

True Parents' Day

Celebrated in Las Vegas



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DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

The Power

by Rev. Hyung Jin Nim

This is from the Sunday Service on March 14, 2009, at the HQ Church, Seoul, Korea. Transcribed by Rev. Beatrice Clyburn & Cathy Quebral. Edited by Rev. Bruno Klotz.

Yeon Ah Nim' Message:

Not long ago after I joined the True Family, I asked Hyung Jin Nim a question. I asked him, "I really don't understand how some people can be double faced. I cannot really understand how they can hide their own emotions so well and show a pain-free face even though they are in terrible emotional turbulence." I thought that is only possible if they have two faces. And I said, "I don't want to be like that."

Instead of answering my question, he asked me a question. He said, "Let's say you just found out that you passed a very difficult event and you are very happy. Right after that you have to be in a funeral house and you pay respect to a person who just passed away. In silence. Does it make you hypocritical?"

He asked me another question. He said, "Let's say you are a teacher. Do

you think you should get mad at your student just because you have a terrible day? Does it make you hypocritical?" And I could not answer his question.

Recently I saw True Father and True Mother and I knew that they had many things on their minds. Usually, they are very happy when Shin Joon is around but even that didn't work so well. They were not in good mood actually, but during that period when Father and Mother met with members, True Father talked to members and smiled with members and True Mother sang fun songs with members. And I realized this is what they have done always for us. They have always overcome their personal difficulties and personal situation for the public good.

Brothers and sisters, in life there is a time we may feel that nobody really understands our pain and we are the only one who suffers tremendously but when we think about our Heavenly Father and True Parents life course and victory, we know that our mountain is much smaller than the victory of True Parents and Heavenly Father.

Brothers and sisters, let us have our best year this year. We love you so much and we believe in you. Aju!

Rev. Hyung Jin Nim Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You so much for this day. Father, we give You praise and honor this day for You have walked a tearful road. Father, You have waited for thousands of years until the day when You can see Your families on this earth.

Father, we pray that You may be inspired today, that You may find new hope today, that You may find a new spirit of rejuvenation today. Father, be with us as we spend time being in Your presence. We pray that You may bless each and everyone of the Blessed Central Families here. We pray that You may be with the brothers and sisters joining us across the world in the service via internet. Father, please bless their families, bless their children and bless their descendants.

Father, we pray that truly we may be those types of people that can inherit Your True Love, a True Love that can naturally subjugate even the most darkest force. Father, we pray that we may

inherit that and truly be able to spread that and become blessings to this world.

Thank You so much Father for this time. We pray that we may once again return joy to You and give You a tremendous smile today. We thank You so much.

We offer all these as one family, as Central Blessed Families together. Aju!

Main Sermon:

Brothers and sisters, today I'd like to talk to you about the power of reflexivity. In order to live the blessed life, learning the power of self-reflexivity is one of the keys, one of our key keys.

Self-reflexivity is very simply the ability to look at yourself honestly. With reflexivity you are able to see your strengths and weaknesses. You can check whether or not you're staying true to the goals that God has given you, and thus you can find a path of constant improvement. Learning how to "turn the mirror unto ourselves" and

A P R I L 2 0 0 9

Ahn Shi Il • 1st, 9th, 17th, 25th

- 3 New Hope Farm Declaration (1995)
- 4 Dedication Ceremony for the Chung Shim Tap Memorial Tower & Jeong Shim Won Prayer Hall (2000)
- 6 Shin Hwa Nim's Birthday (3/11/88)
- 7 42 Couples' Blessing (1989)
138 Previously Married Couples' Blessing (1989)
57 Single Blessing (1989)
Declaration for the Blessed Family (1995)
- 10 1265 Previously Married Couples' Blessing (1992)
Women's Federation for World Peace Established (1992)
Family Federation for World Peace and Unification Established (1996)
- 11 True Parents' Blessing (3/16/60)
- 12 36 Couples of the Second Generation Blessing (1986)
- 13 Proclamation of Liberation and Release (2004)
- 16 Kwon Jin Nim & Hwa Yun Nim's Blessing (1995)
Sun Jin Nim & In Sup Nim's Blessing (1995)
- 17 Shin Joon Nim's Birthday (3/22/2004)
Dae Hyung Nim's Ascension
Day of the Resurrection of Shimjung (1960)
Day of the Resurrection of Substance (1961)
- 22 Noticias del Mundo Established (1980)
- 23 Shin Nae Nim's Birthday (3/28/05)
- 27 Shin Bok Nim's Birthday (4/3/82)
60 Couples' Blessing (2001)
Interreligious (144,000) Clergy Blessing (2002)
- 28 Shin Il Nim's Birthday (4/4/81)
Shin Ye Nim's Ascension (2001)

M A Y 2 0 0 9

Ahn Shi Il • 3rd, 11th, 19th, 27th

- 1 HSA-UWC Established (1954)
43 Couples' Blessing (1969)
Ceremony for the Total Dissolution of Resentment (1975)
Day of Victory Over Resentment (1974)

C A L E N D A R

- 4 Hyun Jin Nim's Birthday (4/10/69)
- 5 Day of Ssang-hap Ship-seung (2004)
- 6 Professors World Peace Academy Established (1973)
- 7 Shin Su Nim's Birthday (4/13/06)
- 10 Unification Theological Seminary (1977)
- 14 Cheonju Haebang Shik: Liberation of the Universe (1999)
National (American) Won Jeon Shrine Dedicated (2002)
- 15 36 Couples' Blessing (1961)
Citizen's Federation Unification of the Fatherland (1987)
- 16 Ye Jin Nim & Jin Whi Nim's Blessing (1981)
Day of the Love of God (1984)
- 17 Shin Yeon Nim's Birthday (4/23/90)
Unification News Established (1982)
Washington Times Established (1982)
- 21 118 Couples' Blessing (1978)
- 22 American Clergy Leadership Conference Established (2000)
- 24 Day of All True Things (5/1/63)
- 30 Declaration of True Parents' East and West Victory (1999)

J U N E 2 0 0 9

Ahn Shi Il • 4th, 12th, 20th, 28th

- 3 Inauguration of the Federation for Cosmic Peace and Unification South American Headquarters (2001)
- 4 72 Couples' Blessing (1962)
- 8 Shin Goon Nim's Birthday (5/16/02)
- 9 Young Jin Nim's Birthday (5/17/78)
- 10 Il-Heung Shipbuilding Established (1986)
- 13 Hee Jin Nim & Hye Shin Nim's Blessing (1998)
39 Couples' Blessing (1981)
1st Stage of the 360 Million Couples' Blessing (1998)
- 14 Jeung Jin Nim's Birthday (1982)
Declaration of True Parents' Cosmic Victory (1999)
- 17 Declaration: Return of the Sea to Heavenly Dominion (2000)
- 20 Shin Kwang Nim's Birthday (5/28/01)
- 21 Rally for the Unity and Completed Settlement of the Parents of Heaven and Earth (2002)
- 23 Il-Sung Construction (1978)
Day of One Heart (1989)
- 24 Declaration of the Return of the Land to God (2000)
- 29 Ceremony of the Return of the Cosmos to Heaven (2000)

Due to the manner in which the lunar calendar corresponds with the solar calendar, Yun Ah Nim's, Un Jin Nim's, Shin Choon Nim's, and Hyo Jin Nim's birthdays are not celebrated in 2009. Contact me if you come across any errors. (c) 1999-2004 Kathryn Coman [KathrynComan@worldnet.att.net]

DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

of Reflexivity

seeing ourselves is one of the keys to living the blessed life.

Let's take a look at some of the Scriptures today. We'll look at Christianity from Proverb 16:18. Let's read it together, "Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall." This is once again warning us to be reflective and to look at yourselves.

Buddhism: Let's take a look at Buddhism today from The Precious Garland 406. Let's read it together, "Who fancy themselves to be superior is pride greater than pride. Thinking one has won fruits not yet attained is pride of conceit." Once again warning to be reflective on the path. It's very important!

Islam: Let's take it from the Koran 96th Surah. We'll read it together, "Nay but verily man is rebellious for he thinks himself independent. Low unto thy Lord is the return." To remember where we are going, where we came from etc...

And let's look at True Father's words today. Let's read it together. This is from "God's will and the world." "God's principle of creation is living for the sake of others, not me. Living for the sake of me is the nature of Satan. You should know the origin of good and evil. Teaching a religion is living for the sake of others and serving others, not being arrogant." Basically humility! We are talking again about self-reflexivity.

In 1954 a book by the Nobel Prize winning author William Golding, was written. It was entitled, "The Lord of the Flies". By the '60s it was a best-seller in America, and it was already becoming required reading in most of the high schools. When we were growing up in New York it was already required reading in our high school, so in most of the high schools across America, you have to read this book.

It's entitled "The Lord of the Flies", and actually these words, 'the Lord of the Flies' come from the Hebrew word "Beelzebub". It's the meaning of the word Beelzebub which means Lord of the Flies or God of the Flies. Beelzebub is another word for Satan. So that title is actually "Beelzebub".

It's a story about a group of British boys, and they are on a trip on an airplane. They are traveling to some place, but by chance their plane crashes on an island and all the adults do not survive. So eventually there's just a group of boys, and this group of boys are under the age of 13, and they start trying to govern themselves. Eventually two dominant groups develop under one boy named Ralph, and another boy named Jack.

Ralph's group is trying to be civ-

ilized. They are trying to find a way to signal for help. They're trying to find a method, "How can we get off this island. We don't want to stay here, we want to

there's a big monster that lives on this huge peak, and Jack's group who are the hunters, they promise to hunt and kill this beast. They mistake a body of a dead pilot as the sleeping monster and they begin to hunt animals and they start offering

"Rationally how can we get off this island? That's our purpose. We're not going to stay here and survive. We want to get off!" But Jack's group is becoming more and more animalistic, once again.

To put a long story short, eventually this ends in a disastrous result. Jack's group ends up murdering two boys in this animalistic fever. One boy is murdered when he is mistaken for the monster, another boy is struck by a rock ambush, and why would they rock ambush him? They wanted to take his glasses. That's the reason.

So eventually Ralph is all alone, and Jack and all those "savages"-they have the body paint on - now they're hunting this last boy Ralph. Jack sets this huge fire to chase Ralph out of the forest and this fire basically engulfs the entire island in a huge inferno. Navy sailors just at that point were passing the island and they see this huge blaze and they come and stop this kind of insanity. They end up putting an end to the Lord of the Flies.

See, without reflexivity, one is

not able to see what one is becoming, just like Jack in this situation. Jack was a civilized British school boy. He was from the West, he was growing up in upper suburbia, very smart, very educated, very civilized, learning arithmetic and science and chemistry, all that.

But then as they got into this isolated environment he got lost in his emotions. He started becoming what they refer to as a "demonic leader", or "Lord of the Flies." At one point, one the boys realizes that there is actually no monster on the island. The monster is created. But the real monster lies within each and every one of those persons.

Reflexivity is one of the keys to keep yourself in check, to make sure you're becoming who God wants you to be and actualize those gifts and purposes that God has given you.

I was talking to a mom the other day and she was reflecting about one of her sons. He has somewhat of a difficult time reflecting on himself. He is sometimes rude and he gets into fights in school. He's been changing schools a lot. He broke his mother's heart so

see REFLEXIVITY on page 4



get off."

Jack's group does the opposite. Slowly they start going into hunting. They start saying, "Hey! We're never going to get out of this island anyways. We've got to survive." They start focusing on, "Let's have fun, let's just hunt!"

Slowly these two groups start to clash. They believe that on this island

animal sacrifices to this mountain monster god. They start offering animal sacrifices, they start putting on body paint. You can see the guy with the body paint? That's Jack! He puts on body paint. They become more and more animalistic, more and more savage.

Ralph's group is trying to be civilized. They're trying to use elections and trying to find the best methods,



REFLEXIVITY from page 3

many times.

And she explained how one time she was at a public swimming pool. They were swimming around and her son was swimming and splashing; it was like tidal waves. He is a little bigger than on that picture - on that picture he's like a baby but he's bigger - and there were huge tidal waves splashing about.

So the mom decided, "This boy never listens to me anyways." She decided to videotape him. So she videotaped him splashing around, and she showed him this video. And the boy was so shocked. He was shocked at how he was showing disregard to other people who were trying to use the pool. And she actually filmed other people's faces and their responses, like, "Oh my goodness! What is that boy doing? He is totally disrespecting everybody in this pool!"

See, this is reflexivity. The mom helped him to view himself from the eyes of others, to get an objective view, another person's view of himself. And seeing himself from this perspective opened his eyes to how he was actually not respecting other people's rights to this public space.

Sometimes we need to have friends in our lives that give us this wise counsel. Those people are so precious! Of course you don't have to and should not accept every negative thing that every single person says about you as good feedback, but those people who are around you, that you trust, that are there for your well-being, that truly want you to do well, wish for you to succeed, wish for you to be the best, those people, their wisdom, their counsel, their honesty should be invited. It's very precious! These trustworthy people can be our saviors at times and help us stay true to God and to ourselves.

When we look at the biblical story we see the story of the fall and we see the great archangel Lucifer. Did you know that the name Lucifer is actually a very positive word? Lucifer is actually an extremely good name. It means "the bringer of light". It's a very positive name. It's "he who brings light to this world." It's a very beautiful name!

He was the most beloved of the archangels. He was obedient, he was powerful, he was trusted amongst them all. But he was weak in one aspect: his ability to be self-reflective. And so, slowly he fell into jealousy. We hear this in the Principle very clearly that Adam and Eve got attention and love by God. "How come God loves them?" he said, "I've been slaving away, I've been serving Him. He just loves these little guys, how come He's taking His attention away from me?"

Without him knowing, day by day his jealousy grew and grew. It grew until it became a resentment and greed to want to steal the love that Adam and Eve were receiving. "God loves them, He does not love me. I guess He really never needed me in the first place. Well, you know, who needs God? Because I don't need Him I can go out; I can make my own thing. If He does-

n't need me then I don't need Him. I think I will then go out and be against Him."

And so we see this process in the story. He acted on his greed for love, and in the Principle we see that he deceived both Adam and Eve and caused them to disobey and inherit the false love of Lucifer.



I was explaining this to the Hoon Sa Nims the other day when we were talking, when we were practicing and training. We were discussing how important it is, especially in positions of religious roles, that we are self-reflective. I explained to the Hoon Sas that, because we are in position of religious responsibility, we have to stay true to our service to God and True Parents.

I told them that training is like making landmarks. They help us watch ourselves. They help us check ourselves along the path. And it helps us make sure that we are walking on the path of goodness and service and not the path of self-aggrandizement. That's a very dangerous path.

In one of our trainings, I was explaining to them what I've been doing for my own training for many years. Always, whenever I travel, when we do traveling or are called to different places, we always ride economy class, and every time we go on a plane, I have leaders come up to me. They come into the economy section and tell me, "Hyung Jin Nim, please sit up in the front. Please sit up. I will trade you my seat; sit up in the business class please." And that was, of course, when I had no responsibility.

Now that I have more responsibility I have all sorts of people come to me, "Please" - not only asking me - "Please, go sit up there. You MUST ride business class. You MUST ride business class for our sake; for our sake you must do it! What will the world think if the international president is

always going around on economy? You must do it for our sake, please!"

Now I understand, there's nothing inherently wrong with sitting in business class. I've ridden in business class myself, in my life time, but the point is that as a religious leader one has to be constantly checking oneself, constantly training self-reflexivity. This

ourselves overtime to help us see when all of a sudden a year later (we may think), "Now I don't want to clean the toilets anymore, I don't want to do Danbury training no more. I've been doing that for a year. I don't want to do it. I'm better than that." We can see ourselves, we can check ourselves through these objective trainings.

So we talk about how important the training is, because on this path, especially on the path where we are focusing on purely religious, spiritual practice, it's so easy for us to fool ourselves, to actually fool ourselves into believing that we are enhancing ourselves, that we are actually getting greater than God. And so in that respect we were talking about how important it is to always check ourselves through the training and to understand that even we ourselves can become like Lucifer or Jack the Lord of the Flies.

They both started off really well. They both started off as the bringer of light, and Jack was an excellent student in school, but if we become like that then we can spiritually damage so many people that respect us and other people that

are under our responsibility. So we must keep training. It's our joy. We were talking about that.

This time when Father was heading back to the States, he told me, "Don't you overdo it! You're going to do moody-moody. Don't overdo it. You've got to stay healthy, boy!" And I said, "Appa, don't worry! This is our joy, you know we're training! This is training. We're getting stronger every day. Training is not only great spiritual exercise, Father, its great physical exercise; I can belch as a cow now!!"

Brothers and sisters, what can we learn today? Let us remember that self-reflexivity is a great strength and ability. It requires training and strength to objectively look at ourselves. It's quite liberating when you're able to look honestly at yourself and try to be that person that God has blessed you to be.

See self-reflexivity is freeing because it frees one from being a prisoner to flattery or other people telling YOU what your talents are. It helps you move on to recognizing for yourself what God has given you as your great potential, what He's given you as your strengths and your weaknesses and your goals and your dreams. It helps you check that you are staying true to those God-given talents.

If we do that, I do believe that in 2009 we will find ourselves with more victory, more illumination and more peace, and we will live that blessed life and inherit the true love of God. ❖

How important it is to always check ourselves through the training and to understand that even we ourselves can become like Lucifer or Jack, the Lord of the Flies

is very important. So don't slip off the path, so do not start going off into paths we don't want to go into.

And I tell them, "You know, I've been actually doing this training long before Father gave me any responsibility, and just because I have responsibility I'm not going to change it. I can't do that. I am very sorry. And as my brother always says, 'If you don't like it, you're going to have to tell Father and ask him to fire me!' That's what he always says."

But I tell the Hoon Sas, "Father has taught us - Father's been very clear about this - that the place where evil cannot attack us is humility. It's the lowest place. And Father said that when we are elevated as religious leaders, then it's important to go lower in our training, training lower, because we receive respect as religious monastic practitioners, as Hoon Sa Nims."

And I was explaining that we have to make sure that we are able to do the more humble training, not in order to get credit for that, but so we can resemble that heart of True Parents, so we can resemble that servant of servants' quality.

And I explained to them, "Of course nobody's perfect and I'm not perfect, nobody's perfect, but the fact that we're training, that we are continually watching ourselves through our training, this is the important thing. This is why we do the training. That's why we do the Danbury training and the economy training, toilet cleaning, etc..."

This kind of things help us check

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TRUE PARENTS IN LAS VEGAS

TTrue Parents presided over a remarkable couple of days in Las Vegas starting March 27. On day one, True Parents' Day, we shared an 11-hour Hoon Dok Hwe with True Parents. True Father never left the room the entire time. Father spoke for nine hours to members, non stop, no bathroom, no water, about an incredible range of topics, giving out wisdom.

In Korea, there were suggestions that Father was at less than his full ability, but one thing is clear to me is, yes, he may need help to go up the stairs, or he may need to be supported on occasion, but he is still in control of all affairs, and he imparts deep insight.

Day Two was the beginning of the UPF Conference. Its theme was "The Way Forward for Las Vegas, America and the World: Vision, Values and Leadership." Nearly 300 participants from around the world and the country participated in the conference. Several

local politicians and dignitaries were among them.

The main event began at 1 pm and featured a key note speech delivered by our FFWPU President, Rev. In Jin Moon. She was introduced by her younger brother and International President, Rev. Hyung Jin Moon. The main hall had chairs for 900. Every seat was taken, many people remained standing and another 200 plus were in the overflow room.

Rev. Jenkins was the MC and when he introduced Hyung Jin Nim he made clear who he was -- going to great lengths to explain that he was annointed, appointed, and crowned as Father's successor.

Immediately following the main program, all of the Blessed families and many guests met for a special celebration. David Hunter, the MC, began with a slide presentation of the accomplishments of In Jin Nim over the past eight months. Then we heard brief but inspiring messages from Hyung Jin Nim and Kook Jin Nim and finally from In Jin

Nim. The atmosphere was magnificent with a spiritual brightness illuminating the beautiful faces of the hundreds of brothers and sister gathered.

At one point in the program, David introduced each of the True Children, and when he spoke Ye Jin Nim's name, a huge and prolonged applause erupted.

This is certainly a new and different task that is being taken on in Las Vegas. The whole program is happening in the South Point Hotel and Casino. On the main level are thousands of slot machines, card tables of all kinds, roulette etc. The smell of cigarettes smoke is everywhere, yet around every corner would be brothers and sisters happily conversing. In the restaurants you would find our ACLC ministers, other leaders or members of the True Family.

Although we were the minority, the joyful spirit of our members seemed to digest everything else. It made me think that, perhaps, this is the way the true "Hobby" culture can emerge from, what

is now, the dominant self serving culture.

The Divine Principle workshop with Rev. Eu that followed was an excellent experience. The content of this workshop is the original Divine Principle, or the Divine Principle that would have existed if there was no fall. References to Satan have been taken out. Four days are spent on the Principle of Creation because that's the emphasis. Rev. Eu included how Father has been living into his lectures. Also, Father sat at his lectures four times, correcting Rev. Eu and making comments. Although this Rev. Eu is not the first president of the church, the famous Pres. Eu, he's inherited that foundation and is working on the lectures connected to that foundation.

It is certainly an exciting time. True Father has said he will remain in America (Las Vegas) until 2013. This is just the beginning.

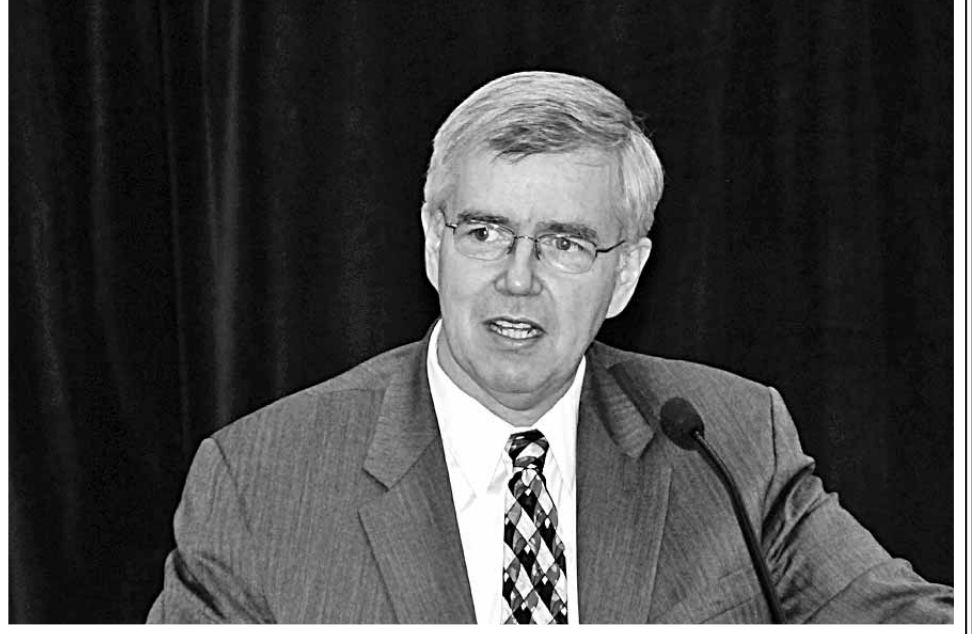
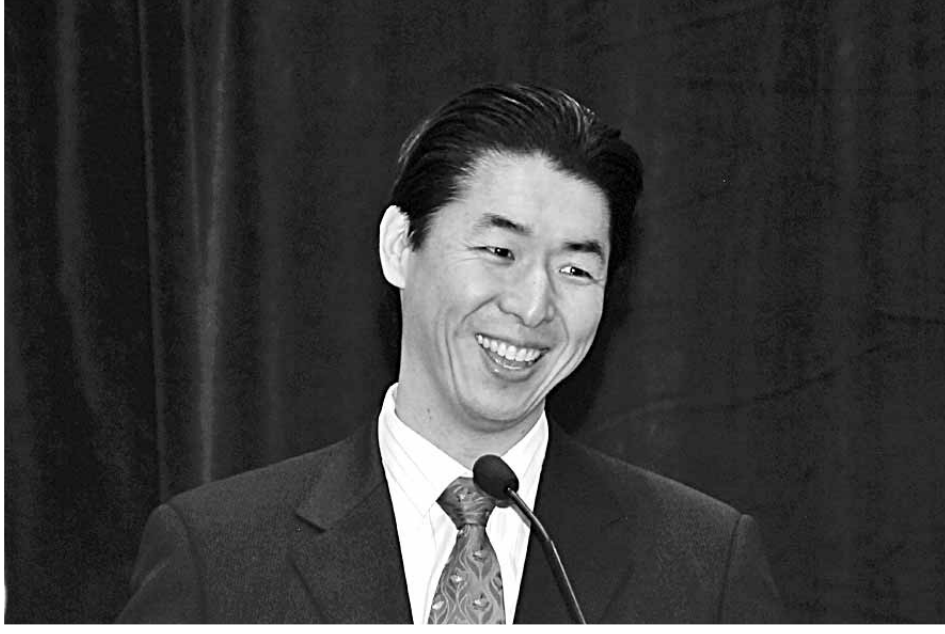
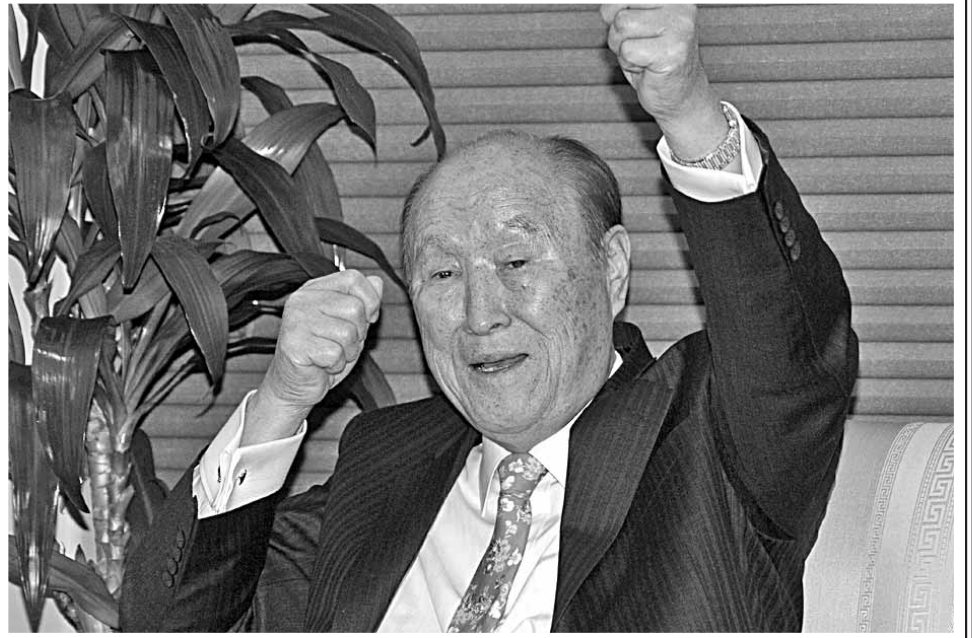
(From combined reports) ♦





Las Vegas
March 27, 2009





Hyo Jin Nim's One-Year

by Rev. In Jin Moon

This is the Keynote Address given by Rev. In Jin Moon at Hyo Jin Nim's One-Year Memorial Service in Westchester, New York on March 22, 2009.

Good morning, brothers and sisters. I'm delighted to see you, and I'm sure that my brother is delighted to see you gathered here in remembrance of all the wonderful things that he did and all the wonderful things that he was about. I'm somewhat contemplative today. I was thinking about a lot of things as I was driving here from New York, especially what I could share with you to show you how wonderful an older brother he was. So I prepared a video tribute in his memory to showcase how truly brilliant he was as an artist and how he strove to accomplish things in his lifetime with great passion, conviction, and dedication.

As a member of the True Family, I must say, in all honesty, that life is not easy when you're a True Child. Think of his being the eldest son, being born into the world with so many expectations put upon him. When I say expectations, I mean that your expectations and the expectations of people sitting next to you might be very different. But such expectations weighed very heavily on my brother's heart, and he really tried his best. And, in my estimation of things, he was truly an ideal son.

What I mean by ideal is that, as I've been going around the country talking about our desire in wanting to create ideal families, I've often joked, saying, "When we all joined the movement and we wanted ideal families, guess what? Heavenly Father gave us those I-deal families, and it means that we have to deal with our daily lives, with our spouses, with our children, with our family, with our in-laws." This is how God is giving us an opportunity to become mature and wise human beings.

Hyo Jin Oppa was no different. He was an ideal son in that he dealt with a lot of the issues that we all deal with in our lives—happiness and elation, as well as sorrows and heartbreak. These are the things that make us who we are, brothers and sisters. No matter who we are, we are bound together in this tapestry of what I call human experience. And it's the emotional jewels that are born out of suffering, out of happiness, out of tears of joy and loneliness that make us who we are.

My brother in his daily life strove each and every day to deal with all these things. Just as my father never wavered from the age of 16 in committing his life to God and for the sake of the providence, my brother was no different in that he wanted to commit his life for God and for the providence. But in my

mind, more importantly, he wanted to live his life as an ideal son, a son that encompasses the meaning of loyalty, filial piety, and humility.

As an artist myself, when I listen to my brother's songs, I hear so much passion, so much heart. Maybe his method of conveying his artistry might not be your cup of tea, but in the medium and vocabulary that he chose, he is giving me something real, expressing his heart

to provoke us to feel, to love, to really become human again.

We have become so good as a movement at becoming functionaries, and my brother was one person who hated that so much. He said to me, I don't know how many times, in the moments that we shared together deep at night over a pot of coffee or when he invited me to the art studio to listen to his music, "I don't want to be a cardboard

cutout for someone to point to and say, 'That's Hyo Jin Nim, Father's first son.' I don't want to be a functionary, somebody who's just carrying out the duties that a son does in order to be considered a good son. I want to feel my life, I want to be passionate about my life."

In many instances he didn't care what anybody thought, as long as he felt he was making a difference. And, boy, did he make a difference! Before he came along, I like to remind the Second Generation that jeans were not allowed. I had to wear skirts every day. And as much as I love being a girl and being feminine, wearing skirts every day is not something I like to do. Every time I put on a pair of blue jeans, the first thing that goes through my mind is, "Thank you, older brother, for making it okay to express ourselves in a fun way and to

be comfortable in what we're wearing."

When I look around and see the young people trying out different music, forming bands, and playing around with art, I think about my brother. Thank God that years and years ago, before the Christians realized how important rock music was in their ministry, we had an older brother who literally dragged it in, whether people liked it or not, and said, "This is okay. This is powerful stuff. This is an incredibly influential medium for reaching out to the young people, and we have to use this for God." He brought rock and roll in.

I remember when I was a little girl some of the elder Asian leaders who did not grow up here and experience the power of rock music would listen when my brother was performing and sit with their hands over their ears, saying to themselves, "Is it over?" I thought, "Wow, that's interesting. Maybe if they took their fingers out of their ears, they might experience something that they'd never felt before, something new, something exciting, something that's worth your living your life for." So when I think about how I want my brother to be remembered, for me he's an ideal son

who just wanted to express himself through music, the universal language that touches us all. I was watching an interesting show on PBS the other day with my two boys, who are very keen on becoming scientists. We were watching a show called *An Elegant Universe*. It's talking about physicists who are on the cutting edge of the great thinking that's going on nowadays. They were saying, "First we thought the atom was the smallest particle in our universe; then we discovered electrons, neutrons, protons. But guess what? There are things much smaller than that." These physicists are talking about 11 different dimensions. What we take to be reality may very well not be reality.

The concept of string theory is saying that the smallest subatomic particle that makes the universe what it is might actually be composed of these wonderful things called vibrations, these things that are circular and constantly moving, constantly vibrating, and constantly rotating. I'm thinking, this means that they're constantly feeling. It's these vibrations that make the universe what it is. This is just one explanation for how the universe might work. It's a cutting-edge theory, and one of the hardest things about this theory is it's very difficult to prove. How do you capture one of these vibrations to say that it exists? This will be the challenge for a great many physicists to come. But the idea in and of itself is an interesting one.

I've often wondered why my brother was so filled with a need to reach people with music, with the universal language. But when I saw this show with my two boys, I thought, isn't music all about vibrations? When you see a sad movie, your heart is vibrating because you are understanding the suffering or the difficulties that the protagonist had to overcome. So you're feeling. Something in your heart is literally vibrating and telling you, "This is sadness, this is happiness, this is joy, this is suffering."

When I think about my brother and the life that he led, I see a great hero. I know that he was many times misunderstood because he was so passionate and because he challenged our framework of what was proper and what was not. Everyone has his or her own definitions of what is proper and what is not, what a True Child should be like: "Maybe they need to be a little bit more like this, maybe they need to look a little bit more like this." I know that a lot of people had their own expectations of who they wanted Hyo Jin Oppa to be.



through the guitar, the big love of his life. He is allowing me to feel his love and his passion. And, for me, that is probably the greatest gift. Here I am in my forties, and we have a great mixture of ages here. We go on our merry way; we have our jobs, we have our schools, we have our congregations, we have our duties as a mom or a dad. But if we forget to feel, then our lives become meaningless and worthless.

For me, in Hyo Jin Oppa's passionate desire to want to literally bowl you over with his music, he was provoking all of us to feel—to feel the passion, to feel the gratitude of being alive, to feel the pain of loneliness and suffering—but still having the strength to overcome it and thrive to be an ideal child. It breaks my heart that my brother's life was cut short, and it breaks my heart that many of us didn't fully realize the true value of what he imparted to us and into our community while he was alive. So I feel that as his sister and as somebody who loves him deeply and wants him to be remembered in the proper and correct way, it's my duty to share with you the preciousness of this man's life, the preciousness of his desire

Memorial Service

we need to reach out and love each other horizontally and therefore build a beautiful family.

So especially in these confusing times, when our True Father is getting older and there are a lot of question marks in our minds about what our future is going to be, the wonderful thing is that because of Hyo Jin Oppa's sacrifice, we got to have True Parents a little longer. Thank goodness they survived the helicopter crash. I firmly believe that they survived because my brothers in spirit world were watching out for them. They wanted us to have True Parents a little longer, and thank God for that. A lot of changes happened in the year of 2008; it was a watershed year for our community. A lot of confusion was cleared up. Father introduced that concept that during the Pacific Rim era women are important. During years and years of being belittled and being treated as second-class citizens because of what our ancestor Eve went through, we suffered a lot. I'd be the first one to say so. I don't know how many speeches I sat through where - God bless my brothers, I love them now and they're my greatest supporters - but they literally would make fun of us because we were women. "You're nothing, you're unimportant, you're garbage." Imagine growing up hearing things like that.

But then my brothers matured and grew, and you know the biggest gift? They started having daughters. And then they realized, "I love this daughter. I want my daughter to be great. Maybe I was a bit hard on my sister. Maybe if I support my sister, that's going to inspire my daughters to be great women of God." God works in such loving and mysterious ways.

My husband, who's been with me and the True Family, never thought he'd see the day when my brothers would support a sister. But he would be the first one to testify that they're my most ardent supporters, and they want to see great leadership come from our sisters, daughters, and granddaughters. So Father introduced the concept that women can be leaders, too. They might approach an issue in a different way, but you know what? Different doesn't mean that it's not good. Different means it just takes a new perspective, and maybe an open

mind, to realize that God can work in mysterious ways.

Father did something that was incredibly important, something that needed to be done. As we're looking toward the Second and Third Generation, many of us are asking ourselves who's going to be the spiritual head of the movement. On January 15th in Korea, and again

so pretty, just too pretty to be a boy. I remember my mom being so overwhelmed with pride when she was strolling in the shopping mall pushing the stroller with Lovey sitting there. Even when he was a very young age, his beautiful round Asian face attracted a great deal of admiration. I remember many grand-

darling of the family. I'm sure many of you remember that when he was a child, he was just so pretty, just too pretty to be a boy. I remember my mom being so overwhelmed with pride when she was strolling in the shopping mall pushing the stroller with Lovey sitting there. Even when he was a very young age, his beautiful round Asian face attracted a great deal of admiration. I remember many grand-

about a young man who chooses a life of faith, who wants to dedicate his life to ministry. Father feels it, and our Heavenly Parent knows it. Therefore, we are so blessed that our True Father and Mother have made the leadership so clear. The only thing we need to do as a family is absolutely unite around it, absolutely live our lives with loyalty and devotion, just as our elder brother has.

I still remember many instances when my older brother was overcome with



on his birthday, starting in Korea and ending in the Manhattan Center, Father clearly designated the youngest son as the spiritual head of our movement. As a proud elder sister who has watched all my siblings grow and my family grow into a wonderful, loving family that it has become, I must truly say that our True Father and our Heavenly Parent are truly wise.

"Lovey" is what we call the youngest son, Hyung Jin. He's always been the

mothers and many teenagers would come up and say, "Oh, he's so cute!" Mother heard this over and over again. He grew up in a family where everyone just saw him as Lovey.

What an appropriate name for somebody who encompasses what love is all about! There's something special in a boy who gets up at 2 or 3 in the morning every day to do his meditation, to do his 1,000 bows for the sake of brothers and sisters and for the sake of our future. There is something wonderful

rage and would come screeching into my room to vent. But I don't know how many times he ended that conversation with, "But this is what Father wants me to do, and I will do it." Many times we went through that, almost like a recurring nightmare, but, at the end, he would always say, "This is what Father wants me to do, so I'll do it." As a younger sister, watching a brother take his emotional journey to come to the important realization that he has

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to be absolutely obedient to his father was a great reminder for me that whatever I might feel as an individual, I have to be absolutely obedient to what my father and mother want. In that way we can become an ideal son or daughter, well on our way toward the ideal family that we are working and strug-

great Unificationists ourselves. By becoming great men and women of God, we honor our true brother, just as he has honored our True Parents with the absolute loyalty and absolute devotion that they deserve.

Every time I see my mom and dad, True Parents, I want them to feel our love for them. I was so happy when Father came here for his 90th birthday. My father is a very sensitive person. He's a Pisces, for any of you who

we step up to the plate to love our children, how wonderful a give-and-take action would it be if we start living what Father has been asking us to do for a very long time! Father said, "I am casting my children aside because I want you to love my children more than me." He was hoping that you would love my brothers and sisters just as much as he did.

When you have children and you see great talent in them, or maybe you

or two from you.

Just as my brother screamed out to Gorbachev, "Break down this wall," and very shortly after the Berlin Wall did come down, I'm hoping that any walls that exist between you and me, between True Family and the members, between the First Generation and the Second Generation, between the Second Generation and the Third, between the Second Generation and the Jacob children can come down.

This is the dawn of a new era. Our elder brother has given us a great gift, and he has truly led this country of America to the best of his abilities. I want all of us to remember him as the ideal son that he was and as the extremely gifted artist and musician that he was. I'm hoping that going forward, instead of looking at each other as somebody that we need to compete against or wondering whose position is higher or how many titles do I have - do titles really matter that much, brothers and sisters? In the realm of heart, the only thing that matters is our capacity to love. I'm hoping that that's what we can concentrate on and that we can be a community where we feel once again, where we're excited about life once again and we're excited to be given an opportunity at an incredibly important time to be a part of something that is absolutely phenomenal.

I am here to remind you that, in the history of religion, we are a very successful religion, if you think in terms of a founder's lifetime. We

still have the founder, and for our movement to be as big and thriving as it is, it's a miracle in and of itself. So it's only going to get better, and it's only going to be more phenomenal and more powerful. There's a whole lot of work that we can do in helping people realize how important each human life is and the wonderful opportunity that God has given us to go on this journey of creating ideal families, working toward one family under God.

Today is a beautiful Sunday morning; knowing my brother, I know that he's not going to want us to be crying over his picture, he's not going to want us to be miserable because we miss him so much. I know that my brother wants us to be happy, to be successful, to be prosperous, and to find strength in each other and in our communities. So I'm hoping that we can reevaluate who we are and reflect upon where we need to go. With our True Parents making it clear for us who our center is, let us be absolutely obedient and devoted to our Heavenly Parent's wishes, come together as a family, and do incredible work. ❖

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gling to build.

Part of the reason why I decided on the Manhattan Center as the place to launch my new ministry is not only its location and the centrality that it holds in midtown New York but the special meaning of the Manhattan Center to my older brother. He is the eldest son, and America is representing the eldest son nation. So how appropriate it is that in memory of my brother's passion and in memory of how much he loved that building and everything that it was about, we can honor him by being

know astrology. He senses things. Immediately he felt your love. He felt the energy of the Second Generation. I don't know how many times I've heard from the people around them that our True Parents had never been this happy for this long. For the whole week they were so thrilled because they could feel all of your love, and they could feel the love from the Second Generation.

I'm inviting all of you to take a moment to reflect about what an incredible older brother we have in Hyo Jin Oppa. Maybe he could be an impetus for the First

Generation to remind ourselves of the importance of loving True Children while they are alive. How many of us could really claim that we knew Hyo Jin Oppa? Each life is a precious one. So please get to know my family and me while we're here. Just as

might see your son or daughter pick up a guitar and you realize he or she might become an incredible musician, or maybe if you hear your children in a band performing on Sunday or at some kind of school performance, and you realize how much pride you have at the accomplishment that your child has made, please ask yourself, "Do I ever feel this kind of pride and this feeling of joy because a True Child did something wonderful?" And if not, then maybe it might be something to think about.

As a mom, one of the things that I do with my children all the time is give them a hypothetical: "If I were in your situation and if I did this, how would you feel?" So if you love your children and you're so proud of them, but then Father has given you a mission to love his children more than your own, then how wonderful would it be if you can have that kind of feeling of love and pride for the True Children as well? And then as a consequence the True Children can take great pride in what your children are doing. And then we get the true love cycle, the true love momentum going. Then we realize the True Children are not that bad. (Laughter.) Maybe we can learn a thing or two from them, just as we can learn a thing

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Looking to the Future

by Kook Jin Nim

This is from an address given to church members in Giessen, Germany, on Sunday 15th March, 2009

I'm here to give a little talk to explain what we're trying to do for the development of the church. I'd like to thank you for your contributions for the new temple in Korea. Europe was 3rd after Japan and Korea in the donations.

My work is in improving the management of our church. Originally I was working with the Korean business foundation, restructuring it and making them profitable. It's a good thing that happened because now the general economy is doing poorly.

Then we started looking at our church, and there are serious problems. For the past 20 years it has been in stagnation and decline. I visited 120 churches in Korea and I saw the problem with management, or rather the lack of management.

You can get discouraged, but with experience in life problems can be seen as opportunities. Because if things are not working well, then you can make them work well. We're a young church; we need to understand it's only 40-50 years old. The Catholic Church is 2000 years old, they have had a lot more time to develop procedure and canon law. We need time, too.

Initially our church grew a lot, and then we started facing the problems that our success created. I'm sure you all know we have a lot to offer as a movement: the principle and the truth True Parents gave to us is extremely powerful. It's shameful we haven't expanded our church more. All this is due to our youth as an organization, and the fact that the Christian foundation didn't accept True Parents.

At this time we need to look at the direction our movement is going and will go in the future. We need to see how we can establish True Parent's vision. In the past few years TP have talked a lot about establishing CIG. For many of us, thinking of CIG, we cannot conceptualize what it means. What is CIG? How do we create it? When do we know it's here? Then there are other questions: How can we contribute to build it? These are questions we need to solve and get answers for, make it simple so we can move forward. For someone to move toward a goal, we need a clear vision for that goal.

We as humanity have received incredible blessings to prepare for the 2nd coming, and one of those blessings is democracy. If we want to restore a nation, then 50% of a nation needs to be in our church, it's simple. If we re-define CIG, then we can work toward that goal, now that we've made the goal clear we can then work toward it. It might take longer than 7 years, it may take 70 or 700 years, if we work toward that goal then we can fulfil it. We need a clear vision of what we want to create.

The next question is, if we want 50% of a nation, how do we do it? How do we witness to half a country? I think

it's not too difficult or complex. It's the reason why at this time TP are putting forward in our work to build the Cheon-bok Gung, the new Unification HQ.

When our world chairman started his ministry he had 70 members, now he has 6,700 members. I don't know if you've been to HQ in Korea, Cheonpa Dong. It's not that big and to accommodate the congregation we do 7 serv-

tion level Cheon-bok Gung. If we want to do it, it'll happen.

The interesting thing is this: our community isn't that big yet. By the time we finish renovations for the growth level church, we'll have invested 100 million, but for the perfection level we're going to need another 500 to 600 million dollars. If we want to do that we're going to need a lot more people to donate

tant, because it gives us that clear direction. Our church is focused on building our brotherhood of faith, bringing all the people of the world into our community. Once we build the temple, it becomes clear to all the unificationists that this is, what we have to do. Once the world temple is done, it's clear that you have to build the national temples.

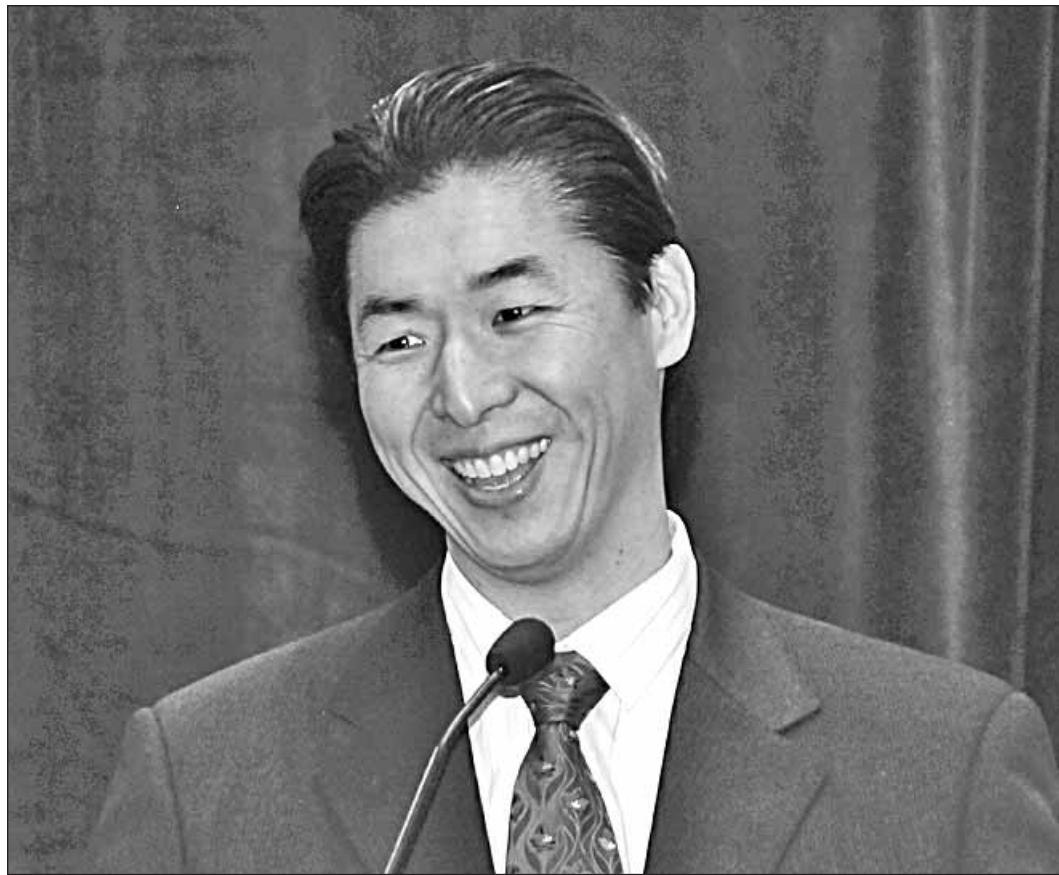
How do we do it? How do we get people to give us their checks? (It's not a small amount of money we need.) Also this is simple. The truth we have is profound. It can be put into one sentence. Our faith is not difficult to explain. When you talk with people, you only really have 2 minutes to do it, otherwise you lose their interest and you lose that person. So as a community we have to understand how to do 2 min witnessing. That's the power of our teaching - we can explain it in one sentence: inherit the true love of God. That's 90% of our theology.

People will then ask, what does that mean? And then you can explain it. If you look at the peace messages, TF explains what the divine essence of God is this: God is true love. For those of you who have grown up in the church you might not understand the significance of this, but to say that the divine essence of God is true love, for other theologies that's like a nuclear bomb. In Christian theology God's divinity cannot be known, because we're lowly human beings who cannot understand Him. Christians say, "God you're too great and mighty, so you will be forever lonely." That is the theology of Christianity.

The teachings of Jesus are great in bringing people together, but God becomes isolated in the corner where he is by Himself, that is the reality of Christianity. That is the power of what TP give us in the liberation of God. He says, the divinity of God is not unknown to men. He says, we can know true love. He says, we can even bring Satan to voluntary surrender, and when we inherit this love, then we become like God. We approach his value and divinity. When the people of the world understand this truth and inherit the divinity of God then the world of sin and evil will transform to a world of good, and this is CIG. Think about it, it's very simple, principle is very cohesive. The conclusion is that our theology is very marketable, very easy to explain to people. And this is, why we've raised all this money, because it's easier to bring them in.

In Japan the people who donated the most money are the people who have been in the church from 3 months to 1 year, that's the period where they donate the most money. When people join, they bring in a lot of resources, and then we can fulfil our vision. Church growth is not that difficult. Our church has inherited so much value, it's not difficult.

I invite all of you to pick up this power and use it, then all of us will be liberated. ❖



ices a week. Its' a big change; when he started he did one service with 100 people there, then change came quickly.

In the Tongil group, there are a lot of companies. When I came there less than 10% of employees were church members. In the last 2 years, since we've been re-educating the staff, we probably brought 500 to 600 employees into the church. They come to church and tithe; they donate to Cheon-bok Gung. Since we started the Cheon-bok Gung providence we've raised 80 million dollars. We signed a contract to buy one of the city halls in Seoul, and we have 50 days left to raise another 5 million, so then we have a growth stage Cheon-bok Gung. It's probably 6 times bigger than our current HQ. We'll be able to have 3,000 people per service, and with 6 services we will have about 16,000 people coming. That becomes a serious church, but that's just the growth stage. Then we're going another step up. Because the goal we have is to have a church for 210,000 people.

Think about it. When we achieve a perfection level church, it's no longer the church of a single denomination, it's a national institution. As that, it puts us in the position to converse directly with the nation, and if we can talk with the nation, then we can convert the nation. It's just that simple, not difficult.

The point we're making is this: if we have a goal and a will and if we work together, we can substantially fulfil our vision of what we want the world to look like. We have the power to create the nation of CIG, to build the perfec-

tion level Cheon-bok Gung. If we want to do it, it'll happen.

Our challenge is to expand and share that vision, not just share, but to bring people into our family and share our burdens. When you think about family, what is a family? What do we mean by family? Have you thought about it? A family is a group of individuals. Of course you share the good times, but you really call someone your brother or sister when you share the burdens and difficulties. As we witness and bring people into our family, this is the direction we have to go. We need to get people who are willing to share the burdens. The nature with which we interact with people outside our community has to change.

We've done a lot of events and shared the good times with these people, but have we ever tried to share with them the burdens? No. So we've spent so much energy into them, but they never help us back.

We did a study in Korea: we spent 200 million dollars over the past 10 years into events and the results were a decrease in membership and tithing. I don't know what your experience in Europe is, but it's something to think about.

We're pursuing the direction to build the congregation. Unless explicitly commanded by father, we don't do events, we want to build the church, get people to give 10% tithing, and explain to people not just about sharing joys but also our burdens. We don't want to waste money.

That's why Cheon-bok Gung is impor-

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Germany UPF Gives New Emphasis to Peace

Berlin, Germany - A series of projects and events with the theme Perspectives for Peace for the 21st Century was organized by UPF-Germany in Berlin. This took place as part of the Global Peace Tour 2009.

The events began March 13 with a service project organized by the UPF-youth organization Youth Service Initiative (YSI) in co-operation with the child and youth relief organization ARCHE. This youth relief organization, founded in Berlin-Hellersdorf in 1995, offers homework supervision and leisure activities for children and young people from society's lowest social classes. In cooperation with the young people from YSI, several playgrounds were renovated. In the evening, they all went ice-skating together.

On the following day, the symposium on Perspectives for Peace for the 21st Century attended by about 100 participants, some of whom had come from all over Germany, began in the Maritim proArte Hotel. Karl-Christian Hausmann, chairman of the Family Federation e.V., moderated the symposium, which began with a greeting from Amir Mohammed Herzog, founder and chairman of the Islamic Society of German-Speaking Muslims and Friends of Islam, Berlin e.V. At the very beginning, he lit a candle and requested a moment of silence for the victims of the killing-spree in Winnenden, Baden Württemberg. Then he emphatically drew attention to the peace march and rally at the Brandenburg Gate: "We will march even if it is raining!"

Karl Meier, chairman of UPF-Germany, referred in his opening speech to the lack of consideration of human rights in many parts of the world and stated: "All of mankind has a common origin and the same dignity. White people in the industrial west have the tendency to look down on people in the third world. However, they could well learn a lot from them about public-mindedness and human relationships."

The family existed before, and has priority over, the state

Hedwig von Beverförde, who put value on first being introduced as a housewife and mother of three children, has a diploma in business administration and is a founding member of the Family Network, an organization that champions family concerns in Germany. Mrs v. Beverförde began her presentation entitled, "Do we need a paradigm-shift in family politics?" with the statement: "The family is the most natural core of society and as such has a special significance for peace." Families already existed before governmental structures. It is therefore not a concern of the state

to try to take the upper hand over such basic components of the family, such as family life and the education of children, and to dictate to parents what they should do. She called the attempt by gender mainstreaming to abolish every difference in the roles of the sexes a "socialist-feminist plan." In this way, politics goes hand in hand with an economic system that is more and more focused on ever increasing growth and maximizing profit, which well serves

In recent years it has been increasingly clear just how important it is to involve the local population in the UN peace measures, especially where the female population is concerned. Measures to dampen conflict are important and necessary. However, even more important is the process of reconciliation and building of a functioning civil society that follows.

On the basis of this declaration coined from Hans Küng (President of the Foun-

at the evening program, amongst them H.E. Dr. Makase Nyaphisi, Ambassador from Lesoto, and the first secretary of the Embassy of the Peoples' Republic of Korea. Friedrich Pörtner, who was for 18 years a member of the state parliament of Lower Saxony, expressed in a short speech his amazement that North and South Koreans sat together at the evening banquet and seemed to get along well.

Dr. Yong-cheol Song, Chairman of UPF-Europe, presented a new vision for world peace in the main speech: "We are confronted by continuous challenges presented by the burning conflicts and outbreaks of violence all over the world. But even more difficult is the fact that we find ourselves in the midst of a moral and spiritual crisis, which is manifest as an increase in marriage and family breakdown, where there is increasing divorce and spread of sexually transmitted diseases, as well as an increasing number of young people who feel alienated from society and succumb to violent and destructive impulses." The Global Peace Tour, according to Dr. Song, targets the renewal of society, and should be a platform for interreligious cooperation, strengthening of the family, and promoting a culture of living for the sake of others.

The event was accompanied by musical contributions from the younger generation, who presented classical as well as modern pop music. At the end of the event, five persons engaged in public life were honored with Ambassador for Peace certificates. Included in this number were a recipient of the Bundesverdienstkreuz [Order of Merit] and pastor of the Africa Ecumenical Church Lolowengo Botembe and the couple who are leaders of the intercultural centre "Babylon House," Dr.

Mekonnen and Janet Shiferaw.

The following morning, Fritz Piepenburg reviewed some of last year's UPF-Germany activities. The Berlin landscape architect Jochen Garbe then presented the project "peace garden in Kabul." Around Afghanistan's former palace and parliament building, the Darul-Aman Trust, whose patron is former German president Walter Scheel, plans to build a peace garden. It is to be made freely accessible to the whole population of Kabul, offering a weekend picnic spot for the whole family under the shade of trees.

Armin Wais, a student from Göttingen, presented his project "Computers for schools in Afghanistan." He is looking for partners in Germany, preferably also schools that can also organize student exchange between the two countries.

Ambassador for Peace Sami ben Mansour, manager of Mellowvibes Ltd., explained the project "Germany's forgotten children" in co-operation with the youth relief organization ARCHE. This concerns neglected children in our society, to whom ben Mansour wishes to give new hope for their lives with good

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young well-educated women, and regards the desire for marriage and children as an undesirable deficiency. The parent allowance, introduced in 2006 is thus nothing more than "compensation for having children" with the goal of getting young mothers back as quickly as possible to the production line. The massive expansion of nursery school places is taking place with the same goal. According to v. Beverförde, decisions about children's education must remain in the hands of the parents, and should not be taken over by the State.

In the next contribution, Dr. Norman Weiss, Scientific Assistant in the Human Rights Department of the University of Potsdam, gave a presentation about the power and impotence of the United Nations. Since the UN as an organization, does not have its own troops, it is always dependent on the cooperation of its member states in a peace mission. Thus, there have been, as well as successful missions, also big failures. At the latest since the so-called Ibrahim Report in 2000, the UN has recognized that UN troops should be engaged also in a preventive capacity and, equipped with a "robust mandate," be able to actively intervene in combat.

ation for a Global Ethic), Dr. Dieter Schmidt, deputy chairman of UPF-Germany, asserted that according to statistics 88 percent of the world's population, and about 70 percent of Germans, consider themselves to be members of one religion or another. To ignore the role of religion in attempts to build peace is therefore to leave unused a big potential in avenues of persuasion. It is surely the stated role of all religions to establish peace in all levels of society.

Of course, history offers many negative examples where religions do not play a peaceful role but rather fight each other intensely. Exactly in this point lies the challenge to the religious leaders. It is their task to work based on the shared values and goodness and to counterbalance the world's problems. UPF propagates the five peace principles as a common base for all religions: God can be compared to parents of humankind; people are principally spiritual beings; we are called to lead a life for the well-being of others; the family is the universal "school of loving human relationships"; and all are called, beyond race religion or ethnic origin, to connect worldwide.

More than 200 guests were present

Netherlands Peace Tour Builds Unity of Heart

Den Haag, the Netherlands - On March 15, Universal Peace Federation in the Netherlands held a conference and Peace Gathering with the theme "One Family under God: A New Vision for Peace in the 21st Century" in Den Haag. It was the culmination of a week's activity under the banner Global Peace Tour 2009.

The week began on Sunday, March 8, when UPF activists, supported by young people from partner organizations Youth Service Initiative (a "gap year" program for European students with teams in Utrecht, Rotterdam, and Frankfurt) and the High School Association for Research of Principles, volunteered for service at the International Women's Day "Haags Vrouwenfeest" in Atrium Den Haag. Most of their activity was related to ushering, answering questions, and supporting speakers and workshop leaders; they were grateful to receive substantial refreshments and written expressions of gratitude.

The Women's Federation for World Peace, a UPF partner organization, also exhibited at the Atrium, and Japanese Ambassadors for Peace lent their support. Throughout the rest of the week, they visited politicians, ambassadors, and business people in The Hague, briefing them about UPF and the Global Peace Tour and presenting many of them with a framed oriental calligraphy of the UPF motto "Living for the sake of others."

On Saturday, March 14, there was a one-day conference on Universal Values and the Economy in "De Paraplu" ont-



moetingscentrum, Utrecht. Speakers included UPF-Netherlands Secretary General drs. Willem A. Koetsier, who gave an introduction to UPF, pointing out that Adam Smith, widely cited as the father of modern economics, was firstly a moral philosopher. Jhr. dr. P.A.C. Beelaerts van Blokland spoke about an Exploration into Peace, and Hans Camp-

man, President of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, spoke about Universal Values and the Economy. He examined the major and often contrasting, sometimes even opposing, impulses for change and development (mainly social or moral, secular or spiritual) in the second part of the last millennium: the Renaissance and Reforma-

tion, the French and American revolutions, Marxism/Communism and the quieter Christian socialism championed by William Wilberforce and Robert Owen in 19th Century Britain, which is leading today into a spiritually based-desire to work for mutual prosperity. He agreed with Dr. Beelaerts that the free market economy was preferable, provided that there was a moral base, and the current financial crisis was a signal that we need clearer moral values and spirituality.

After lunch, the discussion became more pragmatic, with Dr. W.F. van Eekelen speaking on the European Union as an Answer to Difficult Economic Times, and Prof. Marcel Canoy, economist, publicist and adviser to the European Commission, speaking on the Way to a New and Just Economy. They came to similar conclusions as the earlier speakers, commenting that gross domestic product (GDP) was a very limited indication of a nation's true prosperity and stressing that non-economic factors needed more attention in order to more correctly assess a nation's well-being. With reference to Robert Kennedy, who said that GDP measured everything except that which made life worthwhile, it was suggested that the Human Development Index is a better indicator because it combines normalized measures of life expectancy, literacy, educational attain-

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rap and hip-hop music. "All rap is not the same," explained the artist. "There are many different directions. Unfortunately, the mass media is much more interested in porno and gangster rap. They want to connect in one breath sensation, youth, sex, and violence. But what good is that for the young people?"

Lastly, Hubert Arnoldi, UPF representative in Stuttgart, reported about the civic initiative "Religions for Peace" to which a whole assortment of religious organizations and peace NGOs belong. UPF-Stuttgart was able to introduce the "Global Peace Festival" concept as a part of this initiative and generated much interest.

One hour later, around 300

demonstrators gathered at the Humboldt University Unter den Linden and marched with police escort towards the Brandenburg Gate. Leading the way were representatives of different religions carrying a banner with the inscription "Give peace a chance - Religions together for a peaceful world." At the Brandenburg Gate, there was a rally in which Muslims, Jews, Christians, and representatives of other religions called upon their respective followers to work together for peace. Chants, such as "God does not divide the Bible, Talmud, and Qur'an; he sees only the heart of man," and "In churches, temples, and mosques, God shows us peace" rang out. The songs of the UPF youth band attracted the interest of many spectators and in this way made a considerable contribution to the success of the rally. ❖



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Young Leaders in Moldova Gather for Peace Summit

Chisinou, Moldova - On March 21, young leaders from all sectors of Moldovan society assembled in Chisinou for a Summit on Peace and Development. Part of UPF's Global Peace Tour 2009, the event offered an opportunity to explore a new vision for peace in the 21st century and discuss its applications here.

The leadership conference featured a plenary session consisting of the keynote speech delivered by Dr. Katsumi Ohtsuka, Chairman of UPF-Eurasia, and two break-out sessions focusing on the quest for innovative solutions to problems related to peace and

development in the nation.

The 400 participants responded to their peers who called for a spiritual renewal and a determination to counteract the fact that almost half of the prime-age work force have emigrated, seeking better opportunities in foreign countries. In two sessions, over 16 papers were presented to the participants representing the emerging generation of leadership and their perspectives.

The president of the National Asso-



ciation of Youth and Students, Eugen Balan, said "Volunteer work is the best way of exploring your inner traits, social skills, team work, and creativity." And the eight-time champion of boxing and Bronze Medalist of the World Olympics for Universities, Mihai Munteanu, who spoke publicly for the first time, recounted his battle to achieve excellence. He

urged the young people: "It will be a shame for us to leave behind our parents, our homes and our ancestor's graves. The best place to plant the seeds of our talent is in our homeland. The young generation needs true, healthy and moral models"

With the Global Youth Service Day nearly one month away (April 25-27), one of the expected outcomes of the Summit is to identify and mobilize youth volunteers who can show the city what a culture of service can look like and how it can renew the society and the nation. ❖

NETHERLANDS from page 13

ment, and GDP.

A conference and Peace Gathering on the theme "One Family under God" was held at De Pier, Scheveningen, Den Haag. Speakers included Mark P. Brann (Secretary General, UPF-Europe): "A vision for Peace in the 21st Century"; Dr. Van Eekelen: "The European Union, a Model for Peace and Prosperity"; Drs. L.A.C. Baroness van Tuyl van Serooskerken (child psychologist and therapist): "Education of Character and Family Values"; and Mrs. Maartje Bos (Stichting Ghana Haarlem): "Service Projects in Ghana." Japanese Ambassadors for Peace visiting the Netherlands to support the Peace

Tour performed a Japanese "Dragonfly Dance."

In the evening Peace Gathering, there were musical performances by Eleanor Flowers Klerkx, AISA Sufi choir, and Dutch singing legend Milly Scott. Invocations were offered by Rev. Jacob Korf (Protestant Christian), Abdullah Haselhof (Muslim), and Prof. M.K. Gautam (Hindu). Speakers included the evening's 'host' Dr. Beelaerts welcoming everyone, Mrs. Janneke van Eekelen-Wentink on Three Dimensional Thinking, and Prof. M.K. Gautam reflecting on UPF's core values.

Mark P. Brann gave the keynote speech "One Family under God: A New Vision for Peace in the 21st Century," which is the core element of the Global Peace Tour. He expressed, "Almost everyone in the

world would agree that we are living at time of global crisis. The attention of most governments, the G-20 and the United Nations is currently focused on the ongoing worldwide financial chaos. On top of that, there is the continuing challenge of ongoing conflict and violence flaring up all over the world. Even more fundamentally, we face a growing moral and spiritual crisis, evidenced in the rise of family and marriage breakdown, divorce, the spread of sexually transmitted diseases and the growing number of young people alienated from society and prone to violent and anarchic impulses.

"Another serious concern for people of every nation is the issue of human care and protection of the environment. We need to respond more quickly and more consistently to the global challenges

of climate change, deforestation, deteriorating air quality, water and soil contamination, to name but a few.

"Despite these challenges, I believe that the universal appeal of the vision to create 'One Family under God' testifies to the fact that we do live at a time when lasting change is truly possible, if we are able to understand the root causes of our problems. This is the main purpose of the Global Peace Tour and the Global Peace Festivals, which are promoting a platform of interfaith cooperation, strengthening the family, and a culture of service for the sake of renewing our communities and nations. We are looking for nothing less than a moral and spiritual awakening rooted in the universal vision of 'One Family under God.'"

He talked of "the Dream of God," the importance of an interfaith effort for peace, and the need for a "culture of service." After giving examples of some of UPF's activities around the world, he finished, "Together, let us dare to dream the greatest dream of all! Let us own the dream to create 'One Family under God.'"

After the speeches, Milly Scott sang a special Peace Anthem and the sublime "From a Distance" (first made famous by Bette Midler). She then galvanized everyone with "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory of the Coming of the Lord," so that everyone was on their feet and dancing by the time she started singing "When the Saints go Marching In."

In conclusion, Dr. Beelaerts presented Mrs. Bos with an Ambassador for Peace certificate, waxing lyrical in fulsome praise of her presentation and work, and continuing with a bardic, even theatrical appreciation of everyone's contribution to the day.

It was an extraordinary occasion, which drew together people of a multitude of social, cultural, national, racial, and religious backgrounds, including those of differing convictions within the same religious tradition, for example, traditional Muslims, Sufis and Ahmadis, all united in the determination to do what they could to fulfill the "greatest dream of all, One Family under God."

It was quite a challenge for UPF-Netherlands to organize so many activities in such a short period of time, but one fairly new contact wrote: "It was a good day yesterday. Nice people and interesting speeches. I was impressed to see it all went so well. There was everything; coffee, tea, a table with leaflets, guest speakers, microphones, lights... And it all worked!! My compliments." And it was felt that not only had "it all worked," but that our activists and Ambassadors for Peace had all become closer and of one heart. ❖

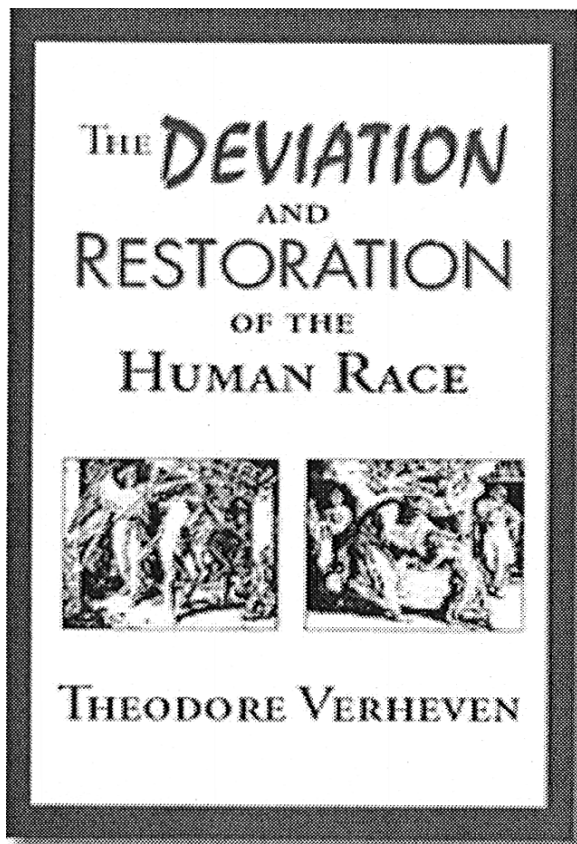
The Deviation and Restoration of the Human Race

by Theodore Verheven

Teddy Verheven was sent as a lone missionary in 1965 from Los Angeles to Holland (his country of birth), by the leader of the Unified Family, Reverend Sun Myung Moon.

This writing not only explains the purification and development of the inner self or human spirit (moral and intellectual), but also the unfolding of the innermost self or Divine Spirit, by awakening and feeding the growing soul with the Love and Truth of God.

For more detail, go to: "The Deviation and Restoration of the Human Race" on AtlasBooks.com - "Category" Biblical Studies or Body, Mind, Spirit. See Summary and Testimony and click on "excerpt" for Foreward and 10 pages of Table of Contents.



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Peace Tour Ukraine Promotes UN Interreligious Council

Kiev, Ukraine - A conference on "One Family under God: A New Vision of Peace in the 21st Century" was held in Kiev, Ukraine, at the Premier Palace Hotel on March 19, 2009. It was organized by the Universal Peace Federation and the Ukrainian Peace Council, a Ukrainian NGO. Among the 350 participants were renowned public figures, writers, scientists, artists, and representatives of many Ukrainian and international NGOs.

This conference was part of the chain of events of the Global Peace Tour 2009 organized by UPF.

This year's World Peace Summit on January 29-31 in New York, USA, brought together UN representatives and public and religious figures from around the world. Ukraine was represented by the Ukrainian Peace Council headed by the first President of Ukraine, Leonid Kravchuk.

The conference in Kiev was opened by Leonid Kravchuk, who mentioned that the Ukrainian people have

the moral right to be in the vanguard of a global peacemaking process because their history is an example of peacemaking efforts, in particular as a country which voluntarily renounced its nuclear weapon.

Dr. Katsumi Ohtsuka, Chair of UPF-Eurasia, spoke about UPF activities in various countries and the progress

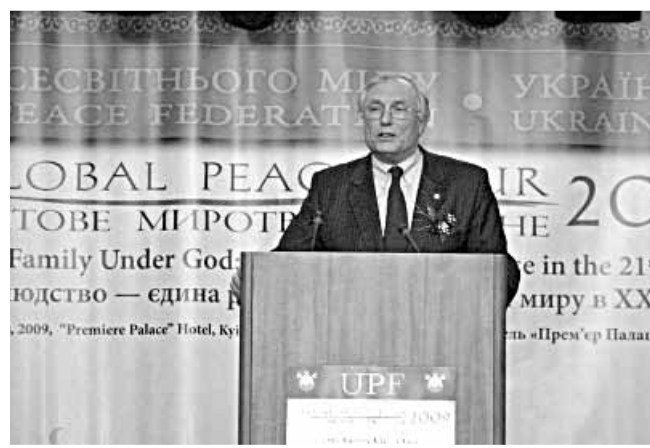
made by the Global Peace Festival around the world. He appealed to conference participants to join this international peacemakers' movement.

Other speakers included a famous poet of Ukraine, Borys Oliynyk, the head of the State Department of Nationalities and Religion at the Oleksandr Sagan, and biochemistry research Insti-

tute director, academician Sergiy Komisarenko. They shared their opinions about peace, the relationship between religion and science, and the necessity of establishing an Interreligious Peace Council at the United Nations.

Conference participants supported UPF's proposal to establish an Interreligious Peace Council at UN, which will work to prevent conflicts and promote lasting peace. It is not a secret that most conflicts in the world have some religious basis. Conference participants also supported the proposal to hold a Global Peace Festival in Ukraine in 2010. This event will help to overcome the differentiation of society according to geographical or faith factors, revive family values, and develop the volunteer movement in Ukraine.

At the end of the conference, new Ambassadors for Peace were appointed: Poets Borys Oliynyk and Mykola Lukiv, Tchaikovsky National Music Academy Professor Diana Petrynenko, Olympic champion Iryna Merleni-Mikulchyn, and Doctor of Philosophy Yuriy Sedykh. ❖



GPF in Albania

Tirana, Albania - The Global Peace Tour in Albania on March 11-13, brought a message of peace to leaders of Albania and other Balkan nations, building on the dedicated peace efforts by Ambassadors for Peace in the region.

Many Ambassadors for Peace in Albania are leaders of important institutions and sectors of life. One of them is the Chairman of District 1 of the Municipality of Tirana, Mrs. Lindita Nikolla, a member of UPF-Albania's National Peace Council. She organized a service project in her District in cooperation along with the leader of Tirana center, Mr. Sokol Rexhepi. The March 11 project was entitled "My Neighborhood is My Home." More than 100 middle school students and municipality staff cleaned areas in the city and delivered leaflets on keeping the environment clean and taking responsibility for one's neighborhood. The project was well received by the residents, and national TV and other media covered the event.

Around distinguished guests and Ambassadors for Peace from Albania and other Balkan nations participated in the International Leadership Conference on March 13. Members of Parliament from Macedonia, Montenegro, and Kosovo attended, along with representatives of the Prefecture of the Thessaloniki in Greece and two Ambassadors for Peace from Bulgaria. There were 130 Albanian participants. The ILC took place at the Tirana International Hotel, and seven television stations covered the event.



The Conference started with the opening address given by Hon. Gaqo Apostoli, a member of the Global Peace Council, and a congratulatory address given by the Former President of Albania H E. Alfred Moisiu. Mrs. Lavdie Ruci, Chair of UPF-Albania, talked about the role of Ambassadors for Peace and the Universal Peace Federation in the development process of the country. Mr. Gani Rroshi introduced the activities of UPF-Albania since its inauguration on October 30, 2005, and Mr. Jang Dug Bong and Mr. Robert Williamson, two regional leaders for UPF in the Balkans, talked about the core principles of UPF. Prof. Dr. Shezai Rrokaj, Chairman of Albanian National Peace Council, talked about leadership and good governance. Other speakers included with Dr. Zamira Sinoimeri, Mr. Hydajet Hyseni (Chairman of UPF-Koso-

vo), and Mrs. Tomiko Duggan.

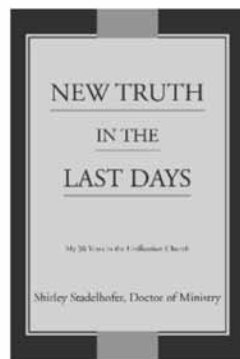
More than 50 new Ambassadors for Peace were appointed at the end of the conference. These included members of parliament from Macedonia and Montenegro, diplomats, educators, journalists, and authors.

The Main event started at 5:00 PM, exactly on time. The main hall of Tirana International Hotel was completely full with 400 Ambassadors for Peace, distinguished guests, and peace-loving people from around the country. Most of conference participants attended the

main event. The MC was Mrs. Marinela Stefanc, Secretary General of the Korca Peace Council and also the Executive Director of Albanian Global Peace Festival which took place last year in Korca City. The welcoming address was given by Hon. Gaqo Apostoli, who set the atmosphere for receiving the message of peace.

As he read the Peace Tour message, Dr. Young-Cheol Song shared his deep love and heart for Albania and many times he spoke out of his written message. His words were warmly received by the audience, and many times he was interrupted by applause. ❖

New Truth in the Last Days My 36 Years in the Unification Church Shirley Stadelhofer, Doctor of Ministry



"A 'couldn't put it down' kind of a book. So simple and beautiful, like Shirley herself." According to Rev. Kevin Thompson. "Dr Shirley as she was affectionately known by most people, poured the last days of her life into this book which is part testimonial of her 36 years as a follower of Rev. Sun Myung Moon, and part explanation of the teachings of Rev Moon."

As one of the foremost presenters of the Divine Principle to Christian ministers, Shirley Stadelhofer's presentation style is uniquely simple, concise, straight forward, and passionate. This book would be a great gift or loan to anyone interested in what Rev. Moon teaches. An e-book version is available.

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Crime Fighting With Common Sense and Scripture

by Pastor Mike Yakawich

On Saturday, March 21st, we hosted our 6th Annual Montana American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLCL) on "Spiritual Solutions to Violence in our Community" at the War Bonnet Inn located in Billings, Montana. The program began at 9:00 a.m. and concluded at 4:00 p.m. where the day encapsulated 15 speakers and a total of 51 participants including several youth. It was a very dynamic conference as people attended and participated throughout the entire program.

Under the co-sponsorship of the All Nations Christian Fellowship Church, The Chapel of the Diamond Heart, The Black Heritage Foundation, The Family Church, The Ambassadors for Peace, The American Leadership Conference and The Universal Peace Foundation, the budget was well managed as the program incorporated spiritual applications, common sense

and astounding words of wisdom. We had speakers from the Billings Police Gang Taskforce, The United Way Roots of Promise, the Elks Club Anti-Drug team, the Peace Institute, the Peace Corp as well as local churches and foundations.

Pastor Mike Yakawich opened the program up with greetings and shared how ACLC was founded under the inspiration of Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and supported by many other clergy and inter-faith leaders from all over North America. Pastor Melvin Terry led us out with a blessing and encouragement for a successful conference. We had two presidents, several clergy and lay ministry, missionaries and elders, commu-

nity leaders as well as parents and neighborhood people. We had two written reflections that seem to sum up a greater part of the program, "This was a very good program. Everything was so wonderful Keep up the good work. I learned a lot today. Thank God." and "It was nice to see all that is being done to help our community. We were able

sador for Peace Association. Both gave inspiring videos on AFP and UPF. The audience was very interested and were very supportive of the nomination and awarding of several Ambassador for Peace at this program including the MT Director of the Elks Anti Drug Program, the Director of the Not In Our Town national program, a President of the

tions to violence in the community. Some practical solutions were to start Neighborhood Watch programs, Day Camps for Children of incarcerated parents, support the Boys and Girls Clubs, attend local churches and taskforces and to encourage the public to take ownership, call and contact the local police when you see violence taking place, get involved.

It was a full day and we felt deeply the presence of the Holy Spirit. Many of our speakers were AFP from previous years. We had a very nice piano selection by Pastor Eric Friendickson's wife Betty and a wonderful song by Maria Min who later presented on Compassionate and Non-Violent Communication. There were many great handouts and pertinent information given that this report cannot cover. Also, many participants could exchange business cards and made great connections. Finally, all the presentations were recorded and will be aired on our local MT Family Church TV channel 7 program.

The Martin, DiLorenzo, Woods and Yakawich families worked very hard



to listen to heart felt talks and motivational speakers. My understanding was broadened from being here."

The speakers provided a wide array of "tools" and solutions to violence in our community. Many encouraged and supported the value of good parenting and being good role models for the youth. We need to be involved in our families and in our neighborhood whether the youth are our own or not. Sister Eunice Terry emphasized the important of the spirit as she quoted from the Holy Bible. The Gang Taskforce Police officer encouraged the audience to see there are many solutions to the gang problems including practical advice such as talking with and listening to your children, get to know your children's friends and their parents, and do not hesitate to be involved in their daily activities.

The value of going to school was emphasized more than once. What we do in our homes and churches can make a positive impact on the larger community. Cindy Kuntz from the Peace Institute explained, "We must model the correct behavior for our youth for they rarely model the lecture they hear." Dr. Dennis Briggs led us in an interfaith prayer prior to lunch. He has been a co chair of the MT ACLC and formed a monthly prayer vigil that has been going on for three years inspired by the 4th Annual MT ACLC conference.

Our program was in many respects a Montana Global Peace Festival. We had presentations on the Ambassador for Peace by Mr. Paul DiLorenzo. The Universal Peace Federation Secretary General for the North-West, Mr. Clint Woods gave an excellent presentation on UPF and later led a break out session on the Amba-

LDS for this area, a former Peace Corp Volunteer and a Youth Minister, a veteran, and two other community leaders.

Our keynote speaker for lunch was Eran Thompson who introduced President Obama to the Billings community at a town meeting during the presidential campaign. He has been working on human rights issues, organizing "eat ins" to address racial attacks and has been involved in social justice activism for more than 17 years. He encouraged the audience to stay involved and know that even small acts of social justice builds momentum and is never in vain. It is good to take a stand against violence of all kinds and not allow it to go unchecked or unchallenged.

Jerri Tate, former social worker, AFP and Board member of the High Plains Women's Museum, did a great job in coordinating the break out sessions. The focus was to seek and identify solu-

behind the scenes to help make this program a great success. We too are indebted to Rev. Larry Krishnek, our District Leader who provides a great deal of prayer, guidance and wisdom for this program. We are grateful for the local Billings Gazette and the OUT-POST who graciously printed pre program information to the community that actually helped bring people to this conference. It is our opportunity through such events to truly build "One Family Under God." As a President of a local church summed up the day, "I really enjoyed the conference. Having the police department present on how gangs are present in our communities was enlightening. I always enjoy the interaction with others from both community organization and also other faiths and churches. Thank you for organizing this conference." ♦

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three attractive labels with different text on the back of each so you can choose an appropriate message to deliver. Furthermore, the wines are the highest quality Napa Valley wine so your family and contacts will appreciate the thoughtfulness of your gift. We have assembled True Parents guidance on the meaning and value of the Cheon Il Guk Holy Wines so that as much information about the use, meaning and history of holy wine is gathered in one place. Please visit our site.

American Church Pioneers Celebrate 40th Year

by: Marie Ang

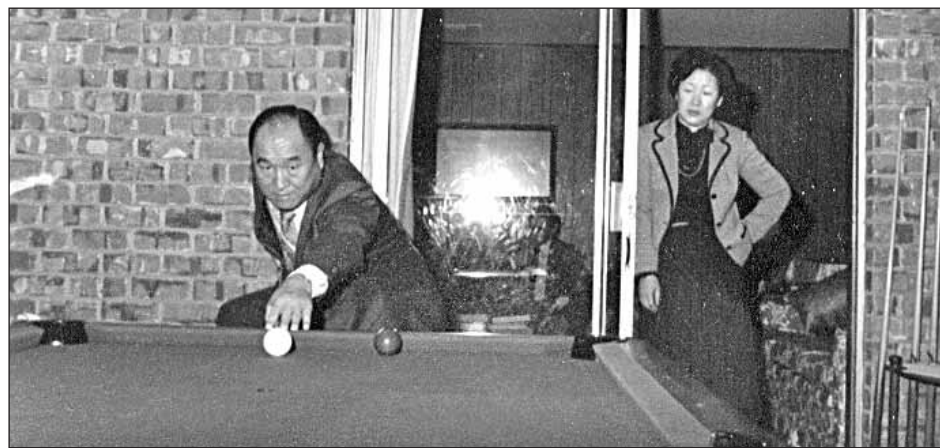
On a wintry day in Washington, D.C., on February 28, 1969, True Parents presided over the first Blessing to take place outside of our homeland, Korea.

True Parents together with American members at the Entertainment following the Blessing Ceremony in Washington D.C on February 28, 1969. (Left hand side - President Hyo Won Eu)

Thirteen couples, including eight that were newly-matched couples and five that were previously-married, walked down the crowded aisle in the "Upshur House" located on Upshur St. N.W., Washington, D.C., to receive the Holy Blessing. We knew that we would be the foundation for the American movement, and we even wondered if there was a significance in the fact that the number of couples being blessed, thirteen, is the exact number of the thirteen original states that were the foundation of the United States of America.

This was the first of three marriage-blessings held outside of Korea that comprise what came to be known as the 43-Couples Blessing. [Father Moon and Mother Moon held a marriage blessing of 8 couples in Essen, Germany on March 28, 1969, and a marriage blessing of 22 couples on May 1, 1969, in Tokyo, Japan.]

During the past four decades, the thirteen couples have met many challenges in our various missions as we



struggled to help lay a foundation for spiritual restoration in America. Today, we are scattered throughout the country, and some already have ascended. So, it was not possible for us all to get together to celebrate our fortieth anniversary this year. However, we in the New York City area, Edwin and Marie Ang, George and Diane Fernsler, and Martin Porter, who was part of the 43-Couple Blessing in Europe, met at the Mina-do restaurant in Little Ferry, New Jersey, to celebrate our anniversary. We had a wonderful time together, remembering each couple and honoring this special day. [Find out more about the early days of the Unification Church in America at the website created by Lloyd Pumphrey:

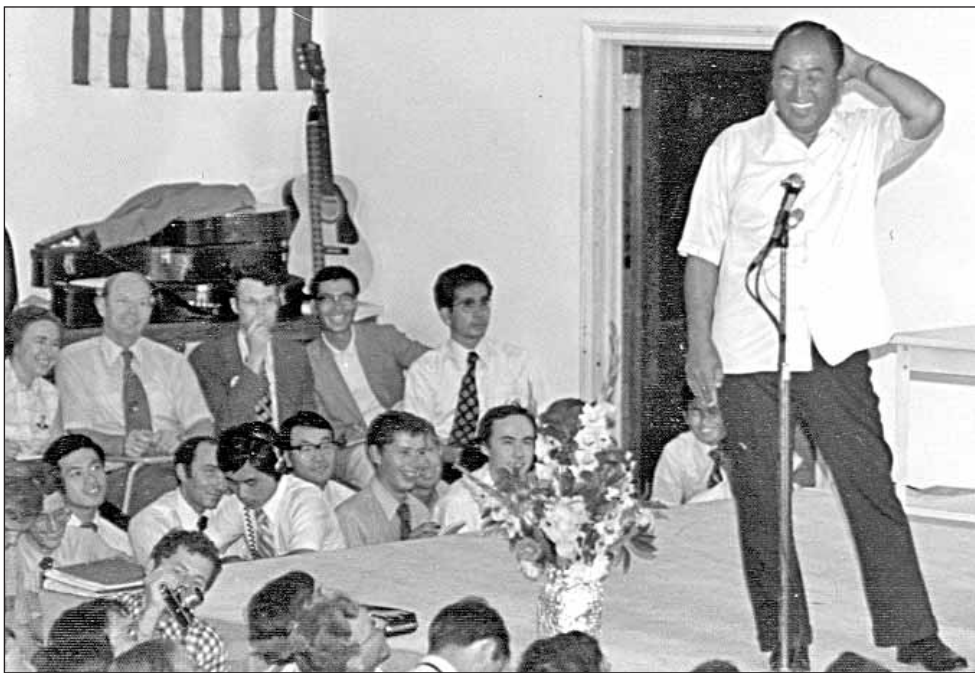
www.uc-history.us

Participants in the blessing of 1969 include the following:

- Edwin and Marie Ang
- Philip and Vivien Burley
- George and Diane Fernsler
- George and Sylvia Norton
- Bob and Vivien Oswald
- Maxine Pearson
- Ken Pope
- Wesley and Gladys Samuel
- Jon and Sandra Schuhart
- Fred Stock

Those who have ascended are:

- Galen and Patty Pumphrey
- John and Marie Schmidli
- Carl and Linna Rapkins
- Vernon Pearson
- Orah Pope
- Jacque Stock ❖



*Deepest Gratitude to the
43 Couples in America*



by Rev. Kyle Toffey

This is from a sermon given January 10th 2009, at the HQ Church, Seoul, Korea. Transcribed by Beatrice Clyburn and edited by Rev. Bruno Klotz.

**Welcome Remarks
by Rev. Michael Brazil:**

I'd like to welcome you to our Saturday Service and I know you're just disappointed because the young, handsome, vibrant and spiritual powerful man is not standing here. But the mind is a powerful thing, so I'm going to ask you to close your eyes (laughing). Come on! Close your eyes and I want you to just imagine that when you open your eyes you will see a young and handsome man by the name of Hyung Jin Nim standing here. Ok, now open your eyes. Did it work? (Laughing) Well, I'm sorry. But, fortunately I'm here, so please, stay with us.

I'd like to start by reading a passage from the Cheon Seong Gyeong. It comes from page 332 and Father has the following to say, "What kind of taste would God like most? If God has a sense of smell, what kind of smell would He like most? If He can hear, what would He like to hear, and if He can feel, what would He like to feel? There is only one thing God likes, and that is love. Nothing other than love can focus God's five senses and fill Him with joy. If God is looking for an absolute partner of love, what would He choose? We can conclude that it will surely be a human being. This is why we say that among all things of the creation human beings have the highest value."

And as Hyung Jin Nim's always likes to remind us, when you come to service, come to give, don't simply be a receiver but be a giver. Today we want to bring the highest joy to our Creator, God, our Heavenly Father our Heavenly Mother.

Sermon

Today I have an interesting story for you. Actually it's not a joke, but it was a story I found extremely fascinating. In England, there were people that studied a convent, a group of nuns, over a period of 35 years. 35 years! And the reason they chose that group was because their diets were the same, their daily practices were the same, everything externally was the same.

They divided the group of nuns into 2 separate groups. They identified one group as "grumpy nuns", and the other group as "happy nuns". This is very true. And they found out that the group of happy nuns lived on average 9 years longer than the grumpy nuns, or the unhappy nuns.

Now isn't that amazing! We look at all the things that we can do in order to live longer. But actually

changing our hearts and changing our outlooks can have a more dramatic effect. Nothing can have a greater effect than changing our hearts and our attitudes.

So if you want to live long and prosper, change from being a grumpy nun and become a happy nun!!

Last week we had a really wonderful way of starting out the new year with Hyung Jin Nim giving a powerful message called, "The power of grace". I don't know about you but I was really moved by that sermon, where we could start our new year thinking about God's unconditional love for us, God's grace towards us and how much God has really blessed us. These are extremely powerful thoughts for us to keep with us as we go through this coming year.

But now the party is a little bit over right? Christmas is finished! God's day is finished. We are in the new year and it's cold outside. But looking forward towards the year that's ahead of us, what kind of year are you going to have? What lies ahead? What kind of year are you going to have?

If we want to find out what kind of year it will be we can listen to

CNN, BBC, and other places and get the economic forecast which is doom and gloom, political forecast, which also tends to be doom and gloom, weather forecast - well you know, we got global warming or is it global cooling going on, we don't know but - it's doom and gloom. But really the question is, what kind of year YOU are going to have.

Now when you think of the year ahead are you visualizing what Hyung Jin Nim called your best year yet? Is this what you are visualizing in the year ahead? Or you just see another year of trials, tribulations and difficulties? I will get through but it's going to be tough and it's going to be difficult. I'll get through it, but barely, because I will do it!

What are you thinking when you look at the year ahead?

This is vitally important actually because whatever you are thinking you are probably right. If you think it's going to be a great year, a fantastic year, a stupendous year, it probably will be a very good year for you. If you think it's going to be a tough year, difficult, that can happen, too, and probably will, if that's what you are thinking, if that's what you are experiencing. If you think you're just going to survive, you'll survive.

We are very fortunate. Because of the clarity of Divine Principle, we can know that actually our thoughts and ideas are so important because in the beginning was the word and the word was made reality. Everything begins with a concept before it becomes physically manifested, and our internal character gets expressed in an external form. This is fundamental Divine Principle and it really works. These are laws that I am not making up. Just like physical laws, if you try to cheat physical laws, like go off a cliff, it's not going to work. So, anyway, we need to understand very clearly that our thinking process is very important.

God created us as His children, and so therefore it's really important for us to see how much we are also very much like God. We create like God, we think like God and we experience life very similar to God. It's easy to see the creative process when you talk to musicians, artists, creative people. They create things that look like themselves.

So we are in the process now of creating 2009 for ourselves. Our thoughts tend to become self-fulfilling prophecies. We have underlying thoughts, underlying beliefs

Cosmic

that we don't really examine sometimes too often. They are the kinds of thoughts that come to us through growing up, the things that our parents said to us, the things our friends said to us, acquaintances, things that the world tends to say to you, as you're growing up, their underlying messages. The outcome of our life tends to be from those fundamental thoughts and beliefs.

So what is the world telling you about you? "Well, you can't win, you can't make it, you can't be better than anybody else! You can't drive a car that's bigger and shiner and newer than anybody else! Who do you think you are? You have your lot in life and you must fulfill that lot in life."

That tends to be the underlying thought process that the world is going to tell you about yourself, and we tend to believe that. Actually it's fairly easy to believe. That's the easy belief: Because we are in a sinful world, we know that we are sinners, we fall short of God's grace, you are not good, you don't have potential and you'll just get by. These thoughts are actually very deeply engrained in us. If we really examine ourselves, what are we thinking?

But the good news is, "What is God's viewpoint of YOU?" What does God think of you? Hyung Jin Nim always starts his service asking us to see ourselves from God's viewpoint. This is so important, because actually God has the proper perspective of who we are and what our potentials are. It's the highest and truest perspective that we can have. It's so important, it's truly our starting point.

So what is God's viewpoint of you? Why did God create YOU? Why did God create me? And the reason is? (Love) See I knew you knew that! So what's the true reason? (Love) Ah, come on! All together now: "Love"

But actually in a very real sense, before the world existed, before mankind existed, God was fundamentally lonely, and God wanted to have an object, or as I like to say, God wanted a companion. God really wanted to have companions. What's a companion? What kind of companion do you want to have? You actually want to have companions around you, friends around you, people around you that understand you, that you can share with, that you can share thoughts and feelings with, that you can share ideas and concepts with.

Now, it's nice to have dogs as a companion, but they don't make an ideal companion because they don't understand you, and the reason they don't is because their intellectual and heartistic foundation is on a dog level. But what we really want are those people around us that we can share ourselves completely with. You don't want an inferior being as your primary companion.

So God was lonely and therefore God created YOU! So what kind of potential did God give you? What kind of character and heart and spirit did God give you? It's limitless as God is limitless. That's the kind of potential that you actually have. God created you as His children and we are created in His image, and if God is limitless, you, too, have limitless potential in your own life. You are limitless beings.

This is actually Divine Principle 101, principle of creation. Why is it so hard for us to believe really that we are created in God's image, and that we are created as His children? We truly do need to see ourselves from God's viewpoint. This is a fundamental point that we need to begin to get our arms around and really understand.

Now, you might not be that mighty oak tree, that huge tree that gives off nuts and is life for a lot of beings around you. But the potential for that is within you. Now, you might be a seed at this point and time, but your potential is within that seed and that seed has been put in us by God. We have a potential far greater than that original seed of what we are now. From a little seed becomes a big tree, a mighty tree.

But I know we're thinking, "But I am a sinner, and I fall short of really what I should be. I'm no good. I'm not really like God. How can I even think that I



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Explosion

am like God."

I have a couple of questions for you. Have you been reborn? How many of you feel like you've had rebirth in your life? At some point in your life really found true rebirth? How many of you really find rebirth at least once a year? How about once a day?

But really, we have received a new start, rebirth, and we have received God's forgiveness for our failures in the past, and also we've been truly blessed by God, by True Parents, in our lives. So therefore who are you to deny the fact that you are the sons and daughters of God and whom God accepts as His children? You are God's children.

The significance and importance of the rebirth is that we can start again. Maybe we started as this little seed and started growing off to the wrong side. But now because we know Divine Principle, because we can know God clearly, we can grow true and grow strong and take our proper positions as God's sons and daughters.

We tend to be stuck in our old ideas. But you know, God does not look at you as a sinner. This is an important point. God does not look at you as a sinner. Because God is principled and sin is unprincipled, God can't even really see that which is unprincipled, because it's outside of God's realm.

I want to tell you a story about my mother. Before I had my first rebirth and joined the Unification Movement, my life was going the wrong way. Very clearly I was going the wrong way! My attitude, my heart, my spirit, my clothes (laughs), were all a manifestation of this wrong direction that my life was going. And then I joined the Unification Movement after finding that God really does love me, and that I am a child of God. So I changed 180 degrees from going that direction to going a good and healthy direction.

My mother did not see a change in me at all, not a single iota. She asked me, "Why are you joining this movement?" I told my mother, "Well, it has changed my life completely", and my mother could not see it. Why couldn't my mother see the dramatic change that happened in my life when I really met God? Because that original nature that was within me was the only thing that my mother really recognized. She only saw the potential in me. She only saw her good little son.

You know, even mothers of people in prison, their mothers still think that their son is a good boy even though he killed 6 or 7 people. Why does that happen? It's because the mothers only see the potential, the true nature that pre-exists within that child, even though he may have gone astray. But you do have universal potential. You do have tremendous potential.

So the big question is, "What is your potential? What is your potential, your personal potential?" I don't know. I'm sorry. But I do know that God knows what your true potential is. And that also deep in your own heart, if you start looking and searching down in the deepest parts of your own heart, you'll find a potential there that is tremendous, cosmic and eternal. And we are all different. If you look around at the people around you, not only are we from different countries, and have different colors of skin, but also our dreams and passions and those things that drive us forward are all different.

I will tell you that God's vision for you is much bigger than your own vision for you. God really believes in the potential that God has put in you and God should know, because God is God. But also you have potential that is far beyond even what you are willing to admit to yourself. You have cosmic potential. Each and everyone of us has that cosmic potential because we are created by God. And God wants us to accomplish that potential, to achieve our utmost.

So you are probably wondering how this ties in with today's topic. What's

today's topic? Oh! "Cosmic explosion!" Thank you. At this time in human history we

really need to become a movement that nurtures and supports that internal divine potential that lies within each and everyone of us. Each and everyone of us has potential and we need to support each other, to help each other fulfill that potential.

Therefore we need to change the way that not only we see ourselves but also support each other and see each other from God's viewpoint, and see that potential that lies within them. We need to support each other. So therefore I'm going to ask you to turn to your neighbor, give them a high five and tell them, "You are God's child" (You are God's child). Tell them, "You have great potential" (You have great potential) and tell them, "You are amazing" (You are amazing). Aju! (Applause)

Now there used to be a time in our movement when those people who went off into a tangent were thought to be heretical. Those people thought, "I want to go THERE. I want to accomplish THIS". It was thought as you were leaving the central fold of what was happening.

But actually I think that the whole movement has begun to change in that each and everyone of us has to take that potential within us and see that star up there that's calling to you. Whether you're supposed to be an artist, a musician, a writer, a politician, a business person, a preacher, a doctor, no matter what it is, really see that star that's uniquely calling you and go for it with all your heart and all your spirit and all your mind. Go for that one little star.

And because we are all unique individuals, we're going to go from this one point where we are all together, off in all these different directions. Just like an explosion where you've got that potential in that stick of dynamite and someone lights a fuse and it goes "boom", like that. But we can have a cosmic explosion. We really can, if we become that kind of community that understands and appreciates each other and helps each other fulfill their potential. Of course we have to get down to that center point where we're taking the horizontal and the vertical and making a central point for our life. But that's only the beginning point.

So we have to follow our dreams and our visions with all the passion and enthusiasm. You know what the word enthusiasm means, right? In God's spirit!

We do things with enthusiasm and excitement, because we feel God's spirit with us. We have to do those things that have not been done before, and accomplish things that might be seemingly impossible. But together with God many things can happen.

Look at True Father! He started up in a little tiny village in North Korea. I live next to North Korea. I know. Actually I live within about 2 miles from North Korea. There's nothing there! There wasn't then and there isn't now. And this man from this little country, and a little village and a small family, he had the audacity to think that he could change the world. God and one person becomes a majority actually.

We need to take that same kind of thought process with us, that we have a potential and that we have a destiny that's calling us. You might think, "Well, look, I'm only me, I don't have much influence." But believe it or not, you have a tremendous amount of influence, even as you're sitting here right

now. There are people at work, people at school, people that you meet at the coffee shops or whatever. These are people that actually you can have control over. If they can see the spark of life, the enthusiasm, the strength and the determination that you have, they'll also want to have it.

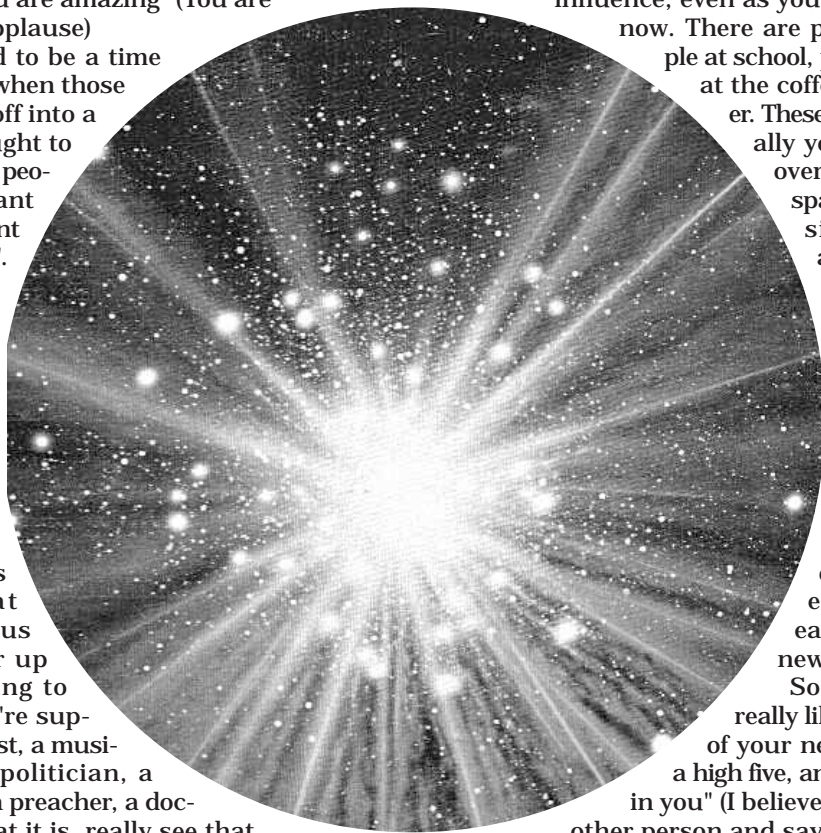
So it's going to be really this congregation where we can come together and love and take care of each other, and support each other and believe in each other, and push each other forward to new heights.

So one more time, I'd really like you to turn to one of your neighbors. Give them a high five, and tell them, "I believe in you" (I believe in you). Turn to the other person and say, "I believe in you" (I believe in you)

The world might say that you can't win, or we can't win, we can't really become what it is that we are destined to become, but the real reality is that as a community we can really begin to make this happen. We can have a cosmic explosion. With the real potential, even a part of the potential that is in this room right here right now, and across the internet, all over the world, we can have an influence over the world in a very short time.

We're talking about building a temple here, but each and every one of you has to become a temple, a great temple, that is a place where people will find refuge. Each and every one of you has to become that perfected temple. So therefore we need to reaffirm each other, believe in each other, and no one can perform your portion of responsibility but you. You are unique and loved by God. God really believes in you, really believes in you. The question isn't anymore, "Do you believe in God?" The question is, "Can I really believe in me the way God believes in me?"

So we need a cosmic explosion of enthusiastic people, filling this world with God's love and joy. So what kind of year are you going to have? What kind of year are you going to MAKE it? Because actually you are going to decide whether this is going to be a great year or not. So let us make this a great year and bring back joy to God, True Parents and our brothers and sisters around the world. ♦



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THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION



Naokimi Ushiroda on Inheriting and Celebrating the True

By Yen Chang

Naokimi Ushiroda was matched & Blessed in 2000 by True Father to Shukuko Yono, and currently has one son, Taeshin Ushiroda who is 2 and half years old. He graduated from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania in May of 2004 with an undergraduate degree in Economics concentrating in Real Estate & Entrepreneurship. He then joined W-CARP USA as a full-time worker for 2 and a half years until Feb 13, 2007 when He was appointed as the director of Youth Education Department in the US.

In August 2007, I sat down with Naokimi Ushiroda, then our newly appointed Youth Education Department (YED) Director, and talked about the long and short term goals of the YED under his care. Now, a year and eight months later, I sat down with him again and reviewed his efforts and gained insight into what we can expect next.

YC: I want to start by taking a look back at the long term goals you set for yourself when you began your term as the YED Director. Do you feel that you have met your goals during this time? Why or why not?

NU: The overall goal of the Youth Education Department was to develop a clear educational track for all of our youth in the Unification Movement in America. I'm still working on reaching that goal, and I must say that it hasn't been so easy. I do feel that I have come a long way though. The first 6 months were spent transitioning from my previous role as the Vice President of CARP USA, and also traveling around to visit every local youth community to research what had already been developed, and to find out the general needs and concerns of the local youth ministries.

YC: And what did you find were those general needs and concerns?

NU: Interestingly enough, the number one need or concern that kept coming up was the lack of curriculum and not having a clear educational track, which is why I decided to make that the overall goal of the department at this time. It was clear that the parents and educators wanted a better idea about what to teach their youth. The second most common concern that came up was the issue of drugs and alcohol and how to actually deal with these difficult situations that are more taboo in our movement. I think we definitely need to utilize professional resources that are out there to deal with these issues properly. And the third issue that I heard most often was how to reach out to those who have strayed from the movement, or those who are struggling with the Blessing.

YC: So after doing your initial research what was the next thing that you worked on?

NU: Well, based on the inspiration and guidance that I received from Hyun Jin Moon, who was then the president of World CARP international, and overall in charge of youth education, I decided to focus on developing a national leadership training program for the youth. Also, I felt that in order to establish a universal educational track, I needed to learn how to raise role models among the youth who represented our greatest hope for them. Without having a clear standard of where we wanted our youth to get to, I felt it would be difficult to develop any effective long term educational track. So, for the next year, I worked on developing and expanding the Jr. STF USA program. I actually created a hybrid off of the best practices of Jr. STF in Korea, Japan and Europe, as well as successful American youth leadership programs like the Mormon youth program, and the Boy Scouts of America. Over the course of the year, we expanded the program from 2 communities and 21 members to 15 communities and 216 members. And then Kimikami Miyake came on board as the National Jr. STF Director to continue to expand the program.

YC: Wow. That's quite a fast growth rate. Why do you think it developed so quickly, and have you faced any new challenges in the process?

NU: Yeah, I think a major part of the fast growth was due to the great need that existed for such a program in the local communities. The Jr. STF program is most effective for those youth who are looking for a deeper understanding of their own faith, or for those who want to take on more responsibility and get more involved in the church activities. So it's not meant to be a program that would attract all the youth - by youth I mean middle school and high school aged youth.

As for challenges that we have faced, some communities have raised concerns that Jr. STF would create a class system among the youth, between those who are part of the program and

those who are not. Even though we have tried to position Jr. STF as an extra-curricular program, like the Boy Scouts, where anyone who is interested can participate in, these concerns still exist, and we have yet to resolve this problem. However, a great majority of the communities

have had a very good response to the introduction of the Jr. STF program in their communities.

YC: That's good to hear. Well, what else have you been working on besides Jr. STF?

NU: Well, last summer (2008) I visited fourteen camps in North America to learn about the different best practices, and to be able to give some presentations on Identity. We also had a couple of

camp directors' gatherings to provide an opportunity for the camp directors to meet each other and establish a network of support. In the long run, I would like to work with the camp directors to coordinate the educational content so that all the youth in North America can receive a basic standard of spiritual education during the summer.

YC: Let's move on to the development of staff support. Tell me about your youth educators' seminar series. I went to the one in New York and I really enjoyed it. There was much insightful, practical and useful content that was provided.

NU: Thank you. That was quite a long-term process. It took me about a year to follow through on developing this project. The idea was to first meet with the key educators from the different blocks around the country and plan out a seminar that would be appropriate for all the youth education staff around the country. My focus for the Youth Educators Seminar Series was to provide some basic content that was important for all Blessed Children to know and learn about while in their middle school and high school years. So I travelled to fourteen communities where we gathered many educators and provided a one day seminar on different topics mostly around the issues of identity education, or what it means to be a Blessed Child. I collected reflections at the end of each of the seminars that we've had, and



A Message from the Assistant Editor

The New Voices of Our Generation has now been running successfully for over a year and the editors at UNEWS would like to thank all those who have contributed an article to this section. Spread the word, communicate, and link yourself to the rest of America by subscribing to the paper and submitting your voice at newvog@gmail.com for this section. We are looking to fill this section of the paper with the following submissions: **articles written by our first and second generation focusing on second generation – that includes ALL second gen's!**

Be as *subjective* as you please, but keep in mind, that as this is a public paper, be respectful in your opinions.

If you have an idea for submissions to this section, please let us know at newvog@gmail.com and send something in. keep in mind, everything will

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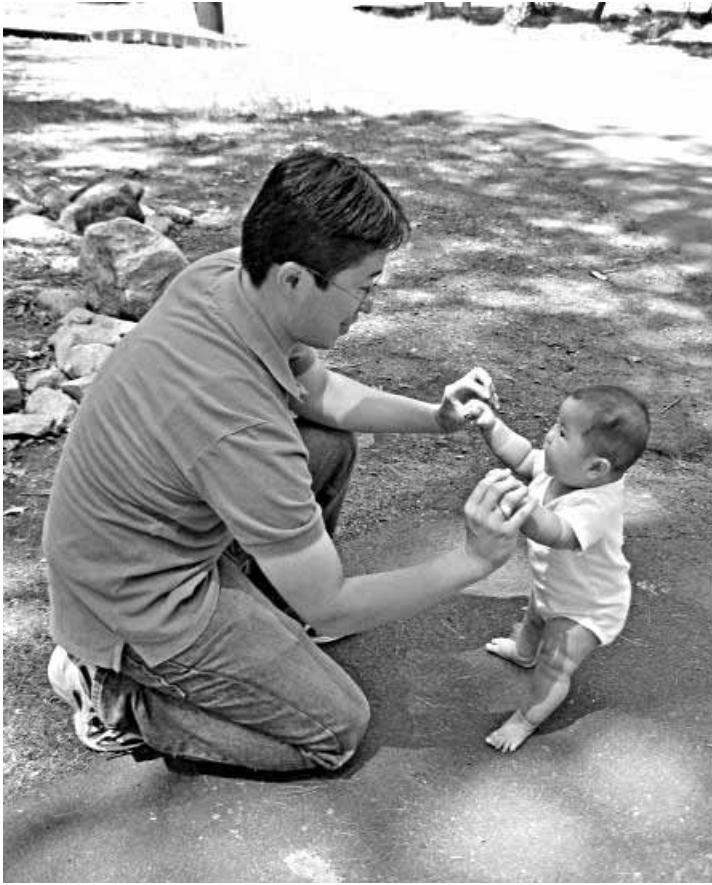
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THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION

Love of God; Dir. of the Youth Education Dept.; USA



I'm happy to say that the majority of the responses were very positive. We also customized the seminar based on the specific needs and expectations of the local youth ministry staff, and I even had the chance to spend some time with each of them. Through this process, I realized that there were other ways that headquarters could support the field, for example, like the development of a national website where all the resources and up-coming events (summer camps and workshops, etc.) could be posted.

YC: Isn't there already a site up for that?

NU: Actually, there are many sites that post up information about youth activities, like the Blessed Family Association website, local youth ministry websites, and regional camp websites. However, I felt that it would be most useful if we could develop one central communication hub where all youth activities related information could be posted. A central website like this would be great for educators to share about not only activities, but also resources like effective lesson plans and other educational content. So that's one major project that I'm still working on.

YC: How will the site be maintained?

NU: Well, the way I want to set up the website, is like facebook or youtube where most of the content is contributed by the users. This way, I don't have to do much to maintain the website, and it could run itself. That's the kind of website I'm trying to create. That's what I see as the successful trend these days with websites.

reason why a lot of projects have been put on hold. I was originally planning our first national conference a couple of months ago, but I felt that it would be more appropriate to put it on hold until a later date, after having aligned myself with the expectations of our new president, Rev. In Jin Moon. So, it has affected me a lot. However, as for its impact on local youth programs, for now, I think everyone should continue their activities as they have been. Once the Lovin' Life Ministry launches and once people get to know what it's all about, then the local youth ministry leaders can decide how they want to connect with it. And I will probably be very involved in that process.

YC: Will you be providing youth ministers with general guidelines to assist in their adapting to the new things we should be expecting?

NU: Well, I definitely plan on meeting with the local educators to develop a clear plan of transition, if that's what they want to do. Definitely, we intend on including a lot of the local leadership in what we are doing to ensure a smooth transition.

YC: I'm curious, with everything changing and with you having made it

YC: This brings to mind an obvious question that I found a lot of people are asking in my community; They are wondering how Sunday School and the youth ministry activities would be affected now that Rev. In Jin Moon is establishing a Sunday Service in Manhattan.

NU: During the past two months, I've been helping very directly with the Lovin' Life Ministry, and focusing less on the overall development of youth education n a t i o n - w i d e . That's part of the

about half way through your goals when you took on this responsibility, after having done all that work and future planning under the past leadership, with the sudden change of leadership now, change of direction, you must have had to re-develop your plans and focus. To what extent have these changes affected your goals and planning?

NU: Definitely, the past two months have been the most challenging in terms of having a clear focus on what I need to do, because of all the changes in leadership above me. However, I always try to see the new opportunities and the positive side of things and I do see this transition in leadership as an opportunity. Our new president is really trying to revamp our whole movement. In one sense, she is aligning us to the original vision of Family Federation, which I believe is to help families build better and happier families centered on God and His principles of love and life. I really hope to align everything that we do with youth education centered on the direction that In Jin Moon is taking the Family Federation.

YC: Give me a quick, one paragraph summary about what Lovin' Life Ministry is for our readers.

NU: Well, recently I actually asked our president for a statement to help

meetings I've gained a lot of insight into education. In fact, I've already started to shift a few of my own perspectives on education, and one of those things is that I need to find another way to reach everyone. My strategy in the past has been to raise a core group of leaders who could take care of everyone else. However, I now feel that from a more parental perspective, in addition to identifying those who have leadership abilities and empowering them to reach everyone else, I need to find other ways to reach each person, and empower them by helping them identify their unique strengths. I've been thinking about this a lot these days. I think there is validity in both approaches and I feel that I need to diversify my perspective in order to reach everyone. This is one of the main shifts that I'm making as an educator.

YC: It's inspiring to see that you're able to adjust and that you're constantly learning in your role. One final question: Is there anything you would like to ask every educator to consider to include in their personal goals over the course of the year?

NU: I think for all of us, the best thing that we can do for those we are responsible for is to always remember not to neglect our personal growth. It's so important to continue to develop our relationship with God and to learn how to become a better member of your

family: to become a better son or daughter, or husband or wife, or parent. And I think that pursuit is the number one thing that will help all of us in the end. I'm trying to do these things myself and become a good role model. It's not easy, I know. I have a wife and two kids. Amongst all the responsibilities and challenges that we have running a youth program, we must not forget or neglect our primary responsibility to contribute to building a healthy and happy family. And by remembering that we are all children of God, and that he wants the best for us, we can gain

the strength, and the energy to continue to help everyone else. That's what I hope we can all remember to do this year. ❖



people like myself who need a cognitive understanding, and the response I got was, "Inheriting and Celebrating the True Love of God."

YC: I like that, it implies the how, not just the what. So how has your perspective on education changed under the influence of our new president?

NU: I've only had the chance to meet with Rev. In Jin Moon three or four times since she accepted her new responsibilities, but in those few

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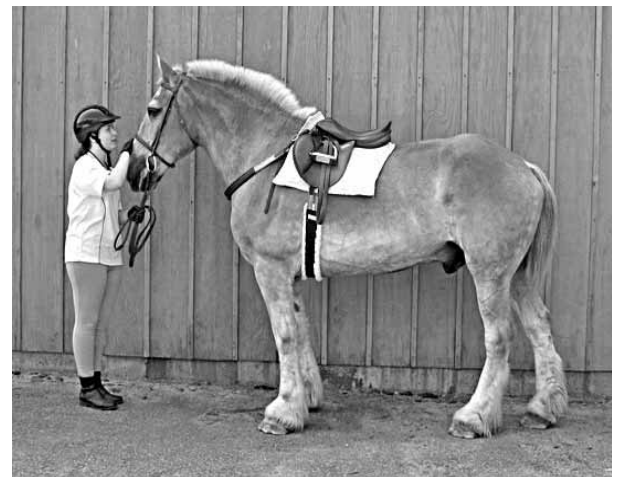


2009 Summer Internship at New Hope Farms

New Hope Farms, (located at 517 Neversink Drive in Port Jervis, New York) is accepting candidates for the 2009 summer internship/work-study program. This program is open to youth, ages 13 and up, who are families of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification and their recommended contacts. Interns will perform farm work, learn to ride horses and act as counselors for the various camps and events held here at the farm. Room, board, instruction and materials are included.

**Dates are from June 27, 2009 through August 2, 2009.
The cost is \$120.00 for the summer and enrollment is limited.**

**For applications, contact New Hope Farms, c/o Lesa Ellanson, 845-856-6792,
or email nhfarms@frontiernet.net.**



God Rocks! NYC



February 23, 2009

God Rocks had its opening night Friday, February 20th. The room was filled with people who enjoyed the live music and inspiring message. After beginning past its scheduled 7pm start, the program captured its audience with music led by Kristof Heller. Diane Kung, Kristof, and the program's director, Claire Munsell, treated the

crowd to covers of some pop/rock songs.

At its 43rd Street location in Manhattan, the lighting and the arrangement of the furniture created a feeling of being in a cross between a café and nightclub.

Kenshu Aoki, CARP president, gave the program its very first message-why college students need God. Drawing experiences from his past, Kenshu gave practical advice on the value of having God in one's life.

Following the night's message, the audience was left to share with one another the importance of God in their lives. The band resumed playing to end the night's program. Some of the audience members got caught up in the music, waving their hands in the air.

Many of the attendees left wanting more, asking if the program would be longer next time. The organizers of the God Rocks admit that there still needs to be improvements but with all the smiles in the room, God Rocks' first night appeared to be a success. ❖



My Piece of Peace 01/24/09

CARP just launched a web site for expressing, sharing and expanding the vision of "One Family under God" through poetry, music, and other forms of art. Join today and see how you can bring "My Piece of Peace" to your local area. Visit us at myshowpeace.com



Reflections on Love Relationships

by Dr. Tyler Hendricks

This is from a sermon given at the UTS Chapel, January 30, 2008.

I was at a conference recently, and one of the leaders of the organization asked the gathered participants for their view on why the organization is not growing. No one had an answer. It caused me to think about give and take action, because the Divine Principle teaches that give and take action is the foundation for multiplication. "Through the agency of universal prime energy, the subject and object elements of every entity form a common base and enter into interaction. This interaction, in turn, generates all the forces the entity needs for existence, multiplication and action. The interaction generating these forces through this process is called give and take action." (Exposition of the Divine Principle, p. 22) So give and take action is the foundation for existence, action and—to the point—multiplication.

In my view, give and take action is another word for love, and Jesus made a valuable summary of this when he said, "For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." (Matthew 18:20) This means that when two or three have a relationship in Jesus' name, then God is in it and their community will exist, act, and multiply. So, in the words of my friend Kevin, "We can have all the teaching in the world, but if we ain't got love, we ain't got diddly. We can have God's Principles, 5 Universal Principles, 4 Core Values, 8 points to pledge and any other teaching, but all of that is to guide us towards love." This echoes St. Paul's eternal verses in 1 Corinthians 13, telling us that we might have prophecy, knowledge, faith, and all the miraculous merit in the world, but if we have not love, we have nothing.

Now, if give and take action is about love, and love is all we need, then we should really understand give and take action. So I'm offering here a ten-step exposition on give and take action—on love relationships.

1. Common base. The common base is the shared purpose, idea or ideal that ultimately comes from God. God works through our relationships, so indeed when two or more are gathered together in God's name, He will be with them. When mind and body are united in God's purpose, He is in us. Among all human beings, there are common bases. We all exist the physical body, so we can all ask, "How are you?" and get a response. We all exist in time, so we can all ask, "Do you know what time it is?" We all live in the same environment, so we can ask, "How is the weather?" As we get to know each other more, we have more and more in common. Sports teams, our nation, presidential campaigns, movies... It could be a shared profession, such as an association of registrars, salesmen, presidents or priests. It could be a shared goal, such

as a weight-loss group or political organization or business, or a marriage.

2. The Lover: The Lover is the creator, the source, the origin or, in Unification parlance, the subject partner. I prefer the expression "lover and beloved" to "subject and object partners," so that is what I will use.

3. The Beloved, the "Other" The Other can be my spouse, my parent, my child, my friend, my neighbor, my student, my teacher, my community, the stranger whom I can serve as a customer. The Lover should have a clear sense of for whom this gift is

being created. In the business world this is called a "target market." In common life it is just having empathy and clarity.

4. The Lover creates what is given, the gift, the product The idea for the gift, the product, is stimulated by the beloved; by the lover thinking about or praying or doing research about the beloved and realizing what that person needs right now. This should become a concrete manifestation, co-created with God. The Lover gives what the Beloved needs and wants in light of the shared purpose.

5. The presentation: the Lover presents the product. Critical factors here include care, diligence, attention, good communication, on the basis of trust and legitimacy, consistency, reputation, commitment, reliability, etc. In the business world this is "branding." In personal and social life, it is having a good reputation.

6. The reception by the Beloved—the beloved has to receive the gift, and ideally the heart behind it. This takes intelligence and sensitivity. How many times have you had a gift refused, or slighted? Have you done

that to others?

Do you exhibit gratitude? Do you honor your parents? Do you pay attention to your spouse? Do you appreciate your children? Do we appreciate the labor of others, in the goods that we consume? Are we Grateful? Or are we Dead?

7. The response from the Beloved In Divine Principle, the response is given the generic term "beauty," because it is beautiful to the Lover. Beauty assumes different forms: the response to parental love to a child: filial piety; the response to a husband's love to his wife: fidelity; the response to a leader's love to his followers: loyalty; the response to a teacher's love to his students: excellence; the response to a politician's love to his country: votes; the response to a performer's love to his audience: applause; the response to a pastor's

love to his people: repentance and rebirth; the response to a businessman's love to the public: money. Yes, money is a form of beauty; it is congealed labor, time, effort, life, energy and thought.

In an authentic love relationship, the response is freely given. It requires the Other to give in return freely, not by coercion. Therefore our Founder said that in the ideal society, people offer funds for the public purpose, that is to say, taxes, freely. St. Paul said, be a cheerful giver.

If there are

many lovers, the beloved has the freedom to choose. Many sperm will attach to one ovum, and the ovum chooses which one to let in. Many types of potato chips attach to me when I enter a deli, provided by manufacturers who love me, and I choose which one to buy.

For the relationship to grow, there has to be a response from the beloved. If the lover is not clear what response is expected, the relationship will not develop. If the beloved is confused by the gift from the lover, if it is not clear what the lover wants, or if the price is too high, or if the response is beyond the capacity of the beloved or is more than the beloved considers appropriate, the relationship will not develop. If a wife does not respond, there's no baby. If the customer does not respond, there's no business.

8. Transfer of ownership to the Beloved When the beloved receives and responds, or returns the gift in reflection, the

beloved gains ownership. The lover transfers ownership to the beloved.

In a job, the owner gives the task and goals and when the worker or staff person fully responds, the worker becomes an owner and shares the ownership. If the worker is forced to work or is just working for the money, the worker is not an owner. He or she is a slave or "9 to 5'er."

In marriage, I give myself and when my wife fully responds, my wife owns me. Friendship is an abstract of that. In childbearing, we give ourselves and when our child fully responds, our child owns the family—calling it "my family," and the child owns him or herself. In education, the teacher gives the knowledge, heart and expertise and when the student fully responds, the student owns the material or skill. In

a commercial transaction, a sale, the seller gives the product and when the buyer fully responds, by paying, the buyer owns the asset.

9. Assessment of the results by the Lover Here is where we truly, most critically, live for the sake of others. Love comes from the beloved. How much did my love affect the beloved? I know by my beloved's response. Is my beloved responding? Did he, she or they respond to my giving? Did they return something? Does my beloved want ownership of what I am giving and, by extension, of me? There's no way to assess results without a return that is measurable. There's no way to determine value without something measurable. The measure is the price the receiver returns, is willing to give back.

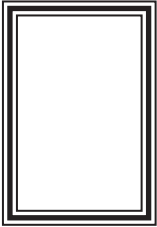
10. Re-investment by the Lover: develop the giving based on the results Development includes self-criticism, self-reflection, willingness to change, to admit I'm not done yet, I'm not complete yet and I have greater heights to reach.

Pay attention to the response with humility; look at yourself first, your own value, what you are offering. Not to blame your spouse, your child, your customer, your community. Check your product. Improve its quality, in light of the response of the Beloved. On that basis, give more the next time. Our Father Reverend Moon's teaching is that if the lover gives 100%, the beloved will re-invest and return that and add more, sending back 110%. Then the lover will be greatly stimulated and give in return 120%. And this will continue, defying the natural law of entropy. He teaches that this is how God created the universe and is the secret of eternal expansion, development and growth.

In conclusion, when the purpose is of God, then God is in this entire process. It is an unfolding of God. As Jesus said, when two or three are gathering in my name, I am in the midst of them. When my mind and body are absolutely obedient to God, He is in me. When husband and wife are one in God's blessing, He is in their relationship, which creates children and a family. When the Lover and Beloved on all levels and of all kinds are one in God, He is in the world. Let us rejoice in this and be glad, for this is His promise and He is a God who fulfills His promises.

Meditation

God is love. God is looking for each person—one on one. He wants to find each of us and hold us to His bosom, tight. Another person can be a helper, a guide, a coach, a teacher, but no one else knows you like God. No one else knows your life, your experience, your heart, except God. To have expectations of others inevitably will lead to disappointment and sorrow. Even holy men, people of wonderful heart and motivation, are not God, and God wants you directly, not indirectly. God wants you fully, not partially. God wants to be one with you. Anything less is not good enough, not complete, not whole enough for the living God and neither should it be for us. ❖



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