

## True Parents have overcome bitter challenges, opposition, and suffering

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Beloved brothers and sisters.

Welcome to the Great works festival here in *Chung Pyung (Hyo Jeong Cheon Won?)*, this sacred holy ground where True Parents have secured the foundation for unity in all realms: between heaven and earth, mind and body, man and woman, parent and child, and among all tribes and nations, in order to fulfill our Heavenly Parent's original and eternal ideal of creating one harmonious, peace-loving global family.

To begin, I would like to offer my deepest respect and most humble gratitude and love for True Mother who is a pillar of strength, courage, wisdom, and determination to make Heavenly Parent's dream come true.

Our beloved True Parents have overcome bitter challenges, opposition, and suffering for the sake of establishing the root and foundation for receiving and transferring our Heavenly Parent's blessing of love, life, and lineage to all of us and to all humanity.

Throughout the past four years since our True Father's ascension, True Mother has carried the unimaginable burden and responsibility of God's providence; along the way, she has faced and overcome many new trials and tribulations.

Throughout this time, with True Father at her side from spirit world, she has led our movement forward with wisdom and firm determination.

I know True Father is very proud of True Mother! Aren't we also proud and eternally grateful to our True Mother for leading us forward toward the victory of Vision 2020 and the settlement of *Cheon Il Guk?*!  
Yes!

Let us all, in unison, give our True Parents a big "*Saranghamnida!*" "*Kamsahamnida!*" *Aju!*

I am deeply honored and very happy to greet so many true filial sons and daughters of our Heavenly Parent and True Parents. You have gathered here faithfully and selflessly as one absolutely united family to prepare your hearts to receive True Mother tomorrow and to create the foundation to receive heaven's blessings.

My greatest hope is that through this workshop each one of you will discover a deeper level of your true divine potential.

So today, instead of reading a prepared speech, I will lead a heart to heart Hoon Dok Hae session centered

on passages from True Father's autobiography and specifically from the chapter, "The more it hurts the more you should love."

Before I start the reading, I want to share a testimony with you.

Some time ago, I had a dream that came to me after I prayed to True Father to guide my heart to overcome many levels of suffering I was experiencing. In my prayer that night, I begged him to show me the path to victory. That same night I had a dream, and in that dream True Father, as well as this chapter of the autobiography, appeared to me.



The next morning when I went into the *Cheon Jeong Gung* to bow and serve True Mother, I noticed for the first time that True Father's poem, "Crown of Glory", which was written in 1935 and which is featured in the chapter, was displayed, in Korean, on the wall just to the right of the entrance way.

I did Hoon Dok Hae later that night centering on this chapter. I knew that this must be the chapter True Father wanted us to read.

I hope this reading and heart to heart discussion can be a way for all of us to support, love, and share with one another, and develop greater compassion, wisdom, and enlightenment.

After our Hoon Dok Hae reading, I will lead a gentle heart-opening meditation and offer hugs for anyone who needs extra love and tenderness. When we practice true love in our mind and body and soul we invite our Heavenly Parent to dwell within us. When we share this true love with each other, we come to realize that *Cheon Il Guk* exists in each of our hearts. When we love each other, we are all one.

OK, let me now read the Hoon Dok Hae passages from the chapter entitled "The more it hurts the more you should love":

As a result, I had a rare and precious experience in which God answered my prayers. That day will always remain as the most cherished memory of my life -- a day I can never forget. It was the night before Easter in the year I turned sixteen. I was on Mount *Myodu* praying all night and begging God in tears for answers. Why had He created a world so filled with sorrow and despair? Why was the all-knowing and all-powerful God leaving the world in such pain? What should I do for my tragic homeland? I wept in tears as I asked these questions repeatedly.

Early Easter morning, after I had spent the entire night in prayer, Jesus appeared before me. He appeared in an instant, like a gust of wind, and said to me, "God is in great sorrow because of the pain of humankind. You must take on a special mission on earth having to do with Heaven's work."

That day, I saw clearly the sorrowful face of Jesus. I heard his voice clearly. The experience of witnessing the manifestation of Jesus caused my body to shake violently, like a quaking aspen's leaves trembling in a strong breeze. I was simultaneously overcome with fear so great I felt I might die and gratitude so profound I felt I might explode. Jesus spoke clearly about the work I would have to do. His words were extraordinary, having to do with saving humanity from its suffering and bringing joy to God. My initial response was, "I can't do this. How can I do this? Why would you even give me a mission of such paramount importance?" I was truly afraid. I wanted somehow to avoid this mission, and I clung to the hem of his clothing and wept inconsolably.

The More It Hurts, the More You Should Love

I was thrown into extreme confusion. I couldn't open my heart to my parents and share my huge secret with them. But neither could I just keep it to myself. I was at a loss over what to do. What was clear was that I had received a special mission from Heaven. It was such a huge and tremendous responsibility. I shuddered in fear to think that I might not be able to handle it on my own. I clung to prayer even more than before, in an attempt to quiet my confused heart. But even this had no effect. No matter how much I tried, I could not free myself for even a moment from the memory of having met Jesus. In an effort to quiet my heart and my tears, I composed the following poem:

### **Crown of Glory**

When I doubt people, I feel pain.  
When I judge people, it is unbearable.  
When I hate people, there is no value to my existence. Yet if I believe, I am deceived.  
If I love, I am betrayed.  
Suffering and grieving tonight, my head in my hands, Am I wrong?  
Yes I am wrong.  
Even though we are deceived, still believe.  
Though we are betrayed, still forgive.  
Love completely, even those who hate you.  
Wipe your tears away and welcome with a smile Those who know nothing but deceit,  
And those who betray without regret.  
O, Master, the pain of loving.  
Look at my hands.  
Place your hand on my chest.  
My heart is bursting, such agony.  
But when I love those who acted against me,  
I brought victory.  
If you have done the same things,  
I will give you the Crown of Glory.



My encounter with Jesus changed my life completely. His sorrowful expression was etched into my heart as if it had been branded there, and I could not think of anything else. From that day on, I immersed myself completely in the Word of God. At times, I was surrounded by endless darkness and filled with such pain that it was difficult to breathe. At other times, my heart was filled with joy, as though I were watching the morning sun rise above the horizon. I experienced a series of days like these that led me into a deeper and deeper world of prayer. I embraced new words of truth that Jesus was giving me directly and let myself be completely captivated by God. I began to live an entirely different life. I had many things to think about, and I gradually became a boy of few words.

Anyone who follows the path of God must pursue his goal with his whole heart and total dedication. It requires a steadfastness of purpose. I am stubborn by birth, so I have always had plenty of tenacity. I used this God-given tenacity to overcome difficulties and follow the way that was given me. Anytime I began to waver, I steadied myself by remembering:

"I received God's word directly." It was not easy to choose this course, because it would require me to sacrifice the rest of my youth. At times, I felt I would rather avoid the path. A wise person will place hope in the future and continue to move forward, no matter how difficult it may be. A foolish person, on the other hand, will throw away his future for the sake of immediate happiness. I, too, at times held foolish thoughts when I was still very young, but in the end I chose the path of the wise person. I gladly offered up my life in order to pursue the way God desired. I could not have run away if I tried; this was the only way I could have chosen.



So why did God call me? Even now, at ninety years of age, I wonder every day why God called me. Of all the people in the world, why did He choose me? It wasn't because I had a particularly good appearance, or outstanding character, or deep conviction. I was just an unremarkable, stubborn, and foolish young boy. If God saw something in me, it must have been a sincere heart that sought Him with tears of love. Whatever the time or place, love is most important. God was searching for a person who would live with a heart of love and who, when faced with suffering, could cut off its effects with love. I was a boy in a rural village with nothing to show for myself. Even now, I insist uncompromisingly on sacrificing my life to live for God's love and nothing else.

There was nothing I could know on my own, so I took all my questions to God. I asked, "God, do You really exist?" and that was how I came to know that He did, in fact, exist. I asked, "God, do You have any cherished desires?" and this was how I came to know that He, too, had cherished desires. I asked Him, "God, do You need me?" and this was how I discovered that He had use for me.

On those days when my prayers and dedication connected to Heaven, Jesus appeared to me without fail and conveyed special messages. If I was earnest in my desire to know something, Jesus would appear with a gentle expression and give me answers of truth. His words were always on the mark, and they struck deep into my bosom like sharp arrows. These were not mere words; they were revelations about the creation of the universe that opened the door to a new world. When Jesus spoke, it seemed like a soft breeze, but I took his words to heart and prayed with an earnestness strong enough to uproot a tree. Gradually, I came into a new realization about God's purpose in creating the universe and His principles of creation.

During the summer of that year, I went on a pilgrimage around the country. I had no money. I would go to homes and ask to be fed. If I was lucky, I caught a ride on a truck. This was how I visited every corner of the country. Everywhere I went, I saw that my homeland was a crucible of tears. There was no end to the sorrowful sighs of suffering from hungry people. Their woeful lamentations turned to tears that flowed like a river.

"This wretched history must end as quickly as possible," I told myself. "Our people must not be left to suffer in sorrow and despair. Somehow, I need to find a way to go to Japan and to America so that I can let the world know the greatness of the Korean people." Through this pilgrimage, I was able to redouble my determination toward my future work.

As I clenched my two fists, my mind became totally focused, and I could see clearly the path I had to follow in my life: "I absolutely will save our people and bring God's peace on this earth.

WOW! What a powerful message. What profound guidance from our True Father!

Let's show our appreciation to our True Father! (*applause*)

Thank you.



## Q and A

We have some time now for heart-to-heart sharing, so I invite you to offer or share your reflections, thoughts, and questions at this time.

## Crown of Glory Yoga Meditation

Brothers and sisters, I would now like to lead you in a meditation which will strengthen your mind and heart to meet life's challenges. We are going to fill you with peaceful gentle kindness, true love, and God's divine unconditional love and light energy. I call this the Crown of glory meditation. *Aju!*

Please find a comfortable seated position. Let your sit bones deeply take root into your seat. From the base of your spine feel a lengthening of the spine up towards the crown of your head. Gently close your eyes, and feel a glorious golden ray of divine light shine and illuminate your crown.

From the center of this illuminated crown feel the light lift you up higher, lengthening your spine. You are Heavenly Parent's divine true child. Feel this loving warm light raise you up and lift you away from any tension or anything that weighs you down. Notice the body let go and release itself from things that pull it down.

Relax your shoulders away from your ears; lengthen the neck, relax the jaw; let go of tension. Feel your head become weightless and balanced at the top of the neck. From your grounded seat, feel yourself grow beautifully tall, up toward this light at the crown. Stay here for a moment to bask in this divine energy.

In this tall balanced, seated position, take a moment to notice your breath. At its natural pace, is it short, long, choppy, even fast paced, labored, light or deep? Whatever it is, just take this moment to notice your breath. Your breath is the mirror of the mind.

When we are sad, nervous or angry, it shortens and tightens. When we are happy, calm and relaxed, it lengthens and deepens. When we feel hatred, our breath shortens, our life force shortens. When we love, our breath extends and our life force extends.

Breathing in, inhale life, oxygen, peace, and love. Exhale and let go of all that no longer serves your life. Inhale, welcome life, the divine gift of air and let it fuel a greater flame in your divine light. Exhale, letting go and giving gratitude for all the life force that has been given.

Let your breath bring in abundant blessings and gifts of life from the universe, and exhale joy and

gratitude. In the simple act of taking notice of your breathing, you can feel eternally loved and nourished. Breathing is give and take action with the divine. Notice how in each and every moment God is serving you, filling your lungs, giving you blessings and this precious life; in return we offer gratitude, joy, and love.



Breathing at your natural pace think of a loved one. Imagine this loved one, being or thing. Visualize it. How does this being make you feel? What are the things it does that bring you joy? Replay those joyful loving moments in your mind. Take the time to notice how they make you feel in your heart.

Hold that image and feeling; let it deeply nourish your heart. Feel that loving energy fill your being. Feel your heart open and bask in this love. As you share love, feel it grow and multiply even greater love and joy. Feel that deep heartistic connection, that loving union, that complete freedom, happiness, and harmony in the embrace of loved ones.

Feel the complete give and take of boundless love, forever filling you with abundant joy. Stay here for a moment and let this loving vision deeply take root in your heart and mind. Feel the completeness and total oneness, harmony and joy of this union. This is *Cheon Il Guk*. When we are one.

Now think of someone or thing that is neutral to you. It might be the mailman, or a person serving you coffee; just anyone in your daily life who you may pass by casually and have no deep connection with. Focus on that neutral person and imagine that same loving feeling for this person as you would have for your loved one.

Visualize sending or treating this neutral person with the same openness and loving joy that you share with your loved one. Imagine smiling, saying kind words, offering a helping hand, a handshake or a big hug. Notice the change in that neutral person as you love them. Visualize their response, as they respond in kind, smiling back, saying thank you or some kind words, connecting on a higher level of love, and hugging you back.

Take the time to notice how this divine love in you can elevate any relationship. Notice a confidence and a joyful return that comes with opening your heart and loving all your neighbors. Your love has the power to change the world. You are no longer separate from others. By choosing to love, you bring all beings together in God's divine love. You are *Cheon Il Guk*. We are all one.

Now imagine someone or something you don't like, that may have caused you pain, suffering, heartache, loss, betrayal, fear, anger, hate, or who you do not respect. If you have no one or nothing that comes to mind, we all know the archangel. So try to visualize your archangel whoever or whatever it is.

You may notice around this difficult being, your heart feels like its shrinking away or clenching into a fist. You may notice your breath shorten or tighten or you may labor to breathe. Remember your breath is the mirror of the mind.

So, I want you now to imagine this enemy as a loved one. Do not let someone's darkness extinguish or diminish the light of God's love in you. Use the power of the divine breath of life in you. You choose to breath in deeply and allow life and love to flourish, and let go of all fears and things that no longer serve you. Allow your mind to focus on those feelings for your loved one.

Feel the deep love, openness, eternal divine light and goodness flow from your heart to this enemy. Notice how the image of this enemy changes, as you share deep compassion, care, kindness, higher

consciousness and divine love. Visualize the shift in your heart as it opens and loves your enemy as your loved one.

Notice how this difficult person you hug, hugs you back. Feel your heart open freely in this embrace. Feel the healing and forgiveness, replace all loss and darkness. And see a golden light of love at both of your heart centers grow and warm each other in this embrace.

Notice the difference one heart, your heart, can make when it chooses love over hate. Notice your breath and your being glow even brighter and deeper as you invite God's light and love completely into your heart and you share it with the world. You are *Cheon Il Guk*. We are all one.

Take a moment to feel this loving victory. Feel the divine light energy that is in your heart carry and give life to each living being and the whole of creation. When we all live as one united family under God, there can be no darkness.

Notice the ray of light at the crown of your head illuminate brighter and flow all over your being in a blanket of love, joy, fulfillment and everlasting peace. You are the Crown of glory. What you focus on becomes your reality. *Cheon Il Guk* is alive in you. You are victorious! We are all one. AJU.

Gently opening the eyes. Feel God's love and True Parents love fill your heart with unconditional love and infinite peace. Turn to your neighbor and share a glorious hug with each other and offer a deep *Kamsahamnida. Salanghamnida. Namaste.*



### **Conclusion: Practice True Love**

How do you feel? Loved, powerful, energized, and victorious! Yes! You should! This is the power of true love and True Parents' and Heavenly Parent's teaching.

Please practice this and Hoon Dok Hae every day. These are the pillars of light and wisdom that will allow you to overcome any obstacle! *Aju!*

Thank you all for your lifetime of love, care, dedication, and sincere effort for Heavenly Parent and True Parents.

May Heavenly Parent and True Parents bless all your precious families forever!

Any, may your time here for this Great Works meeting be productive, inspiring and empowering, so that you return to your mission countries revitalized and energized. Remember you are *Cheon Il Guk* and we are all one! *Aju.*

Can we as one family under god and True Parents all give 3 victorious cheers of *sungli!* 3x Thank you very much...*Namaste.*