FFWPU International: Enter 2024 with conviction, embracing a year full of hope

Song Yong-cheon February 2024



Respected and beloved blessed families and members throughout the world! My warmest greetings to you!

In 2024, we enter the auspicious year of the Blue Dragon. In her New Year's message, Mother mentioned that the "The 12th year of Cheon II Guk is the year of the Blue Dragon, which blows away all bitter energies, so let's triumphantly fulfill the Entrance Ceremony to Cheon Won Gung and the Cheon Il Sanctum in the following 13th year, the number of perfection."



And Mother emphasized, "This year is very important. The priority of the providence should be unity. Let's advance into a hopeful year with everything perfectly organized and orderly."

I sincerely hope that all Cheon II Guk leaders worldwide will embrace the spirit of the Blue Dragon, challenge new dreams and goals, and become one with True Mother, accomplishing all our intended goals in 2024.



Respected and beloved blessed families and members throughout the world!

You all worked very hard in 2023. Toward the end of last year, over a period of 20 days, from December 10th to the 29th, I conducted 40-minute video meetings with individual national presidents from around the world. During this period, I held meetings with more than 140 national presidents, sometimes from 7 am to midnight each day, with breaks just for meals. In these conferences, we first reviewed six-month

activity reports and updates on each country's situation, followed by Question and Answer sessions. I conveyed messages that True Mother wanted to give the national presidents and blessed families and we spent time in conversation.



Admittedly, the first and second days were physically and mentally challenging. However, as I received the six-month activity reports, I began to gain strength from your dedication and faith.

Conversing with national presidents whom I had never spoken with before brought a sense of connection and a deeper understanding of each unique situation. And sometimes the sharing of stories about the blessed families living in those countries gave me such a good opportunity to feel closer to them. The more I delved into each region, the more I realized its diversity and complexity, extending far beyond the simple term 'mission field.'



In Muslim and communist countries, where missionary activities are prohibited and leaders are under constant government surveillance, leaders conduct activities secretly in 'butterfly operations.' In some countries, internal conflicts, regime collapse, and food shortages have forced all members to leave, leaving only one family behind. Even in such difficult situations, such families held on to True Parents, prayed together in their home, and were active and witnessed whenever they had time -- believing that one day their sincere devotion would bear fruit. Hearing about their devoted, tear-filled efforts made me reconsider the true essence of faith.



I also witnessed countries where members adapted the Unification Church's values and teachings to their

specific situations for dissemination and witnessing, with many inspiring stories to tell.

Many churches have experienced revival through spiritual works centered on Cheon Shim Won. Some churches whose spiritual fire had dimmed reignited their faith through prayers in the Cheon Shim Won prayer room in accordance with Mother's words that we be reborn in the Spirit and the Truth.



Miraculous stories emerged -- such as the testimony of a girl blinded by an unexplained illness beginning to see again. Establishing Cheon Shim Won prayer rooms in all churches and conducting all-night devotions led to 1,500 new members joining in six months. Another testimony told of 160 dormant members in one country being inspired to come back to the church.

Miracles in witnessing were numerous. There are war-torn countries where blessed couples and members witnessed to new people, sometimes even while they were refugees from their home country. Some countries doubled their Sunday service numbers by resolving to uphold True Mother's love and value. Another country brought in over 80 new members in three months through telephone witnessing.



The rise of young members and second-generation members has also been evident. In Europe, more young second-generation couples are becoming national presidents. Among them, one second generation national president successfully runs a church where all members tithe, and there are almost no dormant members. European young members who met True Mother in Korea are actively helping their local churches and leading their peers.

Education for the younger generation is expanding significantly in other continents, centered on the regional vice presidents. In Africa, some countries operate their own missionary programs domestically, and graduates from the first graduation of the Hyojeong Rang program, after being dispatched to the field, are igniting the faith of the youth with their remarkable work.

In Central and South America, preparations are underway to educate key young people through a 21-day training program in Korea early this year, and Asia is also restructuring its YLT program to cultivate capable leaders for our church. In the year of the Blue Dragon, 2024, I firmly believe that under True Mother's special love and with the launch of the Heavenly Top Gun program, the youth will grow spiritually a lot and revive the entire world -- like dragons soaring into the sky.

Through these 20 days of one-on-one video conferences with the national presidents, I have learned a lot and gained a deeper understanding of the situation of the global mission field. Additionally, I have become closer in heart with the national presidents and the blessed families they were testifying about,

and I felt the desire to meet the blessed family members I have never had the chance to see in person.

During these meetings, I discovered that some national presidents had not set foot on Korean soil in more than a decade or not even once in their entire lives. Then, I started to think about how many of the blessed family members have never been able to set foot on Korean soil. Even with deep faith, if one cannot see or experience Korea, it can feel like a distant country -- and even the latest providential developments might feel quite remote. So, this was a precious time for the International Headquarters to resolve to work harder and do our best to convey True Mother's heart for the sake of blessed family members.



Respected and beloved blessed families and members throughout the world!

We are brothers and sisters of one family with True Parents as the center. No matter the distance between us, as long as True Parents are there, we can become one in an instant in this one-second era. We live in an era when, if we become one with True Mother, we can create a community of heart in an instant.

In 2024, we must aim for more explosive growth in witnessing. To achieve this, let us become completely one with True Mother, both in heart and in situation, as she is the central axis for the completion of the providence in this era.

When this unity is achieved, the spirit world will work. It means that the True Father in heaven will stir up the spirit world and send its influence down. A massive outpouring of the Holy Spirit will occur, where the absolute good Christian spirits will work with believers, and the absolute good spirits of each religious denomination will come down to their believers and work with them.

I conclude with the hope that you will make such a new beginning. Thank you.