

Witnessing my meeting with the Unification Church in February 1975

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Many years, my only interest was studying math and physics to enter a good engineering school, and I like it. Finally I succeed in a good position in an engineering school in Strasbourg, so I get paid as engineer-student (more than my father, I was so proud of that). So my life became very different, I went cross-country skiing in the Vosges mountains, we bike until Germany in Black Forest with my student mates, I met friends in café to discuss, I do mime, I teach French to Turkish workers, even I had some political action and I attend my engineering school but the works I had to do was much lesser than before. I get acquainted with a Tunisian engineer girl student, we became closer and closer and one day she brought me in her room and stripped, it was unexpected, I didn't covet her.

I felt so good, she was beautiful, and unexpectedly I began to speak to her about God, thing I never say to anyone before, about my biking in the beautiful valley of my native Normandy and how I was thanking God when I was in the middle of Nature. Afterwards I get arouse because she was naked, but she refused any sexual relationship, we stayed friendly. The spiritual world must have been busy on this day. The following weeks, I was more and more questioning myself about the purpose of life, what I was doing on this earth. It became so acute that I decide to go biking on Vosges Mountain and to pray there. So I decide to enter in a monastery some period of time to think.

It had a deep root, because during my adolescence, I went with my grandfather in monastery where he made some prayer conditions for all the members of my family, and years after, I was going by my own to pray in this monastery because I felt good there. So I came down from the mountain and I go to the cathedral of Strasbourg to pray again and when I went out, I go to a bookshop to find a book about monastery to choose which one I'll go, but in front of the bookshop, there was a Unification member who gave me an invitation for lecture and spoke to me. I pinch his arm and tell him: "ok, I'll be there this evening", and I went. I was very interested by the lecture on the first chapter of the principle and even I defend it in front of a negative guest who was there with me.

They invited me for the day after for the second chapter. I attended it, but I told myself, it is again story about Adam and Eve and I decided not to come back. Some day later, I saw on TV in the student club the big mass wedding of 1800 couples in Seoul and I associated it to the lectures I had attended. Some day later, the member I met in the street come to my student room and invite me for a 3-days seminar in Paris for a modest sum. So I went by car with Annick from the movement and another guest. So there was about 20 people with two journalists from a big newspaper, it was Pierre Ceyrac who was giving the lectures, I was very interested; the atmosphere was very good with very fresh Korean songs (Ommaya, Arirang), and some coffee in the break time where we discuss about the lectures with members. But it was not fundamental for me, only very interesting; the big moment arrived the third day with the last chapter speaking about the second coming of the Lord, at the end of the lecture, I began to cry and cry, the other guests looked at me but I couldn't stop to cry; I ask a member nearby: "Is Rev. Moon John of Baptist?" She answered me "no, he is the Lord of second Advent".

I feel so free inside me after crying so I told her, I joined this movement. The journalists look like positive, but the week after we get a very negative article in the newspaper. We were two guests to attend the 7 days workshop during the following week and for me it was obvious and I feel good in this movement. The other guest didn't accept and the week after I began to witness and doing fundraising. I went back to Strasbourg to tell goodbye to my fellow students and announce the director of my school that I leave.

My girlfriend and some of my student mate came in our movement to see if I had not changed my mind, but my conversion was so strong, even my parent and their friends when they see me wanted to change my mind, but my heart was already belonging to God. 3 months later, I joined the European IOWC.