

Proposed: A Divine Principle Institute Dedicated to the Victory of the Vision 2020

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***True Father:** You can read many newspapers' worth of content after a thousand or even ten thousand years if it is saved on a computer. Even though I have spoken about many things, those words can be used on computers in countless worlds, if we put them on a CD...The words of Heaven, the words of Heaven's love are shining brightly throughout the world, such that the dark forces will self-destruct. They will be forced to flee further and further away. When the light begins to shine, darkness cannot rule within the realm that is touched by that light
(342-22, 2001.1.9)*

Recently, True Mother said during the 53rd Holy Wedding Anniversary in Las Vegas, “*Spring has come to our providence...Being April 2013, it is spring. Who do you think are the busiest people in spring? Farmers... Some farmers will follow traditional farming methods, while more educated people will study and try to find ways to use the conveniences of modern civilization to harvest better and more abundant crops.*”

In the New Testament, Jesus is quoted as saying, “*The harvest is great, but the laborers are few.*” Christianity started off as a small group of peasants in Jerusalem, said to have been between 20 to 100 followers. Three centuries later, it is believed there were approximately three million converts — or about 40 percent growth every 10 years, which interestingly enough is the growth rate of the Mormon Church during the 20th Century. According to Dr. Bart Ehrman, From Jesus to Constantine: A History of Early Christianity, The Great Courses, 2004, pg. 50, “*This growth was not achieved by massive evangelistic campaigns but by social networking, as one person who converted would then convert his spouse and (some of his) children, neighbors, and friends; over time, each of the converts would do the same.*”

Now fast forward 2000 years, and knowing that history repeats itself, we find ourselves in a comparable situation to those living during the time Jesus left the earth. True Father has just ascended to the spirit world and we have been given the mission to fulfill his last words; namely, to accomplish our mission as tribal messiahs, where all members will have their own “farms” in the hopes of bringing in a large harvest of new believers.

However, unlike the time of Jesus, when the Gospel had to be spread by word of mouth one to another, we now have powerful technology at our disposal that will enable us to streamline and improve our educational methodology, comparable to using a modern-day John Deere tractor, instead of a horse-drawn plow, to help insure a great harvest in the fall.

The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) is now in a position to create the best instructional materials available as Internet downloads, DVDs, CDs and television presentations of our True Parents, the Divine Principle and True Parent's speeches that will inspire not just the minds, but the hearts of all the world's citizens by True Father's one-hundredth birthday. True Father stated years ago how much more effective it would be to use today's modern technology:

“There is no need to teach in front of a black board. Put more value on books and also use Principle video tapes. You have powerful armament[s] now. Eventually, we will broadcast [the] Divine Principle all over the world.”

(True Father, 1-28-93).

“In Japan, our members are bringing people to watch Principle videotapes. This is *four* times more effective than the conventional kind of witnessing. We are also creating video centers in America. An interested person only has to go to one of those, and he can hear the best Principle lecturers.”

(1-9-83)

For this purpose, we suggest the creation of the Divine Principle Institute and will seek to briefly answer what, when, where, why and how the Institute will contribute to the success of the Vision 2020 project. It could become the primary educational resource center that would enable the American Movement to reach its membership goals in the next seven years. Its purpose is to serve the community by offering in-depth multimedia course work along with written instructional materials essential to the spiritual growth and development of all of our families, their children and those they hope will become new members in the coming years.

What: The Divine Principle Institute will be under the direction of True Mother and staffed by Divine- Principle experts trained to provide a continual source of knowledge and expertise essential to the development of credible on-screen workshops, television programs, Internet downloads, DVDs and CDs, etc. After comprehensive course work in Unificationism, students, utilizing diversified multimedia technology consisting of the five basic types: text, video, sound, graphics and animation, will design and develop professional courses, which will then be made available to members and the public. Students would receive full scholarships, along with royalties for every course they helped design, produce and sell to the public.

What: What will the Institute do to help assist FFWPU home church families be more effective in spreading our faith? Once families purchase the instructional materials supplied by the Institute, they will then have the freedom to operate independently as educators or workshop coordinators, etc., greatly improving their chances of becoming successful tribal messiahs, pastors and church planters.

For example, what if inexpensive DVDs and CDs were made available to pass out to the public, similar to the distribution of True Father's autobiography? These might highlight the best that our Movement has to offer, such as: a) a few of the key points from the Principle; b) focus on a particular topic that would interest most people such as the Four-Position Foundation or the Three Blessings; or c) demonstrate the value of the Marriage Blessing, to name only a few. These different programs would encourage people to invest more in learning about our theology. Attached with each DVD or CD would be FFWPU contact information, as well as how to order other programs from the Institute.

FFWPU families with their own educational resources--beginning to more advanced lectures-- would then be confident to bring interested family, friends and neighborhood contacts for follow-up lectures. With more than enough programs available, a single family could easily educate and train guests, who would then become committed members of the Movement.

Where: Where should the Divine Principle Institute be located? The Institute could be located on the scenic grounds of the Unification Theological Seminary (UTS) and Barrytown College of UTS. This would help cut costs due to the sharing of resources between the three schools.

When: When will students be allowed to attend? Once students complete degrees at either Barrytown College or UTS, scholarships will be awarded to students who wish to attend the Institute for one to two years in order to be certified as scholars, educators, lecturers and future leaders of the Movement. Our future educators and leaders must be able to make a living for their families, so these would all be paid positions.

Why?: The Divine Principle Institute would make a valuable contribution to achieving some of the goals referred to by President Michael Balcomb, "Guidance for Unificationist Leaders Discussed in Las Vegas," March 22, 2013, along with other suggested purposes mentioned below:

1. It will help coordinate the world's FFWPU educational system.
2. It will play a large role in equipping and empowering church members on the frontline.
3. It will establish clear educational standards that will be a part of all future workshops and lectures.
4. It will develop engaging lecture series -- beginning, intermediate, and advanced -- that could inspire Church growth around the world.
5. It will help provide educational resources that will help our families rediscover the deeper meaning behind the Divine Principle and Father's words and why it so vital in building a world of peace.
6. It will point the way to one-hundred percent focus on a Divine Principle-centered revival.
7. It will distribute much needed educational tools that will enable 5,000 home churches the freedom to function independently, allowing Unificationists the opportunity to fulfill their responsibility as tribal messiahs, pastors and church planters.
8. It will offer a new educational system that will fully engage the creative minds of our youth, adding a deeper meaning to life, enabling them to become our future leaders and educators.

How: How will the Institute meet all these goals? It starts with the hope, dreams, imagination and insight of FFWPU members like you. For this to become a reality, your help is vital, because without the support of the community, it has no chance of success. Once having read this proposal, your comments will be most appreciated. The author of this piece doesn't pretend to have all the answers.

Many members already have experience when it comes to successful educational projects and resources used in the past, both within and outside of the Movement. What have your own experiences taught you through the years that pertain to some of the suggestions presented by this proposal?

Please be as clear and straight to the point as possible. Address specific strengths and weaknesses included in this proposal as well as your own opinion on how to be more effective in spreading the Word. When considering the multimedia portion of this piece, second generation [Unificationists] are encouraged to make recommendations, especially those with some experience in this area.

Contributed by Julie Philips-Heires from Grand Rapids, MI, who joined the Unification Church in 1973. Phillip-Heires has a Bachelor's degree in United States and World History, Secondary Education from Manchester College, IN, and a Master's degree from San Jose State University, CA, that helped inspire this proposal. She is a 2075 Blessed Central Family and has one 28-year-old son, Nathan.