

## Our main strategy for witnessing in Japan

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*The Headquarters' Witnessing Policy for the Victory of Vision 2020 and One-on-One Witnessing Workshop*

For the victory of Vision 2020, the Japanese Family Federation formed missionary teams, all over Japan like the one-world crusade teams organized by True Parents before. These, which Mother named Cheon Il Guk Revival teams, began working in 2013.

Meanwhile, churches in each church district sought various effective witnessing methods. We did not have the explosive results that Heaven hoped for, but the Cheon Il Guk Revival Team member's hardships from morning to night, did not go to waste. On the foundation of their sincerity, in March 2014, the church made Bang Sang Il head of the Witnessing and Education Department, and the church took off in earnest from that time.

### **The 2014 standard of success**

On the first anniversary of Foundation Day, as True Mother looked on, Sasaki Koichi, FFWPU national leader in Brazil, testified to Brazil's success with home groups, one-on-one lecturing and oikos. We invited him to Japan as well as Seong Jong Seo, then a special envoy to Costa Rica, who had achieved results through one-on-one Divine Principle Hoon Dok education.

Through the education we received from them, we saw that the one-on-one witnessing method could bring about an explosion in our witnessing that could even determine Japan's destiny.

Just as Eiji Tokuno, FFWPU president in Japan, said, this is not simply a witnessing method but a witnessing and education philosophy to bring victory as heavenly tribal messiahs. In other words, it means we should return to the starting point of witnessing that Father led by risking his life and once again establish the tradition of witnessing where a spiritual parent takes responsibility for a spiritual child. This is the key point to bringing victory in heavenly tribal messiah activity.

Rev. Yong Cheon Song, president of our Blessed Family Association, said, "One-on-one witnessing is a god given blessing and is the only way to bring victory in Vision 2020 and is the key to realizing our slogan, 'happy families, a healthy church and a Unification movement that contributes to the nation and the world.'" However, even though we boast about the Divine Principle, True Parents and the blessing, not being able to speak out clearly about these factors has become a habit. After Foundation Day, True Mother said, "Your brothers and sisters are living in the same era as the True Parents but go to the spirit world without knowing them. Speak out boldly! Do not miss this opportunity."

Yet, this is not something that methodology will solve; it is an internal struggle with Satan to overcome fallen nature. Moreover, with the proof that the word has changed you, spiritual parents need to establish a tradition of nurturing not just their spiritual children but also their spiritual grandchildren. It is common that someone brings a person and someone else educates the person; very few members have actually had the experience of raising their own spiritual child. If you do not return to the starting point of witnessing and strengthen yourself, being successful in explosive witnessing or as a heavenly tribal messiah of blessed families is impossible. The essence of this form of witnessing is a struggle against habits and a

cultural struggle. If you do not change, you cannot start anything.



*The group in Miazaki following the same workshop (The photograph above is from Shinjuku)*

### **Setting an example**

Meanwhile, Heaven responded to the motivation of the Matsudo church leader, Ozawa Hideyuki, and a Korean member, Mrs. Kyeong Hee Kang, and began guiding and working with that church. Rev. Ozawa started lecturing in front of Matsudo Train Station. He said, “I have been a leader for a long time but have not witnessed. This seven-year course is the last chance for me to display filial piety, so I’ll offer my most sincere devotion.”

Mrs. Kang also took a stand in line with those sentiments. They spoke out loudly on the streets every day. They are proud of True Parents and longed for Mother, who has been working very hard since Father ascended.

Gradually, other formerly hesitant members stood with their church leader on the streets. Whether in snow, rain or wind, they continued to do roadside lecturing for a year.

At first, leftists or Christians interfered with them. However, in the face of the church leader’s determination and the unity of the members, Satan could no longer get in their way. An elderly woman who sold vegetables on the street nearby and a man that could hear the lecture from inside the building he owned responded to the lectures. The explanation about True Parents moved them to receive the blessing.

Moreover, in that year, more than a hundred and twenty people -- ex-members, members’ relatives, people troubled with life and others -- returned to Heaven and are currently studying the word. The greatest change was in the church leader.

Thus, his congregation changed and the church atmosphere changed. With momentum from the Matsudo church success, roadside lecturing is spreading across the whole nation.

Moreover, churches in which happiness through witnessing expanded started Hoon Dok home groups, and churches that started desperately doing Hoon Dok of Divine Principle between parent and child, as a family or in their neighborhood gave testimonies.

### **Blessing outreach**

Concurrent with this, in 2014, President Song and President Tokuno said we have to make progress in holding Blessing Ceremonies, to create an atmosphere to host the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind Cosmic Blessing Ceremony in each church district in 2015. All the members in Niigata district united with their district leader and brought 127 couples, beyond the goal of a hundred couples, in April 2014. Seven church leaders in the Niigata district decided to continue to witness to bring people to the blessing for half a year.

Based on Niigata members’ sincere condition of doing Hoon Dok Hae, they set up a Husband–Wife Department, for the restoration of husbands that have not become members. They emphasized one-on-one Divine Principle Hoon Dok and witnessing to increase each member’s ability. Through working in that way, they were victorious in a 430-couple Blessing Ceremony in November.

Elsewhere, Daichi Aoki, the leader (at the time) of Minami Chiba church district united with the Cheon Il Guk Revival Team and recruited members to write out Father’s autobiography. A local church leader in

his district visited the members' tribes. After many sincere conditions, they blessed 470 couples at the end of November. The number who participated in the 2014 Blessing Ceremonies, which indicated a rapid increase, was 19,842 couples (2,131 married couples and 17,711 widows or widowers with the spouse in the spirit world); this high a number of couples is unprecedented.

### **The solution to Japan's crises**

Rehearsal has now ended. As Unificationists, we need to correctly guide our husband, parents, siblings, tribe and friends to True Parents and restore them to God. One-on-one witnessing has to transform values, awareness and our hearts through the word. More than anything else, explosive witnessing is impossible if my family and I, who have learned the word and are overflowing with joy from its substance, do not light up our surroundings.

To date, 1,600 members have participated in the Chung Pyung Heavenly Tribal Messiah Workshop for the Victory of Vision 2020, where they were repeatedly reminded that our fulfilling the heavenly tribal messiah mission was True Father's dying wish and their portion of responsibility as children. They are reconnecting their heart-to-heart True Parent-child relationship and beginning anew with determination to stake their lives and fulfill all their responsibilities.

At the second Foundation Day Cheon Il Guk Leaders Assembly, President Song presented Japan's "five crises" and everyone felt that there was no other solution than witnessing.

For this solution, three members with field experience as pastors, Masao Kitadani, director of Middle-Aged Members; Isei Sasaki, director of Education; and I were deployed to the Witnessing and Education Department.

Since April, our department has been on tour, holding the Headquarters' Witnessing Policy for the Victory of Vision 2020 and One-on-One Witnessing Workshop. At these workshops, many express the feeling that fair winds from heaven are blowing.

Among the thoughts the ministers we met on the tour shared was, "Through hearing the testimony of the Matsudo Church I realized that the ministers need to take the lead in witnessing and go out on the front line; that is the best way to break through. I repent. The leader has to change." A blessed wife said, "The path to successful witnessing is spirit and truth. I once again realized that it was not the means or measures, but the internal revival of the heart that matters."

This is a historic opportunity for the Japanese Family Federation to return to the original witnessing activities.

Once again we will strengthen our internal stability beginning from happy families, explosive witnessing, having the whole nation united toward the victory of the heavenly tribal messiahs and show all of humanity our Heavenly Parent's glory.