

July Newsletter

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Brothers and sisters around America:

Glory to God!

Now is the time for the final battle in order to establish Cheon Il Guk by January 13, 2013. It is literally the time of a great change of the providence. True Parents, who knew the heavenly time and the direction of the providence best, offered the special condition of sincere devotion for 12 days in June in the West of America without sleeping or resting for the upcoming providence and America. They gave various directions in order to overcome the current crisis and advance the providence.

True Parents arrived at Cheon Jeong Gung in Korea on June 30, 4:35 am, and at 2:15 pm on the same day, they left the Kimpo airport for Yosu. More than 100 Japanese members, who participated in the Ocean Leadership Workshop at Blue Sea Garden in Yosu, fervently welcomed True Parents. True Father immediately went out to the sea and started fishing at 4:10 pm. Soon, he caught a sea bass which was more than 70 centimeters long. He continued offering sincere devotion of fishing on the sea until 7:10 pm, and then went back to Blue Sea Garden. On the seashore, Japanese members welcomed True Parents singing the song "Pen Norae (Song of a Ship)" vigorously. On July 1, Hoon Dok Hwe at Blue Sea Garden started at 5:00 am and continued until 4:00 am on the following day of July 2. (From the official website of the Unification Church in Korea)

In such a rapidly changing age, with what kind of attitude should we walk our way? Rev. Hyung Jin Moon, International President, gave the following important message:

(1) Rev. Hyung Jin Moon's words at World Leaders Conference on May 1 (by the heavenly calendar)

Rev. Hyung Jin Moon said on the 6th day of his 8-day fasting as follows:

"We are sinners. Even though we have no original sin, we still have infidelity before heaven. We have hereditary sin, collective sin, and individual sin. We need to understand this. Once we understand we are sinners, we need the savior. We need True Parents. In a life of faith, every day we accumulate sins. When I was in high school, I did not have a girlfriend, I did not drink, smoke, and did not do drugs. So, I believed I was worthy of respect. But, it was completely arrogant. It was the sin of arrogance. The blessed children and True Children have no original sin, and did not understand we were sinners. I asked Father, "True Children and the blessed children have no original sin. Does that mean we can go to heaven?" He said, "Absolutely not."

We must fundamentally understand again that we commit all sorts of offenses against heaven every day, by our thoughts, words, and actions. We must have humility that we are not perfect. We need to lean on the perfect, which is God, and the embodiment of God, which is True Parents. We must understand True Parents. Through

their life course, through the seven deaths and eight resurrections, they saved our souls. We have to understand the price they paid. The only reason we can stand before heaven is not that we were born as blessed children, or born without original sin. It is because of True Parents' paying the price through the indemnity course.

What our church has completely been lacking is that we have shied away from talking about sin, because it is negative. Before heaven, we have to have humility and repentance, realizing our weakness because only in the weak can God choose us to become strong.

We are sinners, so we need True Parents. We continuously need to reflect upon ourselves as the leaders or blessed families. Even though we are the members of the Unification Church, there is no guarantee that we will be able to go to heaven. True Parents gave us True Love, True Life, and True Lineage. Therefore, we are called to return absolute faith, absolute love, and absolute obedience to them. In this time of confusion and challenge, we have one purpose: to bring glory to True Parents. Then God will be pleased. He can bless us with greater abilities than we currently have. True Parents have really done the impossible. We must hold on to them. This is absolutely what we need."

Rev. Hyung Jin Moon gave us the words to go back to the starting point of our faith in order to enter into a completely new level. He showed that what is important is our repentance and to be united with God and True Parents.

(2) Rev. In Jin Moon's Sermon on May 30: "Steadfast Love and Trust Will Yield Rehabilitation"

In Jin Nim is devoting herself to conveying God's heart and love in her service at Lovin' Life Ministries, literally as the representative of God. In particular, I was moved and healed by the following sermon, which led me to deep repentance. She introduced a "wonderful story in the Book of Hosea about the prophet Hosea and his wife, Gomer," and showed us the main message through the story.

This is an unbelievable tale. Initially it might seem like a story emphasizing Hosea's obedience, that he absolutely followed the will of God. But if we take another look, that's not the primary message it teaches us. If we think about the story once more, we realize that it's really about God's unending and steadfast love for His children.

The story of Hosea and Gomer is a metaphor for what the Israelites were dealing with, living in an environment filled with Baalistic rituals. When the Israelites became so immersed in their world, so superficially attracted, then they were "whoring" against God by taking part in these rituals, by focusing on the materialistic part of life instead of concentrating on the spiritual aspect of life. What Gomer was doing was exactly what the Israelites were doing.

But what God was promising them was that regardless of what Gomer did, Hosea would be true to her. And Hosea would deliver her through his life of faith and make this woman of the night complete. What God was trying to teach through Hosea's love story with Gomer was to tell the Israelites, "Even if you are engaging in whoredom, I will still love you. I will still hold you as my children. As your parent, I will be steadfast in my love for you and make you whole."

For people who are immersed in difficulty, involved in situations where we feel so dirty, like the woman of the night, then we ourselves might be our worst impediment to being what we truly are. Like Gomer, we reject the love and run away because we don't see ourselves as being worthy of the love.

What does God do then? The amazing thing about the Book of Hosea is we don't just see a God who is a parent: He is a proactive parent. He's not going to sit around waiting for His children to come. As the parent, He is going to go after His children. Hosea is not going to sit around waiting for Gomer to come back. As the deliverer, he is being proactive, reaching out, saying, "I love you. I will never give you up." He is the one that's making the first step, never giving up on this person who still has a spark of the divine, despite whatever Gomer might have experienced in her life.

It gives us incredible hope. Maybe some of us were drug addicts, maybe some of us were sex addicts, maybe some of us were alcoholics. But what God is trying to tell us through this story of Hosea and Gomer is that it doesn't matter what you were. It doesn't matter where you were. It doesn't matter who you were with. "I loved you and I love you still because I know who you are." That's the underlying message that becomes the central theme in the story of Hosea and Gomer. God is saying that it's who you are. It's not what you were, it's not where you were, it's not who you were with, but who you are. You are an eternal son or daughter of God. You have infinite potential.

In Hosea there is deliverance. His undying love gives this worthless woman the dignity to start her life anew as a divine being. Likewise, it is God's unfailing love for the Israelites that gave them the foundation to start anew.

God is taking Gomer out of the past with His love. For whoever might feel that they are no different from Gomer, this is a story of incredible hope. He is letting us know that as long as we remember who we are, all God sees is infinite potential. And in our potential He sees the future of what we can be.

(3) The Way of Repentance

Then, what should we do in order to reach deep repentance? True Father said as follows:

The first thing is to determine a righteous direction and to work toward the goal, repenting in daily religious life. God will always listen to the needs of such a person. Actually, ninety percent of prayer is not about doing this or that, because you and God already know what must be done; ninety percent of prayer is repentance. This parallels Jesus' teaching to repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Repentance is very valuable if you do it correctly.

Since your goal is already set very high, you always know on which days you don't reach it. Repent on those days, saying, "God, I'm sorry about today. I really wanted to come much closer to the goal today but I failed you. Please forgive me. I will do it tomorrow." That's the way you should pray.

The next day may find you having to repent again. When you set your goal very high, you cannot reach it easily, and every day you repent. That's a beautiful thing. Every day is a new day and a new beginning. You have a lifelong journey and every day is a day of repentance. That's a beautiful life to live. That is far better than feeling, "Now I'm the leader, and I give the directions around here." The other way is a far more beautiful way of life.

God has never boasted, "I'm Almighty God, so you have to listen to Me." Then how could we who are trying to comfort that heartbroken God say that we are somebody? We have not come that far yet. The person who repents every day makes progress, even without knowing it. Anyone who thinks he is a high-standard Moonie and a good example for others has already stopped growing. Would you like to go the road of repentance?

I want you to realize that even after lifelong repentance no one will have paid his debt. On the road of repentance, every day is a new beginning. That is the road of your very own cross, on which you are going only upwards and will never fall down. Many times Jesus secluded himself in the mountains, fasting and praying tearfully. Even for him, every day was a new day of repentance. That's the one sure way you can guarantee you will make progress and never falter. --- (from True Father's words "Stony Path of Tears")

(4) The Reason Why God Gave Us Hardships

True Father said to us about our attitude in this age of a great change as follows:

- The reason why God gave us hardships (from True Father's words "Heavenly Father We Want to Attend")

--- God gave us the message that in the last days, there would be a 7-year period of great hardships facing human beings. This period of hardships is the time when holy members will meet the sorrowful situation of heaven in the 6000-year course of history. It will be the time that the ties of human beings will be broken and people will not be able to believe each other. However consciously and truly you live, you could not assert yourself based on your conscience. The more aspiration you have, the more pain you feel here and there. Such a time is the 7-year period of great hardships in the last days.

In such a period, our aspiration is unsettled, and the center of our faith is shaken. Our leader we believed is shaken. It is the time when everything such as ideology, religion, conscience, and even parental heart is instable.

Then, why does God have to make such a world? It is because He wants to give us the value of having worked with True God, who has been enduring hardships throughout history. For 6000 years, God has seen many horrible scenes and experienced many hardships. Therefore, He gives us the surroundings in which we cannot set a center based on conscience, ideology, or faith. Such an age will come because God wants to find His real sons and daughters who can say, "I love God. I live with God," even in such a difficult situation.

Therefore, don't feel sad to see that churches are shaken, that one ideology is shaken, that one sovereign was ruined, that your parents were changed, or that your brothers were changed. Even though the whole world in which you believed may be shaken, you have to remain calm. You have to know that God is never shaken and that He visits me even in that time. You have to know that God gives us hardship because He wants to connect us with God and the hardships God has experienced. You have to know that this is a great promise with God. In order to find the people who can shout, embracing heaven in such a difficult situation, "Let's go together. Let's fight together. Let's take action together," it is necessary to have such surroundings.

Therefore, brothers and sisters, do not be disappointed because there is no way. Don't be discouraged that your nation will fall into disorder. God is not dead. Even though the world would fall into disorder, don't be disappointed. God is not dead. God will surely visit us. Therefore, even though everything might be shaken, please

have your single-minded devotion to heaven which will never be shaken. Please keep your mind of hope which depends upon and reveres heaven. Even though God drives you into hardships, which may change your mind, you have to have a mind which can attract Heavenly Father. In any situation, you have to make an effort to go up through the bonds of heavenly heart. Even though you might have sorrowful regret with which you might feel pain as if you fell into hell, you have to be anxious about Father's sorrow and be in the position to work with Father. If you go through this way feeling responsibility and duty, believing that the Father would be anxious about your sorrow, you will never perish.

Today, there are many Christians, but how many Christians have such a heart? When we attend Father, we should not attend Father who sits on the throne of glory in heaven. We have to attend Father who goes through hardships in order to find His real sons and daughters being swallowed up by the waves of death. We have to know that such a Father is my father, and make His situation my situation, make His heart my heart, and make His desire my desire. Then, we should stand with confidence in front of Father who comes to us, and say, "I know that Your desire is to find Your sons, so I will find them. I know that Your situation is that You need to solve the complications in history. I know that Your heart is that You want to embrace lost sons again. Therefore, even though I undergo unspeakable sufferings, hardships, or difficulties, I will become the embodiment of Your desire, the embodiment of Your situation, and the embodiment of Your heart." You have to know that such a person is His real son and the one who can attend the Father.

In such a rapidly changing age, it is important for us to know God and True Parents who are the starting point of our faith. For that, we are asked to read 8 educational textbooks thoroughly with a humble heart and sincere devotion, and live by checking ourselves with the words of those books. The time of hardships is a chance for us to really feel that God's blessing and heart are poured into us. It is also the time when we can really feel True Parents' heart and course.

In July, which is the month of great new progress, let's practice, practice, and practice in order to fulfill the mission and responsibility of America, the Elder Son Nation with True Parents and In Jin Nim. We will start the Kodan condition of sincere devotion in July 2010 as follows. I pray that many brothers and sisters will participate in this.

Hiroshi Inose

Kodan President

Kodan 21-Day Condition of Sincere Devotion around America

Period: From July 8 (Thu) to 28 (Wed), 2010

Condition: 1. 21-minute prayer

2. 21 bows (or one meal fasting)

3. Thoroughgoing Hoon Dok Hwe (Each one decides how to do)

4. To recite "Thank you," or read the Bible verse, I Thessalonians 5:6-18 every day, and practice it. --- "... Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks...."

Purpose:

1. For the long life and safety of True Parents; for the victory of True Children
2. For the victory of establishing Cheon Il Guk by January 13, 2013
3. To go back to the starting point of our faith in order to fulfill the God's calling responsibility of America, the Elder Son Nation; to be united with the words and heart of God and True Parents
4. Thoroughgoing Hoon Dok Hwe (Reading) of 8 educational textbooks and its practice
5. To make a victorious breakthrough of Tribal Messiah activity through distributing True Father's autobiography to 430 families
6. To strengthen outreach in order to make a substantial foundation through the joint works of the spiritual and physical worlds
7. For the victory of Kodan activities and donation in July 2010