

With God, All Things Are Possible

Michael Balcomb

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True Mother has told us we need to bring back the spirit of the early days of our movement. I can't speak for the early times in Korea, but I can certainly testify that when I joined the Unification movement forty-one years ago, the overwhelming spirit among all the members was one of confidence, belief, and urgency. Indeed, we were frequently told "You joined just in time to help. The restoration will soon be over, and it will be too late to make your mark!"

Over the years, the goal posts moved a few times. Gradually we came to realize that it might not be quite so simple. Confident statements of faith began to be hedged about with contingencies.

Certainly, when I contemplate the vast region of Europe and Middle East, with seventy- two nations and territories, the way ahead often seems daunting. In almost twenty of those nations, we

have no visible foundation at all: no members, no organization, no legally registered presence. How, then, can these nations be saved?

As True Mother often says, the problems of this world cannot be solved by human effort alone. Jesus said, "with God, all things are possible" but then again he also said that we have the kind of faith that moves mountains.

As I come to know True Mother better and better, I am coming to see how completely she believes in the power of God, and that just like True Father she really does have the faith that can move mountains. Her confidence is astonishing and refreshing.

But it's not just blind faith. True Mother is also a great strategist, and one of her most impressive new initiatives is the creation of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace. It is already opening doors that otherwise might be closed for decades more.

Fumiko and I saw this first hand during our recent visit to Lebanon, our first. Despite the recent international tensions raging throughout the region and threats of violence throughout the Middle East, the program to launch the IAPP went very peacefully. There was a strong showing of Lebanese MPs, and representatives from the Moroccan, Syrian, Jordanian and UAE Parliaments voiced their enthusiasm to start IAPP in their countries too.

Yet all this was accomplished in a nation where we have just two -- count them, two -- Blessed Central families.

Despite over forty years of missionary effort and investment, on the surface our movement seems vanishingly small.

How then is it even possible that with just a handful of dedicated people -- the two families and four young volunteers from Japan who've come for just a month or two -- we could suddenly be holding a

program on the national and regional level?

My realization is that True Parents' foundation has been growing steadily, simply by the power of God. The seed was planted fifty-two years ago in 1965 with True Father's first visit to the country to plant a holy ground on a beautiful set of cliffs jutting out into the turquoise Mediterranean. He said later that at each holy ground he came to plant not just earth and stones, but an "atomic bomb of true love." It may be unseen like the grain that lies hidden in the earth, but it is ready to burst forth.

Later we saw the Hilton hotel high up in the hills outside Beirut where True Parents spoke during the UPF tours ten years ago. The hotel may one day also be considered a holy ground; for it was there that the precious words of life were sown anew into the land of Lebanon.

We met some of the Ambassadors for Peace who were transformed by the words they heard that day. A dozen years later, they are ready and willing to do something great. They understand the urgency of the time. Christian, Muslim and Jew alike, they consider themselves part of True Parents' family just as much as we do ourselves.

True Mother is reminding us that there are hidden heroes that are ready to help build the kingdom of God. In every nation, the prepared people are ready. Miracles are waiting to happen.

We just have to go and meet them with renewed confidence, and let them know about True Parents' great new work! Let's bring back the spirit of the early days: confidence, belief and urgency!"