

Faith

Chung Hwan Kwak
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Photo date and location unknown

As Unification Church members, we must seek the true and righteous meaning of meekness for our own lives. To be able to receive the inheritance of God's greatest blessings, we must cultivate a sincere and righteous nature; we must become truly meek individuals. The person who possesses meekness is the one who knows himself in front of God. Of course, there are many ways to know one's self. But in the way of faith, to be obedient and humble in front of God—who is most true, sincere, pure and absolute—a meek man should realize how different he is from God. Yet, man should try to reflect himself in the mirror of God. A meek man should assume God's characteristics and reflect them.

Yet, when we look into ourselves from our own standard and try to discover who we are, we will find there are many ways to know ourselves. Modern man usually thinks of himself in terms of knowledge, business abilities, general understanding of the world, etc. Many people even look at and rate themselves according to how much they are

worth monetarily, equating it to the value they have to the world. Yet to really know one's self sincerely and truthfully, a person must reflect himself in God. When you look at yourself in relation to God and objectively see what is being reflected, you will truly come to know yourself. A meek individual must be able to look into himself and seeing that he still has sin, shed tears. What this means is that a person is able to see his limited nature and his sinfulness with a righteous mind and heart, and further be able to shed tears seeing that he must strive harder to reflect God's nature.

When a person becomes meek, he will come to know himself better as well as others. This is because when one is able to see God reflected in himself, he will be able to see God reflected in others. He will observe that those other people reflected in God are not really other people but they then become the realization of God's motivation for them, and for their lives. It is important to know the qualities which God sees in the other person. When we think of our brothers and sisters, of our husband or wife, we tend to compare them with some standard we create in our minds. We use our standard-analyzing them in terms of what the person could have for me or do for me, etc. We are often critical when the person does not live up to our expectations. We seem to expect that the person should be perfect.

Man has not been able to compromise and arrive at one absolute standard by which to judge others. It is only possible for one to possess the standard of humble and meek judgment when one is totally objective to achieving God's true ideal. We should see a person as the person God, my Father, loves, and as the person God cannot forget, and whom God can forgive. When you come to know that God values that

person, then you cannot hate or despise him or ever think of him as your enemy.

The humanitarian notion "love your enemy" was taught by Jesus. Man is also taught to forgive others and understand and respect their viewpoints. All of these ideals have been taught throughout history by sages and religious people. But it is not easy to actualize this. People say it can only be done in thought.

Then how can we achieve the reality where these thoughts also manifest as actions? When a person can come to that point, he reflects God and will then come to know others are also reflections of God.

It is a difficult way, but it is the way we cannot escape. It is ultimately the only way. Therefore, when we view others in our daily life, we find people whom we love, trust and who come to have intrinsic value to us. Yet, our evaluations of people still stem from our own view of things; from that point of reference, feelings of love and hate grow. Yet these evaluations have nothing to do with eternity.

What is the source of an eternal relationship? When you can realize that a person is in God's thoughts, is in God's love and is one whom God values, then you can finally see that which God sees in that person. Then you can create an eternal relationship with that person. Therefore, a person who is meek is one who realizes his own sin and is able to shed tears. Yet he does not only shed tears for himself, but is a person who can come to shed tears for others, realizing they are also reflections of God's nature.

Repentance is the first condition of being faithful and religious. When Jesus came to earth, his message to mankind was how important repentance was. Almost all religions throughout the world emphasize repentance. Why? To feel liberated and cleansed, a person must first repent and shed tears for his sin. Our fervent daily prayer should be: "Oh, God, please be able to call us Your sons and daughters. Please do not avoid us in our iniquities, but seek us." It is important for us to pray in order to meet God. Yet, how do you think anyone meets God? And who among us will be the ones with courage enough to try?

We may think that we could meet the God who conforms with the age-old image of Him-white beard, white robe sitting on the high and almighty throne of heaven. Not at all. When we meet God, we will be embraced in His love. We will walk with Him. We will not see His face, but rather see our own self reflecting His nature. This is meeting God. When we meet and finally come to know God on a more profound level, that external image of God will disappear; only our own reflection will remain. It will be yourself whom you meet. Why? It is because God's original desire was not just that man harmonize with the creation. God wanted to come within us and share His heart with us. It is because of this that we can realize we each reflect Him. When we truly come to know this, we can only bow our heads in humility. Then each of us can naturally cleanse, purify and redeem ourselves. When you truly realize this, you will reflect God. This takes faith. This is faith.