

TODAY'S

# WORLD

天基 1年 (天曆) 8月  
SEPTEMBER 2010





*True Parents have instructed Hyung-jin nim to do a world tour, which began with his visit to Brazil at the end of June. In July and early August, he and Yeon-ah nim visited Nepal, Thailand and the Philippines. The following interview, in which Hyung-jin nim reflected on his tour experience to that point, was conducted the day before he left Korea for Israel to represent Father at the third Assembly to Proclaim the Word of God. After Israel, Hyung-jin nim and Yeon-ah nim continued on the tour to Italy, France, Germany and the United Kingdom, all in the space of a week.*

# Applying Our Korean Experience

**How does the experience of restructuring the church in Korea and the developments there help you when you are visiting other countries?**

If we hadn't done any of the work in Korea and had just started the tour from the beginning, we would not have had the benefit of the experience to pass on. I am not saying the experience we have had up to now is all that is necessary for total success, because we are still in the process of creating, but in a couple of years of this ministry, the Korean church has now become independent, in that we are no longer subsidized from Japan. We've also done restructuring, and other kinds of renewal.

Now, the general trend is toward members understanding what the restructuring was for. Initially, it is always difficult to make such changes. We have just done a double-blind survey<sup>1</sup> that shows that increasingly members are coming to understand the purpose for the consolidation of the churches and to see that this is the right direction for the church. These major changes—including the media turning around, of course—have been excellent experiences for us. They have been very tough to do, and some hard decisions had to be made. It's like doing surgery—it's very painful. We were crying on many nights, but we had to do that surgery for the health of the whole being. The church is now much healthier. We are not decreasing in membership any more. We are back up into the twenty thousands. We had dropped from sixteen thousand in the 1970s to about eleven thousand in 2005, that is, in the number of active members coming to service. Now we

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<sup>1</sup> Typically, neither those surveyed (whose names are not recorded) nor the people conducting the survey know what precisely what the information collected will be used to determine. This helps avoid bias on either side.



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**Cover Photo:** True Father at the joint 7.1 Jeol and 7.8 Jeol celebration at Cheon Jeong Palace, August 16; **Back Cover:** Father and Japanese women at the conclusion of the fiftieth forty-day ocean-based workshop on August 9; **Above:** On August 8, Father and Mother visited a Cheongpyeong training center workshop that many second-generation members attended.

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# God Is the Owner and Victor

*On July 1 at Blue Sea Garden in Yeosu, Father hosted hoondokhae for twenty-three and a half hours for Japanese women participating in a forty-day workshop for "world ocean leaders." Even for the relatively young women, it was difficult, but they stayed from beginning to end. The following is excerpted from the first few hours of what Father said that day.*

**W**hat have I spoken about that needs to be brought to a conclusion? It is the settlement of the Abel UN, and the completion of Cheon Il Guk in Korea. The dominance of the West in history has come to an end, and the center has now shifted to the East. Centering on the first year of the Foundation of Heaven [천기], there is no such thing as the solar calendar [양력] or the lunar calendar [음력]. That's the way history is moving. Henceforth, we need to calculate all dates based on the heavenly calendar. This is something I have declared....

What was the Fall? If God and human beings had been in the same lineage, that is, centered on the same bloodline, and God had thus occupied His position as the owner, that would have been the conclusion of the world.

Who owns Korea now? The Korean president is not Korea's owner, any more than the American president is America's, the Chinese president is China's, or the Russian president is Russia's. They are leaders and kings in the satanic world. Once the establishment of the Abel UN is completed, they will all submit voluntarily. Next, the completion of Cheon Il Guk will take place in Korea. There must be a central nation among all nations, and Korea must become that central nation.

The owner of this universe was originally God, God the one being. What humankind hasn't known is that there was a God of night and there is a God of day. What is it that I need to do? I need to reveal once again the fundamentals of all this history.

Those who know this understand that we need to restore, through indemnity, Adam and Eve, who are of this world that was created by the God of day. However, there has not yet been an owner who could achieve that. Therefore, True Parents are to come in place of the lord, and they are the absolute lords of true life, true lineage and true sovereignty.

How did the Fall take place? The God of day created human beings in the form of Adam and Eve, but they died through the Fall.... He created Adam and Eve and later, because of the Fall, they were driven out. So everything needs to be restored.

Until now, you have desired to be the internal and external body of God. Establishing Abel constitutes the internal perfection of Korea, and the completion of Cheon Il Guk constitutes the external perfection of Korea. To bring this about, True Parents appeared on this earth. Before that, there were no True Parents.

If True Parents had been there, theirs would have been a world without the Fall. What is the world without the Fall? It is a place without the concept of rebirth. You need to understand this clearly. There can be no such thing as the concept of rebirth. God's providence of restoration refers to our reaching the point of rebirth in order to indemnify the sins of the fallen world. After the Fall, the original place of spiritual birth cannot be found. And Jesus came to earth to take the position of the True Parent. Why, then, did he come? Inheriting the satanic world's bloodline and becoming the sons and daughters of the lineage of Satan could not have happened within the ideal God held at the time of the Creation.

Now, God is in two positions, one in the created world, and the other in the world before the Creation. You have received your lives from the satanic world. You have inherited the satanic world's bloodline. Because you have not inherited God's life and bloodline, you cannot be with Him. You are His biggest enemy.

After creating the world, God warned Adam and Eve, Do

not eat of the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil. That was at the beginning of history. What is the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil? Who made it? God did not make it. He didn't even have the concept in mind of a fruit of the knowledge of good and evil.

Then how did the Fall take place? By eating the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil, there was destruction and expulsion, and the realm of death began to conquer this world.

The Bible speaks of this world—this is what is amazing in the Bible. "And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day."<sup>1</sup> This is important. What is missing here is that there was evening, and then passing through the night, and then the next morning came. Thus, after the evening passed and the morning came, which was the first day. This signifies that there is a God of day and a God of night. God could not welcome that first day<sup>2</sup> on which He could say, "...there was morning—the first day." You need to be aware of this.

I will say something about the Book of Genesis. You cannot find what's in the Book of Genesis in any other holy scripture in the world. People don't know about Genesis. There is a God of night and a God of day, and He is divided. The beginning point at which night and day could be unified, and nighttime adjusted so that it could be one with day, has not been seen in the course of history. True Parents were not here.

Adam himself was driven out. That he fell implies his expulsion. True Parents have to come to correct Adam and Eve's errors. Because of the Fall, however, there hasn't been anyone in history until now who could climb up to the position of the True Parent.

What of the religious and political worlds? The political world is dominated by Satan; therefore, Satan has trodden on, crushed, and driven out the conscience of the conscientious realm of the good heavenly nation, and done that to heaven

1 Gn 1:5

2 Presumably because the purpose of creation was not yet fulfilled



itself. And he has taken it over. The one who has occupied the throne of the God of night and day is not the God of night and day, but Satan.

Yesterday and today, night has come in, and so the realm of life and lineage under the dominion of Satan is still entangled in yesterday and even today. God, who is in the position of the original mind in the center of the realm of conscience, could not interfere even though He knew the Fall was about to take place. This is because the events by which night and day can be connected centering on True Parents have not yet come to pass.

Adam and Eve, the potential True Parents, became false parents; and they were driven out. What became of their bloodline? Satan usurped the position of the owner, establishing the enemy's bloodline, the enemy's life and the enemy's throne as the enemy of God who should never have been on earth. Because they were lost, Satan knows that God needs to restore them.

At the original standard, which is a standard above that of the Fall, rebirth would not be necessary. The resurrected Jesus would have become the king of families, and there would have been no need for a nation of Israel. The family failed to become God's family. Israel was referred to as the realm of the "chosen people." Though God tried to recover the Abel realm in the nation of Israel, in the end Israel did not have the foundation for God to dwell in the family, nation, and world. Therefore, God is in the process of trying to restore them again, even though humanity doesn't know about this. Though you have assembled here, you don't really know God, do you?

The period from the first year of Cheon Il Guk to the thirteenth year is the period wherein all historic beginnings are straightened out. Though millions of people have come and gone, they were all in Satan's bloodline.

In a world where Heaven and the king of kings should have reigned over God's nation, a false king of kings appeared, shed the blood of others and even killed them. There are ruling parties and opposition parties. The ruling parties try to destroy the opposition and the opposition, even while it is on the outside, tries to bring the ruling party to yield. Such battles still continue.

Why haven't they ended? If True Parents had appeared and initiated the life and lineage by which they could rule over the true, absolute and unique night and day, there would have been no need on earth for Israel. There would have been no need for the Lord at his Second Coming, or for Jesus in the realm of the first Israel. There would be no need for the Second Coming....

God's bloodline was stolen away and made Satan's own. Satan took a being created by God, caused it to fall and planted its seed in his own realm of life. And that came to be humankind today. Though billions of people have gone to the next world, not one of them has entered the kingdom of heaven. Though Jesus came as the second Adam, he is only in paradise.

To find what has been lost by the invisible God and the God of day, the path of indemnity needs to be followed through the one, two, four, and seven dimensions, and on the basis of that triumph, your blessing should blossom and the completion of the unified Cheon Il Guk will take place in Korea, our homeland. On that basis—after all that is done—God will be enthroned, on the foundation of the new life, the seed of love and the rectified bloodline, and His presence will be known. What day is set for this manifestation? Today, at this morning's hoondokhae. Then, what is the significance of

this morning's hoondokhae? It signifies that night and day are no longer separated.

That is why the establishment of Abel can take place. It is not the establishment of an owner. The event for that firm establishment was held on April first. This is the establishment of the Abel UN. You don't know what the Abel UN is, because I made up the terms Cain UN and Abel UN. You don't know about Cain and Abel. Do Christians know about them? The line between reconciling and not reconciling, that line between life and death in Adam's family, was crossed when Cain killed Abel. Thus the history of war, bloodshed, and conflict has continued until now. Unless these are done away with, the history of warfare will never disappear from this earth....

The textbooks and teaching materials have already been made. Those who have graduated from grade school can be educated, it doesn't matter where they are. People from the United Kingdom, the United States and France are all destined to read them. The 6.5 billion people in the world can study the way to go directly to the kingdom of God through these texts.... Wherever you are, if you desire to become a citizen of the kingdom of heaven, you can study how to do so, because you have the textbooks and teaching materials.... These are the texts and teaching materials of the God of night. They are not found in the world of the God of day. None of these texts can be subtracted from the whole. This morning's hoondokhae is the time to clarify this. What I have given you to read for hoondokhae is simple content.

Just as the families who came to the ocean at the <sup>3</sup> of this workshop were transformed in eight days, the world's nations will be turned upside down in eight days. What would remain behind for those who have their nations in that new realm after the fire burning at 300 million degrees? You need to know that any being that has received the seed of true love cannot be burned, even by the fire of the sun....

The issue is that we are now living in an era when people can generate heat at 300 million degrees. What does that mean? It refers to the philosophy of victory, that is, Goodism. Though it may seem that Satan won the war and has remained triumphant, it is actually God who, after a course of suffering, won the victory....

Even if God were to be cut up into microscopic pieces, He is not really divided up at all. His inner and outer, higher and lower, front and rear aspects are united as one. God has maintained such a level until now, such that even if someone touches Him by one hair, He can relate with that person based on the unique code on that person's fingertip. God is not dead; on the contrary, He is very much alive.

Since He has come to know the entire world through strands of hair and skin, and since He can bring them together as one through His hands and feet, there is liberation.... Then there is no need for resurrection, rebirth, or seunghwa; instead of dying and being reborn, you will be born together with True Parents, live together with them, and then enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Thus the kingdom of heaven of boundless liberation and settlement in the world of the King and Queen of Peace will surely come to be. Aju! Then everything will be done. *STW*

3 Father called for forty-three forty-day ocean-based workshops for Japanese women with Korean husbands. When these finished, a thousand eligible women had yet to attend, so he called for seven more. Before the fiftieth workshop, hearing that it was still difficult for some families to part with the mothers for so long, Father called whole families to Yeosu for the first eight days to ease the situation, after which the mothers continued for the remaining days alone. For more, see the article on page 34.



# Get Ready to Enter Heaven

*At the conclusion of the Proclamation of the Substantial Word of God and the Era of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, on July 8 at the Cheon Jeong Peace Palace, Father instructed all who were present, including many from the West, to attend a truncated Original Divine Principle workshop at the Cheongpyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center. These are excerpts from what Father said to those participants at their workshop's conclusion on July 10.*

**T**he One Being.<sup>1</sup> Say it. [The One Being.] I am telling you all this as an explanation based on the Principle that you haven't received in the workshop. Say "the One Being." [The One Being.] Even at night there is only the One Being, and during the day there is only the One Being, and all day long there is only the One Being. In early April, on New Year's Day, and for tens of thousands of years, for eternity, there is only the One Being.

No one has changed that name. But then where is the One Being who is loved by all human beings? He is visible but invisible. If you try to touch Him, though He is invisible, you will feel His pulse and everything else under your fingers. Though you may be able to feel all parts of Him, you still cannot see Him. But you know He is there because you can hear Him breathing....

The body and the mind became divided. Your minds and bodies are divided, aren't they? They are divided and in conflict. What of the people whose minds and bodies are always in conflict? Conflict cannot exist in the world of God's ideal of creation, and so it must come to an end....

Born as a human being, the God-given responsibility of establishing the main standard by which the family can be revolutionized lies with me. What, then, am I doing for the family? The family that used to live in the lonely mountains comes to live in the village, and moves from the village to the county, from the county to the province, from the province to the nation, from the nation to the world, finally to live both in heaven and on earth—that is, on the throne of God. I am teaching you the dutiful way by which you can pass through the eight stages....

<sup>1</sup> In Korean 한분님, Romanized as *Han Bun nim* (On the Romanization system see: <http://www.mct.go.kr/english/roman/roman.jsp>)



The settlement of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind... The substance that settles is not that which is the invisible God in the spirit world; nor can it be God, the Lord of creation, who can appear in physical form, who is the owner. The angelic world is not relevant to this. It is the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. The Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind become the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. When the word "human-kind" is included, the parents become True Parents.

Actually, I was not going to come here today. The spirit world was in an uproar from early this morning. What is this important meeting about? It is about July 8<sup>2</sup> and the settlement of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. And next comes the Assembly to Proclaim the Substantial Word.<sup>3</sup> It is not the substantiation of the proclamation of the word, but the opposite, that is, the Assembly to Proclaim the Substantial Word. Who is to make the declaration? The declaration is being made because the substance has become one with the word. God Himself, religion itself, and the nation itself are all represented.

And so the proclamation had been made, and this is the first meeting since the first workshop came to an end at the conclusion of the proclamation.

Before the Unification Church was widely known, I created the Little Angels and they began their historic work. No one knew this fact, and I too did not have enough sense to know everything, but I followed [Heaven's] orders nonetheless. And now, I have written about the work to be done by Heaven in my autobiography. I have created the texts and teaching materials.

The developed nations leading the world have world-renowned universities with the means to make textbooks that history will remember. However, I alone know the teaching materials that include the beginning of heaven and earth, their progress, and the crystallization of the earth that can firmly settle in its final destination. This is not something we can change to suit our needs.

2 The date, two days before this speech, when Father declared the "substantial word"

3 For the July 24 event in the United States, the title used was "World Assembly to Proclaim the Substantial Word of God and the Era of the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind."

[Father calls out Dr. Peter Kim. Dr. Kim says in English, "I'd like to conclude...."]

[Father interrupts in English] I'd like to conclude... This kind of language—don't use this konglish,<sup>4</sup> please! [Reverting to Korean] You should speak Korean! You didn't know, did you, that anything you say in an official setting should be said in Korean. Tell him. In the future it will be so that English cannot be used in official activities. Do you understand what I'm saying?

In all events, if you don't speak Korean, you will not be able to speak in an official capacity. It will be done in Korean.

How many Koreans are here? [In English] This time, gathering here in this place for this conference.... [Reverting to Korean] How many countries? Koreans, hold up your hands. Just a few. When this three years ends, there will be problems over the issue of the Korean language. It will be problem related to entering heaven. I am Korean, a person of this homeland of Korea. My descendants, sons and daughters, will not be able to enter into heaven if they do not know my language. [In English] Speak in Korean. You cannot use your country's language. [Inaudible, about studying, learning, submitting] [Reverting to Korean] Don't use it. Do you understand?

After the D-Day passes in three years, people who don't know Koreans or Korea will not even participate in events. I said in 1985 that everyone must learn Korean. My words convey the laws of Heaven. You should be busy learning Korean. If I don't tell you to do it, you won't do it.

There are still three years remaining, so studying Korean won't be a problem. When I was young, I did all the Japanese graduate school studies in a year and half. I would stay up nights to do that. I could look at five pages, and the content didn't appear to me in Japanese. Instead, it appeared to me translated into Korean. You can do that, too, if you offer jeongseong. Do you understand? [Yes.] Though you want to come in here, people who don't speak Korean will not be allowed to enter. Do you understand? It won't matter whether you are Japanese, American or German.

4 A disparaging term referring here to Korean influenced by English grammar or vocabulary (콩글리시 in hangul). The same term is applied to English that is influenced by Korean.



Are you my sons and daughters? Are you my adopted children? If you are my lineal children, how is it you can't speak my language?... You must be able to speak the language. From now, you need to know who your ancestors were up to the third and even the seventh generation. Eight generations will enter Heaven together, so you need to stay up all night teaching all the people within the eight generations. I will not go to that nation on my own. God will not allow me to go. Someone will come from that nation to guide me to it. We need to use this period to create everything about that nation, including the tradition, and that is why I am giving you this urgent information. You need to understand this.

You are all listening to the interpreters, aren't you? [In English] Now you are hearing this, no problem? The interpreters are clearly giving the explanation of the Korean in your country's language. Do you understand it? Is the interpreter clearly speaking and connecting the content with your language? Is that true? [Yes.]

[Reverting to Korean] No matter what happens, you should speak in Korean. I told you in 1985 to learn Korean, so what have you been doing? If you are my sons and daughters, then you should have been studying desperately at the embassies....

I need to talk about the spiritual world, because no one knows about that world. When I speak, I go on talking for an hour, ten hours, or even twenty hours. I once spoke for about seventeen hours—16 hours and 47 minutes to be precise—standing up the whole time. There I am, opening my mouth to speak, and then words come out of my mouth. And I too gain understanding. I speak knowing what I'm saying, and then I hear what I say and come to know it again. That is how the Divine Principle came to be. Because you did not understand, the facts I came to know all seemed like untruths to you.

So you listened to me, to those long speeches, as they all were. If I had not been here, therefore, no one would know the Divine Principle book, which until now has passed through seventy-five years since my childhood.... No one knows this. They have all gone. No one knows.

In the past, I said the same thing over and over again, forty-seven times, at the age of sixteen, but the thousands of

people who had come to hear what I said could not understand anything I said at all. The speeches were long. But aren't those very words now printed in *Cheon Seong Gyeong* and being read in hoondokhae? They have not been revised, but remain as they were. I am amazed at how logical what I'd said was, and I wonder who could have made everything fit so nicely from all sides. It was God who made it so, because He is the owner, not I....

I am telling you to distribute it. You too need to buy 430 copies. [One member: Yes, I will buy them, Father.] Who said that?? [Laughter] If you don't, a big problem will arise, because you won't be able to register your name. There are conditions that need to be met to be registered. To become the true sons and daughters of God, you need to fulfill thousands, even tens of thousands, of conditions. If the standard is lost that sets straight the teachings that can correct everything about a people that is wrong, it is because it is separated from the Principle. You need to follow the Divine Principle. You must follow it as it is written...

You need to educate your children to be independent, so that if their parents are wrong, they will know not to listen to their parents. Then it would be okay for them to leave their home. That is what the present reality is like.

I think I should get back to the main subject of my talk. Henceforth, when the Unification Church holds meetings for all its members, there should be no translation or interpretation from Korean to other languages. Anyone who will not accept that, please stand up. If you can't accept it, stand up, turn around and walk out of the back door....

You can receive and carry out the work of the liberated God who is all-transcendent, all-immanent and all-capable, and represent Him. On your "new year's day"<sup>5</sup> the spirit world and good spirits will accomplish a thousand years of history in one day. They will line up to sing praises and dance. You can become the owners of such a world, who can create future generations, and become the younger siblings of God. Do you understand? You can become the mother, father, or younger sibling of God, become their representatives and graduate holding the banner that confirms you have surely received your inheritance. **TW**

5 Presumably a reference to a day of great transformation or victory

# The Preparation of the Bride

*"And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."*

—Book of Revelation 22:2



*This installment, the twenty-fifth in our series, introduces True Mother and looks briefly at her early life. We begin with two pages of biographical material taken from a book by the History Compilation Committee (based in Korea).*

*In his own words, Father then describes the background to and significance of True Mother's emergence. This is drawn from the first chapter of the fourth book of the series True Parents' Life Course (참부모님 생애 노정). These books were compiled from Father's speeches over many years, and his reminiscences are arranged more or less chronologically in the form of an autobiographical account.*

## **From True Parents' Lives and the Providence by the History Committee**

True Mother was born on February 10, 1943,<sup>1</sup> at 4:30 AM at her maternal grandparents' house in Shineui Village in South P'yong-an Province,<sup>2</sup> as the only child of her father Han Seung-woon and her mother Hong Soon-ae.<sup>3</sup>

Her father was a schoolteacher and an active member of Rev. Lee Yong-do's New Jesus Church. Mother's mother was a Presbyterian when she was young. Later, however, she became a member of the New Jesus Church, Kim Seong-do's Holy Lord Church and the "Inside the Belly Church" under Heo Ho-bin.<sup>4</sup>

Han Seung-woon and Hong Soon-ae were married on March 5, 1934, while they were both still members of the New Jesus Church. In February 1943, after nine years of marriage, their daughter Hak-ja was born. She was raised in her maternal grandparents' home.<sup>5</sup> Her grandfather, Hong Yu-il, was from Namyang and her grandmother, Cho Won-mo, was from Yongbyon; both were devout Christians.

According to True Mother, Grandfather Hong was a tall, handsome, friendly man. She has said that when she met True Father for the first time, she did not find him strange or difficult to relate to because in his general demeanor he resembled Grandfather Hong. Cho Won-mo ran a sewing shop. She participated in the protest for Korean independence that began on March 1, 1919, while carrying True Mother's mother, then five-year-old Hong Soon-ae, on her back. Hong Soon-ae had been born on March 18, 1914, in Jongju, North P'yong-an Province.<sup>6</sup> Hong Soon-jeong, her younger brother, was her only sibling.

True Mother remembers living in her grandparents' house. "It was not very countrified, but there was a hillock behind the house and a brook flowing nearby. It gave off a feeling of comfort and warmth, reminiscent of a hen brooding its chicks. Our backyard was a cornfield cultivated for the family's use, and I remember the corn grew very tall. Father's hometown and my hometown are situated on opposite sides of a river and some thirty kilometers apart. When we went to visit Father's hometown in December 1991, we passed over my hometown in a

1 The sixth day of the first month of the lunar calendar

2 The residences of all True Parents' relatives mentioned in this article are located in what is now North Korea.

3 To whom Father gave the title Daemo, meaning, Great Mother, following her ascension on November 3, 1989

4 Heo Ho-bin, whom Father said had the mission of Mary, Jesus' mother, was the leader of the group that acquired the nickname, the "Inside the Belly Church."

5 True Mother's parents separated while she was an infant. When she was three, her father migrated to South Korea, where he remarried. Years later, True Mother came to know of her half-brothers.

6 The location of all of True Parents' relatives mentioned here are in what is today North Korea.



**The child who became True Mother with her maternal grandmother Cho Won-mo, in whose home she was raised**

helicopter. My village, however, looked completely different, because there was an apartment complex where it had been. It had been urbanized more than Father's hometown had."

There had been seven generations of only sons born in True Mother's maternal lineage. Grandmother Cho, Hong Soon-ae, and True Mother (Hak Ja Han) were then born as only daughters in each subsequent generation, establishing the foundation for the bride. When True Mother was about four years old, Heo Ho-bin's mother blessed her, calling her "the one who will become the bride of Heaven." True Mother, her mother and maternal grandmother came to South Korea, escaping from communist North Korea at the risk of their lives. This was a year or so before the start of the Korean War. They were able to find Hong Soon-ae's younger brother, Hong Soon-jeong, who was in the Korean army. He helped them find a place to stay in Hyochang-dong, Seoul,<sup>7</sup> where True Mother entered elementary school. When the Korean War broke out, they found safety in a camp for military dependents in the southern provinces. They returned to Seoul after the city was retaken on September 28, 1950,<sup>8</sup> but they were forced to go south again, to the city of

7 Hyochang-dong is adjacent to Cheongpa-dong, where Father would later found the Unification Church.

8 As a result of the Incheon Landing on September 15, UN Forces and

Daegu, when the United Nations' Forces retreated on January 4, 1951.<sup>9</sup> At the time, they met Jeong Seok-cheon<sup>10</sup> (whom they had known from the Holy Lord Church) and lived as neighbors of his family for the next four years.

Thereafter, they stayed on Jeju Island for nine months, where True Mother advanced to the fifth grade of elementary school. After receiving a letter from Hong Soon-jeong, they moved back to the mainland, up to Chuncheon,<sup>11</sup> where Mother finished her primary school education.

In April 1956, Mother entered Seonjeong Middle School<sup>12</sup> in Seoul. Graduating in March 1959, she entered St. Joseph's Nursing School, but did not complete her studies owing to events that would overtake her the following year.

In February 1960, at the age of seventeen, Hak Ja Han was

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the South Korean army drove the North Korean army back up the peninsula, retaking Seoul in the process.

9 With the Chinese army entering the war in December 1950, the tide had turned again.

10 Son of Holy Lord Church leader Kim Seong-do and father of Rev. Chung Su-won who was blessed with the 36 couples in 1961.

11 Chuncheon is located northeast of Seoul, not far from the border.

12 Our church later purchased this school and it is now under our Sun Hwa educational foundation.

confirmed to become Father's bride and the True Mother. A month later, at 4 AM on March 27,<sup>13</sup> an engagement ceremony was held at the old headquarters church and on April 11, True Parents' Holy Wedding took place at the same location.

### **Father's Explanation from True Parents' Life Story**

In order for True Mother to be born, an only child in three generations needed to lay down a foundation of having served the coming Lord with distinction.

Thus, for the providence, she needed to be an only daughter who was not supported by others and who lived alone. People talk about seven generations of only sons, don't they?<sup>14</sup> The reason an only child was born [in successive generations] is so that Satan's stained bloodline was not left behind. For that reason, the grandmother was an only daughter, as was Mother herself. Three generations are drawn together. Mother suffered ordeals as the third generation of only daughters. It's not hard to imagine that with her grandmother and mother being away most of the time, immersed in religious activities, that Mother was neither well-clothed nor well-fed, is it?



**Mother (center, standing) with her teachers and a group of fellow students on graduation day at Seonjeong Middle School in Seoul, early in 1959**

Everyone needs to understand this: Walking the path of absolute obedience and submission to God with single-minded devotion without any regard for their own physical and spiritual suffering, they disregarded the affections of the human world and devoted their hearts and souls to connect to the way of heavenly affection.

For the sake of their religious faith, noble people like Grandmother Hong packed their bags and chose the historic path of suffering to receive the Lord, casting away other men and women; therefore, Mother, too, has a history of having undergone such training. That's very simple, isn't it? If a husband is zealously treading the path of the providence, the wife needs to come from a family that would enable her to wish for her

<sup>13</sup> The first day of the third month of the lunar calendar, which was later designated True Parents' Day

<sup>14</sup> Some Korean proverbs refer to the fragility of lineages with successive generations of only sons.

husband to work even more zealously. That's how you can think about this, and that is how I came to choose Mother.

In True Mother's case, three generations have made preparations to receive the Returning Lord. How much did members of other Protestant churches and of the Catholic Church oppose them? How much were they persecuted for having founded the New Jesus Church centering on Rev. Lee Yong-do? Connecting divine history and the core believers of Korea, Mother was blessed by them all.

She had been educated as a central member of an organization preparing to receive the Returning Lord. Thus, when they fled to safety, Mother prepared herself to become the bride and received blessings from the founder of her church, who had prepared her to receive her groom. All those blessings have come true now. Though there was an age difference of twenty-three years between us, I had undergone ordeals for twenty-three years because Heaven had prepared such things on the foundation of True Mother's having received those blessings.

That is why, historically, everyone in Mother's clan was prepared to serve the new Lord. In the time of her grandmother, Mother received blessings from Kim Seong-do and Heo Ho-bin. Mother's mother took her to that organization when she was four years old, and Mrs. Heo blessed Mother. It was then that the mission was passed on to her, though she did not realize it. When I met Mother in 1960, I became aware of that fact. Everything that had been prepared by God had come together in 1960, all at once.

The endeavors leading up to that moment cannot even be described. Walking this path alone, away from my brothers and sisters, relatives and companions, I have passed through all kinds of experiences, while living only on raw food. Up to the end, however, I did not give up my core principles, and thus laid the foundation whereon I could meet Mother.

### **Wonderful character and disposition**

Mother has a pretty face, so she would have been subject to all kinds of temptations. Since it would be inadvisable to have her encounter them, Heaven arranged for her to lead a life of divine isolation. I have heard that in her school days, she wanted never to marry but to enter a convent, plant an orchard and live there alone.

When you see her, you see that Mother is quite a decorous woman. When she is sitting quietly and docilely, she exudes an internal character that calls for respect more than that accorded anyone else.

She has a gentle character. After she met me, she was trained to observe her surroundings carefully, which is why she can do this well now. By nature she is very modest. When she went to and from Cheongpa-dong, she followed only one path. Always, she would come and go by that one path. I watched her carefully. The first time, the second time, and the times after that, when she came and went she always followed the same path. Seeing that she always followed the right path, I thought to myself, Aha!

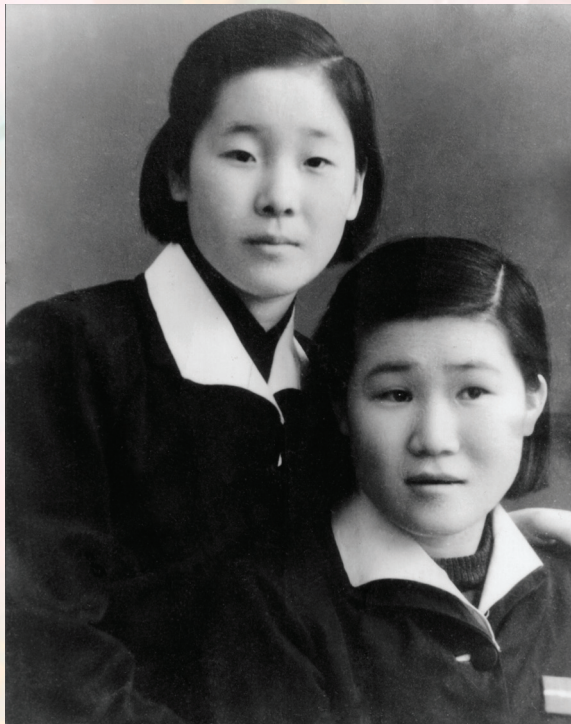
I was also looking for the representative woman who possessed love for others by tradition, and I chose Mother because she fitted the part in every aspect.

My eyes are not that clouded. It is not because of her beautiful face that she is so wonderful. She has a beautiful face because she has a beautiful heart. Because her heart is beautiful, her voice is beautiful and her features are graceful. [Applause]

Even onstage, she is a natural. The first time she sang onstage was when she was sixteen years old and a junior in high school. After she sang, she became known for her singing. No matter who was in front of her, whether I or someone else, she was always bold onstage, like a champion.

Though she looks docile, she has grit. You can see that right away when you see her hands. Though her face looks gentle, her hands are thick and bold. She doesn't waver even when she stands at a podium. That is why I have chosen her as Mother. At the time I thought to myself, She may not look it now, but just wait and see.

I intended to marry any woman; I thought to myself that if she is devoted to the providence and ready to welcome it 100 percent for me, even the plainest woman would suit me. That is how I ended up marrying the most wonderful person. [Applause and cheers] Mother says she married me without knowing what was happening to her. She couldn't have avoided it even if she had wanted to; it was almost as if she had been bewitched by something.



**True Mother (top) as a young schoolgirl**

#### **A seventeen-year-old bride**

Without the providence, I could not have met Mother. The person destined to be Mother should not be in her twenties; in fact, she should not be over eighteen years of age, not even by a day. Because Eve fell when she was sixteen, the connection is made over three years to the age of nineteen. In the fallen realm, teenagers are troublemakers, but from the Korean viewpoint, in the secular world, the younger a girl is, the closer she is to the foundation of chastity.

Mother herself needed to be obedient, like a lamb, centering on love. In all respects, she needed to find the condition by which she could be absolutely obedient. Therefore, she needed to utterly sacrifice herself for her husband. In other words, she needed to be absolute in loving her husband. She could not have made comparisons, saying, He is inferior to my father. He is inferior to my brother.

Instead, she had to think of her husband as being superior to any man on earth, be it her teacher, her grandfather, or anyone else. This is because Eve had seen no man other than Adam in the Garden of Eden, and thus she had had no room to think about any other man, or to entertain any other thoughts.

Am I not twenty-three years older than Mother? I am old enough to be her father. Who on earth marries a woman young enough to be his daughter?

True love, however, transcends age. In true love, a million-year-old grandfather does not think about the fact that he is so old. He can't remember it, because everything is new and fresh, and wonderful as it is, and harmonious and unified. Therefore, true love is not a bad thing. Though there is a big age difference between Mother and me, if we were to go right to the world of true love, do you think they will tell us, Come back in twenty-three years? Such things don't pose a problem.

Though I was forty years old, it was my cherished hope to marry a young woman for the sake of Heaven and to become a devoted husband. Had I married a woman who had lived as she pleased until the age of forty, how could I have become a true husband who could receive the respect of that old wife throughout my life? For this reason, I married Mother when she was young.



**In March 1959, Mother entered a Catholic nursing school in Seoul in lieu of high school; in this picture, she is sitting in the front row, fourth from the left.**



And by what could I connect to the realm of heart of those under forty? By setting her up in my stead, I was able to come down to her position and climb back up together with her, and thus make the connection to the realm of heart on the family level while in my forties. All men and women who are still adolescents can be connected in a like manner.

Moreover, I had to have had twelve children in twenty years, for only then could two thousand years be indemnified. That would have been a difficult task even for someone who had a strong back and firm hips and who was able to give birth every year. Older women would have had enormous trouble doing so.

#### **Competition between bride candidates**

When we were about to receive Mother, everyone said, Oh, we are going to receive the mother of the universe. Our teacher is approaching the age in which he can receive Mother.

I was approaching the age of forty, and there was a constant clamor from three years before that. All those who were related to beautiful or accomplished women took notes of their particulars and even dragged the women in, described me and said that if all goes well, I would become their husband. There were all kinds of strange things happening at the time.

That is why many women, from those in their seventies all the way down to young teenagers, said they had received revelations from the spirit world telling them that they were my bride. That could not be helped, however. [In the spirit world] a hundred years is the same as ten thousand, a hundred thousand or ten million years. All kinds of women are included in that range because the jeongseong done by all women for God is united and ripens as one fruit. This is why they all received those revelations.

I had to be such a man. For the first time in history, this man made his appearance, and then all kinds of women appeared and were mobilized to become his bride. Such a man cannot even be found among the kings of old.

In the atmosphere of the time, what rumors would not have spread? If I seemed closer to someone, people said I would marry a daughter in that person's family.

Those who were communicating with the spirit world received revelations, in prayer, that a particular woman would be the bride. They told others about it. All sorts of rumors went round. Many women who were rich, well educated and born in grand families thought with confidence that they would be chosen.... You can imagine how fierce the psychological warfare was under such circumstances. Spiritual bullets must have flown back and forth between them on many occasions.

#### **Inheritance of the woman's heart in eight stages**

From God's point of view, all women in the world are united. He sees them as one. Since Adam and Eve fell, in front of the Adam representing the entire world, all women in the world are in the same position as Eve was, be they old or young. Under the circumstances, a bridge must be laid down from the era of old women, eighty and above, a bridge of flowers and of love. By guiding them through the word, raising them as daughters and bringing them forward, everything in the east, west, north and south should be brought under control and a bridge built across them.

For this to take place, many women need to climb up, treading over such situations. As they climb up, they need to take all lines of love, absorbing the sap in the process. Thus, they need to receive the heavenly seal of victory acknowledging the fact that they have attained the original position in which they can stand in front of God. In short, they need to be liberated. Every drop of the ditch water needs to be purified. Unless such rags are sewn up, there is no bridge by which Mother can come across. **TW**

# Outreach to Our Clans Receives New Emphasis



“From the providential viewpoint, this moment in time is without a doubt the most important one since the beginning of history. We have 874 days left in our work for the providence. If we were to calculate January 13, 2013, foundation day, in relation to True Father's life, viewing his birth as the beginning of a twenty-four-hour day, and January 2013 as the end of the same day, it is now 11:43 PM.” With this introductory statement, Dr. Hwang Sun-jo, embarked on his speech to inaugurate, at True Parents' behest, the Tribal Messiah Federation for World Peace.

Despite the nature of his opening statement, the audience held many people who were not members of our faith. The event was meant to set the stage for the actual coming together of the Cain and Abel realms, for leaders of clans or tribes to work alongside Unificationist tribal (clan) messiahs to further the cause of peace.

Thus, more than 1,200 ambassadors for peace, fifty leaders of Korean clans (extended family groups whose members are spread throughout Korea), dignitaries such as Mr. Park Ju-sun, a National Assemblyman and leader of the Democratic Party and other leaders in secular society had come together with boonbongwangs, church leaders and members at the Millennium Hall in Central City on August 23 for the launch of the organization.

In welcoming everyone to the event, Rev. Song Yong-seok said, “Through the Tribal Messiah Federation for World Peace, launched with your encouragement and participation, the representatives of each tribe will endeavor, in all nations, to resolve conflicts and disputes...and lay the foundation to build a world of peace.”

Mr. Hwang Ho-hang, deputy chairman of the Hwang Central Clan Committee, emphasized, “Modern society perceives the family simply rather than dimensionally, and so we are becoming an egoistic society whose members only think about themselves.... Through the clans, the vertical and horizontal relationships need to be reestablished multi-dimensionally.”

Dr. Hwang Sun-jo, who was being inaugurated to lead the new federation, strongly requested the blessed families, ambassadors for peace, and clan representatives jointly establish the “sovereignty of goodness” as the basis for global peace. He concluded by exhorting all present to dedicate themselves “heart and soul for the final work of the providence... during these remaining two years and five months.”

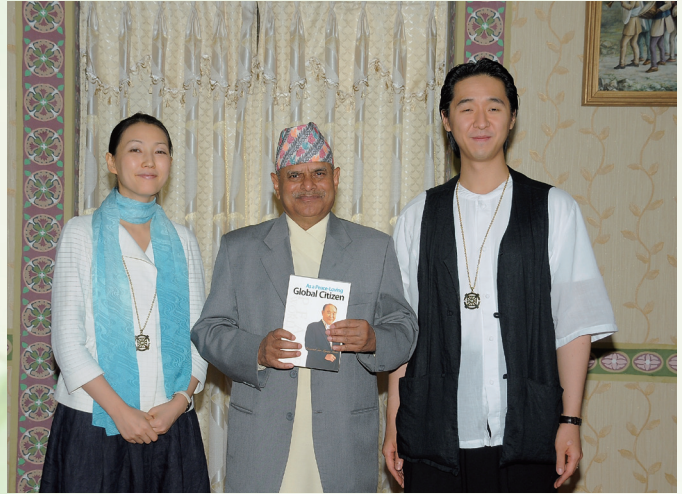
The program concluded with representatives of continents and clans signing the founding declaration, which included the statement that “The community of clans (tribes)...is the basis for a peaceful human community and for interaction that permits the recovery of our original human nature and relationships.”

The establishment of the new organization is a reminder to us all that we are well into the final hour for the work that needs to be done among our extended families. **TW**

*This brief appraisal was prepared by the Today's World staff.*



**Left:** Foreign members denoting world regions join Korean leaders onstage in heralding the inauguration of the Tribal Messiah Federation for World Peace; **Right:** Members of the federation come from both the "Abel" and "Cain" realms.



**Left: Hyung-jin nim and Yeon-ah nim receive a traditional welcome from religious leaders in Kathmandu**  
**Right: With Nepalese President Ram Baran Yadav, who has been in office since July 2008**

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2....INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*

are back up into the twenty thousands. Overall, donations have increased dramatically, so we are now a self-sufficient national church and we don't require funds from Japan at all.

We were able to build the growth-stage Cheon Bok Gung with the support of the worldwide members, within a year. That was amazing. True Parents of course blessed that effort, and they have pushed us hard to achieve the goal of twenty-one thousand members—which we haven't accomplished yet. Because I haven't yet reached twenty-one thousand members, I didn't initially want to go on this worldwide tour. We haven't firmly established a strong and powerful witnessing system yet. That caused me to hesitate, because I didn't feel I had done all my "homework." But Father and Mother clearly said, You must go on a global tour.

And it has turned out to be a great blessing.

**What was personally meeting the members like?**

We had a great experience with the members. In going to see the different communities, we learned a lot about the different situations that the members are facing, as a church, in different countries—for example the legal battle they are

fighting in Thailand, trying to secure their human rights and religious freedom.<sup>2</sup> The persecution members have to encounter—for example, one sister in Laos.<sup>3</sup> Those kinds of things which you see on the ground, we see when visiting the churches in the field. We sleep in those churches; we don't stay in a hotel where you are distant from the ground. We want to see the ground, we want to see how the members are living. We go to visit families, which helps give us a picture of where the church is at in a given country.

I know that in a day or two we cannot do all that, but we do what we can do to the best of our ability. We can visit the homes of ordinary members and we can feel the spirit and energy of the churches.<sup>4</sup>

Doing those kinds of things is wonderful, because we can see True Parents' incredible foundation all over the world. It's a humbling experience. At the same time, you want to offer more glory to True Parents, you want to help those

2 In the early 1990s, a number of members were accused of sedition and spent nearly two years in prison. They are still working through the legal system to clear their names.

3 In an environment not conducive to freedom of expression, Malivan Voladet spent five years in prison for her religious activities.

4 For more information on the different aspects of the visits, please see Hyung-jin nim's sermon given in Korea on September 5



**Left: On their knees, climbing the Holy Staircase, said to be the stairs Jesus climbed to Pontius Pilate's residence, which were brought to Rome from Jerusalem circa AD 326; Right: Hyung-jin nim and Yeon-ah nim visit the Yuen family in France**



**Left: Hyung-jin nim conveys the message "Follow True Love" during his visit to the Philippines, August 3**  
**Right: Hyung-jin nim and Yeon-ah nim visit a family in Thailand on August 2, during the Asian leg of their global tour**

churches. But there are some basic things that any church that wants to grow has to do. Because we have done those basics in Korea, taken the primary steps, we are able to share those ideas with the national churches.

**It seems the work you have been doing here in Korea is helping you in your work as international president.**

It's a huge help, absolutely. As one of the leaders said, "If Korea is not successful, it is difficult for our nation to be successful, because Korea is our fatherland. If Korea is successful, we can easily fight for our human rights and religious freedom." The Korean government acknowledges us. Members in other countries see our being acknowledged in Korea (as one of the big eight or nine religions) as directly benefiting their national churches. They are praying very much for the success of the Korean church, not only because Korea is the fatherland, but because it gives them spiritual strength to fight and to stand up for their faith. That was very inspiring.

**You've recently mentioned winning and losing models.**

Yes. For example, one of the national leaders said they were going to spread out more, open up more churches or centers. The general idea was to increase from twelve to twenty-four to forty, etcetera, nationwide.

But whenever we see someone presenting that model, we know it is likely to fail. We have learned that in order to create a successful organization, you have to create a successful model first. After that, you can duplicate. You cannot duplicate based only on a conceptual approach. If you try to duplicate too quickly, you will have far too many operating costs, without enough knowledge of the on-the-ground operation. That's how businesses, or churches even, lose their financial strength. They sap their strength by spending too much at the beginning, trying to go national at the outset.

You have to create a successful model. For example if you want to open Domino's Pizza shops, you have to open one first and make it successful before you open another one. It's a basic principle. But because they want to get very big very quickly, and spread the word to everyone, people make this common mistake. There is always a process, because we live in the real world. We live in a world with real pressures and circumstances, so we can't just do things however we want. It has to be based on real experience and successful models.

**In the practical sense as well as the spiritual.**

Oh yes. So, this was very practical advice we could offer. "Stay away from that model." I explained that in Korea we had had the same model. In Korea we had more than four



**Left: Hyung-jin nim leading members in Germany through early morning jeongseong; Right: Speaking to church members at the Chelsea Old Town Hall conference center in London, England**

## Excerpt from Hyung-jin nim's speech to the members in Nepal in early August

Global citizen does not mean "modern man." *You know, I have a very nice mobile phone. Oh, yes I'm a global man.* That is not what True Father is talking about when he is talking about a global citizen! He's talking about when we see the world not with human eyes but through the eyes of God. He is teaching that when we see the world from God's perspective, from the parents' perspective, we can see the world as our children. We can love and sacrifice for the world because its people are our children. Even though we are betrayed and scorned, we can still love.

In the end, it is that type of parental love that defeats all evil. It is that type of love that defeats the worst satan, the worst obstacle, the worst archangel. True love is always patient. True love is never victorious overnight. It always takes time. That's why love is just like faith. We have ups and downs in our life of faith. We sometimes believe and have faith, but also when we love others we have hard times. Sometimes when a person—maybe our own child—hurts us, it's very hard to love him. But that's why it takes practice. That is why true love must be inherited.

hundred churches. Every single one was producing negative results and the Korean church as a whole was in debt. We were being subsidized with ten million dollars annually. There was no way this was a viable or sustainable church. We told them how we had to merge churches in Korea. We had to explain to them that if your goal is just to spread churches, you can't be successful. You will end up having to merge them back together again, and that's going to create more stress.

We were able to give that kind of advice and that helped change their direction, so to speak. That's one example.

**In Korea there is Cheon Bok Gung, and in the United States In-jin nim has Lovin' Life Ministries. I suppose those are good examples of growing models that could later multiply.** Yes.

**How important do you feel having a strong central church is?** It's absolutely essential as a success model. The central church has as its goal to be self-sufficient, not subsidized in any way by other organizations or churches—totally self-sufficient. It is able to manage perhaps thousands of members effectively, care for them, and help them grow in faith. When you have that kind of organizational strength, you can help educate and teach how to run smaller organizations—because you are already adept at organizing and moving big ones.

At the same time, we want to encourage creativity in the field, so we do not only have Cheon Bok Gung creating new material and trying new ideas. We have the Korean church headquarters trying new ideas, as if in competition with Cheon Bok Gung's team. And we have Mrs. Erikawa's team<sup>5</sup> in competition with Cheon Bok Gung's team of ministers and the team at the Korean church headquarters. We encourage this kind of healthy competition because it helps promote creativity in the field. Then we are able to analyze the data from the various groups in an unbiased manner and see which one creates the most result in terms of such things as witnessing and donations.

**What are the main aspects of the development of Cheon Bok Gung as a model that are happening here?**

We don't try to keep everything centralized, in the sense of "We make it and you use it." We try to research what is successful in the field and try to use that. That's not yet happening in Korea, however. In Japan, they have always strongly felt the need to be creative in finding a way to be successful

5 Groups of women who focus on witnessing

in the field. Whatever works, the headquarters will gather information on working ideas and disseminate this to the other churches.

**You're saying that in Japan there's a lot of give-and-take between the field and the headquarters.**

There has to be. Otherwise they cannot make the results Father requests. The headquarters there is not like it has been in Korea, where it is the center that creates all the content and everyone follows that. In Japan, people in the field create the ideas, the headquarters finds the places that are successful and conveys the ideas being used in those successful places. That's why the Japanese church is able to support the worldwide providence.

**And are you now developing this idea in the Korean church?**

Yes, we want to encourage creativity, so increasingly we want the Korean church headquarters to not just dictate the content for the field. Of course, we have particular beliefs that are central to the Unification Church and that cannot change. I am not talking about those. I am talking about our approach, for example, the approach to education, what perspective to come from. We want both the Korean church headquarters and Cheon Bok Gung to play that kind of role. We are encouraging healthy competition that is beneficial for the whole church.

**Recently you were doing a tour in Korea. How do your impressions of the churches around Korea compare with those of the churches in the countries you visit?**

We have visited only one so far because of many other scheduled events and our travelling overseas.

They still have to create more of a witnessing culture. Things are still far from where we need them to be, but they are improving.

**People are tuning in from around the world to the English language service through the internet. Are you conscious that you are running an internet ministry?**

We always keep the audience in mind during the international service, and that it is an international audience. But it's also a time when we can report what is happening on the ground in Korea. We see the audience of the international service not so much as the members living in Korea, which are very few, but many, many people who are tuning in through the internet. I don't run that—Kyle Toffey does that. But we are definitely aware of our audience! **STW**



# Placing Sacred Texts on a Sacred Altar

*On July 21, Hyung-jin nim spoke at a ceremony to officially place, in Cheon Bok Gung, the Cheon Bok Hahm containing the texts True Parents have designated as the heavenly texts and teaching materials. The following is from his concluding remarks on that day.*

In the Old Testament Age, God bestowed on Moses the Ark of the Covenant containing the Ten Commandments in response to the repeated disbelief of the people, thus symbolizing God's salvation of humankind for eternity. In the New Testament Age, God strove to complete His providence of salvation through Jesus, who had come as the symbol of the word.

In the era of Cheon Il Guk, it is True Parents, who have come as the third Adam, the Lord at his second coming, the king of kings, and the substantial Word, who work for the salvation and perfection of human beings. The Cheon Bok Hahm<sup>1</sup> contains the texts and teaching materials that guide all people on the path to perfection, which is the path of ridding themselves of fallen nature and coming to take on the fundamental attributes of God.

The temple of the church and the homes of the blessed families where the Cheon Bok Hahms will be placed today will become bases for Cheon Il Guk. They symbolize God coming to dwell there. Blessed families and church members will come to experience that the heavenly fortune of God and the Holy Spirit will be with them where they have gathered together to offer devotions to God and True Parents and to read and put into practice the content of the eight texts and teaching materials.

<sup>1</sup> The word 꺆 (gwae) meaning "ark" has been changed in the Korean to 꺆 (hahm), meaning "box" or "chest." We await news of any formal change in the English translation.

More than anything else, the significance of the inheritance of the Word lies in bringing to life those who have died because of the Fall. Those who study the Word carefully and follow a path of absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience will undergo the miraculous experience of having their fallen nature removed, and an incredible wave of salvation and witnessing will flow out to all human beings lost to God.

In particular, the leaders from around the world who attended the 120 days, and were grafted to the eight texts and teaching materials through their early morning devotions, will pass them on to missions and churches in all corners of the world through the grace of True Parents. It will thus be possible to forever proclaim the will of God and True Parents to save Heaven's nation, all of the world.

In the Cheon Bok Hahm will be placed a certificate of inheritance of the Word bearing True Parents' seal, as well as the eight texts and teaching materials. Just as God gave life to all people by breathing the breath of life into their nostrils when He first created the world through His Word, the Word is restored through victory over Satan through the seven deaths and resurrections; and the completion of the eight stages will blow the breath of life into all people who died through the Fall. Thus the Word will be substantiated.

We hope everyone will inherit the Cheon Bok Hahm, which portends such amazing experiences and blessings. **TW**

# In a Land Steeped in Faith



**Top Left:** Hyung-jin nim and Yeon-ah nim pray at Gethsemane **Top Right:** Prayer beneath the rock from which Muhammed is said to have ascended to heaven, in the Al-Aqsa Mosque; **Inset:** Father called Hyung-jin nim while he was at the El Gazar Mosque, and then spoke directly to the Imam; **Right:** Paying their respects at the home of the late Sheik Bukhary, an ambassador for peace

**H**yung-jin nim, his wife Yeon-ah nim, his sister-in-law Yeon-ah nim and their entourage arrived at Ben Gurion Airport, about an hour away from Jerusalem, late Saturday night, August 21.

## Middle East Peace Initiative

The Middle East Peace Initiative (MEPI) participants had had their first day of activities the day before. The MEPI pilgrims had begun by visiting Jericho, a spring-fed oasis town. Those springs, the Bible records, were purified by Elisha, Elijah's disciple, shortly after his having received a double share of Elijah's spirit as Elijah rode a fiery chariot into the heavens. As the Bible states, "the water has been wholesome to this day."

They next visited Lake Kinneret, known in biblical days as the Sea of Galilee, around which Jesus traveled and preached. Today, this 21 x 11 km lake is important as the only surface source of fresh water in all of Israel. The group went to the

hillside overlooking the lake that tradition has it is where Jesus delivered his Sermon on the Mount. Also near the shores of Lake Kinneret, at the tomb of Moses' father-in-law Jethro, a Druze holy site, Sheikh Samich Natur received them gracefully and spoke to them about the affinity he feels for Father Moon.

They then took in the Basilica of the Annunciation, believed to stand on the site where the Angel Gabriel announced to Mary, "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus."

Having had a taste of the historical significance of the land, the peace initiators listened to a member of the Palestinian Authority, and a former member of the Israeli Knesset, who spoke to them that evening of impending negotiations to end the state of conflict between the peoples living on the land.

On Sunday morning, after having hoondokhae with Israeli members, Hyung-jin nim spoke to the MEPI pilgrims about prayer.



**Clockwise from above: Hyung-jin nim with Malachite Christian leader Father Abu Akel; Imam Asi of El Gazar Mosque presenting Hyung-jin nim with an old photo of Acre; Hyung-jin nim receives a sheik's robes and gives Sheikh Tarif a copy of Father's memoirs; With a priest at the Church of All Nations in Gethsemane**



### Interreligious meetings and pilgrimage

Hyung-jin nim and his group then joined Israeli members, including Prof. Eliezer Glaubach, Prof. Shuki Ben Ami and Hod Ben Zvi, the Israeli national leader, and visited Gethsemane, the olive grove where Jesus prayed before his betrayal and arrest. At an ancient olive tree covered in thick, gray bark and pockmarked with age, Hyung-jin nim held a prayer ceremony; at the culmination of the ceremony, he presented a small picture of True Parents to each person present and placed one of the photographs in the tree. It was into this tree, whose three main limbs spiral off a solid trunk, that True Father had driven three small nails, representing the three Abrahamic faiths, when he established the Gethsemane holy ground there on August 31, 1965. They then visited the nearby Church of the Nations, built adjacent to the garden in which Jesus had prayed all night, before Judas betrayed him with a kiss.

Departing Gethsemane, the group moved to the Qumran caves, northwest of the Dead Sea, where in 1947 young Bedouin shepherds discovered earthen pots that contained ancient scrolls. More than seven hundred ancient manuscripts, of both a worldly and a biblical nature, have been found in eleven caves in the area. An Israeli member commented that Hyung-jin nim "demonstrated deep interest in the place as well as wide knowledge regarding the subject of the scrolls."

As the MEPI participants had a day earlier, they visited the mount from which Jesus is said to have delivered the Beatitudes, declarations of blessedness. Following this, they traveled to the Druze village of Julis for a meeting that included Muslim and Christian leaders and was hosted by Sheik Moa-

faq Tarif, the spiritual leader of the Druze in Israel. Gifts were exchanged, including copies of *As A Peace-Loving Global Citizen*. Hyung-jin nim received the robes of a sheikh.

Druze Sheik Ali Birani then escorted the group to the El Gazar Mosque at Acre. They were met by Imam Asi, and with the setting of the sun, he invited everyone to share an *iftar* meal, the daily breaking of fast during Ramadan.

The following day began with 3 am jeongseong with members, 5 am hoondokhae, and interfaith prayer and meditation with the MEPI participants at 6:30.

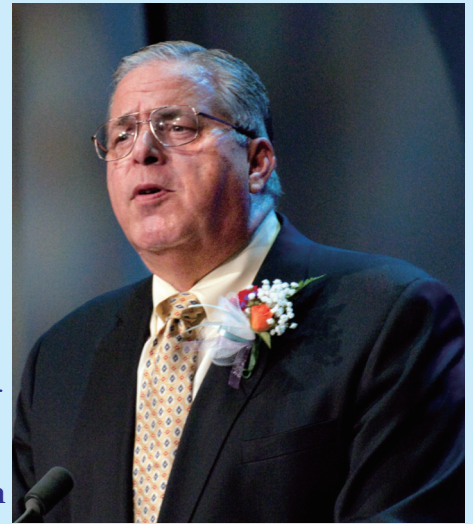
After breakfast, they set off for the entrance to the Old City, Jaffa Gate, built in 1538 by Suleiman the Magnificent, whom Islamic history regards as a second Solomon. Once in the Old City, they visited the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, which is built over caves, one of which is said to be the tomb to which Joseph of Arimathea brought Jesus body after his crucifixion.

They visited the Western Wall, the holiest site to the Jewish faithful, an extant portion of the wall surrounding the temple that was rebuilt by Jews having returned from the Babylon Exile and that was razed by the Romans in ad 70. They went to Temple Mount, the area of Mount Moriah where Abraham displayed his willingness to offer Isaac, and in the Dome of the Rock, Al-Aqsa Mosque, they met the Mufti of Palestine.

Before returning to their hotel and preparing for the Assembly to Proclaim the Substantial Word of God and the Era of the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, they visited the Church of the Nativity, where a church has stood since the days of Emperor Constantine to mark what is believed to be the birthplace of Jesus the Christ. **7W**

# How One Man Has Moved the World

By Dr. Neil Albert Salonen



*The following is an excerpt from a tribute to True Father, given at the World Assembly to Proclaim the Substantial Word of God and the Era of the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, on July 24 at the Manhattan Center in New York City.*

In 1965, God brought Rev. Moon to America to call us back to our national destiny. For the last forty-five years our True Parents have worked tirelessly to teach us, to urge us to become individuals of absolute faith, of absolute love and absolute obedience.... There are so many examples, I can't possibly convey all of them. I want to pick just three to exemplify each of the teachings. For absolute faith, when others didn't have faith, I think about the Professors World Peace Academy. The world was divided. In Korea, in the early 1960s, there was still no peace treaty between Korea and Japan, and politicians couldn't find a way to resolve this. So Rev. Moon founded an international organization of academics who transcended nations, and they built bridges for politicians to walk across. Shortly after that, the peace treaty was signed, and the prosperity of South Korea began.

It was the same in Africa. It's hard to remember now that the vile apartheid system in South Africa made it very difficult for the richest nation to even communicate with the other nations. But the Professors World Peace Academy, under the leadership of Rev. Moon, in each of those countries, built bridges of friendship in the belief that they could transcend national barriers and work together for a common good. Despite the fact that people couldn't believe it, the apartheid system fell peacefully, and a new era began.

The same was true with the reunification of Germany. Most people said it wouldn't happen in their lifetime. But in 1985, in Geneva, Rev. Moon convened a conference of international academics and he insisted that the title of the conference be the Fall of the Soviet Empire. The professors begged him not to use that title—too strong, too harsh. How about the weakening of the Soviet empire? The moderate reduction of the Soviet empire? He insisted that it's the fall, the time is over! They united with him; that conference was successful, and four years later the Berlin Wall came down. [Applause] That's just an example of absolute faith, when others didn't have it, but the example of absolute love is a little more painful.

Rev. Moon came, and Rev. Moon and Mrs. Moon worked with all of the young people of America tirelessly, teaching them not to use drugs, not to live lives of free sex, but to devote themselves for the good of others. And the harder they worked, the more they were accused by other churches that

had not necessarily fulfilled their responsibilities, and through them by government leaders who accused them of the most incredible things—that we were kidnapping and brainwashing our members, that we were somehow turning them against their own country, turning them against their own families. All of those things were later found and proven not to be true. But during the time of the most intense criticism, government leaders even got the apparatus of the IRS to investigate the church. One government panel even said we were being funded by the Korean C. I. A. Actually, our budget was so small, we weren't being funded by anybody!

A prominent senator said that if the IRS couldn't find something wrong with Rev. Moon, there was something wrong with the IRS. A lesser person would've sued for libel, would've demonstrated, would've protested, but a person of true love took it and continued to work for the sake of this nation. Even when he was thrown in prison, Rev. Moon established the *Washington Times* so that he could work to support this nation and sometimes the very politicians that had ridiculed him. [Applause]

Twenty years later at the United Nations, it was my moving experience when Rev. Moon was speaking and up there on the panel with him the same senator who had attacked him was there to praise him, was there to praise the work he had done with the *Washington Times*. And the look on Rev. Moon's face will be with me all my life. And at the end of the speech he walked over and embraced him. It's only love, it's only absolute love that can remove the barriers and dissolve the evil and build the bridges and overcome. Rev. Moon has been the most amazing example of that.

And absolute obedience... the very same communists in the Soviet Union and in North Korea who not only ridiculed him and attacked him but threatened to kill him and sent agents to kill him, at the call of God he went to those countries at the risk of his life, because God wanted him to try to offer the hand of friendship. And like Jacob meeting Esau, he offered to help them; he offered to help them if they would open their doors to freedom of religion, and like Esau, they embraced him. **TW**

*Neil Salonen (Unification Church president 1972–1980) is the president of the University of Bridgeport, in the U.S. city of Bridgeport, Connecticut.*

## Proclaiming the Substantial Word in the United States



Above: Rev. Jesse Edwards, Archbishop George Augustus Stallings and Neil Salonen present a gift to Father and Mother during the July 24 event; Right: The crowd more than filled the Manhattan Center's Hammerstein Ballroom and the New Yorker Hotel's Grand Ballroom.



## Proclaiming the Substantial Word in Israel



The Jerusalem Assembly to Proclaim the Substantial Word completed a trilogy of events that began in the third Israel (Korea), passed to the second Israel (the U.S.) and ended in the first Israel, where Hyung-jin nim represented Father in delivering Father's speech from the earlier events; Left: Hyung-jin nim adding his signature to a declaration; Below: Prayers for peace in a land where it seems so elusive.



# Self Discovery Is Found Beyond the Self

*Three young people on STF explain how their lives were transformed by the experience of reaching out to others*



By Charles Gray

**W**itnessing gave me my faith. I experienced moments, completely unexpectedly, that touched me deep in my heart and that I will never forget. It's funny how the smallest things can build up, unnoticed, to create something profound and uniquely meaningful for you.

This year on STF, I had the great privilege to witness to students in Bosnia Herzegovina, which is in Eastern Europe. My first impressions of the country seeded doubt in my mind about gaining witnessing success there; the capital, Sarajevo, still bore marks of the war they went through fifteen years ago. I wondered if the people were just as scarred. Also, spiritually, I was still in a shaky position with my faith. The fund raising conditions had revealed my faith to be an empty shell, which raised questions about my basic beliefs such as in the existence of God and in the spirit world. My faith was then laboriously rebuilt with real experiences and investment. But it still felt vulnerable—still young, fresh and fragile. Could I share my faith with complete confidence and inspire belief? Was it now strong enough to withstand a barrage of doubts and questioning from others? Did I truly believe that True Father was the Messiah, and most importantly could I declare this? This was how I began witnessing, with doubts plaguing my mind.

And I struggled. For one thing, I found it difficult to deal with the circumstances in Bosnia. We were witnessing predominantly to Muslim students, so we had a different style of approach that took me a while to adapt to.

But my biggest difficulty was when I lost my connection with God. Right at the time I needed it the most, it was gone and it nearly broke me. I couldn't pray. I had no inspiration to study the Divine Principle. I couldn't unite with central figures, and I was just generally depressed. I tried not to let it affect the team though. It was a test of my character not to dump my problems onto all of them. I also felt this was my first real test of faith. All I had was completely blind faith and trust that if I kept giving, trusting, and investing it would come back. A good attitude was so very important, but so difficult to keep.

Somehow, through this difficult period I realized how much I actually wanted this faith and

valued it. Slowly things began to come back. There was no definitive point at which things turned. My prayers became clear and flowed easily. When reading Divine Principle, I could see deeper into it, and questions were answered after short prayers.

When I reconnected with God, I could humble myself and unite with my central figures. It was at this point, past a seemingly insurmountable mountain, that I experienced my deepest moments with God and True Parents. After everything, when you've drained yourself completely, there's still more you can do. You can hold onto what you believe even when you feel nothing, and that's when God comes. He can trust you now, trust that He can work through you, trust that you will not give up when up against a wall. My connection with God is so much stronger now than before.

I began to see people as children of God, something I'd struggled with for a long time. I just couldn't have an emotional connection to this, only an intellectual understanding, but it was something I

**STF Europe provides young members with a structured and varied spiritual training program**





Michael Stringer (left) with his spiritual son

The word "witnessing" evokes many different ideas, memories and reactions for me but the most outstanding of these is the true relationships that I was able to build. My experience with my spiritual child is probably one of the most genuine human relationships I have been able to have. I just tried my best to be able to understand him and do the best for him. Through this, I was able to bring him the Principle and he was able to help me understand that the way I invested in him is the way I should invest in all my relationships. This is how witnessing becomes a lifestyle.

—Michael Stringer

really wanted. And it came. It started first with my team. I saw them at moments of vulnerability, when they were expressing themselves almost as children would. It was as if I could see their true selves for a fleeting moment. It overwhelmed me because it came about all at once one evening at dinner when I was watching my team members. I was so grateful for this insight into God's heart and for this truth, that we are all children of God.

Something else that came was a sudden passion to give lectures to my guests. It came when I was blocked and giving out to them was a challenge. Did I want to actually give them something that would help their lives or did I just want to give lectures for the sake of the experience? When I finally had the chance, I was so happy and truly believed I was giving them something that would help them in their life with God.

The most profound experience however was finally understanding and shedding tears for Father. It was the moment I actually dedicated myself to True Parents as the Messiah and to God. My heart was brushed a few times by simple things one week—reading a passage by Father about how he does not give us the whole truth so we don't have to suffer what he has, seeing a picture of a small smile while he was giving the blessing—simple things. But one morning we listened to Hyung-jin nim's service on the seven deaths and resurrections and everything came back in such a powerful way. It just hit me that True Father has been through hell and back to give us an easier path. How, regardless of this, he can smile and laugh out of love for all of us. I just cried. I could finally see why he was the Messiah. It was his parental heart for all of humanity. And this is what we must inherit.

Opportunities for growth were bound to come up while spending six months in an intense environment with a bunch of STF members. This period of witnessing was the toughest time of my STF year and probably of my life up to this point. Yet, after witnessing for six months, going through ups and downs, trials and challenges, I finally have my own faith. It was built by me, through what I gave and invested and what I experienced. It is my own.

## By Jonna Yoshizumi



Jonna Yoshizumi says witnessing (in Albania) gave her ownership of her faith

One summer, in frustration, I exclaimed to my mom that I felt my life was based on obligations toward my parents and I didn't feel personally connected to God or True Parents at all. I felt that I couldn't go on living the life of a hypocrite, but I also knew that finding faith requires going out of one's way.

A year later I found myself on STF. After a few months of fund raising, I was off to Albania to go witnessing. The four months spent there turned out to be an intense rollercoaster ride. I was confronted with myself as a person, as well as with my faith, and to be honest I had no clue whatsoever what I was supposed to do.

My not being clear in my faith made me struggle with the fact that I should be trying to convey it to others. I was asking myself, How can I witness about God when my relationship to Him is nearly non-existent? Why do I need God in my life? So far, I've managed without him. As for the Divine Principle, I hadn't found any particular loopholes in it, but it didn't inspire me to witness.

I tried praying desperately to find clarity and conviction, but nothing was happening, which made me even more miserable.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

# The Witnessing Mind-Set and the Online World



To some, the internet is an alien environment. They can't move around in it, can't find what they're looking for and can't understand the language. Such a person, when online, feels like a 4NR.<sup>1</sup>

Most of us are perfectly at home online. It's our library, our auditorium, our in-home entertainment center. We use it in our mission and in our work. After hours, we may use it to escape from the "real" world, losing ourselves in role-playing games or in the lives of our favorite celebrities. On the other hand, we may join the crowd on social networking sites, sharing photos and communicating with friends through cyberspace.

A rare few have been able to wrest control in their relationship to the online world. For them, the internet is not a means of passively engaging with or of escaping from the real world; it's a means of asserting influence over it. Mr. Yulian Marianov is one such person.

## What makes him special

Mr. Marianov admits that our movement has not yet developed enough witnessing-oriented web sites, but he says, "I'm confident we can educate and change the world through the internet." At forty years old, Yulian Marianov lives with his Slovakian wife Lenka and four sons in the Bulgarian town of Burgas, on the Black Sea coast, 340 km from Sofia, the nation's capital. He's a 2001 UTS graduate who did his thesis on "Helping the New Tradition of Marriage Be Established: Unification Family Therapy."

Mr. Yanko Kirkov, a fellow Bulgarian and long-time missionary to Russia, said of Yulian, "He is a capable brother both in terms of Divine Principle knowledge and internet communication."

Those capabilities made it possible for Yulian to fight back against those who vilify our faith online in the Bulgarian language. "For the last three years," Mr. Kirkov continued, "he always fought back any negativity with objective and clear arguments. As a result, negativity actually stopped and many people can still read both sides' ideas."<sup>2</sup>

Yulian felt a strong desire to do online outreach six years ago and asked someone to teach him how he could do this. At the time, Yulian decided it was all too complicated. Three years later, though, creating a web site, setting up and running a blog, posting photos and videos and holding online exchanges with visitors had become much easier. When Yanko Kirkov mentions Yulian's internet knowledge, he emphasized "communication." Any member who is motivated enough to

1 Computer shorthand for "foreigner"

2 Online arguments in which Mr. Marianov succeeded in refuting false accusations are still on the internet.

study a bit should be able to understand the basic computer science, the technical knowledge, involved in what Yulian is doing. Yulian's gift appears to be his shrewd understanding of what moves people who search the internet.

He has achieved success using his deep knowledge of online reader behavior. He knows what they're searching for. "For example," he says, "family values and moral issues are not as popular as prophecies. People do not search about spiritual things, but once they come and see attractive topics, they do have inborn curiosity and interest in these areas." Half the people that come to his sites are reading articles about Father being the Messiah, but Yulian has written those articles in a way that first piques readers' interest. "Nostradamus Prophesied about Moon," "The Letters of Fatima Reveal Who the Messiah Is" and "What the Book of Enoch Says about the Last Days" are some of his most frequently read articles. He also writes about what Korean and Russian prophets have said and compares their predictions with True Father's life. He believes this helps readers "compare what prophets say about a messianic figure with what Rev. Moon is doing. It's the most interesting way to show his objectives for transforming the world and bringing world peace."

Yulian values each visitor and doesn't want to lose even one. He believes he has ten seconds in which to make a good initial impression. "If I haven't made obvious, attractive and easy to follow links," he says, "he's gone." If a reader comes through an internet search, they will arrive at an article perhaps deep inside the web site. Alongside the article, the reader will see links to articles Yulian has written most recently depicted by a small thumbnail-sized illustration and a provocative or tantalizing title. At the bottom of the article will be two or three links of that type to more articles on a similar topic. He hopes readers will be endlessly inspired. He boldly states that a visitor should be able to remain on his interlinked web sites reading until he or she "is educated with the same view as our members." Apparently, this has happened. On the iunificationist.net site, Yulian writes about a woman whose first e-mail contact with him includes, "I want to join and support the Family Federation. I feel ashamed that previously I didn't know what great things Rev. Moon is doing."

He also thinks about the long-term effect of his work. "To achieve a witnessing effect, I make sure that whatever people read, they understand it is connected to us, and represents our views. Only in this way, will they start to understand who we are, what we think and what values we represent. Conscientious people will be inspired and develop a positive image about us."

### Duplicating Yulian's success

Also on the iunificationist.net site Yulian describes the traffic for one day on only one of his thirty blogs. A hundred and forty people were visiting the blog at the moment he checked the statistics. The day was not finished, and he had had 1,417 unique visitors. (If a site is interesting, a person may visit the site four or five times in a day, but "unique visitors" counts that person only once.) On a social networking site (such as Facebook) people vote for what internet material they like and an article by Yulian had the most votes and was drawing people from all over Bulgaria, from 286 towns and villages, in fact. When he began blogging, people wouldn't vote for Yulian's article because prejudice toward our members was very strong. It is a sign of Yulian's effectiveness that his internet outreach has turned this situation around. On his own Facebook page, he says his unique visitors are reaching thirty thousand a month and peak readers at a given moment reaches two to three hundred at times.

He created a new web site and in three days had had 3,430 visits. Elsewhere he has said that 80 percent of the key words related to True Parents will turn up an article by him in the first two pages of results.

It's fair to say however, that Mr. Marianov has become such a big fish because he operates in a rather small pond. Bulgaria has a population of 7.6 million,<sup>3</sup> the ninety-third most populous country in the world. Worldwide, 9,097,220<sup>4</sup> people speak the Bulgarian language. Mr. Marianov appreciates this. He realizes that changing the perception of our church among the 328,518,810<sup>4</sup> Spanish speakers, the 328,008,138<sup>4</sup> English speakers or even the 67,838,450<sup>4</sup> French speakers of the world will be neither easy nor simple. Many more bloggers who share Yulian

3 Source: <http://data.un.org>

4 Source: <http://www.ethnologue.com>

Marianov's wisdom and dedication are needed. Toward that end, he is now teaching a five-week course through the iunificationist.net online school.

Another asset that Bulgaria has is its own prophetess, Vangelia Pandeveva Gusterova, who unlike Nostradamus, did not die in 1566. She lived until August 1996 and Bulgarians and others are still remarkably curious about what she predicted. According to *Pravda*, the Russian newspapers, she is best remembered for a 1980 predication. "The Blind old woman said, 'At the turn of the century, in August of 1999 or 2000, Kursk will be covered with water, and the whole world will be weeping over it.'" Kursk, a city south-southwest of Moscow is far from any large body of water. It did not seem reasonable. Yet, twenty years later, the Russian submarine Kursk, which didn't even exist until 1994, sank on August 12, 2000. Ninety-five men died immediately and the world stood transfixed as Norwegian and British ship crews tried to rescue the twenty-three men still living, trapped in a vessel that lay a hundred and twenty meters beneath the surface of the Barents Sea. The attempts were unsuccessful; all aboard were lost. Baba Vanga, as she is sometimes called, is certainly one reason that "prophecy" is a major area of interest in the Bulgarian language.

Nevertheless, all nations have particular assets and require a particular approach. What's most important, and what God seems to be demonstrating for all of us through the Bulgarian model, is the tremendous synergy that results from the power of the internet in the hands of a dedicated members who understand how to utilize it to bring about a witnessing effect. **JW**

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By a Today's World staff member based on correspondence between Mr. Marianov and the magazine's editor. Mr. Marianov can be reached on [yulianuts@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:yulianuts@yahoo.co.uk)

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

Eventually my struggles made me turn to my parents. Being completely honest with them, being stripped of my secrets, allowed me to feel their unconditional love for me. The connection I was able to build with my parents turned out to be my lost key to God. However, I still find myself frustrated at times, being the impatient person that I am, because connecting to God is not a given and requires constant effort.

How much pain and betrayal is out there in the world really hit me one day while I was reading my e-mail. Many of us in the second generation, me included, try to adapt and mold ourselves to fit into the secular world, deluded by its disguise of short-term fun. This made me value our blessed families despite our imperfections. Also I could realize that a life lived for a greater purpose is more fulfilling, though it is the road less traveled. Overwhelmed with passion to live for something bigger than I am, I tried to direct it toward witnessing.

While witnessing, you want to share something you find meaningful, and through your investment in your guests, you wear your heart on your sleeve. I could experience a broad range of emotions from feeling absolutely heartbroken and desperate for people to accept True Parents and the new truth to feeling immense happiness through my guests. During those moments, I could come to understand God's parental heart.

Without a doubt, witnessing made me grow tremendously



STF team leader Christian Colleter witnessing in Slovenia

and helped me come to the point where I can say that I own my faith. Just getting the opportunity to question my faith, come to my own conclusions about my faith and be in situations where I am made to face my faith were essential building blocks for me. I feel it's necessary for us in the second generation to make effort to own our faith and to be inspired about conveying the truth to the youth of today. The world is in need of a change and we have a lot to offer. **JW**

# Following True Parents to Moscow—Part II

By Jack Corley

*Twenty years ago, Jack Corley, who is currently national leader in Ireland, was among those sent to the Soviet Union as missionaries. The first part of his reminiscences about life and mission work during the fifteen years he spent there appeared in our May issue.*

**I**n my earlier article, I wrote about some of the difficulties of working in a disintegrating Soviet Union in 1990 and 1991. Here, I relate how in the turbulent early days of post-Soviet Russia, our members prepared to welcome True Mother to the region during her 1992 and 1993 global speaking tours, as well as some other events during that period.

## **“Heart attack” situations<sup>1</sup>**

When we heard that True Mother was preparing to start her first tour in the autumn of 1992, we understood that her plans included a visit to Moscow. However, due to political and security uncertainties, Father delayed the announcement of a date until just eight days before the event. This was the shortest lead-up time for any of the cities on this tour. We heard the announced date—November 22, 1992—as we were hosting the fifteenth Mr. and Miss University beauty pageant, which in 1992 was held in Moscow. Taking advantage of the situation, and in an act of faith, we distributed flyers to an audience of over a thousand at the beauty pageant, announcing that Mother would speak at the Kremlin’s Palace of Congresses.

The main hall of the Palace of Congresses seated over seven thousand people and we had just a week to fill it—but first we had to get it. As a backup, a movie theatre with three thousand five hundred seats was also rented. Trying to rent the main hall of the Kremlin for a public speech was extremely complicated. In the uncertain times of 1992, no government officials wanted to take responsibility in case anything went wrong. Our feelings ranged from exhilaration to despair as we negotiated with the authorities, through intermediaries, to confirm the venue.

Unfortunately, the authorities stubbornly resisted our efforts to use the Kremlin, despite a last desperate bid by Dr. Seuk Joon-ho, our Northeast Region’s continental director. On the evening before True Mother’s speech, I accompanied Dr. Seuk and our earliest Russian member, Irina Aksenova, to a late-night meeting with the head of the Kremlin administration to persuade him to let us use the venue. The director had been attending a ballet performance and was not very happy at being disturbed. For around two hours, until well after midnight, Dr. Seuk pleaded with him to allow us the use of the hall, at one point saying we could not be sure of the reaction of the thousands of people who would gather the next day at the Kremlin gates, if they could not enter. Even a phone call from an assistant of President Boris Yeltsin failed to stir the official, and we resigned ourselves to having the event in the Oktyabrskaya Cinema.

As True Mother waited to board her airplane at Moscow airport early in the morning after her speech, Dr. Seuk asked me to give a brief report about the event. I began by apologizing that we were unable to have her speak in the Kremlin, and Mother with a kind smile responded, “Next time.”

“Next time” came exactly a year later, when we learned that True Mother would visit Russia, Ukraine and Belarus on her 1993 global speaking tour. Obtaining a venue in the Kremlin this time was no easier than in the previous year. Only a few weeks earlier, on October 2 and 3, 1993, a political stand-off between President Yeltsin and the Russian parliament climaxed in violent clashes between the Russian army and demonstrators, in which dozens of people died. This was followed by a month-long curfew. We heard that the Kremlin authorities in no way would allow any religious or political group to use the Kremlin.

As in the previous year, we also rented a back up venue; in this case the main auditorium

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Seuk Joon-ho coined this phrase to describe the nerve-wracking situations that we faced in the early days of the mission.

of Moscow State University. However due to pressure from various sources, on the Thursday before True Mother's speech the following Sunday, we heard that Moscow State University had cancelled the venue. To make matters worse, on the following day we also received word that the Kremlin authorities had cancelled their agreement. We found ourselves in the horrifying situation of having no venue for Mother to speak, two days before her arrival and with thousands of people mobilized for the event. This was truly a "heart attack" situation.

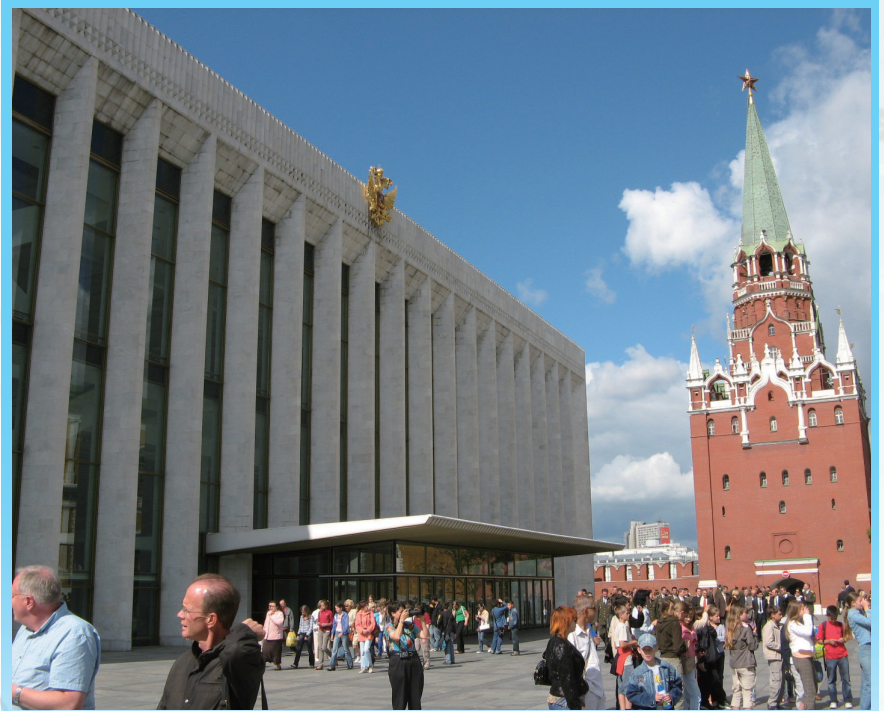
After some desperate pleading and tough negotiations, the Kremlin authorities finally relented, on the day before the speech. Although we who worked on the event had been desperate, I believe that the spiritual conditions set up by True Parents allowed this miracle to happen. There was no other way this could have been possible.

As people gathered for the event, it was so moving to hear an orchestral rendition of our Holy Songs being played over the building's sound system—who could have dreamed of such a possibility when Father declared, "Must go—Moscow" in 1976!

Only a few years earlier, the leaders of the Soviet Union had proudly proclaimed the victory of communism from the stage of the Kremlin's Palace of Congresses. What a wonderful feeling it was to watch True Mother stride onto the same stage on Sunday, November 21, 1993, to boldly proclaim "True Parents and the Completed Testament Age."

#### The hand of God at work

Another interesting story from the early days relates to the president of the Russian Autonomous Republic of Kalmykia and the beginning of our work in Mongolia. The Republic of Kalmykia is located on the western shore of the Caspian Sea, and its population is predominantly of Mongolian descent from the time of Genghis Khan. Several Russian members had mentioned that the newly elected president, thirty-three-



**In 1993, True Mother spoke at the Kremlin's Palace of Congresses (the white building), which was originally built to hold general meetings of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union**

year-old Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, was a different type of leader and that we should visit him. Finally, without even having a fixed appointment, we flew to the Kalmykian capital of Elista in early 1993. When I asked the president's chief of staff if it was possible to have a short meeting, he said that since the president was being interviewed by a TV news team from Japan, a meeting would be impossible. I gave him a copy of a Russian-English PR book about Father that had been prepared for True Parents' 1990 visit to Moscow and asked him to pass it on to the president. To my great surprise, the chief of staff returned within a few minutes, saying that the president wanted to meet right away. At the meeting the president explained that ten years earlier he had been a student at the prestigious Moscow State Institute of International Relations, where the



**Must Go—Moscow** was an expression of True Father's determination that our church's decades of anticommunist work would culminate in a meeting or confrontation in the heart of the USSR. In the end, True Parents met President Mikhail Gorbachev at his Kremlin office on April 11, 1990. This April 10, the twentieth anniversary of this meeting was celebrated by Dr. Otsuka Katsumi (Northeast Region continental director), guests and members young and old (photo, right).

Soviet Foreign Ministry trained its diplomats. Part of the training involved indoctrination against enemies of the Soviet state. Since Father was considered one of the Soviet Union's biggest enemies, they were given his speeches to study. Mr. Ilyumzhinov, being a student of Japanese, read Father's speeches in Japanese. Instead of turning him against Father, the speeches inspired him, and at the meeting he mentioned that one of the reasons he was sitting in the presidential chair was because of the inspiration and values he gained through those speeches.

In September 1993, Dr. Seuk had a dream in which Father appeared to him and asked him to go to Mongolia. Remembering that Mr. Ilyumzhinov's older brother had been a diplomat at the Soviet embassy in Mongolia, we asked his help in developing connections there. In May of the following year, Dr. Seuk and several missionaries, together with the president's brother and a Russian Foreign Ministry official, arrived in the Mongolian capital of Ulaanbaatar and began meetings at the highest level, resulting in our movement being received warmly from the very beginning. Later, the first elected president of Mongolia, Punsalmaagiin Ochirbat, would boast at an International Leadership Conference that he was the one who had welcomed our movement to his country, and on June 13, 2006, Mr. Ochirbat, as a former president, proudly carried a crown at the opening of the Cheon Jeong Peace Palace.

#### A dream comes true

In the midst of all the excitement of working in the post-Soviet era, my wife Renee and I were also trying to create our family. Both of us had been re-blessed and were therefore older as we began our family life. In addition, during the first two years of our married life we had missions in different parts of the world—my wife at the *Washington Times* and I as an itinerant worker in Asia.

Even after we both moved to Moscow and had a more stable home life, we still had no success in conceiving a child after several years. As we faced our fortieth birthdays, we decided to visit a Moscow fertility clinic to attempt *in vitro* fertilization. As missionaries, we lived on a stipend and did not have much

to spare; however, the cost of the procedure in Russia at that time was much less than in the West.

During this time several of our friends mentioned they would like to offer us a blessed child. As moved as we were by their offers, we both felt we wanted to keep trying to conceive our own child, as long as it was still physically possible.

One night in late 1993, about a week after True Mother spoke in the Kremlin, I had a vivid dream in which I was playing happily with a young boy. When I woke up, I told Renee that we would surely have a son and I even explained what he would look like. This dream was a source of great comfort and encouragement to not give up, even after several attempts at *in vitro* failed.

During this time we also experienced what we can only consider an act of God: A former schoolteacher of Renee's in the U.S. had died and left some money in his will for her. Renee had practically forgotten this person, but for some reason he had decided to include her in his will, and it was with this gift that we could continue the *in vitro* process.

Five times we were met with disappointing news. With each attempt Renee also needed to receive daily injections of the hormone progesterone for several weeks at a time. At that time, the only way to find this hormone was by approaching people selling it on the streets, as this was the early days of the market economy in Russia. Several weeks after our sixth attempt, the doctor informed us that Renee was now pregnant. Finally, on February 23, 1995, our son, Nikolai, was born. We even felt the protection of God during the birth process; the doctor who performed the C-section on Renee was the older sister of one of our first blessed sisters in Moscow.

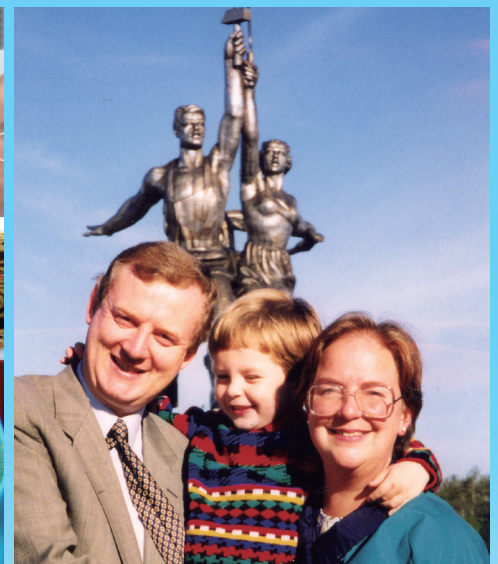
Looking back on more than fifteen years in Moscow, I feel so much gratitude for the privilege of working in a country and region that is close to True Parents' hearts. It was also an interesting experience to have a front-row seat on the collapse of the final empire in history and most especially to participate in helping the younger generation of Soviet youth receive rebirth through the Divine Principle and create a new generation of blessed families. **TW**



While a student in the USSR, Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, president since 1993 of the Republic of Kalmykia, studied Rev. Moon, an enemy of the Soviet state. What he discovered changed his life.



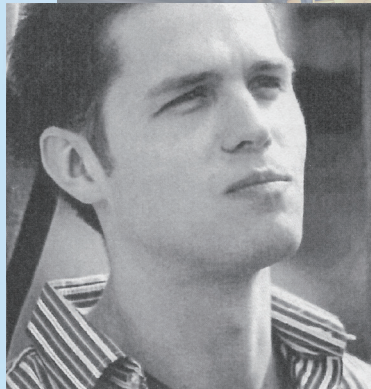
Contacts made in the former USSR facilitated a meeting with Punsalmaagiin Ochirbat, president of Mongolia (1990–1997) here seen carrying a crown at the opening of the Cheon Jeong Peace Palace in 2006.



The author, his wife and son in front of the Worker and Collective-Farm Woman Monument, showing a male laborer raising high a hammer and a female farmer a sickle, working shoulder to shoulder for the Soviet ideal

# Fit to Print

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## An innovative magazine stimulates connectedness

**H**ow do you build community spirit among members in your country? Well, one way, British member Robert Haines (*photo above*) decided, is to create and regularly print a newsletter covering the events and activities of people in your country. He named it *Rising Tide*. As *Today's World* is also print publication, naturally I was intrigued. I asked him about it.

"I wanted it to be accessible to young people," he said. "I felt that something was lacking for people aged eighteen to twenty-five—student age—yet I was also aware that it would be read by the larger movement as a whole."

Robert is a university student, preparing to become a policeman, but right now he is looking for arresting stories to inspire Unificationists in the United Kingdom. He feels a sense of mission. "One of the main things," he said, "is to create a greater sense of community, and greater awareness of its different activities."

"How do you do that?" I asked.

"The British movement isn't massive, but people still don't communicate with one another. Members are quite spread out," Robert informed me. "We want to get people talking about their faith, articulating it and engaging with the Principle. People tell us their own stories—about the different projects they do, their experiences with each other, and with those outside of our community. And we have regular columns such as STF, Youth Service International and news from Korea."

I said I thought it must be easier to do this online or by e-mail, but Robert surprised me by echoing feelings I have often had about *Today's World*: "I'm a fan of the printed word. If something is just on the internet, it won't get as wide an audience in a family. People might click through it, but if it's printed and left lying around the house, people are much more likely to read it, especially those who don't nor-

mally use the internet or wouldn't visit church websites."

I had noticed the movie and music reviews in the latest issue. Robert explained, "Book, film and music reviews are good for those who aren't interested in being bombarded with too much ideology. They want to read the film or music review because they are interested in the artist, and maybe while they are reading that they'll be drawn to the other articles. I also find that a principled perspective does come through naturally as members write."

The magazine's publication, creation, editing and design are all done by volunteers. "Two friends, Ritatsu Thomas and Amy Redihough, and I finished STF the same year," he said, "and I asked them to help me put it together."

"What are your main challenges?" I asked.

"The main problem," he said, is following up people to actually get their articles." I know what he means.

*Today's World* is global, so I realized I might be kindling serious competition, but I couldn't help asking Robert whether he had considered expanding into Europe.

"No," he said, "but I would fully encourage people in other nations to start their own. It's important to get people talking." **STW**

*Julian Gray, Today's World*

## Testimonials

"I feel that *Rising Tide* provides an intimate look into our community, with many interesting stories and articles. It allows me to learn of different peoples' opinions about and experiences at many events, some of which I didn't even know about." — *Kenneth Read*

"*Rising Tide* is an inspiration and a testimony to our young people taking ownership." — *Derrick Davis*

# A Time for Commitment



*Mica Camara is a twenty-four-year old, second-generation member whose father is from Mali, West Africa, and whose mother is Australian. She recently participated in the "Special Education Session for World Leaders Organized by True Parents" in Korea. At the Today's World office in Seoul, we asked Mica to reflect on her experience and how it has influenced her path in life.*

## **Today's World: What in the 120-day workshop changed your view of life?**

**Mica:** Before this, I had a very selfish ( I think) understanding of my relationship with God. It was just me and God, to the point that if another person were struggling in her life of faith, I would not interfere or try to help in any way. I mean, it just didn't bother me; I had an each-for-her-own sort of attitude. However, during this workshop I realized that even if I'm one with God, if other people aren't, it doesn't help God; my being one with God can only have a small effect.

I feel I have the ability to help other people, especially younger people my age, so I ended up playing more of that role in the workshop itself.

## **Have you held leadership positions in the church?**

I wasn't that involved with church activities in Tasmania, where we are more isolated. In Africa, I had taught Divine Principle to young people when I was about thirteen or fourteen years old. I was quite involved; you have to be if you are living in the center. Now I feel I should get much more involved. I want to try out or have a church mission for some time.

## **What helped increase your desire to work within the church?**

Definitely, it was feeling a closer connection to the True Family, with Hyung-jin nim<sup>1</sup> and with being able to feel love from True Parents at many different events. It made me feel for those who couldn't come—I am thinking here mainly of African people. I am half-African, so I feel I owe something to my country, Mali, for being able to travel to Australia, come to Korea, go to Cheongpyeong... I feel I have been allowed to do these things so I can bring something back to Mali, as my Dad was the central figure there.<sup>2</sup> That relationship with the True Family was the main reason for my thinking, Okay I've been given this grace; now, I need to give something back.

I felt God trusted me, that this grace could be given to me because He knew I would

1 Hyung-jin nim spoke several times at the workshop and is the senior pastor at Cheon Bok Gung centered on which the workshop participants did witnessing activities.

2 Bakary Camara was national leader for a number of years.



**At the conclusion of the workshop Hyung-jin nim presents Mica with a certificate for third place (out of hundreds of participants) in the lecture competition**

offer it back. So I need to honor that.

**Yeon-ah nim is not much older than you. I wonder if you felt close to her as you are also a sister from the second generation.**

I think the fact that Yeon-ah nim is not much older than I am plays a big part in why I respect her so much. I can relate with her, that is, she is truly a role model, because I see that even at my age I can learn to show the same dedication and love that she shows for Heavenly Father, True Parents and everyone else. Seeing her and her husband at work together every Sunday moved me, because I felt how much they love True Parents and us members. They were always smiling and genuinely relating to us. I want to learn to have that type of dedication and devotion in my life of faith.

**One hundred and twenty days of jeongseong must have required a lot of dedication.**

Hyung-jin nim mentioned early on that even if you are doing *jeongseong* you cannot put yourself high. For me that was good to hear. Sometimes, you are doing something and you think you are better than another person—because (for example) you're waking up at 2:30 and doing bows, and maybe they're not. You have to catch yourself at times! Especially as a leader, you can become like that because you are doing a bit extra to what the other members are doing. But it doesn't mean you are better. Hyung-jin nim emphasized that point, and I think this will be very helpful for me as I progress in my faith.

At the graduation ceremony, he said, "This is just the beginning." I needed to hear that, too. When you finish



**Mica participates in the Ceremony for the Arrival of the Cheon Bok Hahm (Ark) in Melbourne. She will work with younger members of the Unificationist community in Australia and be involved in outreach.**

something like this, you think, I've finished! You feel that you've done your bit. After I finish conditions, I feel I can relax. I think, I've done my bit for God.

But that defeats the purpose of offering the devotions. When he said that, I realized that this was just training, so that we could learn how to do it, and now we start on our own, and we bring it back to our own communities. This has been a period of learning and now is the time for the actual application. *JW*

## Insights Good to Share

Excerpts from an interview with 120-day workshop participant Randall Apps

**Today's World: What impressed you the most?**

**Randall:** Among the participants were members of such stature that I wanted to ask for their autographs. Some were getting up before the 2:50 wake up time, at 2:30, 2:00, or 1:30 even, and going up to the room to do extra bows and so forth. To form a habit, you should do the same thing for ninety days. This four months was Father's intense training for us to adopt the habits we all should have.

**Among the many presentations, was there one that stays in your memory?**

Yeon-ah nim came and spoke. She spoke so humbly but with royal dignity. Korean church leaders would feel affinity with Yeon-ah nim, as she comes from that background and her family walked in their shoes. She later spoke with the Western workshop participants—originally that was to be for just twenty minutes, but she gave



**Randall and Lay Tin Apps**

two hours in the end!

Hyung-jin nim and she stayed with the leaders until everyone had spoken all they wanted. They did not make excuses to leave. I was deeply impressed.

**Did the workshop participants ask Hyung-jin nim and Yeon-ah nim anything in particular?**

One brother asked how they came up with the idea of making the Unification symbol with the hands. Yeon-ah nim expressed a lot about the background to that. They wanted to have a way for Unificationists to express they are proud Unificationists if they want to. If you sit at a table, and you see someone cross himself, you can say, Well he's a Catholic. If you see someone doing "Give-and-receive action, four position foundation, Inherit the true love of God," you can say, That's a Unificationist! It's a way members can express pride in their tradition without being in people's faces. It's just a habit I have gotten into now. We asked, Is it mandatory? Yeon-ah nim said there is no obligation; it's up to you. It's up to each person in their personal pilgrimage, the development of their faith. *JW*

# Maintaining a Daily Connection with True Father

*True Parents have long been calling Japanese wives of Korean men to Yeosu for ocean training. This sisters' experience with True Father changed her outlook on life.*

*By an anonymous contributor*

**W**e are a second-generation blessed couple in our sixth year after the blessing. After graduating from Sun Moon University, the Department of Theology, I was assigned to a public position within the movement in Seoul. The two-year contract for my job was over at the start of this year. Although I was determined to continue in a public position until the end of the year, to do as much as I could before starting family life, I was asked to work only until the end of March.

Frankly, I had mixed feelings, but I realized that it was arrogant of me to try to decide how long I would continue with a public position, which is in fact God's work. I realized that this was all within God's plan, and after March, I began to live at my husband's family's home. We first started to do the 5 AM hoondokhae together but got into a disagreement over a small thing; our doing hoondokhae lasted only a week. I tried looking for a new job, but things did not go as I expected. We would just go to Sunday Service, and a month quickly slipped by.

One morning, my husband jumped out of bed, and told me, "I dreamed that I had died and gone to the spirit world. A man cut my head off, so I died and my spirit self left my physical self. My grandmother, who was my guide to the spirit world, took me to a hall where True Father was speaking. I was ushered in to sit in the third row from the front. True Father pointed to me and said, 'That's not a seat that you can take! Go to the back!' So I went back to about the middle of the hall and looked at True Father, who said, 'Go further back,' so I went all the way to the back, outside of the hall, and then True Father said nothing more." My husband then told me, "We've got to do better in life from now on. You should also go to the church more regularly and witness."

Because of that dream, I called the regional leader of our Women's Evangelical Association and met her to say, "I'd like to witness." She found out I hadn't been to the forty-day workshop and said, "Oh, you haven't been to Yeosu yet! There are some other second-generation members attending this time. You aren't working, and you don't have a child yet. This is your chance! Think about it and let me know what you decide." In this way, she recommended that I go to Yeosu.

I looked up True Father's messages, given during the Yeosu workshops, testimonies and the workshop schedule. I tried to reexamine my situation objectively and realized that I was at a turning point; it was different from when I was a student, reporting everything to my parents or Abel. I had to become independent, take responsibility for my new family and make a new beginning. I understood that True Father's teachings on the ocean providence referred with hope to the re-creation to take place in the era after the coming of heaven. How many of the second-generation members I worked with as students went out into society and were surviving? I was forced to reconsider many things, such as perfecting the family after becoming independent, a task for all second-generation families, to bring the victory of dominion over all things [a financial foundation]. I decided to take part in this workshop, in order to make a decision about my contribution to God's providence.

I received the blessing of being able to spend twenty-one days with True Father in Yeosu and to even ride on the same boat as Father. During this period, True Father was more concerned about our health, both spiritual and physical, than my own father was. He tried to take responsibility for our families, being concerned about our future. Being ninety years of age now, it was natural that life has taken a toll on his body. I overheard that just stepping on rocks on the beach, True Father's feet hurt, so that it was difficult for him to walk. During hoondokhae, when he stepped into the crowd of workshop participants to dance with us, I saw him muster up all of the energy he had at that moment, to get up from his chair. True Father left for the sea immediately after hoondokhae, to get on his boat to offer jeongseong. Staff members said that Father had never looked so serious in doing this, and they did not dare to speak to him. Father is fighting to stand at the forefront of the providence, as if to say, "the battle starts now!" At times, I heard he would scold and prod the leaders saying, "This is no good!" even hitting them. This was because Father was concerned about us.

"Why don't you make the boats quickly?"<sup>1</sup> He would ask, "Don't you care what happens to the daughters who came to Korea to marry, abandoning everything they had only because they believe in me?"

In front of us, True Father did not show even a glimpse of any behind-the-scenes turmoil. He always smiled, made funny faces and entertained us, even throwing his socks off. The only question he asked was, "Are you living happily as blessed families?" It was as if we saw Father saying, Only I will take the path of hardship and sacrifice. You girls live happily and merrily in the future of peace that we've prepared!

It appeared as if True Father did not reveal his innermost heart but was shouldering everything. At this time of extreme tension in the providence, despite the complex situations in the True Family, all True Father did in Yeosu was to love and invest his heart in us Japanese wives who are his "enemies." Yet I felt that True Father's heart was clearly expressed in what he read to us at hoondokhae, "Listen well because this is what I'd like to say to all of you." This comes from the seventh volume of his sermons, as does the idea that Jesus, like Father today, had been seeking those whom he could truly connect to as true sons and true daughters. No secrets exist between true children and true parents; they're able to share everything from the depths of their hearts. If ever the Father has a wish, it is that a son or a daughter will say to him, even once, "You have truly followed the path of suffering until now. From now on, I will take your place and move forward," and comfort him. True Father was waiting for such a son or daughter.

When I heard that, I couldn't stop crying. The next day, I had the opportunity to go out on Father's boat, but those words from the day before wouldn't leave my mind. As I watched True Father fishing before my eyes, I kept thinking, He is loving us in this way, probably waiting for that true child to appear. Can I really become that true daughter? Can I really say, I will take your place?

I continued to cry, unable to find the determination to go out into the world. After a while, True Father spoke to us, saying, "I chose the best partners for you and blessed you. Up in those hills, we'll build a golf course, and those other hills will be for touring and hunting.... We are preparing everything so that you can enjoy your hobby-oriented lifestyle. I held the Family Workshop so that you could all personally see me living in this way, and by watching me, I am training you directly so that you and your children can also practice a life lived for the sake of others."

The forty days passed like a dream. How great God's word is! During this period, through the testimonies of many leaders who came to report to True Father, I was able to feel in my bones how True Father was living and offering jeongseong and how he advanced the providence. I also understood that the most important thing was to first set our focus on True Father and what he is doing now, not just during the workshop, but after returning to daily life. Where is he? What is he planning to do from now on? To always center ourselves on True Parents in our life. Still in my mind is what True Father said during hoondokhae, "You must go to China and the Soviet Union! What will you do after this workshop is over? That's where I am headed!"

I'm still not sure what direction I will take from now on, but I want to become the kind of person True Father wishes me to be. I am grateful to God and True Parents who have granted me this experience.

Returning all glory to Heaven, thank you very much! **JW**

1 Father long ago instructed that many Good Go boats be made, and at the end of these forty-day workshops, Father has given a boat to those couples who are in a position to make use of and care for one.



In Yeosu, Father continues to set serious conditions through fishing (top and facing page), and thousands of Japanese sisters have come for special ocean-related workshops.

# The Providence to Engage Christianity-Part II

By Kevin McCarthy

*In his second reflection on the work to reach out to Christian leaders in America a quarter century ago, the writer describes the work involved in a vast, nationwide campaign and reminisces about a Bible study he once attended that demonstrates how boldness in faith and action can open up paths to explaining the Principle perspective to believers of other faiths.*

Although Father had clearly declared it his speech at Washington Monument in 1976, it wasn't until 1982 and the birth of the Common Suffering Fellowship that we came to realize that Father's plan had always been to reach the world via the worldwide Christian foundation, centering on a Christian nation, the United States of America. The Common Suffering Fellowship was the gathering of religious leaders who stood in support of Father during his trial and eventual incarceration at Danbury prison. Ministers from all over the nation united in public support of Father, even pledging to go to prison with Father as an expression of outrage over the miscarriage of justice being wrought upon him.

Renowned civil rights champion Dr. Joseph Lowery,<sup>1</sup> together with In-jin nim, stood at the helm of that effort; and it was African-American ministers who most energetically responded and were the backbone of that endeavor to support Father. African-American religious leaders could clearly recognize the injustice of Rev. Moon's plight. They could easily identify the application of systematic injustice, because for many years they had been the victim of that very same injustice. They knew the system had deemed Rev. Moon and his movement "not in the club," and they were determined that the system would not prevail.

But, in Father's mind, these religious leaders were not being gathered to only help him; no, no, it was the mighty hand of God at work, bringing ministers to the point of recognizing their true, global responsibility. In Father's view, Danbury was just the prologue, perhaps even a necessary circumstance, provided by God, for Father to educate Christianity at large about its present responsibility.

The work to educate members of the clergy soon began with the videotape production of Divine Principle lectures given by Tom McDevitt, Patrick Hickey and me. Soon, the main offices of the World Mission Center were stacked to the ceiling with piles of videocassettes to be boxed, addressed and shipped. More than ten thousand sets of tapes were sent throughout the nation. Christian ministers, in virtually every state, began to receive the unexpected package from the "Korean cult leader." We heard later that ministers were even asking each other, "Did you get your box?" "Did you open it?" "What was in it?" Father had really gotten their attention.

Many ministers secretly began to watch the videotapes. One minister told me he had to make sure no one was around before he would pull out his set of videotapes from his secret hiding place. I joked with him, "Bishop, you make it sound as if you were watching porn!"

He would laugh and say, "Well, to some of my members, it was theological pornography, and if anyone ever caught me watching 'those Moonie tapes' they would have run me out of my church." A case in point: I recall one package that was shipped back to the World Mission Center. When we opened the



Rev. McCarthy teaching in the 1980s

<sup>1</sup> Born in 1921, he was a close confidante with fellow activist Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In 2009, he was one of two ministers whom Barack Obama asked to pray at Obama's inauguration as U.S. president.

box, there were the video cassettes, burned to a molten mass. I think the message was "Moonies, you're going to burn in hell."

During the years 1982 to 1985, members all over the nation began to visit and build relationships with ministers. This was the foundation for the birth of the Interdenominational Conferences for Clergy and for the education of more than seven thousand ministers who journeyed to Korea and Japan.

We are prone, sometimes, to give a disproportionate amount of credit to the most high profile figures in our historical work with members of the clergy. But the real heroes of this effort were brothers and sisters, mostly unsung and uncelebrated, who spent hours, days, weeks and years, often at the extreme sacrifice of their own families, in the effort to reach out and nurture relationships with American religious leaders. This was the reality. The members brought the ministers, and this was affirmed by the testimony of the ministers themselves. The investment of love and service demonstrated by members of Rev. Moon's movement was what finally convinced ministers that all they had been hearing about Father was wrong. In the end, personal relationships moved religious leaders on to the education process, toward the ultimate discovery of the significance of this age and their own providential responsibility.

What I mean is that it took trust. Every one of the ministers who took this path did so because they had developed a relationship of trust with our members. And members knew that they would have to earn that trust by being true, by being real. At the end of the day, for the ministers, it was

who are working tirelessly, even to this day, to bring a deeper understanding of True Parents to members of the clergy.

In 1983, on the foundation of the video tape distribution providence, the direct outreach to ministers was intensified. In fact, there was a nationwide mobilization. I ended up in Lowell, Massachusetts, a suburb of Boston, working on quite an unusual team with Reiko Stone, a long time member who had only recently arrived from Japan and spoke almost no English and Tomoyo Yamaguchi, Reiko's spiritual daughter, a brand new member who spoke almost perfect English and had spent time in America previously.

Our job was to meet as many religious leaders as possible in the shortest amount of time. I had to devise the best configuration of our team in order to cover the city of Lowell.



Forums for explaining Divine Principle and for the exchange of ideas between Christian ministers and Unificationists were a common feature of our church's work in the 1980s.



I thought, Let's see... Okay, we'll each take a section of the city.... No, wait, that won't work—Reiko can't speak English and Tomoyo is a brand new member and might be a little "green" with the ministers.

So, I decided, Okay, Reiko is "spirit" and Tomoyo is "body." They are as one person. I would work on my own, and their job was to find nice ministers. If they did, they would bring me the next day. This worked well.

After a couple of weeks, we began to collaborate with another Japanese sister named

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In my experience, when any Christian Bible study group knows in advance to expect guest pagans, atheists or cultists, they have an uncanny knack for guiding the Bible study and discussion in such a way as to shed light on the error of their guests' ways and to provide an avenue for their immediate sal-

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2 Of course, members from many parts of the world participated in the frontline outreach to ministers in the United States.



**Mainstream Christians, who saw in Father's unjust prosecution a broader threat to the free exercise of religion in America, joined forces with our members in protests such as this.**

vation. Maybe Pastor Phil's group will be different, I thought as we entered into the church's study room.

We took our places in a circle, making sure we mingled rather than nervously sitting together in a clump. After a brief round of introductions, Pastor Phil announced the scripture we'd study. "Let's turn to Galatians, chapter one, verse eight, please." This was followed by the sound of Bibles being opened and pages being turned as Pastor Phil's group, one by one, quickly found the cited scripture and returned their attention back to Pastor Phil. However, in a couple of areas of the study circle, the sound of pages turning continued, escalating to the sound of frantic flip, flip, flipping, then whisper, whisper. I looked up and beheld the state of emergency. That was the unmistakable sound of Moonies lost in the Bible, and it was now approaching a frenzy of flipping. I tried to make eye contact with my poor Japanese sisters—Go back... No, the other way... New Testament. New... New!..

It was no use. Finally, Pastor Phil pitifully said, "Could someone help our guests find our scripture in Galatians." I caught some of Pastor Phil's members slightly rolling their eyes and giving each other a knowing wink.

We finally settled down and got everyone on the right chapter and verse. "Galatians, 1:8," I thought to myself, "that sounds familiar." Pastor Phil called on one of his regulars to read the scripture aloud. Bob stood up and read Galatians 1:8... very loud, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed."

Yes, I had heard it before, in fact, many times. The fix was on. "Thank you, Bob," said Pastor Phil. "Today's topic of study is, 'What is a false christ, and how we can recognize one?'" They had known we were coming. Pastor Phil and his group suddenly took on the persona of a pride of lions scanning the Serengeti for prey. "Asa, could you tell us what 'false christ'

means to you?" The lions had separated the baby gazelle from the rest of the herd and were preparing to take her down. Asa rose from her chair and thought about the question for a moment. The room stood still, all eyes on Asa—waiting.

"Do you mean 'false christ' or 'antichrist'?" Asa asked sweetly with a big smile. Pastor Phil was startled, "Well...tell us about both. Go ahead." With total presence and not an ounce of nervousness, Asa proceeded to explain, "Well, an anti-Christ is imitation of Christ. Today, the antichrist is communism. The antichrist appears before the Returning Lord, who will come and lead God's forces to victory over communism. A false christ is different. It is someone who is spiritually open and receives a revelation that he is the Lord. This is because in the Last Days we have returned to the top of the growth stage, so this kind of thing is going to happen. So we should be careful." Asa concluded with a big smile, and said, "Thank you," and sat back down. I turned to Pastor Phil to see how he liked that

answer. His eyeballs were bulging and turning like pinwheels. He was not expecting such a thorough and intriguing answer.

He quickly made a move to regain control. "Reiko, could you share with us your understanding of how we can recognize a false prophet." Tomoyo and Asa translated the question for Reiko, who didn't speak almost any English. I think Pastor Phil, still startled by Asa's knowledge, was hoping Reiko would be clueless about false prophets and provide him the anticipated opportunity to "educate" the cultists about the true path.

A very serious look came across Reiko's face. You could feel the group getting a little apprehensive about what she was



**Japanese members were active in outreach to ministers decades ago. Today, too, Japanese women are among those of our stalwart church members involved in the American Clergy Leadership Conference.**

going to say about false prophets. It was clear Reiko knew all about them and was not happy about those false prophets—not one sir, not one little bit.

Boldly, she blurted out in the best English she could muster, “False prophet is no good! False prophet is very bad. Satan dominates false prophets.” If Pastor Phil had a sermonette ready about why we should be concerned about false prophets, Reiko just rendered it unnecessary. Somehow, Pastor Phil’s grand design, which was to conclude with four Moonies turning their lives around and coming to Christ, was itself getting turned around.

As the discussion went on and touched on several more areas, it was clear that the guests from Japan were stealing the show and now some of Pastor Phil’s own members were becoming positively smitten by them. Some of his members were even chiming in with little comments like, “You know, Pastor Phil, I always thought the antichrist wasn’t just a person.”

Another weighed in, “I think Asa has made a very interesting point about communism being the antichrist.”

Still another member interjected, “Asa, does that mean, if the antichrist is here, that Christ must be coming soon?”

The look on Pastor Phil’s face was priceless. Now, I think he was even starting to get nervous that these Moonies might be getting ready to put a spell on his own sheep and march them right out of the building.

In one last attempt to turn the tide, Pastor Phil shifted the discussion toward the resurrection. Surely, he thought, the resurrection would be beyond the reach of these Bible neophytes from the Far East. “Asa, could you tell us what the resurrection means to you?”

Asa had this sudden serious look of concern creep across her face. Pastor Phil’s group was waiting, now with total interest, anticipating her next answer. All eyes were on Asa, but she appeared to be struggling to find the answer. A bit more time lapsed in silence as Pastor Phil’s confidence grew. “Asa, do you understand what we mean by ‘resurrection?’” he asked in a condescending tone. He looked knowingly around the circle as if to indicate the return of proper order. The look on his face said, “finally, she’s stumped.”

Just at that moment, Asa looked up with a big smile, “Oh yes, I understand resurrection, but which resurrection do you mean, in the Old Testament Age, the New Testament Age, or the Completed Testament Age?” Now Pastor Phil had a new expression on his face, “no more questions for Asa,” it said.

She went on to explain to the group that there were three stages in the process of resurrection. She explained the details and meaning of each stage and whenever she finished making her point, she did so with a big smile. Honestly, I can’t remember a single thing that I said the whole night. But everything else, I’ll never forget.

But the story doesn’t quite end here. You see, there was still one thing about which Reiko, Asa and Tomoyo felt very dissatisfied—their paltry Bible knowledge. Well, I have never seen three people learn, so quickly, the order of the books of the Bible. Every spare minute available between that Bible study and the next one on the following Wednesday night was spent by those sisters learning their Bible. They were determined never to be lost in the Bible again. I watched with amazement. They even used a stopwatch. “1 John.” “Hai!”<sup>3</sup> “Romans chapter four.” “Hai.” “2 Kings, chapter twelve.” “Hai, hai.” They were amazing. In the dining hall, “Leviticus, chapter three.” “Hai.” In the car, driving to Lowell, “Matthew, chapter twenty-four.” “Hai.” In the sister’s room, in their sleeping bags with a

3 “Yes,” in Japanese

flashlight, “2 John chapter four.” “Hai.” ... “No, Tomoyo, that’s 1 John!.... Fasting, one meal.” “Hai!”

By the following Tuesday, I couldn’t even hear a single “flip” anymore. They were handling those Bibles as Bruce Lee handled nunchakus in *Enter the Dragon*. At the next Bible study at Pastor Phil’s, he hardly got the Bible verse off his lips and there was a clap of thunder and a mighty wind, as all three sisters, smoke pouring off their fingertips, had arrived at Romans, chapter 3, verse 12 before anyone else in the room (even before Pastor Phil).

Ever since those days, whenever I teach the Resurrection lecture, of course, I think of Moses in the Old Testament Age, Jesus in the New Testament Age and True Parents in the Completed Testament Age. But after that, I am reminded of Tomoyo, Reiko and Asa. I thank them and so many other brothers and sisters who gave their all to bring Christians a step closer to the ideals of the Completed Testament Age.

### A word of encouragement

I would say the moral of this story is that there should be no reason for any Unificationist to feel that he cannot engage other Christians in an informative dialogue. No one should ever feel that it takes a seminary degree to do so. First of all, because you understand the basic content of the Divine Principle, you are already well prepared to be understood by Christians.

Of course there are many new and astounding truths for Christians to learn; but you should also realize there are many truths that Christians already accept that will be even more powerfully expressed and affirmed for them by the Divine Principle view. In other words, don’t think Christians will disagree with everything. Remember, too, that Christians also disagree with each other. Don’t ever think that there is unanimity of belief within the body of Christ and that all Christians are against Unificationists over the exact same issues.

With this in mind, my simple advice would be to do the following: Purchase a New International Version of the Bible. This is a very reliable and easily understandable version. Also purchase a good concordance (such as *Strong’s Concordance of the Bible*) and finally, purchase a good Bible handbook, which will give a tremendous amount of supportive information and provide texture to each book of the Bible. Many good resources are nowadays available on the Internet.

With these three tools, if you study thirty minutes a day and go through the entire Bible, you will be able, in combination with your Divine Principle knowledge, to converse deeply with any Christian or for that matter, any minister. Just remember Asa, Reiko and Tomoyo and know that you can do it too. Of course, if you ever are faced with a question you can’t answer, you can send it to me and I will be happy to help. You can reach me at [www.truemasterplan.com](http://www.truemasterplan.com).

Good luck and God bless! **TW**

Kevin McCarthy has written a book that is the accumulation of twenty-five years of experience teaching and learning from Christian ministers. His book, *The Master Plan*, was written primarily to be a bridge for Christians to understand the Divine Principle message. He describes the method it demonstrates as not so much using the Bible to teach the Principle as using the Principle to teach the Bible. It is an effective tool for anyone involved in outreach to Christians in general, and ministers in particular. You can obtain a copy by going to [www.truemasterplan.com](http://www.truemasterplan.com).



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