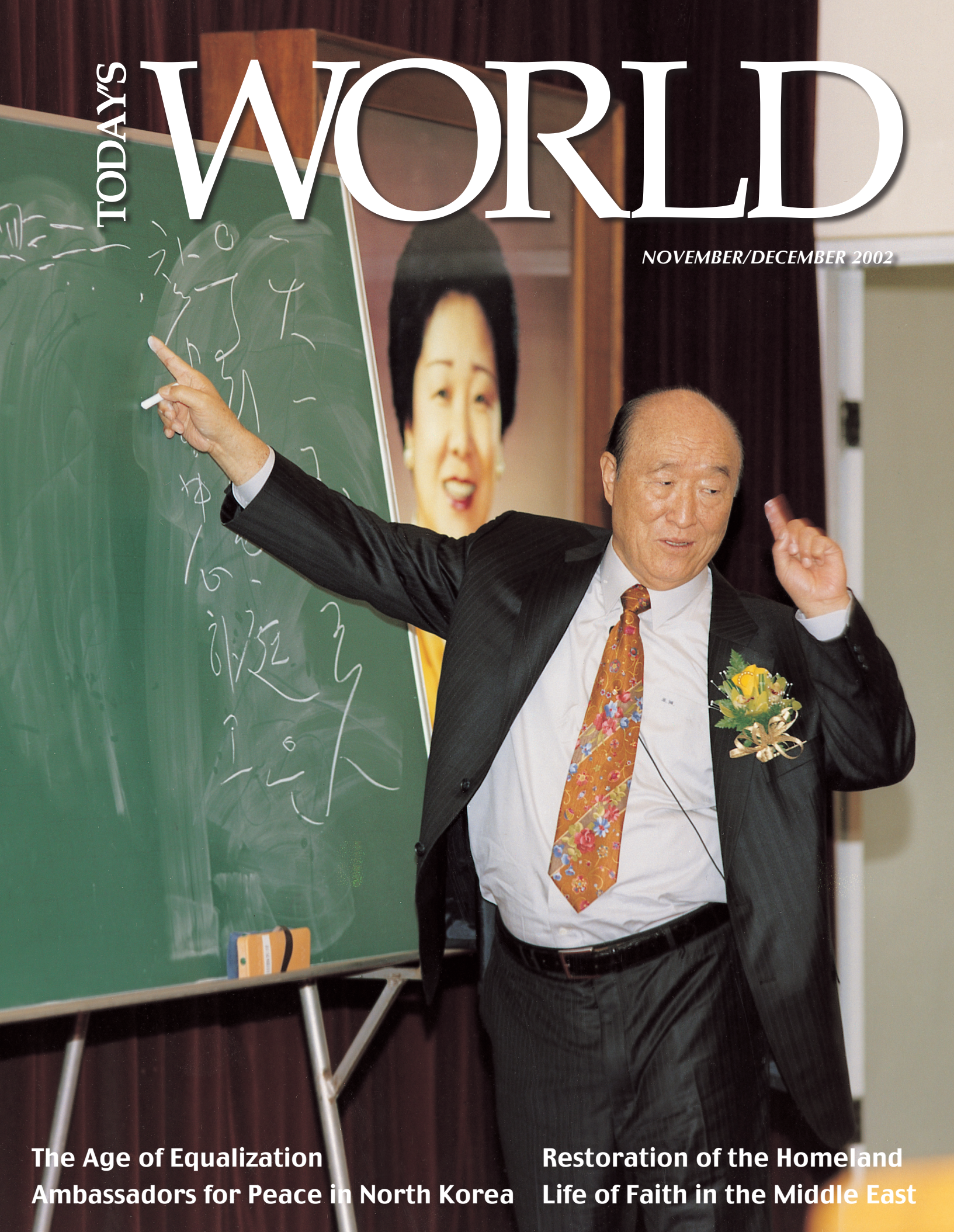


TODAY'S

WORLD

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2002



**The Age of Equalization
Ambassadors for Peace in North Korea**

**Restoration of the Homeland
Life of Faith in the Middle East**

Message from the Publisher

Reverend Hwang Sun-jo, International President of FFWPU



Looking at the Larger Picture

Rev. Hwang's Sermon on Sunday, November 17, 2002

GOOD morning, brothers and sisters. The year 2001 was a very important new beginning in history. It was the historic year when God recovered His kingship and the providence of re-creation substantially began. As I have mentioned before, there has never been such a momentous historical change in the history of God's providence.

As was expressed in the motto for the year, given by True Parents, the year 2002 was for the complete settlement of Cheon Il Guk. After the establishment of God's kingship, 2002 was the time period for establishing God's nation and its owners on earth, centering on God's kingship.

We must build up Cheon Il Guk within our neighborhoods and tribes. How we do so can be very simply stated; we should all become one centering on Heaven. Those who belong to God's nation must realize mind—body unity as individuals, husband—wife unity and parent—child unity in the family, and unity between members in the tribe. Once these are established, a nation can be built. That is the essence of Cheon Il Guk. This is the change in the providence that has taken place this year.

Since January 1, 2002, True Parents have led the providence so as to realize the goal of "the completed settlement of Cheon Il Guk," which they finally fulfilled in October, the month of victory and liberation. They then allowed us to hold the Holy Burning Ceremony for the Peace, Unity and Liberation of Heaven and Earth so that we could make a new beginning by separating our past from the future that is to unfold. The ceremony enabled us to liquidate our past lives, faults, bad habits and the secular customs we had been used to in the satanic world, through a ceremonial burning. It was the grace given to us to be born again as original people of creation, the people of Cheon Il Guk.

In November, as True Parents are launching a new age, they have endowed us with the qualification to be owners of Cheon Il Guk. We were originally fallen people, but through the blessing, we could be born again with the blood lineage of goodness. We, the blessed families, have gradually grown up, and we wear the namecard "tribal messiah." True Parents have bestowed us with the qualification to be tribal messiahs, fourth Adams, registered blessed families, blessed central families and, finally, "owners" of Cheon Il Guk. This is indeed an impressive providential change.

Presently, True Parents are feeling very joyful. I doubt there has ever been a time until now when

True Parents have given us so many directions and so much guidance. There are so many tasks they ask us to accomplish. This is all evidence that a new era has arrived.

Because it's virtually winter here now, I believe that we especially need to read what Father has to say about spring! Although our bodies feel the winter's chill, from the providential viewpoint, now is the new springtime when Cheon Il Guk is being built on earth. Father told us, "God created spring and all things. God can enjoy spring when all things encounter the season of spring. In spring, plants push out new shoots and animals have their offspring. New life begins in spring."

In spring, animals find the mates with which they'll bring forth young and people sow seeds for harvest. All things make a new beginning in spring. If this is providential springtime, what kinds of changes are happening to us? This is an important matter we must check within ourselves. We go through many changes in life. These must not only be superficial. Our inner essence must change as well. If we don't make internal changes, we will end up failing.

What is the biggest change for us in following God's will? For each individual, it is the blessing ceremony; as a group, it is the complete settlement of Cheon Il Guk. There is nothing in history to compare with this present change, the realization of Cheon Il Guk.

It is the change through which the eternal spring of the original creation that True Father has stressed numerous times finally comes. If we can't change at this time in history, we will end up being failures in our faith as well as in our lives.

In providential history, there were people who changed and who did not. There were many among those who took providential responsibilities who changed their lives according to God's providential changes. There were also people who, unable to adjust themselves to changes, failed in their missions.

Let us have a look at the life of Moses. He was leading a stable life in the wilderness when, one day, he was called by God while on Mt. Horeb and submitted to a new change in the providence. Although numerous difficulties were expected, he confidently went back to Egypt to save the Israelites. By accepting the change and leaving his own secure life to save his people, he became the central figure of the new providence....

We must become people who can change according to changes in the providence. Commonly, those who are able to change are future-oriented; they are not

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Held in November at our vacation apartment complex in Yoju, this North-South Unification Seminar for Women Leaders resulted from True Parents' concern that women make up a good proportion of the number of Ambassadors for Peace.◆

The ongoing work to inform society's Leaders



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Father's Speech on True Children's Day

November 5, 2002
Sutaek-ri, Korea

Excerpts from Father's speech at the commemorative service

YOU MUST understand that the events we held in October this year launched a new history, and constituted a cosmic new beginning of heaven and earth. The motto of this age is "Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness."¹ The hope of all humanity is that kingdom and its righteousness.

What kind of kingdom is it? It is the kingdom that God, our Heavenly Father, wants. What is righteousness? What is His will? Humankind doesn't know God is our Father. Because of the fall, we became like orphans who don't even know that we should look for our Father. That's why we must teach people about Heavenly Father. It is God's will that we create families in which we can live together with Him and settle His nation on earth. Do you understand?

What is the will? The central point of the will is that God is our Father, that He lives in our families and that His nation is "my" nation.

I've proclaimed all there is to proclaim. The final event at which I proclaimed it was at Sun Moon University on October 20. The title of the event was the "Rally for the Harmony and Unity of Heaven and Earth." The spirit world is the heavenly world. The meaning of the rally was the harmonizing and uniting of heaven and earth! Heaven means the heavenly nation and earth means the earthly nation.² The event was to harmonize and unite the two nations.

How is this possible? Who could do such a thing? Only God and True Parents could. No matter how capable someone from among the fallen people of this world is, he would never know how to bring that about. God and True Parents know the way. Do you understand? [Yes.] You must clearly understand.

What came at the conclusion of the rally? The Holy Burning Ceremony for the Peace, Unity and Liberation of Heaven and Earth! This was the final undertaking. It was a holy burning ceremony of liberation, to symbolically burn all things in the satanic world for the sake of the peace and unity of heaven and earth. It was a ceremony to liberate the entire cosmos. It was a ceremony

¹ Matt 24:19

² The Korean words *guk* and *nara* for nation (country) are sometimes used with a broader meaning than sovereign state; sometimes the translations "kingdom" or "realm" are more accurate.

to burn things away with holy fire. Have you understood this? [Yes.]

This could not have been done in the Old Testament Age or in the New Testament Age. It was accomplished in the Completed Testament Age, specifically in October. This is an important year, the second year of Cheon Il Guk. October of the second year of Cheon Il Guk is the time to put all of history in order and to progress to a new stage. You must understand how busily and how urgently I have prepared for this time. Because we have completed the rallies for the harmony and unity of heaven and earth, heaven and earth can unite.

Our ancestors are part of the archangelic realm; we must bless them in order to liberate them from the archangelic realm. Without the blessing, they cannot come down to earth. They can come to earth and attend True Parents. There should be, however, a condition they must fulfill. Those who have been in the older brother position should switch to the younger brother position. Because the central point at which heaven and earth can be perfected has been established, the switch is possible. You must all understand this.

All the people who ever lived on earth, since the creation of the cosmos, are in the spirit world. Those people in the spirit world cannot fulfill their hopes. They have had to wait because they have been unable to connect to God and the heavenly kingdom. For that to take place, the battle between God and Satan must be resolved. Do you understand?

We must end the fighting between God and Satan. How can we bring reconciliation between God and Satan? God must find His nation, and Satan must do what he has to do. That's the way the whole can be liberated.

What does it mean to liberate God and Satan from fighting? God must find the original nation, the nation of the ideal

of creation. Lucifer fell and positioned himself in the elder brother's position. He started the history of war through Cain's killing of Abel. We must forgive everything that led to the sacrifices in blood of religious people. Satan must find the way to follow God rather than be in conflict with Him. In this way, when God and Satan can reconcile, all of humanity can reconcile with one another.

The religious world is Abel, and the secular world is Cain. Cain and Abel must unite. Do you understand? [Yes.] Between God and Satan, Satan is Cain and God





To set the direction of harmony and unity on earth, we have to make a proclamation. That is the proclamation God wants to have. Although Satan opposed God's will after the fall, even he agonized over the fall in his heart. Because Satan has to resolve this pain caused by the fall, he also wants this proclamation. The pain and anguish of Satan, of our ancestors and of all humanity must be resolved.

In a world of peace, the order of the heavenly world must be set through True Parents in eight stages: individuals, families, ethnic groups, nations, the world, heaven and earth and God. Individuals, families, tribes and ethnic groups must be united on the horizontal level. They must establish families on the worldwide level centering on the love of God, our invisible Parent, and of the substantial Parents of Heaven and Earth. Only then can the straight way from the earth to the heavenly nation, the liberated heavenly kingdom, be established in heaven and on earth! [Amen!] It is the mission of God and the True Parents to accomplish that.

God was responsible for creating the universe. Adam was responsible for the fall. The fall caused the breakdown of the family, the nation, the world and the entire cosmos. The false parents broke everything by uniting with Satan and driving away God. They destroyed the world God originally desired. Similarly, the world of politics has sacrificed the religious world, but from now that will turn around 180 degrees. Do you understand?

I have worked to build a trans-religious, trans-national and trans-NGO movement. I have set the proper direction in the world of chaos to liberate and unite heaven and earth. I should set the direction not in the spirit world but on earth. We have to set things straight on earth, liberating everything and going forward to a new level.

When we make such a new transition, we must burn every trace or stain of satanic blood. Through the Holy Burning Ceremony, as individuals and families you must burn away the dirty stains you have accumulated. Do you understand? [Yes.]

Centering on what? Centering on the blessed central family! Because the original family failed, unless you succeed on the family level, you cannot progress to the present stage. Individuals cannot do this on their own. That's why people in the spirit world are celebrating the giving of the blessing. They are demanding that the same be done on earth.

Therefore, your ancestors, founders of four great religions and religious leaders in the spirit world are responsible to return to earth and complete their mission centering on their religions and clans.

Your eyes blink. Can you live without blinking your eyes? [No, we cannot.] This never changes. Can you change the fact that you need to breathe? [No.] Can you change the fact that you need to hear? [No.] As long as all your organs function in unity, you can live in the realm of God's love. That's the purpose of the ideal of creation! You should say "amen!" to this. [Amen!]

In your heart, you must clearly feel that you have moved into the new age now, saying farewell to this world. You should never look back. Do you understand what I mean? [Yes.] Because of the Holy Burning Ceremony, we all have progressed into the new age. Do you know how complex hell is? Do you like it there? Or do you think, "It's just horrible even to think back on my life—the food, the clothes, the things I've said and so on. I have lived like a maggot"? Is that the way you think? Or, rather, do you feel you want to look back?

Although Lot's wife was forewarned not to look back

is Abel. Satan has been opposing God, fighting against God in the spiritual realm. All people in the spirit world who had been disobedient to God have started to be obedient. The fighting has stopped.

The fighting didn't begin in the spiritual world in the first place. It started on earth first and then began in the spirit world. That is why the Lord of the Second Advent must come to earth and liberate it.

The religious realm is Abel and the political realm is Cain. The religious realm has been sacrificed by the political realm. All these blood sacrifices must bear fruit. The religious realm, in the position of Abel, should love the enemy world by bringing it to the bosom of God and True Parents. In that way, the world of chaos can find order. There should be no more fighting. The relationship between an older brother and a younger brother, between subject partner and object partner, will be established in the correct order. Adam was the subject in the original garden of Eden, before the fall, but his position was completely lost. With Satan's obedience and support and with our absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience, those who are in a younger brother's position can switch to the elder brother's position. When the fighting between Cain and Abel ends, the heavenly world and the earthly world can be liberated. That is the providential view of history.

Even though the best-known scholars in the world today may understand their own nation's view of history, or human history generally—that it has been a history of continuous fighting—they do not know about history from the viewpoint of unification, from the viewpoint of God's desire.

From the viewpoint of the history of God's providence, individuals, families, tribes, ethnic groups and nations must be organized by resolving Cain—Abel conflicts. The positions of elder brother and younger brother must be rightly established, and everyone must find a way to be filial to the True Parents. All people must become true sons and daughters of God and the Parents of Heaven and Earth, establish perfect families in Eden on the worldwide level and follow True Parents into the heavenly kingdom.

I've instructed you, the blessed families, to organize your tribes into 36-, 72-, 120- and 430-couple blessing groups. However, such an organization can only reach to the tribal level. You must work out how to establish a nation by connecting the tribe to the ethnic group, the ethnic group to the nation, the nation to the world and the world to heaven and earth.

when leaving Sodom and Gomorrah, she thought about her uncertain future. She didn't know where she was going. She just felt the pain of the moment, not knowing the future. She thought her future was in darkness, and she missed her old place. Not only she, but women in general tend to look back.

A mother's love is greater than a father's love. Does a father love their baby more than the mother does? [The mother loves him more.] Also, women tend to have so much more attachment to things of value at home. They beg their husbands repeatedly to buy good things. Would they miss the things they've accumulated over their lifetime? Would they or not? [They shouldn't.] But there is a much greater possibility that they would miss them.

You should run and never look back. You should think, "My life has always been miserable and unsatisfying. This is my chance to break out!" Just burn it all, spit on the ashes of your past and move on without ever looking back. You should just go forward unwaveringly. Should you hurry or should you go slowly? [We should hurry.]

What do you need the most? What have you learned that God, True Parents, and your brothers and sisters need the most? If your answer is three meals a day—breakfast, lunch and dinner—you have lost your senses.

Communists claimed that we were born for material things, and tried to control the entire world with that idea. However, they all perished. What you need most is a nation. You need a heavenly nation where you can serve a true king, where the people of that heavenly nation can dwell in peace. You need a nation and you need sovereignty. The ideal of love never changes, for eternity. It's the same for thousands of years before or after.

Do you know what lovesickness is? Do you know? You, Japanese women! There are many women here today. There aren't so many men here. If men hear me saying this, they might get upset, but there is nothing they can do about it. Do you know about lovesickness? [Yes.] Who more often dies of lovesickness, men or women? Haven't you thought about that before? Then you're the kind of people who have never even thought about the nature of love. You are like beggars for love, because you have not been able to become its owners. [laughter from the audience]

A woman who suffers from lovesickness, no matter how beautiful she is and no matter how ugly her object of love is, would never want to exchange him for any handsome man in the world. Don't you ever think that you want to have such lovesickness for your heavenly husbands?

If you were lovesick for your heavenly husband, and if your husband wanted to have your finger, or an arm, would you be willing to cut it off? Would you be willing to cut off your foot? You could survive as long as you had your head and trunk. You should be willing to give up your limbs if you have to. If your head were cut off you couldn't survive. You'd become only a trunk. In that case, would your man come to

you or not? You'd have to wait and see.

Any man would be more than grateful for your willingness to cut off a single finger for him. If you offered all of your limbs, and if he were not grateful, he wouldn't be a real man. A real man would love you even if you had no limbs attached to your body. You, men, should answer me. Would you love such a woman, or not? [Yes, we would!] Although a woman may not have all of her body parts, as long as your love were complete, it wouldn't matter. Do you understand? Better arms and legs could grow again with God's almighty power! That's a possible conclusion! Amen! [Amen!] ...

Korea, America—all countries in the world and even the spirit world—share the same destiny. The question is how to make your nation thrive. Should you want to leap over thousands or tens of thousands of steps or to go up one step at a time?

Of course, you want to leap, but if you could do so by using a ladder, would you get a ladder or not? If you knew that this was the last bridge to cross, would you be willing to sell everything, including your house, to get a ladder? Are you willing to be such a woman who is determined to definitely act to stop misery and unhappiness in her life forever? Amen! Are you such women? Are you or aren't you? [We

are.] Those who think you are should raise your hands....

If you were men and women who were lovesick for God and sacrificed your lives for Him, would you end up in hell or heaven? [In heaven!] If you sacrificed your lives for True Parents, would you end up in hell or heaven? [In heaven!] You should be certain that you're going to heaven. Do you understand? [Yes.]

What has been the most precious thing

in the Unification Church? What has been the most precious thing to God throughout history? What is the most essential thing for humanity? [True Parents!] The answer is True Parents.

Where are True Parents? [Standing right in front of us.] Would you like to have old True Parents or young True Parents? [We want young True Parents!] Mother will turn sixty very soon. She would also say that she wants young True Parents!

Then, will you keep the old True Parents or throw them away? What? [We should serve them well.] Wouldn't it be terrible if people had to appear as old people forever, even in the spirit world? Fortunately, people appear as they were in their blossoming youth in the spirit world, so there is a way for old True Parents to be young True Parents. Is there or isn't there!? [There is!] [applause] True Mother knows it, too.

Being one with True Parents is truly a blessing. You should be one with us on the individual and family levels. The hope of all nations in the world is to be one with the nation of True Parents.

Who would win in a contest between wild sheep and farm sheep? Would the wild sheep or farm sheep win? [The farm



sheep.] Why is that so? They can't beat wild sheep based on individual strength, but wild sheep do not have a master to coach them. Do you understand? Wild sheep have no master. Without coaching from a master, wild sheep wouldn't know where to go. They'd just wander around here and there. A lot of time would be wasted. If they had to go 4 kilometers to a destination, they might wander around for 400 kilometers and still not get there. They need a master who can tell them to go this way or that way and warn them to be careful in certain places. Farm sheep would win because they have a master who can guide them as to where to go. Do you understand?

Do you want to be wild sheep or farm sheep in entering the heavenly kingdom? [We want to be farm sheep.] Do you listen to your master to enter the heavenly kingdom? [Yes.] What did you say? [Yes.] At least you know how to answer! So, among the members of the Unification Church here, are there more people like wild sheep or more like farm sheep? [There are more like farm sheep.] Are there more women like farm sheep or more women like wild sheep among the Japanese sisters here? [There are more women like farm sheep.] That's what you say, isn't it! Japanese members of the Unification Church are actually like wild sheep, but they move to the side of being like farm sheep who can at least hear the voice of their master.

Would there be more Japanese or Koreans who are willing to encounter life-threatening circumstances? [Oyamada: There would be more Koreans.] Why? [Because they have a master.] Not only that, historically, Koreans suffered more. They have been through many situations in the course of their history where they had to risk their lives and expose themselves to danger just to survive. They don't think about a high standard of living like the Japanese do. Do you understand?

Japanese cannot muster the resolve to offer their lives. They are always self-oriented in their thinking. Their nature is exactly that of a wild sheep. Koreans have more willingness to risk their lives owing to their having more the nature of a farm sheep. Japanese cannot surpass Koreans in that area.

Our missionaries have proven what I've just told you. By exerting themselves to their utmost, Korean missionaries need a year and a half to learn a foreign language, but it takes three or four years for Japanese missionaries. It takes them about twice as much time.

As owners of Cheon Il Guk, what do our families pledge to do by centering on true love? What does the first verse say? To seek our original homeland and establish the original ideal of creation...? [the Kingdom of God on earth and in Heaven.] You are taking responsibility.

What does the second verse say? As owners of Cheon Il Guk, our family pledges to represent and become central to Heaven and Earth by attending God and True Parents... [We will perfect the dutiful way of filial piety in our family, patriots in our nation, saints in the world, and divine sons and daughters in heaven and on earth, by centering on true love.]

What have you recited so far? [Our family pledges...] What do our families belong to? [Cheon Il Guk!] The pledge came out some time ago. However, Cheon Il Guk is very recent.

With Cheon Il Guk, we are accomplishing the final stage. You must understand that you are entering an age wherein you should accomplish your own portion of the task concretely. Do you understand? [Yes.]

After you fulfill your mission in this world, where should you go? To Cheon Il Guk. Cheon Il Guk is what God, True Parents and all people desire. Cheon Il Guk is the kingdom where two people become one. Do you understand? [Yes.]

Alone, a person cannot do anything. Although God is an absolute being, He cannot make it alone. He needs to have objects with values that reflect His values. Without objects, there can't be any happiness, freedom or ideal for God. All the ideal elements are lost without objects of love. Love can be realized when there are at least two people. Isn't that true? So the entire creation was fashioned as a pair system. Interaction is not possible without two different entities. Do you understand? Do you understand what Cheon Il Guk is? [Yes.]... With one hand, you could never clap. You even need two feet for them to make a sound together. Don't you agree? [We agree.]

You know Cheon Il Guk, don't you? Who are the owners of Cheon Il Guk? Our blessed families are. Owners of Cheon Il Guk centering on true love... The destiny of God's nation depends on each one of you. You must find the original homeland. You should find the lost garden of Eden!... Your hometowns belong to the satanic world. Your nations belong to the satanic world. You must cut them off through the Holy Burning Ceremony and newly register yourselves into the new nation.

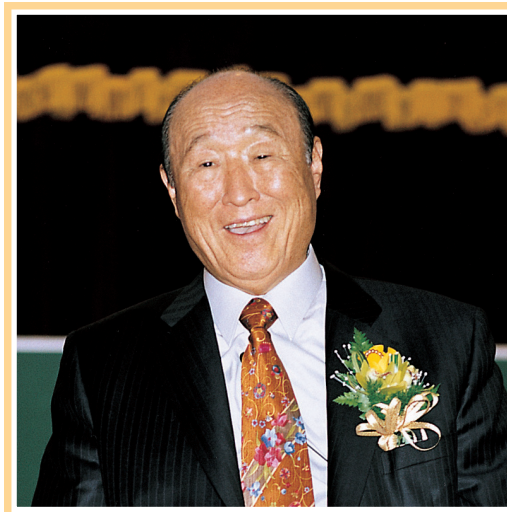
Have you all passed through the registration process? [Yes.] The Transition of the Three Ages Four Position Foundation Registration Unification Blessing Ceremony is the registration ceremony for unification. Unless a four position foundation is established, you cannot register. That's the essential point about entering into

Cheon Il Guk. The three ages are the Old Testament Age, the New Testament Age and the Completed Testament Age.

So, have you all registered? [Yes.] Whether you are from Korea, Japan or America, you have been assigned your homeland haven't you? [Yes.] The Middle East and Arab areas belong to the twelve tribes of the Israelites. In the worldwide family course of Canaan, leaving behind the world of Satan and entering the heavenly kingdom, you are assigned your area through having taken part in the registration.

When 600,000 Israelites left Egypt, they were of only one ethnic group. When they divided into twelve tribes, they separated in all directions. In an environment of great confusion, you must find and completely settle a nation and people that are perfectly one with the original purpose. That is how you can liberate a nation and how Cheon Il Guk could emerge.

Japan cannot stay as it is now. Do you understand? [Yes.] Japan doesn't have a real owner. Korea is a democratic nation and doesn't have a real owner, either. Can you elect your own parents? Yes? If your parents don't want to be parents any more, can you make the best people in the village your parents? [We cannot.] A king is like a father to the nation. Can you change the father of the nation every four years? That's not realistic. You should understand that such a sys-





tem is part of Satan's strategy to bequeath his power in disguise, generation after generation.

Looking at the Chinese character for nation (*), the square looking character * means the universe. And the character inside of that is king (*). It means there is a king in the center of the universe. My nation is where two people are united into one with the king of the grand universe in the middle! That's our Father's nation, our True Parents' nation and our brothers' and sisters' nation! Repeat after me: My nation! [My nation!]

So, do you have your nation? We must make the final settlement of everything in this nation. That's why our pledge has changed to "As the owner of Cheon Il Guk, our family pledges to... by centering on true love." The pledge had to change. Do you understand? [Yes.]

Now the owner of the pledge has appeared. The term "Cheon Il Guk" came about thanks, solely and eternally, to True Parents. We have established God's kingship, the Realm of Life of the Unity and Completed Settlement of the Parents of Heaven and Earth; we have held the Rallies for the Harmony and Unity of Heaven and Earth followed by the Holy Burning Ceremony for the Peace, Unity and Liberation of Heaven and Earth! Now we need a new nation! Do you understand? [Yes.]

Kwak Chung-hwan, how did you choose today's hoondok material?² It said everything I wanted to say. You should learn today's hoondok material by heart. I wanted to explain the total conclusion of Cheon Il Guk. The purpose of the family pledge is also to complete Cheon Il Guk. Right there, you can be liberated. Your mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, nations, the world, saints and holy people in the spirit world all can be liberated centering on the resolution that was made! Amen! [Amen!]

Why did we hold the Coronation Ceremony for the Kingship of God? It was for Cheon Il Guk. Why did we hold the rallies for the Realm of Life of the Unity and Completed Settlement of the Parents of Heaven and Earth? [For Cheon Il Guk.] It was for the people of Cheon Il Guk to be able to completely settle. Isn't that so? [Yes.] What's next? It is the adoption of the written resolution in the spirit world and on earth. We should make it so that the realms of heaven and earth keep in step with each other. Do you understand? [Yes.]

That's why I decided to make a resolution. The resolution should be made from the individual level through all eight stages. Thus, representing the nation, and from the standard of equalization representing the village, district, up to the

nation and world, it is a resolution centering on and transcending the same public purpose. That's the conclusion, to realize all the wishes of historical destiny. Even if we have to sacrifice everything else that isn't part of historical destiny, we must gladly do so with joy and gratitude! Amen! [Amen!]

Those who said "Amen," fully understanding God's will, should raise your hands. Do you really understand it? [Yes.] Smart ones among you might have understood, but foolish ones may still have a lot of questions. [laughter from the audience] Foolish ones should at least be humble enough to follow others by putting them in the place of their older brothers, older sisters, mothers, fathers, uncles, aunts and so on. Do you understand? [Yes.]

Where there are regional leaders, you should follow your regional leaders. Where there are elders in your church, you should follow them, too. You will never perish by following people who are better than you. Even if your nation declines, people with good leaders do not—even if their leaders do. If you are better than the good leaders in your nation, you will become the person in charge. Do you understand? You should know there are many possible ways to live and become wise members of the Unification Church! Amen! [Amen!]

So, now you accept the pledge as the new pledge! Clap your hands. [applause] We must change the pledge by putting this in.³

You who have come to Korea this time must understand about Korea. Fifty leaders from America, fifty leaders from Japan and Korean leaders—by the end of your visit here, you must know clearly what kind of nation Korea is, the nation of the ancestors—the nation of the True Parents.⁴ Do you want to know or not? [We want to know.] You must have a heart that yearns for the mountains and rivers of the land where the precious truth was born. If you really know the value of the Word, you should also yearn for the place that it originated from. If you love the Korean soil more than all the nations of the world put together, will God punish you or bless you for that? [God will bless us.]

I am proclaiming the peace, unity and equalization of Cheon Il Guk. The peace, unity and equalization of Cheon Il Guk—everything is at the same level wherever one goes. Do you understand? There is nothing that is not at the same level. I proclaim the coming of Cheon Il Guk! [Cheon Il Guk!] Peace and Unity! [Peace and Unity!] The proclamation of the coming of the age of equalization! [The proclamation of the coming of the age of equalization!]

²From an earlier Children's Day speech

³Each part of the Family Pledge was thus officially revised to begin: "As the owner of Cheon Il Guk, our family..."

⁴Father sent 150 leaders on a four-day tour of Korea that began soon after True Children's Day

What this means is that the heavenly nation and the earthly nation [i.e. the spiritual and physical worlds] are at the same level. They are equalized. Do you understand? If you really believe in the founders of the four great religions and call out to them, they must answer and help you. If you call your ancestors, because you are blessed families connected with the peace and unity of Cheon Il Guk, they must answer your prayer. It is now the time when the spirit world can come down to earth freely and when people on earth can bring their wishes in front of their ancestors and in front of God. I hereby proclaim the announcement of the coming of the age of equalization! [Amen!] Say, amen! Open your mouths as widely as you can. Say A...! [A...!] ...Men! [...Men!] [applause]

You must remember today. As I was praying at dawn, I could feel that the time had come. That's why I am announcing this today. The time has come, so I'll briefly tell you how you should live. Do you understand? [Yes.]

Our wish is to stand in the same place as God. The same position! We want to live in the realm of God. We want to be in the realm in which we can participate in everything God does. The realm of companionship and participation with God is the same. We want to participate with and accompany God. Then we want to experience love in the realm of God. It means God and we both live for the same goal—love!

Jesus also said he was the way, the truth and the life and that no one could go to the Father's nation without him. He said that he was the truth and the life. However, he didn't say that he was the love. The Unification Church and Cheon Il Guk go forward centered on love.

Your wish should be to dwell in the same place as True Parents. Is that your wish? [Yes.] You want to live with True Parents. You want to participate in all the work True Parents do. What comes next? You live in happiness and freedom centering on love forever and ever! Amen! [Amen!]

From that point of view, now is what? The *what* of the peace and unity of Cheon Il Guk...? [The coming of the age of equalization of the peace and unity of Cheon Il Guk.] The age of equalization has come. So wherever you go, you aren't alone; your nation is going with you. As you are qualified as the owners of Cheon Il Guk, the entire spirit world, the entire heavenly realm and the physical world—all people—are protecting you.

That's why you must become qualified to be owners who serve and protect the tradition of God's love through your tribes and the backbone tradition and philosophy of the nation! Amen! [Amen!] Do you understand what I mean?

The Age of Equalization of the Peace and Unity of Cheon Il Guk! Equalization means that everything is evenly, peacefully distributed. The spirit world and the physical world both have the common destiny to realize the purpose of God's ideal. Both worlds must march on to completely realize the heavenly kingdom in heaven and on earth! This isn't just a concept; it's reality. You must be aware of your own responsibility. You should know



how to bear the fruit of your own self-awareness. You must be self-motivated.

God told me I was the Messiah, Savior and True Parent. Could I easily believe this or not? The Messiah is the central figure representing all of heaven and earth. The savior is the central figure who must destroy the world of death and build the heavenly kingdom. A True Parent is a central figure who must recreate both the spirit and physical worlds, which were headed to ruination, and restore the heavenly kingdom in heaven. Do you think it was it easy to believe what God was telling me?

To awaken in myself an awareness of being a True Parent, I had to go through various difficulties and take responsibility for all situations. In those situations, I experienced God's presence with me. When I could really experience that, I wasn't alone; God was always with me. Only then could I realize what my mission was. Every time I passed through a crisis, I had "Aha!" moments of realization: "So, *that's* how one could be the Messiah or *this* is the way one could be a True Parent." Unless you reach that point of self-realization by actually accomplishing things on your own, you'll never reach the point of self-awareness of your mission and never connect to who you really are.

Only after I had completed what was necessary to be fully aware of who I was as the True Parent, and understood everything about Cheon Il Guk, could I come to the point of saying, "Aha! All the difficulties, suffering, crises, and critical moments were the course of blessing God had prepared so He could give me heaven's gifts, so as to fulfill what He had promised." [Amen!] Knowing that, is there anything you cannot do to be aware of your mission? Even if you have to die a thousand or ten thousand times, you should still have the presence of mind to die even more after that. When you have such a presence of mind, would it be a problem or not even if you put your own subjective ideas on this awareness? [It isn't a problem.]

It's not a problem! Eternally. Amen! You shouldn't say "amen" just anytime. Once is enough. You should say "amen" once to last for eternity, and then go that way no matter what. For the mother of all mothers to become a queen doesn't mean that she has a lot of money to spend for her children, feeding them the best food or clothing them with

the best clothes. The mother of all mothers is the one who loves her children more than anyone else loves theirs, even if she lives in the worst hell possible. Do you understand? [Yes.]

If you can set a greater standard of filial piety and loyalty than anyone else and go beyond your own national boundaries, you can surely be the people

of Cheon Il Guk! You should be able to say "amen" to this.

How much should you grieve over the fact that you haven't been able to be together with God until now? How much should you miss or yearn to live with God? You should be willing to be with God in hardships as well as in joy. Through that, you can automatically bear the fruit of perfec-

tion. The world of darkness will pass and the brilliant morning sun will start shining.

Although you may feel as if you're alone, you must always feel a sense of mission as an owner. You must be grateful to heaven, earth, and the creation. You must realize that all creatures on earth, all animals, all living things, all of history and all people that exist are teaching materials that help you grow. You must understand that what you have accomplished is not solely for you but is to liberate every being and everything involved in assisting you to reach the goal-bearing common responsibility.

As you discover that you can never have a good life alone, you must be willing to pioneer the way in happiness and misery on behalf of God in order to be the inheritor of Cheon

Il Guk. Do you understand? [Yes.] You must shed tears of yearning to be in the same realm as God and to live with Him. Unification Church members should be like that. Those who communicate with the spirit world should live that way. Your eyes and lips should be swollen and your ears should be deafened by your cry of yearning to see me.

In wanting to live, to be, and to work together with God, those who are not even afraid of death have a better chance to become the devoted children of God than those who try to avoid risks. Those who are in the lead at risking their lives and cry, "I am going this way to be a devoted child of God," and those who volunteer to go difficult paths have a greater possibility of being a central figure who can fulfill this goal! Amen! [Amen!] You cannot ever do so by pursuing your own interests. Do you understand? [Yes.]

What are you going to do when I'm gone? Shouldn't you want to follow me even to the spirit world? You should want to live in the same place as I do and to participate in everything I do, every single day of your life. That is how you can be sons and daughters of love attending Heavenly Father. You should give and receive love with True Parents and brothers and sisters. You must be aware of your absolute desire to bring joy to God by creating families, tribes, ethnic groups and nations in which God can eternally rejoice! Amen! [Amen!]

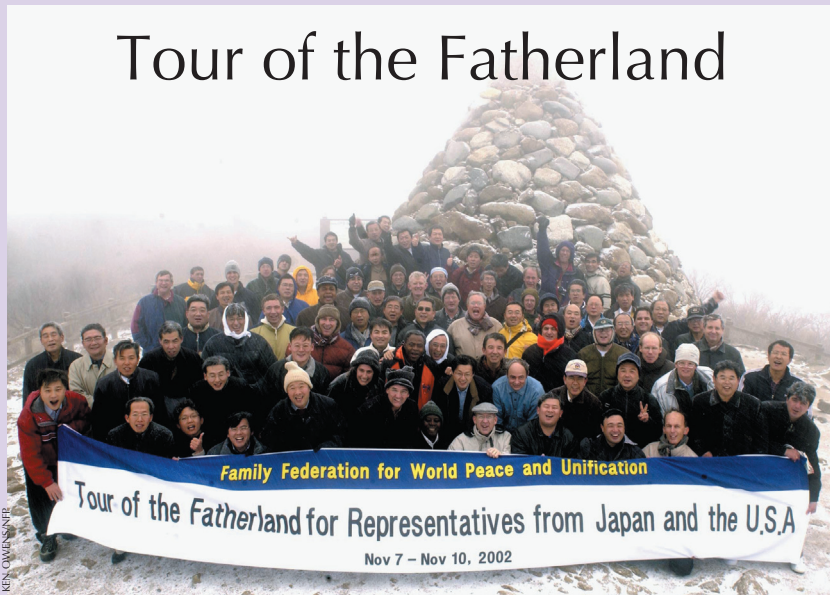
You don't know how many tears you must shed to be in the same realm as God. In the case of Japanese people, they should even have the desire to swim across the Korea Strait if there weren't any ships to bring them here to be with me. If they were to die while swimming across the sea to come to see me, where would their spirits go? Because they'd have died winning a victory to be with me, they would go to a place close to God. Do you understand?

If you clearly knew that True Parents endure suffering in order to live in the same place as God, you shouldn't mind suffering a thousand or ten thousand times more. You must bring liberation and joy to True Parents even if you have to put everything you have into making that possible. You should be the kind of people—owners—who are grateful for even the most difficult situations and who are still able to praise and glorify God and to pass the tradition of true pride down to generation after generation forever! Amen! [Amen!]

You can be pioneers, teachers and owners of the world of equality, living in the Cheon Il Guk realm if you are eternally grateful for whatever circumstances come, with a deep sense of ownership. You cannot enable God's will to be realized without such a strong sense of ownership! Amen! [Amen!]

On this occasion of celebrating the 43rd True Children's Day, centering on this new beginning, I assure you that you can be the citizens of the new world starting today if you make a strong resolution to have a new personal awareness of the ideal!

Tour of the Fatherland



From November 7 to 10, fifty leaders each from the United States and Japan went on a tour of Korea at the invitation of True Parents (see True Children's Day speech). The itinerary included important memorials and cultural heritage sites, plus the opportunity to experience some of the famously beautiful Korean mountains and coastlines. Prior to their departure for the tour, the fifty Japanese and fifty Americans (who actually included a number of other nationalities as well) had, under True Parents' guidance, been matched in trinities with fifty Korean leaders present at a Hannam-dong residence hoondokhae they had all attended together. ♦



Special Workshop in Hawaii

From December 9 to 14, a conference for fifty Ambassadors for Peace from Korea, Japan and the United States (150 participants in all) was held in Kona, Hawaii, on the subject of "The Role of Ambassadors for Peace of Korea, Japan and the U.S.A." The presentations, which included the Principle and True Parents' global work, brought a very positive response, with many participants being moved to commit themselves in support. Trinities were created, linking the ambassadors internationally, and fostering unity among the national groups. As well as giving his speech *God's Fatherland and the One World*, Father held 5:00 AM hoondokhae with the ambassadors, sharing about God's selfless nature and His plan for the creation. Father asked the participants to take ownership of the mission to liberate the heart of God.◆

True Parents call Ambassadors from three nations...



COURTESY FFWPU HAWAII



Photos: the workshop in progress; Inset, one lady Ambassador for Peace expresses public support for the values of the Principle



Your body and mind must be one. You should be of one heart, one body and one mindset! What does one mindset mean? You should become children of filial piety to God, loyal patriots in God's nation and saints and holy people for the world. Your pure, filial heart should never change no matter how long you live. You should be willing to attend True Parents forever. Unless you become such people of quality, it will not be easy for you to participate in the will! Do you understand? [Yes.]

I believe you understand the points I have made. Even if I don't repeat the same topics, you should know that you ought to have stronger love than those who suffer lovesick-

ness. You should be clear-spirited owners who can command others to follow you fairly and squarely with actual accomplishments. As a result of your own life accomplishments, you should be able to eternally participate in all occasions of honor and glory with God! Amen! [Amen!]

Those who want to be such people should stand up! Expressing your resolution on this new True Children's Day, pledge to God with both of your arms raised in the air! [We pledge!] You should do so three times. [We pledge! We pledge! We pledge!] True Parents bless you. True Parents' blessing! True Parents' blessing! [Amen!] [applause] May you receive God's blessing!◆

Pelé Visits East Garden



COURTESY GRAEME CARMICHAEL



World Peace King Cup First Tournament in 2003

Preparations for the holding of the first World Peace King Cup—in Korea in July 2003—are ongoing, with teams being invited from a number of countries. In connection with this, soccer legend Pelé, with his promotion company president Renato Duprat Filho, recently visited True Parents at East Garden.◆

Behind the Headlines: Ambassadors for Peace in North Korea



Cho Sung-nak
Secretary-general of IIFWP Korea

WHEN considering the history of exchanges between the two Koreas, October 19, 2002 is a day that will be remembered for a long time, because it was the historic day on which South Korean civilians traveled to Pyongyang for the purpose of tourism for the first time since the partition of Korea into North and South. In three trips with groups of a hundred each, three hundred leaders working for North-South unification—some two thirds of whom were IIFWP Ambassadors for Peace—toured Jeongju, Mt. Myohyang, Nampo and Pyongyang in tours we called Pyeonghwa Motors Company observation parties.

We wanted a name that would differentiate us from the Hyundai group tours to Mt. Keumgang. The name also indicates the fact that among the companies with projects in North Korea, Pyeonghwa Motors has been the most successful at carrying out business. In a 70/30 joint venture deal with the Ryonbong Company of North Korea, Pyeonghwa Motors is importing parts for an Italian compact-sized car, the Siena, to their production plant in Nampo, where the cars are manufactured through the complete knock-down (CKD) method.¹ Sales of the finished product, *Hwiparam* (“Whistling”), are expected to be very good.

The schedule was tight; the trips lasted just five days. The itinerary for the groups included visiting various sites in Pyongyang, the site for the peace park

in Jeongju, the International Friendship Exhibition Hall near Mt. Myohyang and then the Pyeonghwa Motors Assembly Plant in Nampo. The Mt. Keumgang Tours conducted by Hyundai simply take people from the South on a tour of Mt. Keumgang. When we take into consideration that the first general condition for traveling to a place is meeting local residents and having some experience of their daily lifestyle, it is not quite accurate to say those who have been on the Mt. Keumgang tours have really visited North Korea. The Mt. Keumgang tours fall far short of the usual meaning of travel to another land.

For whatever reason, the North Korean authorities are adopting a more open-door policy to overcome their recent severe economic crisis. The fact that they have permitted their southern counterparts to tour Pyongyang shows that they are going all out in preparing an epoch-making means of boosting their relationships with the South and West, including America.² They seem to have taken great pains over this project in lifting a total ban on the South. They had

not looked into the possibility of such a project and, after throwing open the door, they initially held up the project on the grounds of high structural costs. Apparently, they have now decided to fully implement it. We must not overlook the fact that they have selected the Federation for World Peace (FWP)



COURTESY CHO-SUNGNAM



Photos: facing page top, one of the three groups in front of the Potonggang Hotel, on the construction site for our World Peace Center; middle, on the Pyongyang subway train; bottom, (from left) Mr. Cho Sung-nak, Rev. Hwang Sun-jo and Citizen's Federation Chairman Rev. Yoo Chong-kwan in front of a Pyongyang subway station (April 2002); this page top, Cho Sung-nak speaks with North Korean cabinet minister Jeon Keum-jin (1999); middle, a round of golf in North Korea: present along with some North Korean dignitaries are (left) Cho Sung-nak and (fourth from left) Moon Yong-hyun, cousin of True Father and then president of the Tongil Group, plus lady caddies; directly above, Mr. Cho at the main festival of the national 87th birthday celebration for Kim Il-sung, some five years after his death.

as the organization in which they can put the most trust and confidence.

Father visited the North in December 1991, and had a private talk with Chairman Kim Il-sung. At that time Father went by his title of President of the Federation for World Peace, and that is how he is referred to today in North Korea. For the past eleven years, since his visit to the North, the FWP has been doing well in managing the Potonggang Hotel, taking on the running of Pyeonghwa Motors and conducting tours for thousands of members from Japan and other countries who feel called to make the pilgrimage to the holy ground [the house where Father was born]. FWP has built up a robust reputation of maintaining a standard beyond that of other organizations.

I first visited North Korea in 1994 and have visited there more than ten times since. I was therefore asked to lead each of the three groups that went up as observation teams. I was put in a position where I felt I could maximize the satisfaction of both the North Korean government—which was flinging open its doors to outsiders for the first time in fifty years—and the South Korean sightseers, who would finally set foot in the unknown land they have long desired to visit but have been unable to.

It would be correct to say that no one visiting North Korea for the first time does so without feeling some tension at the outset. The preconceptions built up over the more than half a century over which the peninsula has been partitioned, and the strangeness that can be acutely felt the moment one steps on the Koryo Airlines plane at Shenyang Airport, China,

bound for North Korea are a natural consequence of the psychological effect derived from one's curiosity, fear, even hostility, toward—and yet intimacy with—the communist North.

Soonan Airport in Pyongyang can be likened to a country bus station, secluded and gloomy. One can immediately sense the difficult economic situation facing North Korea. Still, it is hard to understand why the airport, which is the gateway to the nation, is left as it is. As I have made many trips to North Korea, I can objectively testify to the development and gradual changes taking place in the society, but the airport is the one place that remains unchanged. Putting all the past and present facts together, I cannot help but have an eerie feeling that it is kept that way for some strategic purpose.

As soon as we boarded the coach bus heading for the Potonggang Hotel, a [North Korean] guide from Mt. Keumgang Travel warmly greeted us, since we were the first group of tourists to visit Pyongyang from the South since Korea's division. Our tensions and fears were allayed the moment we heard the guide's kindly voice. We are in fact one nation and one brotherhood if we put aside differences in ideologies and systems.

The Potonggang Hotel is not a very large hotel. It has about 160 guest rooms. After True Father's visit, our church purchased the hotel and took over its management. Satellite TV antennas were installed, facilities were repaired and the implementation of Western management techniques began. For the past decade, the hotel has been so successful that it has become an object of envy of the other hotels in North Korea. When the observation party arrived, we were welcomed with warm applause by members of the hotel staff, all of whom were standing in a line at the entrance. Their warm reception, coupled with the unexpectedly bright and cosy environment, made every one of us feel relieved, comfortable and at home.

Under the supervision of Park Sang-kwon, president of Pyeonghwa Motors and Pang Jong-sam, president of Mt. Keumgang Travel, who was our local guide, the reception dinner was held in a peaceful atmosphere. The food was so delicious and plentiful that we were left wondering if food really was scarce in North Korea.

The second day found us visiting the site for a World Peace Park at Wonbong-ri in the city of Jeongju,



Visiting the Chang-gwang Kindergarten in Pyongyang

Father's birthplace, in North Pyeongan Province. Jeongju is about three hours by bus northwest of Pyongyang. On our way there, at the point where the Cheongcheon River divides North Pyeongan Province from South Pyeongan Province is the city of Anju, South Pyeongan Province, the birthplace of our True Mother. Our group stopped at the Cheongcheon Riverside Hotel for a break. While resting, we saw the town of Anju from a distance, shimmering with lights, and we momentarily sentimentalized over the scene. The landscape on the return journey reminded

us of typical farm villages, all too familiar to us back home. It being harvest time, the sheaves of rice in every paddy field were standing uniformly in rows, and farmers were loading vegetables, such as cabbages and turnips, onto bicycle carts. As I watched my fellow Koreans sweating and toiling for a living in the tough environment, I was deeply touched with compassion.

It seems to me the North Korean authorities, owing to a strong sense of self-respect, will never disclose the truth about the harsh lives of their people to outsiders, even today. From the fact that they specially made an exception of our observation team, one can guess at the degree of trust they have in the Federation for World Peace.

The house in which Father was born is shabby-looking at first sight. We were amazed that the authorities had not totally demolished it. They have preserved what was still standing. As Father is well known as the leader of

the international Victory over Communism (VOC) movement, he is supposed to be their bitterest enemy. We could not believe this was happening.

We spent the third day touring Mt. Myohyang and downtown Pyeongyang. Mt. Myohyang is famous for its International Friendship Exhibition Hall and the Bohyeon Temple. The International Friendship Exhibition Hall is built inside a cave carefully dug out of the foot of the mountain. It is divided into the Hall of Chairman Kim Il-sung (50,000m²) and the Hall of the National Defense Committee Chairman Kim Jong-il. Together they display a total of over 210,000 types of rare and valuable gifts given by some of the world's presidents, political parties, social organizations, company presidents and overseas Koreans. Our tour guide explained, "Most of the exhibits in the museums in France and the United Kingdom were plundered from foreign countries, but all the displays you see here are without exception gifts contributed by people who hold Chairman Kim Il-sung and National Defense Committee Chairman Kim Jong-il in high esteem." When I heard that, I tended to agree with the guide, but when I stared at the splendor of the large-scale building, the image of my suffering country-



Leaders of the Family Federation and other providential organizations at the birthplace of Kim Il-sung. This is one of the major sites visitors from other countries are brought to visit.

men haunted me. I could only console myself with the thought that this would not be possible were there no absolute power, and that these artifacts will at least have some value from a historical point of view.

The Bohyeon Temple is famous as the place where the Buddhist monk Seosan led an ascetic and monastic life. I was exceedingly impressed at the way the temple facilities are maintained, and that even an original version of the Korean Buddhist scripture *Palman daeJanggyeong* printed on paper from the wood printing blocks housed in the Haein Temple in South Korea is being carefully kept.³ After the trip, we had lunch at the Hyangsang Hotel at the entrance to the mountain park. The taste of the food seemed an unforgettable memory.

As a means of propaganda, the North Korean authorities took us to (among others) the *Juche Sasang* [ideology of self-sufficiency] Tower,⁴ King Dongmyeong's royal tomb,⁵ the Changgwang Kindergarten,⁶ for a ride on the Pyongyang subway, and Chairman Kim Il-sung's hometown and place of birth, Mangyeong. We could easily see the point they were trying to drive home. After that, we ate cold noodles at the famous Okryu Restaurant,⁷ followed a

path up to the Moran Peak and reached the Ulmil Plateau. As I bent and looked down on the beautiful Daedong River, I meditated on my desire for unification, telling myself, "How nice it would be if the unification process could be hastened, and many more of my compatriots from the South could freely travel to Pyongyang to enjoy cold noodles at Okryu Restaurant and climb the Moran Peak."

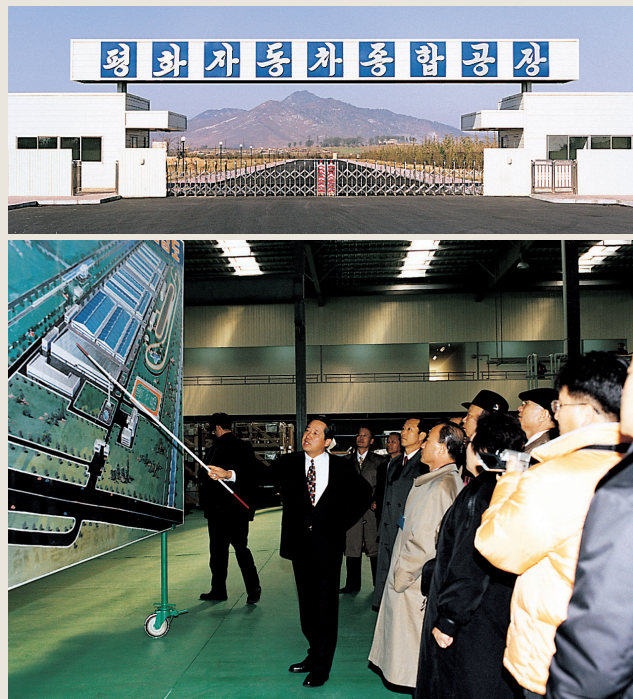
The Pyeonghwa Motors Assembly Plant stands proudly on a large plot of land one million square meters in size at the end of the ten-lane divided highway, the Young Hero Expressway, that stretches from Pyongyang to Nampo. It takes approximately thirty minutes by bus from Pyongyang. A billboard

with Pyeonghwa Motors Assembly Plant [in Hangeul] in large letters can easily be spotted on the side of the road. The sturdy factory was built with the latest construction methods and equipped with modern production facilities. As I saw several dozen cars lined up in the warehouse, waiting to be delivered, a thousand emotions welled up in me, for I had been involved in setting up this enterprise in its early stages.

On the bus returning from Pyongyang, Park Sang-kwon confidently remarked that if those cars crossed the 38th parallel overland, Pyeonghwa Motors will have fulfilled its role of unifying the two Koreas in both name and reality. I dwelt on his words in my mind and prayed fervently for the success of the automobile project. Through my experience, I know without a doubt that its success will pave the way for smoothly advancing the unification of North and South, which is our long-awaited, cherished hope.

The traveling expenses to Pyongyang and back were high, although it is merely 240 kilometers from Seoul. Prior to making the trip, when I thought of our observation team traveling around that land for a few days, I felt upset and thought that it would be a waste of money.

However, when we met our brothers in the North face-to-face and shook their hands, ate and chatted with them, I found that we could communicate with one another heart-to-heart. What philosophy and system on earth could have caused the pain of separation that we feel to this day? My heart was all pent up with rage and I was at a loss for words. I now see being able to take three hundred leaders of the North—South unification movement to Pyongyang and back as a miracle, and so I have new hope. When I compare the reality of today's North Korea with the time I first went to Pyongyang in 1994, I can actually sense a transformation that is beyond my imagination. If this trend continues, I am certain that the day of unification is not far away.◆



Top, the entrance to the Pyeonghwa Motors Assembly Plant; above, Park Sang-gwon, president of Pyeonghwa Motors, explaining the plant to the visiting leaders and Ambassadors for Peace

Footnotes

¹ Product is assembled from basic components.

² This account was written before the present difficulties over nuclear facilities emerged.

³ The wooden printing plates housed in the Haein Temple (South Korea) were made in the 13th century. The plates contain 52 million characters.

⁴ 150-meter high tower topped by 20-meter high flame opened in 1982 on Kim Il-sung's 70th birthday.

⁵ King Dongmyeong founded Koguryo in 277 BC. The tomb was built in the 5th century and moved when Koguryo transferred its capital to Pyongyang.

⁶ The same kindergarten that first lady Lee Hui-ho of South Korea was taken to on the occasion of the first ever summit between North and South Korean heads of state.

⁷ Its 11,500 square meters of floor space can accommodate 3,000 diners.



Mr. Cho looks over the Daedong River from the Okryu Restaurant



Father Holds Nothing Back at the True Family Values Ministry 7th Annual Awards Banquet

From a report by Michael Jenkins
FFWPU President, U.S.A.

WE SINCERELY thank our True Parents for coming to Chicago to address the 7th annual True Family Values Ministry Awards Banquet. Two years ago it was at this same banquet that Father launched the fifty-state We Will Stand Tour. On that occasion, the clergy who attended received his message, and Father felt supported and “received” by the Second Israel.

Today was a stunning and even explosive reception of our True Parents but on a much more significant level than last year. We sincerely thank and congratulate Bishop Kim Ki-hoon and the Chicago family for the work and sacrifice necessary to build up the foundation of substance based on the Christian faith.

Archbishop George Stallings, Rev. Jesse Edwards and Rev. Harold White all welcomed True Parents with an affirmation that shocked many. Each in their own way acknowledged that Father and Mother are the fulfillment of the Second Coming and that Jesus had anointed and commissioned them.

One hundred and fifty-two clergymen had just finished an intensive three-day Principle workshop at the Indian Lakes Resort in Chicago, similar to the first gathering of 120 clergymen in October in Ocean City (see *previous issue*) and on the foundation of another successful Principle workshop in Los Angeles for 120 clergymen earlier this week. The daily schedule of these workshops ran from 6 AM to 11 PM. The Principle was taught in depth. The ministers were extremely hungry for the truth. Why? Those in the clergy who are standing with Rev. Moon, whom Jesus and the saints affirm to be the Messiah of the Completed Testament Age, have been persecuted by those who do not believe the testimony of the saints (in *A Cloud of Witnesses*).

Though they struggle with much of the content, most of the clergymen are coming to a profound and rapid acceptance and understanding of the revelation of the Principle. Rev. Schanker, Rev. McCarthy and I presented the lectures at the Indian Lakes workshop. Bishop

Floyd Nelson, Rev. Levi Daugherty and, most notably, Bishop C. Phillip Johnson and Rev. Jesse Edwards provided the internal guidance to help everyone fully understand. Archbishop Stallings was the lead mentor of the clergymen; he helped them understand that they are to become like Jesus and become messiahs who can pray in their own names.

These John the Baptists are standing strong in full affirmation of True Parents in their anointed role. They are therefore providing a profound biblical basis for



the door to be opened to an understanding that Father is the third Adam, and that Father has done what Jesus asked us to do in Matt. 5:48, “You, therefore, must be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect.” Archbishop Stallings demonstrated that Father has achieved perfected love through the blessing and the establishment of True Parents and the True Family. In this capacity, Savior, Messiah and King of Kings become natural titles.

The 152 clergymen who had just completed the Principle sessions came to the True Family Values Awards Banquet. They had heard the Second Coming lecture, and, as the final session would be attending Father’s speech. They were seated at sixteen tables that surrounded True Parents’ table. It was an incredible

moment. They had just finished having an “upper-room” experience with the Principle, when I asked them to stand to be introduced to the wider audience. They proudly jumped to their feet. It was as if a substantial “cloud of witnesses” surrounded True Parents. White Southern Baptist, Pentecostal, Black and Hispanic clergymen (of course, we know that the African American clergymen are leading the way and are the majority) jumped to their feet with pride as clergymen that have affirmed they are one with True Parents and they will go forth to fulfill their God-given role as prophets of the blessing and evangelists of the gospel of building blessed central families. A video on the blessing was shown. In the video, Rev. Jesse Edwards says, “The challenge that I’ve had to face to stay with ACLC and in following Father Moon hasn’t come from controversy or difficulty with my denomination. It hasn’t been the difficulty I’ve had with my family or my congregation. (Tears came to Jesse’s eyes.) The challenge has been to be obedient to God.” That brought the audience to tears.

With this inspiration and foundation of substance, Father was then given an incredible introduction by Archbishop G. Augustus Stallings. Archbishop Stallings is blessed to a woman chosen by Father and Mother, and True Father named their son, Shin-young. Archbishop Stallings began, “Who is the Lord of the Second Advent? Look around you. Look at this room. Muslims, Christians and representatives of all races and religions have gathered here in love. We have not just gathered here, but we know and love each other. Father Moon has repeatedly brought us together over the last few years and shown us how to love one another. In that love, we have built a family movement that is sweeping the globe. How is this possible? I want you to know that only the Lord of the Second Advent could do this. Then tears welled up in his eyes. He’s here. I want to introduce you to the Lord of the Second Advent—the True Father of all humanity, the Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon.”

The audience was misty-eyed and



tender-hearted at that moment, and many broke into silent tears. Father, beaming with an energy

very similar to that which I saw on the fifty-state tour, took the stage. It was an energy based on the love of God and the internal comfort that his 33-year course in America is finally seeing fulfillment with the acceptance of those representatives of Christianity.

Father said, "When I see you I feel hope!" Then he spoke to an audience that was filled mostly with Christian leaders but which also included Muslims (from traditional Islam and the Nation of Islam), Hindus, Buddhists, Confucianists and from many other faiths.

He continued: "Jesus and the saints are all here in this room. God is here in this room. Why? The world right now is so ugly—racism, war, sexual perversion, immorality, betrayal, murder and hate are everywhere—but the people in this room are striving to affirm the validity of True Family Values. That is why God is here. God is happy with this gathering. Jesus and the saints are happy, because people of all races and religions are here and are striving to love each other and unite with God's will. True Family Values: we should expand this to be True Nation Values and True World Values."

Father began to speak to the fifteen hundred as if they all had been to the Principle workshop. At some moments, it seemed as if the final judgment of the Bible had been unleashed, but the clergymen remained steadfast. Father went on: "Two thousand years ago, Israel rejected the Messiah, Jesus Christ, and because of that they have suffered incredibly in history. Owing to their failure to receive Jesus, this world has never received the Kingdom of God. Because of that, the world has been ravaged by evil. Now is the time of the Second Coming, but this time the Second Israel is being given the chance. Will you receive the Lord of the Second Advent?"

"Yes," the majority of the audience,

especially among the more than 150 clergy at the front of the ballroom, strongly affirmed. Archbishop Stallings stood up and bowed as if to say, "Yes Father. We understand and we do believe in and welcome you as the Lord of the Second Advent." At many moments throughout Father's free flowing address the audience was stunned, shocked, overwhelmed, flabbergasted and challenged to their heart. Father said strongly, "If you don't want to listen to me, feel free, the door is right there." Yet the clergymen stayed. They not only stayed but as Father went further and further they seemed to become a hundred times stronger in their support and affirmation. It wasn't merely "Amen."

Some pastors who love Father and Mother have been deeply struggling and groaning in travail. We must embrace them and love them. This is the victory.

is sure about it and won't back down.

Dr. Paul Swanson, Professor Emeritus of the Lutheran School of Theology, has also remained steadfast with the ACLC. He knows the spirit of Jesus and his extensive theological education allows him to evaluate the Principle in depth. He is unmovable in his support for True Parents.

Christianity made a historic stand on this day, December 14, 2002, the day of the True Family Values Ministry 7th Annual Awards Banquet. History will mark this day when the Lord gave the truth without hesitation and the congregation of the Lord, the Second Israel, said "Amen." A Southern Baptist Pastor with ACLC in the south said, "I loved it. Father Moon preaches the straight truth without any cream. Just straight with no compromise. I believe everything he says. He is teaching us that we cannot

coexist anymore with evil; that our families cannot permit adultery and be called God's families; that the affirmation of the Second Coming means that we become Jesus ourselves, and we have the authority to liquidate evil, starting with ourselves and then in our marriages. He hits the root of the sin of man—adultery—and cuts it right to the bone, right at the root. Man, I love it. This is what I have prayed for my entire life. This is what Christians have dreamed of. And imagine, Muslims are standing with us

and feeling no distance and being overwhelmed by the love of God coming through Father and Mother Moon. It is just amazing. It is just amazing."

Glory to God. Glory to our True Parents. Glory to Jesus and to the blessed central families of all faiths, cultures and religions. The Kingdom of God has come and is expanding on the earth.◆



I saw scores of ministers at the banquet who stated, after having heard *A Cloud of Witnesses*, that they would never work with us again. However, they can feel Jesus' spirit with True Parents and the ACLC. They can't leave. They came back, both to the Principle seminar and to the banquet. Many were convinced of the truth on the spot.

Father then went on and concluded by reading his address *God's Fatherland and the One World*.

Rev. Leroy Elliot and his wife Katie, together with other firmly supportive ministers, presented True Parents with a congratulatory gift. Rev. Elliot is one of the most sought-after evangelists in North America. He preaches from some of America's hottest pulpits. He stands strong. Why? He knows Jesus, and Jesus revealed to him who Father Moon is. He



Interreligious and International World Peace Blessing and Rededication Ceremony



Adapted from an account by Rev. Michael Jenkins

THROUGH the Interreligious and International World Peace Blessing and Marriage Rededication Ceremony, held at the Crystal Gateway Hotel in Washington, D.C. on December 7, in which over 1,200 couples—many international—participated, True Parents gained another wonderful victory for humankind.

We are particularly grateful for the twenty-one Christian leaders that worked directly for three weeks to witness to ministers and congregations at churches that had been visited by our blessed central family members. Also, the ministers harvested a great increase of new clergymen and women from the churches that the Japanese missionaries had visited since the 144,000 couple blessing. Many times the Japanese missionaries had been kicked out of churches, persecuted and reviled. However, as they had persevered, clergymen and women in America are feeling an incredible sense of those missionaries' sincerity.

A new dispensation has unfolded from the time of the September 14 blessing. The real front line of the battle to bring the unity of all Christianity is now being led by those of the Christian clergy who are blessed, especially those who attended the Principle workshop in Maryland in October. On the foundation of the *Cloud of Witnesses* testimonies and the Principle, a new wave of confidence has swept through the clergy. Archbishop George Augustus Stallings, Rev. Jesse Edwards, Bishop C. Phillip Johnson and many other clergymen from around the nation who had attended workshops went out and signed up other clergy couples. The harvest was gathered at the December 7 blessing.

The blessing was held on the anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, and in a symposium that morning, Rev. Phillip Schanker cited the improved relations between the U.S. and Japan as an example for others to follow. This laid the foundation for a wonderful blessing ceremony later in the day.

Just prior to the blessing ceremony a reconciliation ceremony was held, wherein representatives of groups—religious, political and racial—whose pasts have been filled with enmity, embraced. Many wept. Representatives of Islam, Christianity and Judaism, as the sons of Abraham, embraced and signed a resolution to end the strife of history by blessing all families regardless of race, religion or culture.

True Parents officiated the main blessing ceremony, during which the concelebrant clergy assisted with the holy water and prayed with their arms extended during Father's benediction. Flowers were offered to True Parents by one minister who had stood against our movement for 25 years. He and his wife were now receiving God's blessing.

The spirit of the day was conveyed by remarks made as the ceremony began by the nationally renowned Rev. Dr. E.V. Hill, who testified that God has blessed Rev. Moon's movement and that it is correctly focused on Jesus and the family. In a heartfelt testimony on marriage and family life he said he and his wife are delighted with the blessing ceremonies. Dr. Hill said, "God meant for me to be with you. All races and religions are here. I am meant to be with you and know you and become your brother." ♦





Top, the True Family celebrates the 4th birthday of Shin-ah nim and the 3rd birthday of Shin-chul (pronounced "shin-chool") nim on November 23 at East Garden. Directly above, a December birthday celebration honoring Yeon-ah nim and Yun-ah nim



Above, True Parents give away clothes to members who participated with them in a fourteen day hoondokhae condition leading up to the end of the year.

Right, Father waves to the camera as True Parents depart East Garden



The Practice of Faith and Love in Israel



We asked the Family Federation's leader in Israel about his life and work in Israel. He began by sharing something of the viewpoint of Jewish society.

EVEN though we are a universal movement that embraces all religions, we are apt to face immediate rejection if mistakenly thought of as a Christian group. The reason for this is the history of Jewish suffering in the Diaspora, some of which was inflicted by Christians.

Young people, even, struggle with the issue of Christianity and Jesus, because their education in many ways has been anti-Christian. The same cannot be said regarding Islam. Strangely enough, despite the recent clashes of Muslims and Jews, there are no such deep emotions against Islam itself. Although some have such emotions toward *followers* of Islam, those toward Christianity go deeper. It's part of our own heritage; after all, Jesus was Jewish. It is like dealing with your own pain. It's a very deep issue, and from my perspective, only the Principle can release Jewish people from this complex.

When I was growing up, we never heard about that period in history, it was not even mentioned in the school system. The only thing we did hear about was the evils of Christianity during medieval times, the inquisition and

so on. It gave us a bad image of Christianity. Today, however, with a more open education system and with young people coming into more frequent contact with others from around the world, this view is gradually changing.

Roughly speaking we can divide the Jewish society into 80 percent secular and 20 percent religious. However, it's not that easy to measure, because religious society is also divided into orthodox, conservative, reform and many who call themselves "traditional". This last group is not exactly religious, but they believe in parts of tradition such as the kosher [dietary] rules or the observance of the high holidays. I would say that to some extent, all Jewish people are believers. They have a deep connection to their Jewishness, though the majority is not practicing traditional Judaism.

Today's World: What is the present focus of your work?

Given the importance of interreligious activity, we are continuously searching to broaden our relationship with people from all major religions in Israel. The three major religions are Judaism, Christianity and Islam. A fourth would be the Druze religion, which is smaller, but which is playing an interesting role. It is an offshoot [of Islam], but it is an inter-

esting combination with some components from the Orient—some Confucian ideas and perhaps some Christian ideas as well. When they heard about True Parents, they felt what they heard was in accordance with their prophecies. One point is that they have a strong tradition of forty-day separation after marriage. They also strongly keep the tradition of one man and one woman in marriage, and do not marry outside of their community.

TW: How have you approached people given the circumstances in Israel?

As for our work in this unique situation, where we're in the midst of a confrontation primarily between Israelis and Palestinians, the most important aspect is that we have, over the years, extensively blessed people from both sides. I'm talking about door-to-door blessing. We have blessed many thousands of couples, and in some situations gone to places where it was dangerous. We overcame the feeling of risk-taking by concentrating on the enormous value of the blessing.

We often went to Palestinian areas, even in the evening when it was dark, to give the blessing door-to-door. Someone once actually approached me and said, "What would you do if I told you I'm actually a Hamas' supporter?" I

said, "That's not an issue with me; it's your faith. I came to give you a blessing." In fact, he had their flags in his house. I might never have come out of his house. Yet, I just felt honestly that my mission was to give the blessing and that the only way to do it was by being sincere. I'm sure that among those people there are many that were openly against Israel, and may have played a role in the resistance against Israel. Yet many of them received the blessing from our members.

They sensed that we're different. Even though they are desperate or depressed at times, and often spoke of the struggles, suffering and ordeals inflicted on them by the armed forces, they were able to receive the blessing. Oftentimes, I felt that part of my duty was humbly to receive, if not persecution, then complaints that they have, and to understand them—to feel compassion and sincerely love them. Otherwise, you can forget about it; you cannot pretend in those situations. All people are spiritual beings, so after a couple of sentences they sense if you are putting on an act or not. I think the fact that many did receive the blessing through our Jewish brothers and sisters is very significant.

TW: What do you feel is the role of the blessing in bringing peace?

There has been a lot of political talk between groups in Israel, peace lovers and so on, but much of this has been banner-style ideas. I felt that what True Parents guided us to do was loving in the real sense: visiting homes, sitting with people and eating together. Sometimes they would look at me and say, "How can you trust that you are going to be alive after eating what I give you?" They were pointing out that they could poison me. I would say, "I'm your guest. I'm grateful for whatever you give me." That's how it went.

I must say I also have so much praise for our volunteer sisters who came from abroad and have done tremendous

work in this area.

I think the blessing is just so amazing, so true. Many times, when I pulled out the holy wine or holy juice and poured it into a cup in front of a couple, it became a moment of truth. I've seen the most extraordinary things: people that had looked like the most loving couple breaking into arguments and refusing to drink, and people breaking into tears, hugging one another and promising never to fail one another again. From people's reaction to the simple act of pulling out the cup, I realize that the blessing has such a tremendous power.

I thought people would think, "This is a nice guy. He asked us to drink, so let's drink it, whether it works or not." But I never had that kind of experience; people always took it very seriously, as if they knew it would determine their future, spiritual life.

Such things happened over and over again as well with spiritual leaders. I was told many secrets; I've always kept them confidential, which has somehow protected me. All sorts of secrets came out in front of the little plastic cup that held a few drops of water, juice or wine. We offered Muslims water, Christians wine and Jews juice. Most people, especially Jews and Muslims wouldn't normally take something from someone they didn't know—certainly not a drink. Then someone comes knocking on their door, offering them a drink. It's a moment of truth, over and over again. I feel it's a testimony of the true, eternal power of the blessing. It's not a myth; it's not just our belief. It works.

I was humbled when witnessing other people's reaction to the blessing. I may not have had such a strong faith, but according to peoples' reactions, I could feel how valuable it is. I have witnessed cases where the husband said to his wife, "Would you like to...?" and she would say, "No." Then he would beg, "Please" and she'd answer, "No, not with you." And all I had asked was a simple question: "Would you like to

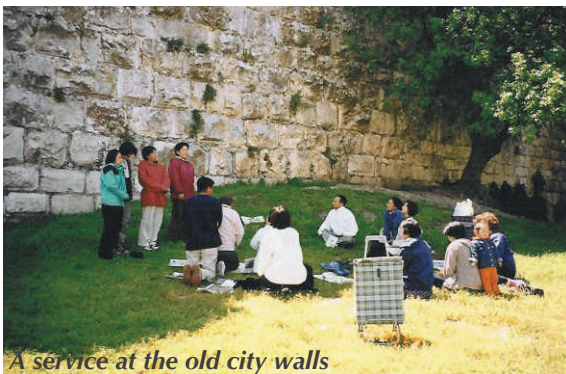
be with each other forever?" On other occasions, one would say, "Yeah," and the other, "Why?" It was as if they truly knew that their lives depended upon that moment. It happened so many times. And when one spouse didn't accept, the other one was totally heartbroken.

I was just a stranger who'd knocked on their door. They didn't know me. Yet five minutes later they're reading the vows so quickly that they can't catch the depth of their meaning. This is a testimony to the true value of the blessing. The holy wine ceremony is that precious. They may have received it too easily, but it's the victorious seed of True Parents in the wine. It's an amazing experience, particularly with the door-to-door blessing experience because you can see the family there in its own setting. Sometimes, you'd be blessing very old couples that had lived together for fifty years, happily married and showing you pictures of their grandchildren; sometimes, you'd have little children begging their parents to take the drink, saying, "Mommy, Daddy, drink." It's surprising to see the spiritual forces working through the little ones encouraging them. We had so many special experiences.

Of course, after that, we went to the second phase of guiding the families to fulfill forty days' of separation, an indemnity ceremony and the three-day ceremony. We went over and over with the family lists in our hands, trying to relocate the people who'd moved house, trying to let them complete the restoration course.

Whether it's a blessing for a married couple or for people who've been matched we must follow the same pattern, so that is what we tried to do. Naturally, it was very complicated to come to families who had only received the holy wine and to help them to the point of their reaching an understanding of the value of the three days; it was not a simple matter. Indeed, not many could go through all the stages, but some have done so, including a seven-day fast and so on, which I think is quite remarkable, especially for elderly couples.

One particular episode relates to the pioneer spirit of our Eve national messiah couple. During our blessing campaign, they went to the Christian quarter in the Old City of Jerusalem. Suddenly people flooded the little spot where they were standing, and they all wanted the blessing. The people felt our national messiah was a "miracle man" and that if they could be blessed they would be saved and healed. They were all standing in line. One of them, by the name of Issa, which means Jesus in Arabic, was registering the people and



A service at the old city walls

¹ Formed in 1978 by Sheikh Yassin Ahmed, *Hamas*, or the Islamic Resistance Movement, was not militant at its inception, but became increasingly so beginning in the 1990s. Considering the Israeli—PLO peace agreement to be surrender, militant Hamas members began orchestrating suicide bombings, condemned by Palestinian authorities.

putting them in line. They came up to him with their passports to show their identity, so that they could be registered properly. They then received the holy wine. This miracle came at the end of a national forty-day condition.

TW: Can you say something about how you have worked together?

Our Eve national messiah couple have taught the members the way to become exemplary members. That's not a simple thing to do at all. You can teach ideas, but to teach someone a quality of dedication it is necessary to put that person through a process by which they inherit your own. By working closely together on a day-to-day basis and going through a deep internal change, the person is able to inherit those qualities. For me the years that followed the arrival of our Eve national messiah—from 1996 to the present—have been years of total change in my spiritual life.

When I think of what they allowed us to inherit, the one word that comes to mind is "responsibility." For example, when something happens in Israel, most people think it's because of the government, or the army or that organization or this person...but our national messiah is always asking himself, "Who is responsible?" and coming to the conclusion "I am."

"I am" relates to everyone in a leadership position. It makes you very serious, because you cannot excuse yourself by saying it's someone else's fault, you have to take responsibility for it. Father's course, was exactly like that. Father took responsibility for the historical failures of mankind all the way through.

To be honest, it sounds simple when you read about Father, but when it's time for you to deal with things on a daily basis, you sometimes say to yourself, "The government is like that, you know; they make all kinds of mistakes. What does that have to do with me?" I think that's natural (in our fallen way),

but what our national messiah couple is teaching us is that we have to go back to our original qualities and take responsibility. Indeed, we find that when we are able to go deep enough within ourselves and correct ourselves internally, changes also occur externally in the country. Most of us are not able to keep such a level of seriousness and responsibility twenty-four hours a day, but I've seen that in them. I regard their education as a very special and important blessing in my life.

I think the unity between the national messiahs and the national leader in a country is very important. I'm very grateful in that sense to our True Father. I was in East Garden when Father explained that the key to having the leadership of a nation accept our internal leadership was the unity between the national messiah and the national leader.

The national leader represents the people, the nation. The national messiah comes as True Parents' representative, so if these two entities can truly unite, miracles can happen. Obviously, miracles don't happen the next day; it's a process. I see that as a key point and I do think it's important to share with others in similar situations. It's not a matter of views—who has more experience, who knows the country better or who's older. These are, of course, all things that go through our minds. The point is whether the national leader unites from an object position with the national messiah in the subject position. Setting that proper order will bring great fortune to the nation. This is my firm belief.

Another very important issue is raising members properly. The member's problem is the leader's problem. You can never escape by saying that the member is irresponsible. The question will always come back to you. He is your reflection. It's as if members were part of your body. You cannot accuse

your left hand or your nose or your ear of not behaving properly. They are part of you. Our national messiah couple never accepts that kind of complaint about members. They say, "You have to look at yourself; members are not the



Interreligious Passover dinner

problem. You are the problem." I think to the extent that we internalize this point our members can grow spiritually and be on safe ground. I find it works.

None of us can always be in an Abel state of mind. We tend to lose our spirit from time to time. The same person that talks to me today and uplifts me may be down tomorrow, and I'll be the one to lift him up. I feel it's one of the very serious points in our lives. I feel my wife is my savior, and I do believe that at times it is the other way around. Of course, this is the most essential relationship, but also in our relationships with our brothers and sisters we should be that concerned about their spiritual lives, and not think that this is some leader's responsibility, someone else's responsibility. Our basic training has been that if you see a problem, it relates to you. If you can see someone's problem, it is not so that you can criticize him, but God lets you see the problem in order for you to take responsibility for it. You can do it silently, behind the scenes with prayers and conditions and, at times, counseling or forming close relationships. One way or another, someone else's problem is my problem. That is the way that we have been raised.

TW: Please say more on how this is applied or expressed in daily life.

Building a foundation of faith means you cannot be satisfied with setting only national conditions, or conditions called for by this or that leader. You have to make your own conditions, so that you can stand on a personal foundation of faith. That's how you establish a vertical relationship with God. The foundation of faith is something that is continuous. It allows God to be with you. The moment you stop making conditions, you lose your relationship with God. Conditions are not something that you do from time to time as a campaign to get some result. It is your daily food or your daily practice to enable God to



The 144,000 Couples Blessing



**Moslem-
Jewish leaders
conference**

reside in you spiritually and to have God's inspiration.

Many members in Israel are doing conditions of prayer or fasting continuously, for years. Every night a three-hour prayer is held, which is not an easy condition. It was required from all those in leadership positions. Amazingly, everyone witnessed that at the end of conditions, something always happened—in the nation, in the movement or in personal lives. We'd have a breakthrough in a particular area, a successful event, and then we'd find that one sister had just finished a seven-day fast the day before. When we checked back, we'd always find somebody had just completed doing something. It is not only True Parents' course that is providential; providence is something we can experience in our daily life. We will witness that the Principle is true, and that things do happen according to the Principle. We have to keep practicing it on and on, until it becomes our reality. And that's why our national messiah often pushed us to keep going, so that we could have such an intense experience with God; it proves to you that the Principle is not merely a theory, it's reality—a personal reality.

The other aspect that we are lacking is a foundation of substance, the condition to remove our fallen nature. I need a relationship with Abel; and I need to practice the four well-known points: to love Abel, to receive love from Abel, to obey Abel and to receive God's words from Abel. Those points are essential, and we have to practice them. We have to put aside thoughts that you are superior, that we know more than Abel does, that we are better or more qualified. None of these things matters at all. The Principle is at work when you follow it, and you do see that your fallen nature is being ground to dust

when you follow this pattern. You can dream about beautiful ideals, but we are not dealing with the real problems; inside, our fallen nature still thrives. There is no other type of remedy other than meeting with our Abel.

Thus, we may think, "The Principle makes a lot of sense, but my Abel is a terrible person. He cannot be the one. I have to find another one who is more convenient." But that's not that

way. God is the one who decides [these relationships] for us. And if we let ourselves be immersed in that process, we can see spiritual change in ourselves. These are some of the lessons, the essence of what I am trying to inherit from our national messiah.

TW: You live in a challenging, even tragic environment...

A minute's walk from the house where our family lives, there have been five bombings. Suicide bombers have blown themselves up on the very street on which we live, killing and injuring dozens of people each time. It's a horrible sight. Yet I don't remember even once having had a feeling of anger. It was a feeling of concern. Are people that we know safe? I also felt obliged to go there, if I could, to the area, and pray to release the spirits there, so there would be no resentment remaining.

My understanding is that when someone creates a base of resentment, evil spirits descend. Without knowing that, we cannot explain the fact that someone would take his own life together with the lives of others. He is going beyond the natural instinct for self-preservation. I don't think this is only a result of the indoctrination of those who sent the person, or of international terrorism. I think you need a tremendous spiritual push to commit such an extreme act, the push of very strongly evil spiritual world.

Many Jewish parents are afraid to send their kids to school. Not only are

they afraid of their children walking there, they are afraid because they know that, as a highly populated place, it is an easy target. However, I have not dwelt on these fears.

I feel that the way True Parents educated us is always to think of what we can do to save the country, what we can do to save the people. And to save the people means both Palestinians and Jews alike; there is no difference. Satan makes the barriers, that's my feeling. As far as we are concerned, we bless both people; we love both people. And so, for us, these are my brothers. Of course, we feel very sad at the extreme deeds done by both sides. Only Satan rejoices when he sees hatred, animosity and resentment. It does bring sadness, but I have never struggled to the point where I thought, "I can't love them anymore; that's too much." I just haven't felt like that.

Why is that the case? I believe that this is what we all inherited from True Parents; it's not some personal quality. It's not something I have overcome. I think what True Parents teach us is a really valuable foundation. It's also my firm belief that it's the only solution.

It's not a matter of having to make peace with others—we are one, one family. I think this only exists in True Parents' life experience, victory and accomplishment. It's not a theory. Many of the peace movements have a more humanistic viewpoint, but they'll not enter another family's house and clean the toilet, as our members have done. Of course, there are individuals on both sides who have developed personal relationships in the midst of struggle; but to reach a deeper level, we need True Parents as examples.

As True Parents' children, we must take the parental role and console God's heart. We cannot, and should not, take sides. We must bring hope, love and faith. We must create the foundation upon which True Parents can come and bring everlasting peace and prosperity.



Interreligious prayer circle

PHOTOS COURTESY TPWP/USRAEL

The Ambassadors for Peace : Who They Are



Three "Ambassador for Peace Harmony Prayer Rallies for North-South Unification" were held on consecutive days in different parts of Korea in early December. Each event was coupled with a group hike up a local mountain. Attendance was in the thousands overall and was augmented by many contacts of the IIFWP (including representatives of different faiths) and many of our own members who came to lend support and prayer. In the context of these rallies for unification, we gleaned insight into the mindset of the Ambassadors for Peace, both from speeches given to encourage them, and from the prayers they offered—examples of which follow.

Kwak Chung-hwan

IIFWP International President

THE title "Ambassador for Peace" represents a historically unprecedented concept that should be carried with pride and joy. Let me give you three reasons that you should do so. The first is that, during the process of human history, there has never been a higher or greater ideal of peace than the ideals and vision that you have.

The second is that you are here today on the foundation of the worldwide efforts of Reverend Moon to bring about peace. Those efforts are the broadest and deepest concrete efforts since the beginning of human history.

What does this mean? There has never before been a person who has brought religious groups together

despite their differences as he has, to create the ideal of peace on earth. Reverend Moon is now doing this.

I would like to ask you not to forget that the Ambassadors for Peace stand upon Reverend Moon's substantial foundation laid for the sake of peace on earth, something from which we can gain deep inspiration. I hope the fact that fellow Ambassadors for Peace include some in major leadership positions—even heads of state—can be heart-warming knowledge for you.

Thirdly, reunifying Korea is not only our duty but also the fundamental key to opening the gate of world peace in this age.

However, the Korean situation cannot be corrected through the calculations of politicians or the compromises of diplomats. Most certainly it cannot happen through military

action.

The only thing that can help Korea is the ideal of peace through true love. This is what Reverend Moon has taught. I would like you to know that Reverend and Mrs. Moon are not simply paying lip service to a vague ideal. As Ambassadors for Peace, you should know that they are building the concrete foundation for realizing that ideal, between the two Koreas, among Korea's four neighboring powers, and on a global level. I sincerely hope you will be able to fulfill your duty as Ambassadors for Peace, always maintaining conviction and strong self-esteem.

I would like to offer my encouragement to you today, hoping this meaningful event will enable you to firmly com-

mit yourselves.

Hwang Sun-jo

FFWPU International President

HISTORY will one day show that Heaven bestowed on the Ambassadors for Peace the mission to stand as the center of this era. There are many leaders on this earth, but not many people working for peace.

There are three types of missions Ambassadors for Peace must fulfill:

First of all, all of the conflicts, hostility and struggles from the individual to the world level must be resolved and



peace must be realized. There are conflicts and struggles all around us, aren't there? There are conflicts between generations, the sexes, regions, ideologies, political parties, North and South, ethnic groups, nations and civilizations. There are conflicts between parents and children, and between husbands and wives. These conflicts are all around us. It is a very dark situation. Who can change this actuality into one of unity and peace? That is a task for the Ambassadors for Peace.

Secondly, the natural task of the Korean people is the achievement of North—South unification. This goal, which is the key to world peace, must be accomplished. There can be no hopeful future for a divided country. Unification is essential, but no one is taking responsibility for this.

Ambassadors for Peace, unification is not something that only the government should do. If we look at Germany, which has already unified, we can see that relationships between ordinary citizens are very important. There must be a variety of exchanges. So who should take responsibility for uniting Korea? It has to be the Ambassadors for Peace.

Thirdly, through attending Reverend Sun Myung Moon, the founder of this federation, you must contribute to the creation of a world of true love and peace, a world culture of heart. A great vision, outstanding leadership, and a worldwide foundation are needed to unite

humanity, as Ambassadors for Peace you should maintain good health.

Respected Ambassadors for Peace, may today's rally be a precious time of reconciliation and unity between East and West, North and South, between neighbors in a community, between the different cultural spheres of the world, and for all levels in between. ♦



Korea and to bring about world peace. Reverend Moon has these.

Ambassadors for Peace, there are three things you must fulfill in the position you hold:

First, you must be examples of pure love, have happy families and be contributing to a healthy societies. Secondly, you have to overcome all factionalism and accomplish your mission, which straddles the boundaries between religions, races, nationalities and NGOs.

As Koreans, we especially must overcome our regional conflicts. Thirdly, in order to harmonize and bring peace to

Photos: facing page top, the participants at Mount Jiri for the southern parts of Korea; bottom, At Kaeryong mountain, the ribbons holding a large balloon are ceremonially cut, sending aloft the written prayers that have been read; this page center, some of the climbers of Mount Jiri; top left, Ambassadors for Peace create trinities among themselves; top right, Rev. Kwak Chung-hwan gives words of encouragement to the Ambassadors for Peace; bottom left, Mr. Cho Sung-nak (who, as Secretary-general of IIFWP Korea, is deeply involved with things in relation to Ambassadors for Peace) is emcee; bottom right, Rev. Hwang Sun-jo, president of IIFWP Korea, speaks to the participants

Representative Prayers

WE MUST do our best to ensure that our land and our people, who have been through atrocious trials, not endure cruel wars any more. Please help us unite South and North Korea without any suffering and pain and realize peaceful unification with prosperity and advancement for our people.

We must first unite our body and mind in harmony, and love our neighbors to make the foundation for national unity. We truly hope that our small effort can help ease the pain of those who are suffering due to the division of Korea.

Buddha is full of grace and wisdom! Please permit our people to have the wisdom and strength to harmonize among themselves, thereby establishing peace, cooperation and exchanges and eventually realizing independent and peaceful unification—the hope of seventy million Koreans!

Buddhist Monk Lee Sul-san

Everyone else is interested in his or her own personal affairs, without having any interest at all in the nation's future, and has inevitably lost a sense of direction. Yet Rev. Sun Myung Moon has been pioneering the realization of our people's unity and peace. Rev. Moon has made a foundation for the unity of our people and for the saving of the beloved people of North Korea. Parents of Heaven and Earth, you are the grace of heaven! We have reached the day of the opening of the gate of the unification of our people, through the fortune of the new millennium. We are willing to be vanguards of heaven with all of our hearts and minds joined together. Please allow us to have peace and stability based on true love.

Parents of Heaven and Earth, you are the grace of heaven! Please allow us to be vanguards of peace and unity for our people through today's event, with hearts full of loyalty and patriotism.

Ambassador for Peace Song Yong-gyu

Working in My Father's Homeland



The Wilding family at home in Canada

*Michiko Miyamura Wilding
Sangju, Korea*

I was born and raised in downtown Tokyo. My parents were righteous people, and my childhood was nothing but happiness. I was twelve years old when my beloved mother passed away from cancer. It was as if she suddenly disappeared out of my sight while I was learning to swim. I felt that I was under water trying with my life to catch a breath of air. I remember that time so clearly even now.

I joined the church on January 4, 1966, and Alan Wilding and I were blessed on February 8, 1975, as one of the 1800 couples. When I was matched to him, I remembered a dream that I had had in 1969. In my dream, I was eight years old and jumping rope in front of my house. Suddenly, a big car pulled up beside me and stopped quietly. A gentleman came out of the car, bowed slowly and invited me in. He didn't say a word, but I clearly felt that he was an English gentleman. I felt that God had planned our blessing long before.

I lived in America for four and a half years and in Canada for twenty-five years; I have given birth to four beautiful blessed children, of whom I'm so proud. It wasn't easy raising them in an environment where there are so many broken families. The influence of satanic culture is like muddy water destroying everything. I've always wanted to live in Korea, where a strong family tradition is still alive, and people have respect for God, their ancestors and their parents.

In August 2000, True Father called us to a twenty-one-day workshop at Cheong Pyeong. He expressed his aching heart that none of the blessed families had lived up to Heaven's expectation. He wanted to train us again to be qualified as blessed families. He called our husbands and children for a three-day blessing workshop and ceremony and wanted to forgive all our sins and mistakes. His message was that he would forgive us and that we should not commit sin any more. I was deeply moved by this grace and love

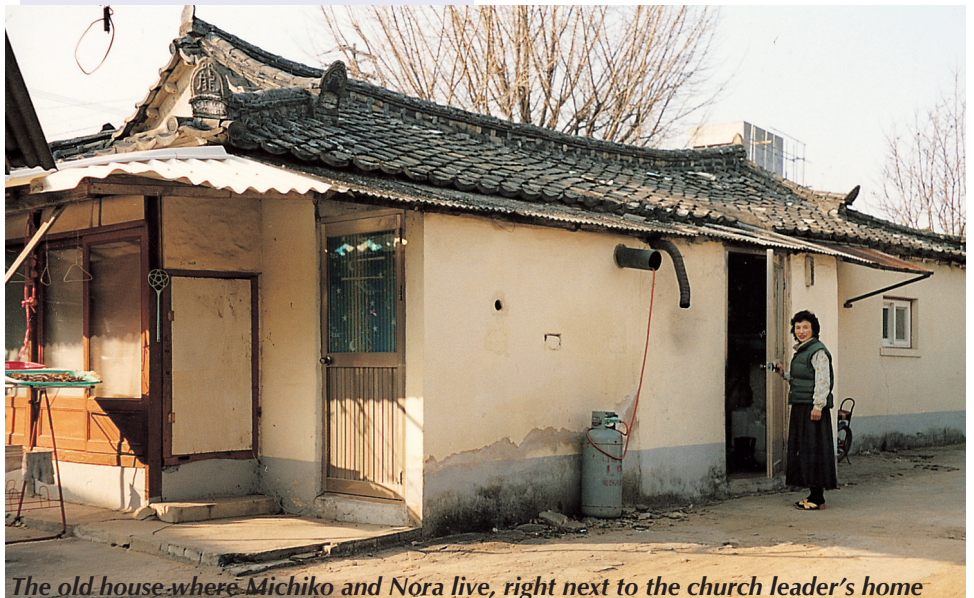
and pledged to start anew. True Father then mobilized us to Korea. I felt that it was indeed so timely and providential. I prayed To Heavenly Father, "Yes, Father, I'll come back to Korea soon."

In 1974, when I was in America traveling with the New Hope Singers International for the Day of Hope Festival, I needed to extend my visa, so I asked my father to send me my birth certificate. He also sent the original copy of his own birth certificate. When I saw it, I realized, "Oh, he is from the chosen nation!" I was in great shock, but at the same time, I was overjoyed. Even when I'd brought him into the church in 1968, he still couldn't tell me that he was a Korean.

My late father was a Korean born

during the Japanese occupation in Yangpyeong, Gyeong-gi Province (near Cheong Pyeong). His mother passed away when he was five, and his father died when he was seven. I can easily imagine that they might have died because of lack of food or medicine or that they may have been killed by the Japanese authorities. When he told me this for the first and last time, he was in tears and he couldn't say anything more. It must have been so unbearable for my father to lose his parents as a little boy. When he was working in Seoul in his teenage years, a Japanese lawyer liked him for his diligence and honesty and decided to take him to Japan and adopt him as his son. In that way he became a Japanese citizen. As Korean people were discriminated against so severely, he decided to keep his identity and Korean birth a secret. I was so happy to find out, at the age of 26, that I was connected to the blood lineage of the chosen people.

True Father explained about two previous mobilizations in the history of the church. The first one was when I was in Japan. Right after the 777 blessing, True Father mobilized twelve hundred Korean women for three years. He explained that because the wives all united with him with an absolute heart, Satan couldn't attack South Korea; North Korea couldn't invade South Korea with tanks. If they had, they would surely have attacked Japan; Japan could have become a communist country. This time,



The old house where Michiko and Nora live, right next to the church leader's home

Father is again offering the precious blessed wives to restore God's nation.

I was working for Air Canada as a Japanese interpreter with unbelievable flight benefits. I loved and enjoyed my job so much. It wasn't easy for me to quit. When I thought of my husband and children living without me for three years, my heart ached. How could I do this? They all needed me so much. I wanted to show my sincere heart before asking my husband's permission to go, so I went door to door and blessed seventy couples. On my birthday, I asked him if I could go to Korea. He said I could go on the condition that I support myself financially. I was determined to do my best.

When I arrived in Korea on the first of February 2001, I offered a desperate prayer to God to help me. My city is in Gyeongbuk Province and is called Sangju, which is right in the middle of South Korea, and is therefore called the "belly button" of Korea. It is surrounded by farmland, and has a population of 130,000. There are twenty-five people who are over a hundred years old in Sangju. They live with their children and grandchildren. They have worked very hard throughout their lives. I see many old people with backs completely bent, 90 degrees. But they look happy, surrounded by many grandchildren.

There are about thirty blessed couples here and most of them are farmers. The church is very humble and small. Outside of the church, the washroom does not have a flushable toilet. Actually, when I first arrived at the Sangju church, to my surprise, there was only one Japanese sister here for the mobilization. Later on, I found out that there are about a hundred and fifty wives who were supposed to be mobilized in Sangju. I came as a heavenly soldier ready to fight, but I was a lonely soldier.

I also offered a desperate prayer to find out how to support my activities financially. About a month after I arrived, suddenly Mr. Lee Yeon-woo, a 6,000-couple member who has immigrated to Vancouver came to visit me. He asked me how I was doing and left me a substantial donation. I was so surprised and grateful to God that He had answered my prayers.

It was challenging to find out what I was supposed to do and what was going on here. As I was reading what True Father has said about the unification of North and South Korea, I started to realize that we have to visit each fam-

2004. Our daily prayers are that we are offering our lives for the sake of God's nation, and are asking Heaven to protect and take good care of our families.

In May and June of this year, each blessed family was to bless 36 couples



Organizing a rally in Sangju to help Korea inherit True Parents' fifty-state U.S. speaking tour

[See page 29]. We blessed 400 married couples in the Sangju church. Father said, "Everything is prepared. If you don't believe me, just do it; then you'll know it's true." What he said is so true. People are so open and ready to accept us. Korean people are moved by the fact that we came from America and Canada and are sacrificing our families for the sake of Korea. Then they say, "We are sorry. This is something that we are supposed to be doing."

Sangju is surrounded by mountains and rivers. In autumn, you can see orange persimmons, golden rice plants, grapes,

pears and so on. The city provides free natural well water everywhere for its citizens. Because they work hard, they also enjoy singing and dancing. When they hear music, old grandmas usually start to dance. They seem extremely happy, like little girls. Yet, I sometimes see an old grandfather in his late eighties, pulling a cart with used papers and cardboard and so on. I wonder and ask him in my heart, "Don't you have family who can take care of you? Why do you still have to work? You are old."

A boy I know is serving his duty as a soldier for about two and a half years. He is lucky enough to work at the Sangju City Hall Office, but in the very cold winter he had to walk eight hours through the night while carrying a forty-five kilogram backpack. He also went camping right in the middle of the cold winter and he had to sleep in a sleeping bag on a mountainside. He said that it was training. Therefore, I see Korean young men have such a high spirit and are highly disciplined.

Maybe because Sangju is such a small, country town, we can easily find blessing candidates in their thirties or forties. Unlike men their age in the Western world, they have never dated. Most farmers' oldest sons stay with their parents and help take care of them. When we were preparing for the blessing, we had to train ourselves to deny our thoughts so that we could accept

ily. The fall started from a family, therefore we have to restore things from the family level. We have to raise them with the word of God. I visited my assigned village, Kongeong-myeon, and the village leader knew about True Father. He said, "Rev. Moon is a great international leader." He even said, "There are two Korean—Japanese blessed couples and two Korean—Filipina blessed couples here." Now we offer free Japanese lessons every week as a means to serve the village. Indeed, True Father's name is well known as a great patriot, and when we approach people about the True Family movement, they all accept the blessing. Our next stage is to educate them.

On June 6 last year, Mrs. Norma Shirotori came to join me. She is from a 2075 couple and her husband is Japanese. He lives with their thirteen-year-old son in Japan. Her husband supports her financially whenever she needs it. We get along with each other so well. In fact, we share our feelings and thoughts a lot. It is a great challenge for an American woman who's lived in Japan for eight years and who is now living in Korea, especially as she is here with her daughter, whom she is caring for and educating.

We always ask God what He wants us to learn from our daily experiences. I'm so grateful to God for Norma. We both are determined to stay until April

anybody True Father chose, but that standard is already there in the farmer's heart. When they receive a blessing candidate they never complain, and they accept without any hesitation. I find it fascinating. Father told the blessed couples to choose our children's spouses. He wants the parents' involvement in blessed children's blessings. Indeed, it is so natural for a farmer's son to ask his parents about a spouse; they both decide together. It's so beautiful to see.

A year ago, on March 1, Mrs. Sato, who was then sixty-seven years old, held a successful rally of forty Japanese wives, who apologized for Japanese people's sins by doing a full bow to an audience in Daejeon.

During the severe Japanese occupation, a Korean "Joan of Arc," Yoo Kwan-soon, inspired people in her locality to rise up for Korean independence in a movement that began on March 1, 1919. For this she was imprisoned. Because she would shout "Mansei" for Korean independence each day, she was tortured, and later died in prison. I felt that I wanted to apologize to the people in Sangju, and we began preparing in January 2002. While I was preparing, I started to realize the terrible sins Japanese people had committed against Korean "comfort women" [sex slaves] and forcibly conscripted soldiers. The fact is that the Japanese government hid the facts and didn't even teach that part of history. Only True Father told us the truth, yet he also forgave us. When he was studying in Japan, he was involved in the Korean independence movement. He went through unbelievable torture. He was hung from the ceiling and beaten. True Father said that Yoo Kwan-soon played a providential role in his being born. The day she shouted for Korea was the day of his conception. Therefore, he was born when the nation of Korea was under Japanese occupation.

I called all the Japanese wives who were responsible for Sangju to come to Korea to attend the rally. Thirty-one of them came and apologized to the Sangju citizens. We could feel that the hearts of the Korean



Japanese sisters apologize to the citizens of Sangju for the past

people were liberated and opened toward us. We offered a twenty-one day prayer condition and prepared our hearts to apologize. They were so deeply moved by our sincere apology.

I felt that we broke through spiritually and went to a higher level. In December 2002, we sent seventeen Ambassadors for Peace to a two-day seminar. They were so moved by Father's activities worldwide. One provincial councilman said that he didn't have a religion, but from now on he would be a Unificationist. A lady Soka Gakkai¹ leader in Sangju said that she had thought Mr. Daisuku Ikeda (Soka Gakkai's international president) was the only truly great leader in this world, but she said she had found another truly great leader now—Rev. Sun Myung Moon.

¹ Soka Gakkai (Value Creation Society) is a Japanese lay Buddhist group, whose founder Tsunesaburo Makiguchi (1871—1944) died while imprisoned for opposing Shintoism and Japan's war in Asia and against the U.S. Its political arm, New Komeito, which stresses disarmament, pacifism and religious freedom, is part of Japan's governing coalition.

Our Gyeongbuk regional director, Mr. Im, said that out of a thousand assigned wives for the mobilization in our region, there are only three wives, Norma, another Japanese wife in Yeongcheon and I, who are staying until April 2004. I'm worried to death when I think of my family. I feel like I'm walking on a knife-edge every day. I have no alternative but to pray desperately, asking God to protect my family. My husband Alan told me that he feels as if his arms and legs have been amputated. My family situation puts me in the position of

having to offer sincere prayers to reach out to Heavenly Father. My love toward my husband has deepened during this time. I told my children to be proud of their mother, who is sacrificing her family for the sake of God's nation. I told them that our descendants would be so proud of us in the future. I think of True Father carrying Mr. Pak on his back and going over the Moongyeong mountain pass—which is only thirty minutes' drive from Sangju—when he was going south from North Korea. He said to himself that Mr. Pak represented all mankind; if he couldn't carry him across the country, how could he save the world?

I'm praying with Norma every morning to let us be an offering for God's nation and to let us unite with True Father with absolute faith, absolute obedience and absolute love. True Father said that we should unite with True Adam during this mobilization so that he could train us to be holy women. He said that after this training, we can go home and embrace our husbands. I also talk to my father in the spirit world.

"Father, I'm in your homeland, the land where you were born. Please help me from the spirit world to build the Kingdom in Korea."

This is the land that God has loved and prepared. This is the land that True Parents love. This is the land where my father was born. Therefore, I want to offer my life and love for this nation of Korea, the nation of quiet morning calm.◆



With other members, overlooking the town

PHOTOS SEIL, COURTESY M. WILDING

Forming Tribal Blessing Groups : A Success Story

On July 1, Father reemphasized the importance of members finding and arranging their tribes, following the pattern that True Parents have established—36, 72, 124 and 430 couples. Mr. Na Yong-shik and his wife, who live in Seoul, worked to fulfill this condition—and were the first in Korea to do so. Today's



JULIAN GRANTY

World took the chance to interview Mr Na at his office (he runs a clothing design and export company) and he shared how he had approached the task.

Today's World: If you can relate how you accomplished what you did, it will be helpful to members around the world who may be wondering how best to begin or proceed in this task.

Could you briefly mention your own background?

Na Yong-shik: I joined the church in 1974 when I was a middle school student. My wife and I were blessed with the 6,000 couples.

TW: In the summer, Father expressed his urgency about members completing the arrangements of their tribes. Could you say how you went about it?

I am sure our situation is much the same as other blessed couples. We've all been involved in a lot of blessing activities.

We were asked to bless 160 couples in 1997, five years ago, and then we were asked to bless 1600 couples. At that time I went to the countryside, to my hometown in North Gyeongsan Province, and did the 160- and 1600-couple blessings. I really worked hard to achieve that. I had the blessing candidates wear gowns and bridal veils—everything—though not having enough veils was a bit of a problem. I held ceremonies with sixty or seventy people in a group each time.

At the time of 160 and 1600 blessings, after I had explained to them about the blessing I usually

gave each couple an electric fan as a gift. People responded well and soon many people participated. Many members thought it was the final dispensation and wholeheartedly devoted themselves; some

of them even borrowed money to do the work.

Father has recently told us that each one of us is responsible for the providence, so I think many people will work as hard as they did in the past.

However, when members don't have enough money, it is actually quite burdensome to have to do blessing activities again. Members feel pressure because of the money and time constraints they face. Because we don't fully understand the background of the providence, some might complain, yet others joyfully take on the activity nonetheless. Father has always asked us to do things after he has established the foundation for them. It isn't easy for us to take the first step if we just look at things from a horizontal perspective, but we must do what Father has instructed us to do with absolute obedience.

The conclusion I came to was that if I were to do the work, no matter what, I should do it as quickly as possible. Immediately prior to making the decision to begin, I had been quite sick. I had to stay in the hospital for a month,

so I had a lot of time to think back on my life. Although I have always wanted to bring joy to Father, I wasn't sure if I had done anything in my long years in the church that Father remembered or that had really made him happy. I thought of how I had lived, and that this might be the last chance in my life to do so.

As soon as I made the decision to take part in the blessing providence, I was faced with the question of how to go about doing it. When I blessed the 160 couples, I blessed all my relatives. Blessing them again didn't make any sense to me at all. Not only that, this was in August, a very busy time for farmers, so working in the countryside was not a good idea. I had to decide where to start. I'd lived in the Itaewon area of Seoul for twenty years, so I decided to work near there through the nearby Bo-gwang church.

I discussed things with our regional church director and asked assistance from a local director of the Victory over Communism Federation. He'd been working for the federation for thirty years. I said I'd like to have dinner with some influential local people and talk about how we wanted to do things. So we did. They left with a good impression of our activities (and a nice gift as well). These people then helped me to gather others to attend our program.

And so we began in late August and went on continuously. Our regional church leader came. After we had showed a video about our movement, he gave them an hour-long lecture about building true families. Then we held the blessing ceremony.

TW: What motivated you so strongly?

I can't really explain it in a few words. Father always gives different directions at different times. Although he may explain the meaning and justification of a new dispensation, members may not really understand the fundamental reasons

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33



COURTESY NA YONG-SHIK

Regional church leader Rev. Pak Jeong-ho lectures under the banner "Explanation of the True Family Blessing"

Called to Care for Blessed Children



Jeri Tamayo

Former head dorm parent of the program for Western blessed children in Korea

AS I GREW in the church, it became clear that I would be involved with blessed children. While I was young, I had no idea how it would happen, but I had many dreams where Father, Mother or even True Children educated and instructed me on this very point. Several times when I was in public missions (witnessing or such), True Father came to me in dreams and scolded me—asking me why I wasn't taking care of blessed children. In one dream Father held my hand, pointed at the lines on my right palm, and said, "See here? You are supposed to take care of blessed children." Each time these dreams came, I was soon in a position of service to blessed children.

In 1994 we applied to come to Korea to help take care of the Western blessed children on the program Father had established. We had been asked in the application process to dedicate at least three years but hopefully five years. I wrote a letter stating we would be willing to dedicate fifteen years; I was that excited. My husband Steve, our son Sung Min and I arrived in Korea on August 28th. Malcolm and Suemi Allen were the head dorm parents at that time. Over the course of a year Malcolm and Suemi taught and prepared us well for our position and when they left, I really missed them. Yet, that first year was hard, we went through shock from several types of culture: Korea, Japan and kids.

Korea was exciting at first. It is such a different place—the smells, the stores, the market, the buses, the subways, the people! In those days, I didn't meet many people who spoke English and communicating was fun. I attended classes for the first two months and learned as quickly as I could. I carried my dictionary and notebook everywhere. I loved Korea. It was so fascinating. Luckily, Malcolm had me doing errands almost every day, so I

was able to see and learn a lot about getting around Seoul—although, to be honest, I have always had a hard time with the pushing and shoving. Beyond that, I could see why God chose Korea to give birth to Father. There is a richness in character and heart here that I've not found anywhere else, yet Father has taken it to an even greater level because he is bound up in God, who is all encompassing and universal.

In those days if you wanted to eat Western food, you had to travel all the way into Seoul, but close to home we learned to eat Korean food. I didn't want anything Western for a long time. I was so happy to eat, breathe and speak Korean. Our family would go out once a

they all knew me as a teacher with the Unification Church, and the kids were known as the kids of Reverend Moon's members.

I had worked with Japanese members in America (Well heck, I was raised by them on MFT!); I felt I had a good rapport with the Japanese, but the Japanese members in Korea are different than those acclimated to Western society. Our Japanese members retain much more of their own culture here in Korea. I never realized the depth of my Americanism until I came here. I had to learn a new way of relating to Japanese members here and boy, did I learn slow! They had to tolerate a lot from me. I think most adults who have had to work with

me have been challenged by my impulsive nature, the Japanese staff members even more so.

I think the biggest culture shock was from the kids. I had helped with several Camp Sunrise² workshops, where I had been counselor of the teen groups. I had great experiences with them and discovered my ability to work with and get along well with this age group. I was looking forward to working with teens in Korea. I had so looked forward to being a positive influence in the kids' lives and to being involved with each one of them. I was so excited to be here with them.

Anyone who knows me will tell you I am a very outgoing person. I am genuinely idealistic and basically a very happy character, but by November of our first year, I was a person of many tears. The kids really made it tough to get to know them; most of them felt I was nose-y and pushy. Some felt

I tried too hard to make a relationship with them.

That month I had a dream in which Mr. Kamiyama came to me and told me to light a candle and pray for each student by name every day. So I did. As the year went on, little by little we began to settle in. If this was tough for me, think of the kids! They were struggling a lot



Above: Steve and Jeri present a student with a prize for lecturing; top, with Mrs. Choi Won-bok (spiritual advisor to the foreign students program) and Mr. Lee Young-hwi (supervisor of the program)

week and try a new Korean dish at any little Korean restaurant.

I found all the best places to shop and get the best bargains. I made friends and continued to do business with several storeowners here. When out shopping with my students, the students were always surprised at how many people knew me. I feel proud of this because

¹ The dormitory was formerly at the Ilhwa factory in Guri; now, a new one has been built in Seoul.

² Summer vacation workshops for blessed children in the countryside in the U.S.A.

too. The Allens returned to New Zealand, and by the 1995—96 school year, Steve and I really began our mission in Korea as head dorm parents. I often think of that first year and the students who were here. I always hope that they are doing well and discovering all that is great and good in themselves and in their lives.

I have often told students that if they ever felt I was wrong or needed advice, they were more than welcome to confront me and point out what they felt my faults or needs were. You know, kids can be so honest! I think my best lessons have been when I could be shown and admit to my mistakes. I learned to say, "I'm sorry." I also learned to make fewer mistakes, thanks to the students' support and education of me. Of course, I also do the same for them. We developed a good reciprocal relationship.

We had our biggest breakthrough as dorm parents in the 1995—96 school year and finally won our position as parents. This was done with the help of one boy named Kenshu Aoki. Steve and I were meeting with the older students one by one, asking them their goals and plans. Kenshu had come back from Christmas vacation, and he said his goals were to unite with the dorm parents and to invest in his younger brothers and sisters. He wanted to experience the Principle and discover True Parents. We were surprised and skeptical. We did not have fond memories of Kenshu from our first year and a half. We had often felt that if he would use his character in the right way he could move mountains. He had natural leadership ability, but his leadership had led kids away from, rather than towards, unity with their central figures.

Yet, Kenshu was true to his word. He began to rally the students. The traditions of the elder students holding Principle workshops for the younger students and of middle school students having weekly meetings on how to improve staff—student relations, and of planning group activities then reporting to Steve



Kenshu Aoki

and I were all begun by Kenshu. There were several students who were older than Kenshu, and he supported them to lead our Western program, even encouraging them to start a band. He always

made it look like the plans made were all their ideas, not his. He never took credit but was the one who united the students and rallied support for Steve and I as their central figures. He brought the Principle alive in our dormitory. Since Kenshu, many more students have benefited from the standard he set here. Some have reached and even gone beyond his standard. I'm sure knowing that would make him happy.

When Steve and I came, Father placed Lee Young-hwi as the new overall supervisor for the Western and Japanese programs. For eight years we worked with him, and we have all grown together in God's love. As he grew in his new position, he also raised me up to be the better person I am. He always found the way to bring out the best in me. Even though he is only ten years older than I am, I have become like his daughter.

James and Katja Chisholm were here from 1998 to 2001 as a support couple. They were one of the best things that happened to our program. James took it

what I have been most concerned with is their life of faith as blessed children. With most of them, this is the first place they have made personal effort to read Father's speeches and *Divine Principle*, and practice it on a daily basis. They learn to make the Principle a way of life, to use the basic lessons of Universal Prime Energy, give and take, Cain and Abel, and living for the sake of others to overcome their personal problems. They learn the value of reporting and consulting, trusting their elders, opening their hearts, being honest with their parents and discovering True Parents as their own. Some kids have come here with problems and may not have been able to find their total victory here. Yet, everyone who has come here remembers it as probably the most important time of his or her life. There are many like Kenshu who have been able to use it as a catalyst for their life of faith.

When I think of my time here, I am overwhelmed with the memory of love. Here there is so much love. God is all

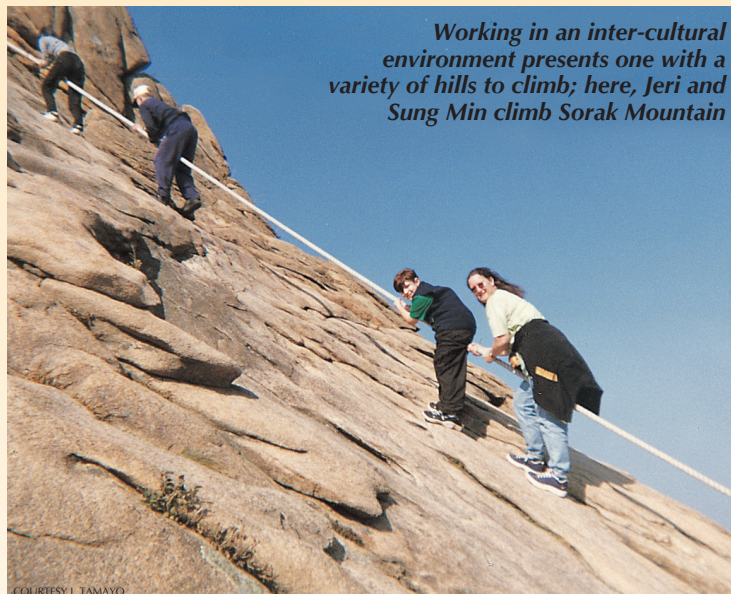
over this place, from the staff to the students and the whole environment. This really is the house that God has built. True Parents' traditions are entwined in life here.

Being here also brought Steve and I closer together; we discovered ourselves and each other. There are not many couples that can work together in the same place. In caring for this program, we discovered our compatibility. I learned to love my husband in ways I had previously only dreamed of. We went through many levels, and God has really touched our love and life. When we were

younger in our marriage, I would often wonder, "Will we ever be a happily married couple?" God gave me my answer here, the one I wanted to hear...He said, "Of course!"

Also Sung Min, our son, although seemingly having had a tough time, in reality grew here in ways that may have been difficult for him had he lived with just the two of us in a small home. I pushed him into a Korean school and Korean life right away. It was tough for him to be the only American boy in an all-Korean school. It took a lot for him to understand what they'd wanted him to learn. He never felt completely sure he

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33....**JERI TAMAYO**



Working in an inter-cultural environment presents one with a variety of hills to climb; here, Jeri and Sung Min climb Sorak Mountain

to a new level that we never could have gotten to without him. He confronted my sins, challenged my fallen natures, supported my decisions, stood by me in difficulty and brought me to a better understanding of what a family is and what a true friend is. Katja was always ready to lend her ears and her heart to all of us and I must say I borrowed them a lot.

Heavenly Father has His hand on this program. Here, blessed children learn who they are and get a vision of where they can go, what they can do. Of course, they receive a good education in the Korean language, and their teachers work hard to help them learn it. But

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2....MESSAGE

bound by the present reality. They look far beyond the present and aren't hindered by expecting difficulties.

There are also people who cannot change. True Father has recently spoken many times about Lot's wife. When God's angels destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, it was through the grace of God that she was able to escape before disaster struck, but she disobeyed the command of God by looking back, and turned into a pillar of salt. Why did she look back? She could not overcome her attachment to her present situation....

Brothers and sisters, now is a time of change, the beginning of the original spring of God's creation. In this important time, we must accept changes and accomplish our goals. If we are only concerned about things happening right in front of our eyes, we will be blinded by worries and difficulties, but if we force ourselves to look beyond them from the standpoint of God's providence and True Parents' providential accomplishments, we can free ourselves from the pressure new changes bring upon us. Changes will no longer be burdens to us. We must view all change centering on the providence. We must demonstrate to the spirit world, history and the world that we have changed....

What are the changes we should try to make? First of all, we must become owners. Didn't we all recite the pledge at the beginning of the service beginning with "As the owner of Cheon Il Guk, our family..."? We must become qualified owners. Owners are people with a sense of ownership. Do we all have a sense of responsibility as owners of Cheon Il Guk? Owners are inheritors. Inheritors must be united with their parents no matter what happens.

Secondly, we must have Heaven's original nature. If we are truly the people of Cheon Il Guk, we must be able to reveal Heaven's original nature to the world. So far, religions have taught people that things that were "holy" or "heavenly" were not to do with this material world but transcendent of ordinary reality. However, True Parents' teaching is different. What is holiness? What is the holiness of the original creation?

True Father once said: "A holy thing is a natural thing. Likewise, a natural thing is a holy thing. A bird singing is holy, a butterfly flying is holy, the blowing wind is holy. When a person blinks his eyes, moves his hand or breathes, these are holy things. It is the same with people. The holiest person must be the most natural person."

Being holy means having the original nature of creation, being natural and following the order of the original creation. What, then, is the most essential philosophy of life of the original creation? Father has taught us there was only one law of life that applied to all living beings. All creatures of God had to exist

mental teaching on how we must spend our lives on earth.

In his speech *What Should We Leave Behind?*, Father says,

"The eternal legacy you should leave behind in history cannot be achieved by living solely for yourselves, but by living for the world, God's will, and heaven and earth. For you to fulfill the purpose of life, you must connect your everyday life to God. No matter how difficult the crises you face along the way are, you must think of a strategy to overcome them and be successful. For that reason, you should not worry about present difficulties, but be always hopeful about the future. It is important to be curious

about what will happen after the crisis you're presently facing is over. If the excitement you feel about the future is greater than the ordeal you're going through, you'll be victorious."

The most valuable legacy we can leave is a life of having lived for the sake of others and of having maintained the order of the original creation. It would be a victorious and future-oriented life. If we let ourselves be swept away by the extreme trials or ordeals we go through, we might end up dying from excessive stress. Yet, if we can overcome the trials by thinking of the results we can bear by successfully enduring them, they can become something interesting, and even pleasant. My point is that even suffering can be viewed as a pleasant part of life.

By being God's people and owners of Cheon Il Guk we can reveal God's original nature. True Parents have taught us that "original nature

is something natural in accord with the order of the original creation, and the most fundamental thing of all is living for the sake of others."

Thirdly, what kind of people should the owners of Cheon Il Guk be? They must be the kind of people whose lives are very happy. The Korean people were persecuted by the Japanese for forty years under their occupation and were finally liberated. All of our people rejoiced and were enraptured at the moment of liberation. Having regained our country, could we have been considered its owners had there been no rejoicing? What kind of time is the time



The Ilhwa Cheonma Soccer Team won the Korean soccer league for the second year in a row in 2002 (top). In December, Father and Mother invited the players and their wives to visit the United States (photo above, with True Parents at East Garden).

for one another. Nothing could exist without living for something else.

We exist because something or somebody exists for us. Our parents, brothers and sisters and others, not to mention God, have done something for us that makes it possible for us to be here today. Everyone and everything on earth is indebted to someone or something for their existence.

The conclusion is that we must do things for others first. We must live according to this principle. If we don't live for others, we must realize that we will not receive the benefit of others living for us. That is True Parents' funda-

of liberation? It's truly a dramatic time of joy.

We should cheerfully wave the flag of Cheon Il Guk more enthusiastically than those who waved Korean flags at the time of liberation from Japanese occupation. It is the age of Cheon Il Guk. What an amazing time of inspiration! The world of the original creation has just begun for the first time since God created heaven and earth. We are experiencing the spring of the original creation. Do you feel the excitement?

Jesus said, "if these [his disciples]

were silent, the very stones would cry out." At this time, at the beginning of Cheon Il Guk, if we don't proclaim it, all things will accuse us. Brothers and sisters, let us shout. Not only with our mouths but also with our lives, we must truly shout. Let's move the world with true love. With a devoted and sacrificial way of life, with true love between our husbands and wives, and between parents and children, we must proclaim the ideal of a true family to our tribes and neighbors. This is the time to do so.

In Father's speech we read today, he

said that the news of spring comes from all creatures. The news of spring comes from small creatures, from the mountains, the fields—from everywhere. My beloved brothers and sisters, is the news of spring's arrival coming from the cells in our bodies, our actions, our words, our faces, our families and our churches? We must think about this seriously.

Let's convey the news of the arrival of providential spring to the world. With the truth of true life, let's go to meet our tribes and neighbors.◆

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29....NA YONG-SHIK behind it. There are always differences between the standard Father has and the standard our members have. We must not judge things based on our own standard. The fact is that what Father has told us to do is something we must do. There are sufficient reasons why we must do certain things. Father knows, though, how difficult it is for us to do what he tells us to do. Although Father's urgency may not have been conveyed to us, I felt it was something we had to do. I have always wanted to make Father happy. If I had done this slowly, it wouldn't have brought him as much joy, so I wanted to do it in the shortest possible period of time.

TW: How did you invite people?

To people I knew, I explained about the event and invited them to come. Those who had initially gathered through the Victory over Communism Federation connection worked to invite others to come. As the days passed, many people came because the word spread from person to person.

TW: Did you use leaflets?

Yes, I gave out leaflets.

TW: Did you set up any special conditions?

I didn't set up any special conditions as such. I set up a deadline first, and every morning and evening during the period of time I had set, I prayed. Of course, I also prayed before and after my activities, but I can't say that I made special conditions over a long period.

TW: How did you manage your job?

I really couldn't work during this time, as I was still not in the best of health.

TW: Are you still in touch with those whom you blessed? Have you tried to bring them to become members?

I really couldn't make them become members. There are many people of good conscience. Our message about love was quite refreshing to many of them. Some people even cried during our event; some wanted to bring their children to the blessing; and some wanted to bring others along. People tend not to follow a stranger. Many people came because people they knew well had introduced us to them. There were about thirty people who actively

involved themselves, and I have their names of course. I have a list of all the others as well. I discovered that there is a lot of potential, and I should be able to persuade them to participate in other church events as well.

TW: Can you point to any particular secret of your success?

There wasn't any special secret. From the Principle point of view, events are all interrelated. It was important for me to make the decision to embark on the blessing activity in the beginning, but I believe the surrounding circumstances were also important. The regional director helped us for more than ten days with his lectures. Although I'd met the local director of the VOC Federation, before, I got to know him more deeply through this. Everything fell right into place. I believe I was successful thanks to Heaven's help. Everyone is in a different situation, but the most important thing is that the decision is made to do what Father has instructed us to do.

It is time for the spirit world and the physical world to be one. I certainly believe True Parents' invisible power and the help of the spirit world were present in my activities.◆

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31....JERI TAMAYO was learning. He visited America a couple times for just short periods, and each time he felt it was the only time he had learned anything academically. I struggled a lot about him and his education. The one hope I had was that he would learn Korean well and never forget it. My internal hope for him was that he'd discover his faith and himself as a blessed child and know his value centered on God's love. It was tough for him to share his parents with so many children. Often, we would be in a conversation or doing

an activity together and Steve or I would be pulled away to tend to a student's needs. He was interviewed once by some of the students. I'll never forget something he once said: "I feel as though my parents are actually your parents and I have come to live in a dorm, and they are my teachers." I am so grateful to my son for the sacrifices he made here, and so proud of him, because he does know who he is as a child of True Parents. He has a natural dignity and faith which I attribute to his life here in Korea, where he could grow up in this environment

and among other blessed children.

I wish I could mention all the wonderful times I had here, all the students and how they have made impressions on my life and on our program. The mistakes I made go through my mind often. I wish I could have been a better person, with more love, more faith, more understanding, more patience and a deeper heart. We are all historic people, interwoven for eternity.◆

This testimony was written just before the Tamayos returned to the United States

Today's World Magazine for the Year 2002

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You should run and never look back. You should think, "My life has always been miserable and unsatisfying. This is my chance to break out!" Just burn it all, spit on the ashes of your past and move on without ever looking back. You should just go forward unwaveringly.

• • •

Who are the owners of Cheon Il Guk? Our blessed families are. Owners of Cheon Il Guk centering on true love... The destiny of God's nation depends on each one of you. You must find the original homeland. You should find the lost garden of Eden!

Rev. Sun Myung Moon
November 5, 2002
Sutaek-ri, Korea