

FFWPU USA: *Why I Joined* Podcast Awarded by Religion Communicators Council

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The *Why I Joined* Podcast received three DeRose-Hinkhouse Awards of Merit from the Religion Communicators Council (RCC). RCC is an interfaith association of religion communicators working in print and electronic media, advertising, and public relations. The DeRose-Hinkhouse Awards recognizes the work of religion communicators.

Season 2 as a whole podcast series, the episode "Adonia Hentrich: I Almost Walked Away", and the social media campaign advertising season 2 were all recognized with an Award of Merit. Some feedback from the judges included:

"The podcast content and the questions posed during the episode were relatable and effectively humanized the member's experiences within the Unification Church. Providing a platform for members to share both their joys and concerns about their involvement in the church is a wonderful way to empower them and give voice to their experiences. It fosters a sense of community and openness within the church, creating space for genuine dialogue and understanding. Great job."

Thank you to RCC for this honor. Congratulations to the *Why I Joined* production team, including co-hosts Nancy Jubb and Sungmi Holdhus, sound editor Sunhwa Reiner, and social media manager Yoshie Manaka, as well as all the guests who shared their stories!