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Members' Spotlight | Tae Endo: A Journey Back to a Second Home

Written by Han-sun Nkumu



After spending two years in the UK as a Heavenly Top Gun (HTG) missionary, Tae Endo returned this October to begin a new chapter as FFWPU-UK's Outreach Coordinator. For Tae, however, returning to the UK meant more than taking on a new role. It was a chance to continue a mission close to her heart in a community she now considers a second home.

At 28, Tae brings a unique background, having grown up in Japan with both Japanese and Korean roots. Although she always knew about her Korean heritage through her mother, it wasn't something she thought much about during her childhood.

It was only after moving to Korea at 18 to study at Sun Moon University that her perspective began to change. Living alongside Korean friends and experiencing the culture firsthand helped her discover a part of herself she hadn't fully recognised before.

Growing up, she had been aware of the sometimes difficult relationship between Japan and Korea. However, through her experiences, she began to see her mixed heritage as something to be proud of, particularly in light of the significance of Japan and Korea within the Unification Movement.

Today, Tae sees her background as a blessing, something that connects her to both countries and has helped shape the person she has become.

A Journey of Mission and Growth

Tae first came to the UK in 2024 as an HTG missionary. Over the following two years, she built friendships and connections with members across the UK and Europe, while experiencing significant personal growth.

"My time in the UK broadened my perspective," she reflects. *"I have come to feel that there is even more I could do for the people I met during my mission period."*





After completing her mission earlier this year, Tae returned to Japan to prepare for her next chapter. As a UPA graduate, she received a new mission from True Mother to serve in Europe, leading her back to the UK as Outreach Coordinator.

For Tae, her previous missionary experience was also preparation for this new responsibility. She feels grateful for the opportunity to use what she has learned to support both current and future missionary teams, strengthen outreach efforts and work more closely with communities throughout the country.

Returning on 10th October, she was particularly touched by the welcome she received.

"It was moving to see how warmly the members welcomed me back upon my return to the UK. It made me realise that this British community is, in a sense, another home for me."

Now living at Livingstone House alongside the Heavenly Top Gun Japan team, Tae is looking forward to contributing to River South Community while also connecting with communities across the UK.

She hopes to help energise youth activities and witnessing efforts, with a vision of the UK becoming a place from which "pure water" can flow and reach others.

Alongside her mission, this year has also marked an important personal milestone. In May, Tae received the Blessing with her husband, Kosuke, who is half Cameroonian and half Japanese and grew up in Japan.



Their journey towards the Blessing was not quite what Tae had originally imagined.

As someone who had dedicated much of her life to mission work, she initially believed she needed to find a spouse who could work alongside her in that mission. However, during a challenging period of her missionary experience in the UK, her perspective began to change.

She realised that life would not always go according to plan. There could be struggles, changes in circumstances or moments when her own direction might shift. What mattered most was finding someone she could share her whole life with, not simply her work.

"I came to realise that my spouse should be someone I can be together with at all times, not only for the mission," she explains.

When she eventually met Kosuke, with the support of their families, their relationship developed naturally. Tae describes their meeting and the journey that followed as a series of miracles, through which she could feel Heavenly Parent's love and guidance.

She came to see that their relationship was not simply about her mission, but about her life as a whole.

Although blessed life comes with its own challenges, Tae shares that recognising how deeply Heavenly Parent loves her husband continues to inspire her to cherish and love him more.

Getting to Know Tae

While Tae's work and mission are an important part of her life, there is also a quieter, more personal side to her that people may not immediately notice.

She describes herself as someone who is often seen as serious and responsible. Because she isn't particularly talkative when meeting new people, she sometimes worries that others may mistake her quietness for being cold.

However, those who know her well discover someone who feels a deep affection for the people close to her.

One of the ways she enjoys expressing this is through cooking and baking, something she shares with her mother.

Growing up, she was influenced by her mother's love of preparing food for others, and she now finds joy in inviting people over and sharing a homemade meal.

Since moving to the UK, Tae has found herself missing Korean food and hopes to learn how to cook more Korean dishes. She has also picked up a few British habits along the way.

"Since moving to the UK, I've naturally developed the habit of drinking tea daily!" she shares.

Another discovery was the size of British kitchen ovens. In Japan, large ovens are less common in households, so having one readily available has encouraged Tae to bake much more often.

Interestingly, Tae and Kosuke also share a connection through their multicultural backgrounds. Together with his older brother, Kosuke previously ran a business and podcast called *GOLDNRUSH* in Japan, which featured conversations with people from mixed cultural backgrounds.

Through these interviews, they hoped to introduce Japanese audiences to different cultures and experiences, encouraging greater understanding of people with multicultural identities.

Outside of work, Tae enjoys visiting parks and spending time in nature. Despite having lived in the UK for two years, she still has many places she hopes to explore.

She is also looking forward to attending sporting events with Kosuke, who enjoys watching sports, something they haven't yet had the opportunity to experience together in the UK.

As Tae settles back into life at Livingstone House and begins her new role, she hopes to continue building on the friendships and experiences that made her first two years here so meaningful.

For someone who once arrived in the UK as a missionary, returning to a community that now feels like home is a meaningful continuation of her journey. We warmly welcome Tae back and look forward to the contributions she will make to our communities in the years ahead.

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