certain Blessed Families in our community. How they have shown them a love that must come from the living God and how grateful they are to belong to this community. One they never thought could exist.

The joy continues with amazing food and fun until it's time to go across the street and watch the opening of the new movie that came out about True Parent's life. We made a special arrangement with AMC to make sure all our members had a seat. As I'm sitting there with my family along with younger brothers and sisters, we feel this overwhelming pride that God's story is finally being told in a universal (studios ;)) way.

Afterwards we all get on the bus to go up to the Belvedere Estate where they are hosting their fall festival. As I get off the bus, Pastor Justin greets me and I give him a big hug since it's been a little while since we've met up in person with everything going on. Ayumi and Sayaka take the kids over to where the other kids are to help out with all the outdoor activities. Me and Pastor Justin have a nice walk around the property to see all the new developments that have been made recently. I glance over and see a new couple that I learned recently received the Marriage Blessing. I rush over to give them a big hug and steal a photo with them. We've helped match and Bless hundreds of couples over the last few years, all ages. At some point I get a phone call from the NYC mayor asking for some council on a recent matter. I eventually join in the fun to get my day's worth of exercise. It gets darker and we finally get a ride back home. It's 7:30pm.

Perfect closing of a Perfect day

After the bedtime routine, we do our reporting. Everyone had an A+. Sayaka is giving me the eyes of approval which is often rewarded with a lucky night. I make my move and ask the question using our secret code phrase and I hope for a confirmation. Success. Heaven and earth be havin' a rumblin' tonight! We stay up a bit later than usual because Mondays are strictly family recreation days :).

I do my daily prayer warrior prayer right before bed. I'm reminded of the miracles that these little prayers have done for these people.

Time to get some well earned sleep. Resting my head on my pillow and closing my eyes, I fall asleep in an instant. With all the good works we've done, only beautiful images occupy my dreams. Dreams that will inspire new worlds that we get to make next.