

## FFWPU Europe and Middle East: Jack Corley - Reason for Joining - God Became a Reality

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*Jack Corley being interviewed in August 2024 - Screenshot from Episode 2 of "Why I Stayed - [Unificationist](#) Stories"*

**Interview with early member who found the best explanation of God he'd ever received: God became a reality**

Part 1 of an interview in Episode 2 of "Why I Stayed - [Unificationist](#) Stories", where Jack Corley, a farmer's son from Ireland, tells his story.

See the [video of the interview](#)

Jack Corley grew up on a farm in the West of Ireland as one of nine children. He joined the [Unification Church](#) in Birmingham, U.K. in August 1973. Over the past 50 years, he has held leadership positions within this group, working in more than 80 countries, including

the United Kingdom, Ireland, France, Germany, Italy, the United States, South Asia and Southeast Asia.



*Jack, Renée, and son in Moscow in front of the Worker and Collective-Farm Woman Monument, showing a male laborer raising high a hammer and a female farmer a sickle, working shoulder to shoulder for the Soviet ideal (2010)*

His longest posting was in Moscow, where he worked for over 15 years in the former Soviet Union. He also made more than 60 visits to China and multiple visits to Mongolia to introduce character education based on the principles of his organization. Jack and Renée are proud parents and grandparents. Renée helped to found the Washington Times in 1982, and they were European Continental Directors of the Unification Movement 2015-2017 and currently serve as East European subregional directors.

*Presenter:* Hi everyone, welcome back to another episode of our show. We're so excited about today's guest, and we managed to catch him on a short visit back home to Ireland. He is very famous, well known and a longtime member of the [Unification Church](#).

The first question is: "Jack, why did you spend so little time here in Ireland?"

*Jack:* Well, because my work took me overseas, the UK, the United States, Russia, South and Southeast Asia and other parts of the world. I've been travelling much of my life in

various missions.

*Presenter:* Are you happy to be back to Ireland?

*Jack:* I am always happy to come back to Ireland, because I, of course, have my roots here. I grew up in County Mayo. I was from a family of ten children, five boys and five girls, and the eldest child, a son, passed away at the age of two years old. So, we were basically nine members.

We had a very devout background in the Catholic faith. At the age of 20, I became a member of the [Unification Church](#), following two other siblings into the [church](#).

*Presenter:* Let's dive a little bit into it. Can you tell us a little bit about your life? The world is so different nowadays, right? What was it like back then?

*Jack:* Life was very simple for me growing up. We grew up on a 30-acre farm. We did the normal things

that children growing up on a farm do, from milking cows to feeding pigs and shearing sheep, and all the kinds of things you do on a farm.



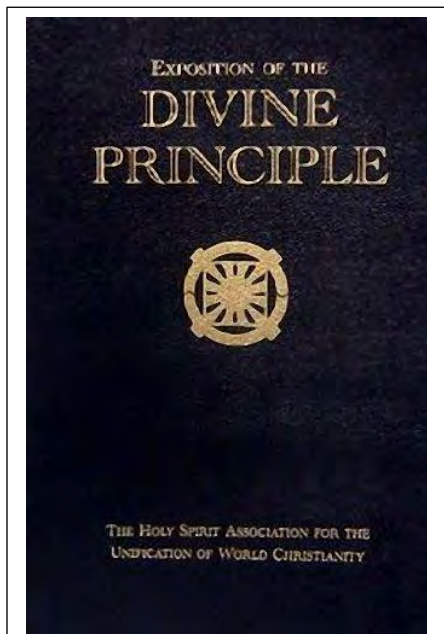
We walked about two kilometers every day to primary school, through the fields. And then there was no car, no TV, no telephone in those days. And we went to church every Sunday. We prayed the rosary every evening. We prayed before every meal. Our family was very devout in that way.

And then from the age of 13 to 18, I was in a Catholic boarding school, which was run by the Diocese of Clonfert. My teachers were actually priests mostly. I was totally enveloped in the Catholic environment. A part of the reason I was there was, I think, because my mother was hoping that one of her boys might become a priest.

And while I deeply respected and appreciated the education I got and the priests that were teaching, I just didn't feel that was my role in the future. After leaving high school at the boarding school, I studied electronic engineering, computer science and navigation in Cork City.

It was while being in that study that I heard about the [Unification Church](#) through my younger brother and younger sister. I went along to listen and find out what they were doing.

I was so impressed as soon as I heard the first presentation. It immediately touched my heart. And even more importantly, I would say the people that I met touched me. It wasn't that they were just believing some new idea or theology. Their very demeanour and attitude were something that I really was moved by. I felt their religion, their faith was very genuine, and that they were really living by what they believed. And I thought, these people are for real.



*Teachings whose concept of God impressed Jack Corley a lot*

After listening to the [Divine Principle](#) for several weeks after work, I decided this is what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. And I'm still here.

*Presenter:* [...] Jack, I can't help but ask because it's not that common for people who are already religious to turn to another movement, another religion. You already had [God](#) in your life, and I hear you had a strong religious background. I know there are several core principles in the teachings, but for you, if you had to choose one thing, what was it that made you say, "I'm going to stay here, and I'm going to build my life according to this."

*Jack:* The first thing was that [God](#) to me was a belief, but when I heard the [Divine Principle](#), [God](#) became a reality. And how is that possible? I felt that the teachings about the creation, the duality of creation connected to the Creator, [God](#), made it all so real. In other words, it wasn't like [God](#) is out there, separate from his creation. [God](#) is totally embedded in his creation. It's just that we didn't see it.

I felt that this was the best explanation I'd ever received. I was grateful - and will always be grateful to my Catholic upbringing; that I would never forget. But there was something more needed in this modern, more scientific age. There needs to be more rational explanations about why there is a [God](#). It's more than a belief or an opinion. You should have a reasonable understanding. There has to be a first Creator and a benign and purposeful Creator.

And so that's what I encountered when I met the [Divine Principle](#). It felt more real.

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To be continued. Part 2 coming soon.

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# Essence of God

*It is the essence of God that longs for a deep relationship to us*

According to the Abrahamic religions, God is a personal God. This means that we humans may have a personal relationship with him. What is it about God that allows such a relationship? Father Moon elaborates that it is not God's outer being, his energy and power. On the contrary, it is the inner qualities of God, his heart, the very essence of God, his innermost being. In his heart, God longs for a deep relationship with us.

According to Sun Myung Moon, it is the creation that gives us the best understanding of God. You may understand an artist's mind by studying his works of art. In the same way, we understand something about God by studying his creation.



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<b>God</b>	Inner nature	Outer being
<b>Human beings</b>	Mind	Body
<b>Animals</b>	Animal mind	Body
<b>Plants</b>	Plant mind	Body
<b>Molecules</b>	Inherent directive nature	Matter
<b>Atoms</b>	Inherent directive nature	Matter
<b>Particles</b>	Inherent directive nature	Matter

Everything in creation has an inner nature and an outer being. It is not only we humans who have an inner nature, a mind. Animals have it too, a mind characterized by instincts. In plants, we observe a plant mind, which regulates the external form and functions of the plant. Even in inorganic matter, the inner nature is expressed as inherent properties, that govern the material structure.

As the dual characteristics of inner nature / outer form are a universal feature of creation, the conclusion is that the being who created all things – God – must also have such an inner nature and an outer being. The outer aspect of God is his energy and power, the inner aspect his mind. Important aspects of God's mind are his emotion, intellect, and will. We humans are created in God's image. Therefore, we too have emotion, intellect and will. But the deepest aspect of God, the innermost, is his

heart. It is from his heart that his love flows.

It is only by understanding the heart of God that we understand the essence of God, his core. It is in his heart we find the reason God created. He created everything because he wanted someone to express his deepest heart to. The goal of creation was precisely us humans. Everything is created for us and to be managed by us. God therefore longs for a relationship in his heart with us humans.

This is somewhat similar to how we all love to have someone to express our heart to. Without it, life becomes superficial.

As it was we human beings who were the very goal of God's work of creation, by understanding our own situation, we may understand God's heart. When God created the first humans, he was full of expectation and hope. His dream of having someone he could express his love to, and who would respond to him, was going to come true.

However, it did not work out that way. The dream was shattered. The humans left God and began to behave dead against God's expectations. He could not love them, and they could not love him. God became deeply distressed and frustrated. He became a broken-hearted God, with a heart full of sorrow and pain.

However, God did not give up. He had no choice but to begin the painstaking process of restoration, determined to regain what was lost. He had to endure countless setbacks. There were so many he called who failed him. Still God never abandoned humanity.

After thousands of years, he was finally able to recreate a new Adam – Jesus. Again, God's heart was full of hope and great expectation. But although God had painstakingly prepared a foundation for his son, he was treated most cruelly and hung on a cross.

Therefore, God had to slowly prepare a new foundation. God's hope is that the Messiah at the second coming, the third Adam, will be the one who can finally give God what he has always longed for – a world where God can one day live in our midst and express his love to us, at the same time that we show God our love to him. Such a world is of course not something one human – not even a Messiah – can create. We must all lend a helping hand. Then, we may develop a deep relationship with God in our heart, when we help to free God's heart from its heavy sorrow and deep frustration.

"Essence of God" – text: Knut Holdhus

[More about God](#)



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