

True Peace

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True Mother's Tour in the United States

By Ki Hoon Kim



After True Mother successfully concluded all the events for the fiftieth anniversary of the start of European witnessing and her tour through several European countries to examine historical buildings for the Cheonji Sunhak Won, she arrived in New York City on May 22. True Mother had delivered a message inspiring new hope in the European leaders and other members including members of our second generation who had led the fiftieth anniversary event to success. She also encouraged them to succeed over the next fifty years. We spent three busy weeks on a tour in the United States, which we undertook in order to engraft the foundation of European success onto America.


Just as the Pilgrim Fathers came from Europe, crossing to a new land with a spirit that made possible the founding of America on November 11, 1620 (the date they signed the Mayflower Compact), True Mother came from Europe. Here, she emphasized to the American members during her three-week visit that they needed to inherit her spirit, which will help them become influential in helping the United States fulfill its providential role.

Without resting from her flight, True Mother held a celebration of the success of the European tour with five hundred members on May 23, and she encouraged them to greater efforts. "It took eight hundred years to build the Notre Dame Cathedral," she said. "However, do not forget the reality that Christians have not fulfilled their responsibilities. Fulfill your responsibilities as blessed members who help all people on earth become aware of True Parents, thus becoming Unificationists who exceed Christians!"

The next day, True Mother led a commemoration of the one thousandth day since True Father's ascension, which more than three thousand three hundred members took part in at the Manhattan Center in New York City.

As the central nation of the providence in relation to this celebration, America banded with the fatherland of faith, Korea, and members determined to complete their responsibilities in order to fulfill their mission as tribal messiahs, to awaken Christianity and to tell them of True Parents' ideology. One May 25, she visited the National September 11 Memorial and Museum and offered sincere devotion. The following day, she traveled to Las Vegas, where she led the ceremonial sanctification of the International Peace Education Center on May 28. On May 30, she again led a commemoration of the one thousandth day since True Father's ascension, this time at the International Peace Education Center. This drew one thousand five hundred people, including leaders from a variety of countries and representative American families.

At the commemoration, our FFWPU international president, Sun Jin Moon, gave an introduction that described True Mother's course to victory, and she reported on the success of the European tour. She seemed to touch the hearts of each member of the audience. True Mother once again reminded the American members of True Parents' forty-year course in America and encouraged their efforts. Notably, she had Hyo Jin nim's band play at both the event in New York and the one in Las Vegas, where Hyo Jin nim's three children performed with tears and passionate hearts toward their parents. This was a deeply moving time of revival and blessing for the members.

True Mother's three weeks of touring America centered on the significant one thousandth day since True Father's ascension. This was for her a course of hard work in order to remind all blessed members of True Father's ideological perspective on education for the salvation of humankind. She had overseen the construction of the International Peace Education Center (IPEC) in Las Vegas, Nevada and to sanctify the building, she traveled to Las Vegas, where True Father had invested all his sincere devotion with blood, sweat and tears during the last four years of his life. True Mother taught, "Whenever you have difficult or hard times, God and True Parents will support you if you offer devotion as you read the Cheon Il Guk scriptures." 

Rev. Kim is the president of our North America region.

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The True Revolution of Heart and the Opening of the Era of True Liberation and Complete Freedom

This excerpt is from the July 26 speech True Father gave at the banquet concluding World Culture and Sports Festival 2004. He delivered it at the Little Angels Performing Arts Center in Seoul.

The essential condition for human beings to go in the direction of heaven (after determining the goal of restoration) is to pass through the gate of the True Parents. Unless we pass through the gate of True Parents, we cannot connect to God's heart.

The world today has become one in which tribes are unable to connect in heart with one another, religions are challenged to connect in heart with one another, and families find it difficult to connect in heart with one another. To break down the prison walls that enclose us on all four

sides, we need to connect with God's heart. Who indeed will take on this task? Only the True Parents, who come as the true mediators of Heaven, can do so. It has been God's hope and humankind's dream to find the True Parents that were lost in the beginning.

Ladies and gentlemen, the first ancestors, Adam and Eve, were supposed to have become the true ancestors of humanity. They were to have been the True Parents of humankind, whom God had sincerely longed to see. The human race was meant to descend from the lineage of

those True Parents. The True Parents of humankind were supposed to have appeared at the beginning of history as the glorious incarnations of God, eternally victorious in front of all human beings to come.

Precisely here we discover the essence of Adam and Eve's loss. We know very well that it has been the cause of our sad history and its bitter pain. Due to the Fall, human beings fell away from the laws of Heaven, lost their original selves and were degraded to an evil race that trampled on God's heart. Consequently, all people ever since have needed to redis-



cover their original selves through God's word and struggle through the course of restoration in search of the true world of the heart.

Due to the Fall, people fell to a position below that of the things of creation. God could not freely relate to people in that sad position. Since they could not restore themselves from that position on their own, God had to awaken people and work to re-create them. God's work to restore people has taken them from the position of a servant of servants, to a servant, from there to the position of an adopted child and an illegitimate child to a true child, and from there to the position of a true couple and finally to the position of true parents who have victorious dominion. This is the tremendous secret hidden behind God's providence through the six thousand years of biblical history.

Engraft onto God's heart

From God's point of view, this is a fallen world. In relation to God, there were no sons or daughters of filial

piety, no patriots, saints or divine sons or daughters. God desires to save humankind, yet people lived below the realm of the Fall and God could not have anything to do with the Fall and its realm. Thus, God waited for the day the Messiah—as the perfected Adam and perfected Eve, who stand in a position above that of fallen Adam and Eve—could establish their family and become the True Parents. Only on the foundation of that family can true children appear. In a nation based on that family, true patriots can emerge. When their foundation expands to the world level, true saints will come forth one after another. When expanded to the cosmic level, divine sons and daughters will appear. The representatives of Heaven, Heaven's heirs, will appear only on the basis of the True Family.

Originally the words "parents and children" denoted the first parents and their sons and daughters. They were meant to create a family and a nation. Although they could not do that, all people still yearn for a world of peace. Yet, a world of peace could not be realized, despite the advanced secular institutions and the high level of culture in modern developed nations. The only way is through the culture of true love, about which the True Parents teach. Even if the True Parents appear with a straw mat carrying a bag of tattered rags, wearing discolored clothing and in total exhaustion after emerging from a bottomless pit, fallen people have no other choice than to engraft to God's heart through those True Parents.


How deeply should fallen human beings be engrafted to God's heart? They need to be born again through True Mother's womb after first establishing the condition of engrafting to True Father's body. Once we are reborn, we have to live with the absolute standard of attendance to True Parents. However, it does not end there. Fallen people need to expand the condition by building relationships with their close relatives and with members of their clans and communities. Further, they have to set the condition of building relationships of heart with their people and nation, the world, the cosmos and ultimately God. Then God will say, You are my son! or You are my daughter! Those

who establish relationships based primarily on self-interest have nothing to do with God.

Ladies and gentlemen, God conceived the term "true parents" in his mind before the Creation. All the ideals connected to the Creation began from the ideal of true love, which originates from true parents. Thus, even before the Creation the term "true parents" inspired hope, hope that God treasured. Countless people throughout the course of God's providence lost their lives before God could send the True Parents.

God established and worked through various religions at appropriate times in the course of this providence. Thus among religions there are different levels and types: religions on the level of angels, Cain-type, Abel-type, adopted son-type, illegitimate son-type, foster parents-type, on the level of True Mother or on the level of True Father.

When we look at the history of Christianity, we see that if Abel-type Protestantism and Cain-type Catholicism had cooperated, they could have brought together all religious spheres that were independently working for the sake of the salvation of humanity. Once they had spread throughout the various cultural spheres and areas of the world, they would have brought about a unity that would have been in accordance with God's overall will. Christianity was supposed to have then established one nation and one world; that is, a world of peace. That is because Christianity was supposed to be the mainstream, which would have brought all religions together.

God does not give birth to babies, parents do. Accordingly, God is the vertical True Parent of humankind and Rev. Moon and Mrs. Moon are the horizontal True Parents of humankind at a ninety-degree angle to the vertical. The True Parents together represent the long-awaited Savior, Messiah and returning Lord. Their teachings fulfill the purpose of religion. When we find and attend the vertical True Parent and horizontal True Parents and have children through true love, what else could there be? 

The speech in its entirety is in Pyeong Hwa Gyeong, Book 7, speech 17



Restore Seven Billion People as True Parents' Children

A group of Japanese members from the forty-three-couple blessing group had been touring holy grounds on the US west coast when True Mother called them to Cheon Hwa Gung, True Parents' residence in Las Vegas, to speak to them. This is what she said to them, on May 28, the day she opened the IPEC.

You are now over seventy or eighty years old, which is much more than half a century. We are now in the position that there is less time to live until we pass on to the spirit world than the time we have lived on earth. Listening to reports from Japan, I learned that the spirit world is working a lot there. The remaining time of your lives is a serious period during which you must discover how much you can expand the environment of the spirit world.

I got a report yesterday, which said that one of the members heard a voice from the spirit world. The spirit world called out a name the member did not

recognize. Later the person found out that it was the name of the ancestor of one of our philanthropic members. This is proof that liberating your ancestors creates a large environment for them. Through the descendants donating a lot to the providence and liberating many ancestors, the ancestors are able to live in a home large beyond their imagination. Thus, they are grateful. This is proof that the achievements of the descendants will create such an environment for their ancestors in the spirit world.

True Parents' presence

You are different from other people, so

you have followed True Parents' desire and followed the same path that True Parents have, and in the same age. If you look from True Parents' viewpoint, True Parents have to restore all seven billion people as their children. Only then will the world become one centered on God, as one family under God. Thus, while you are alive you must tell the people about True Parents. You must testify about True Parents. You must open the path for them to be engrafted to True Parents and to live life as blessed members.

As I toured Europe, I saw the culture built up over the two thousand years of Christianity. In the end, that

culture was to prepare for the Messiah's Second Advent. If Christians had prepared in such a way, they should have welcomed the Second Advent. However, they do not understand. That culture, that Christian culture, has become a shell. You are attending True Parents and are creating a new culture due to True Parents. You are living in the midst of a great miracle. Unfortunately, you have aged a lot. Whether you live for another three years, ten years or twenty years, you must expand the spiritual realm. If you pass away without doing that, your descendants will lament. Do you realize that?

Depending on how you act in your lives each day and if you harvest good fruit, you will become wealthy in the spirit world. Won't True Parents remember you in the spirit world? No matter how many results and achievements your descendants leave, they will never remember, they will never have known, True Parents themselves. You will be able to say, "This is my child. This is my descendant." You do not know how valuable this personal relationship you have had with True Parents is. Thus, you need to lead grateful lives.

True Father has planned that this Peace Palace that we have sanctified today would educate all humankind and embrace the whole world. However, there have been many complicated issues during the preparation process. The leaders were lacking, so they did not know. In a word, they were ignorant. It took some time; yet, centered on this place, you should educate all the peace ambassadors in the world and make them into substantial blessed members. Moreover, I am going to guide the United States again. We need to bear the fruit of the Christian culture. The American Clergy Leadership Conference needs to become more active. Now the harvest of substantial fruit can no longer end at "knowing"; you must be in a position to practice.

When True Parents are here on earth and when they are not will be unmistakably different. Because I am still here, I am able to establish a tradition that can tie the whole world together as one in the space of three years. You must be grateful that you are breathing at the same time as I do.

Since the Cheonji Sunhak Won needs to be able to express the six thousand years of providential history, it cannot leave out the two thousand years of Christian culture. Therefore, I have looked at famous cathedrals and museums, but now is the time for a new.... After True Father's seonghwa, I felt that it was a bit weak because it was connected to the Cheongpyeong project. Therefore, this should become a historical and monumental building.

Thus, as I said before, when people go in they must come out as people of the Principle. You must make it into a place that characterizes that type of education. As I visited various places, I thought that it must become a place where people can see at one glance how hard True Parents worked for world peace, in other words, a place unprecedented in history, a place unique in the world. There can be nothing better.

The building that we are to build should express hope. If you go to Catholic churches, they are gloomy. Their roofs only got taller as they hung

on to God, waiting for the Second Advent, clinging onto empty things. However, we are different. How many great pains have I had to go through in order to create a building that is modern, classic and unique?

As I sanctified the Peace Palace, the International Peace Education Center, this time, since it is a not only a location for education but where we offered the thousand-day memorial for True Father, I want to give out a set of True Father's clothes. I prepared True Father's suit, shoes, wallet, belt and other things and will place these in True Parents' room. If this happens... If True Father is to carry out the providence on earth... Just as they say, when in Rome do as the Romans do, True Father would look amazing if he wore a well-fitted suit when he carries out the providence on earth. Thus, I prepared a set of clothes. I also brought the wallet True Father liked.... I have given money for Europe, for the United States and money for True Father to use in the spirit world. Let us sing and then eat lunch. ㄹ



True Mother with the holy ground pilgrims



Key figures in the Japanese movement outside Cheon Hwa Gung



You Must Now Soar

With the third anniversary of True Father's seonghwa coming up, the purpose of this meeting is to think about how we will achieve mind-body unity and how all our churches and organizations can become one so that we can return success to God, respond with determination to God and start on a fresh footing.

This is a new era

Even though I have toured Europe and the United States, the external environment is becoming more difficult for humankind. Throughout the world, aren't there concerns about whether the earth can endure into the

future in a healthy state?

True Parents have opened a new era. You are in blessed families that need to settle the Cheon Il Guk era, which exceeds the two thousand years of Christian history, by quickly making True Parents' achievements known to the world.

Leaders' devotion and abilities must cause them to succeed at once. You cannot keep wasting time, saying, That is enough for now, that's enough for today, or let's do it the day after tomorrow if we cannot do it tomorrow.

What is more, you will say that you have done your best in the positions you have held until now. However,

from God's standpoint those are very weak statements. The sixty-first anniversary of the founding of our church has just passed. If looked at in terms of human age, it is a sixty-year-old. How much of a foundation have you built to be able to show something to the world? In short, your record is more shameful than glorious.

Are you just going to sit here at a standstill? You have to leap. You have to soar. To do this, you need to unite. You have to cooperate. You should not make excuses anymore. Do not make the excuse that it is too hard. You should be positive: I can do it. I just have to do it! I did it! You need to make a habit of this attitude.

This is the message True Mother gave on June 22 at a hoondokhae breakfast meeting at Cheon Jeong Gung.

The status of the Unification Church has soared all around the world. It is different from the past. Through today's hoondokhae, I know that you have already been reminded once, but if Jesus, who had come as the Messiah, as the only begotten son of God, had met the only begotten daughter of God, the Israelites would have prepared a national foundation.

In that sense, as leaders, as blessed members that have received the blessing by True Parents' grace, have your actions restored the nation? If you feel sorry to True Father, shouldn't you do your duty toward True Mother, who is on earth? When you do, there is a future for the Unification Church and Unificationist families. The Christian culture took two thousand years. Shouldn't we be different? This is providential history, which has supported the substantial True Parents. If you live one day as if it were a thousand years, nothing is impossible.

In Las Vegas, I told them to liberate their ancestors. What I meant is that we need to establish a foundation, an environment for True Father, so that he can work in the spirit world. No matter whether he is the absolute being or the king of kings, he cannot let his status be known without citizens to do activities. There should be citizens. The spirit world was darkened by its relationship with Satan over the past six thousand years. By liberating, blessing and educating your ancestors, the path to a good spirit world will open. This will expand the environment in which True Father can work.

The history of civilization is the same. Many conveniences make life more comfortable and faster, save time and space and contribute to civilization. By utilizing these to their utmost, we should teach pitiable human beings about True Parents. You should let them know, "True Parents have come as pioneers and have worked for humankind. Thus, they have opened Cheon Il Guk. You all have the opportunity to become citizens of Cheon Il Guk. Come!"

We have sent missionaries to many countries all over the world, but in reality many countries still have not accepted the Family Federation or the Unification Church. Even Europe is

still like that. I know that it has been difficult for members because it is where the Christian culture originated and we have received great opposition there.

However, this is a new era. The Christian culture is of the past. Currently, there is no other path to the future but us. We need to teach this. Among the regional leaders here, some have traveled as much as four or five hours. We can act on all the ways to lessen distance and time. We can make that happen. Isn't that so?

We need to have a system that can educate the whole world about True Parents at once. We need to make it one system. In order to do this substantially, the Cheon Il Guk Media Committee should unite with the FFWPU International Headquarters and lead the global providence. For this, we need the right people. We need brains. Thus, we will have a World Missions Strategy and Training Institute at the mission headquarters.

I know that within the association, organizations are being made. Also, PeaceTV is providing much grace to members through the Weekly Updates. We are in the position to design the past, present and future. In order to do this, we should study, develop and advance these under one system. Do you understand?

The word, the Principle, is important in raising a human being. Those who do not grow up with the Principle will bend here and there depending on the situation or environment, like a wavering reed. Yet, those who know the Principle do not waver. What is at the center of the Principle? True Parents! A great gap exists between the first generation and the second generation. In this state, you cannot take responsibility for the past, present or future. Therefore, what is it that I stressed first at True Father's ascension? I stressed church innovation through the spirit and the truth! Cultivate competent individuals and educate those in our second generation! Isn't that right? In addition, there are the Three Great Scriptures, which is the center for our Unificationists.


Chambumo Gyeong is to be completed in Korean and English by the third anniversary of the seonghwa. I did everything I could for you. What more is there?

Life-guiding textbooks

The earth, which God created, has caught the measles. It is sick. That is why climate change is occurring. How about the Korean Peninsula? This country, which used to have clear distinctions between the four seasons is turning into a subtropical region. If this happens, it will destroy nature. Many different types of trees will become sick. What tree represents the ten traditional Symbols of Longevity in Korea? It the pine tree, isn't it? Pine trees are sick too. Will we just watch this happen? I think we should research the idea of changing the type of trees that can take root in the Cheongshim complex.

I am quite weary. All parents in the world feel weary if they have many children, right? Just as God originally created, shouldn't we protect the original garden of Eden? If you do not protect it and keep it steady through everything, from one to ten, it will not do well. Thus, would this make one comfortable or weary? You need to grow as a pious child centered on the past, as a pious child centered on the present, and then as a pious son, daughter, and loyal subject centered on the future. Do you have this mind-set?

(At yesterday's meeting, I heard Chairman Choi of our organization talking about the development of the Catholic Church, but those people do not have life. They may gather people, but that is of the past. That church does not give life.) You are True Parents' church, which will open the path to living as true children of our Heavenly Parent. You are in a position where neither heaven nor earth can replace you. This is a blessed position. You all have the power to turn muddy water into pure, clear water.

Shouldn't such people change now? It is no longer, "Done yesterday, done today." Do you understand? I hope you all become people I can remember before I go to the spirit world. The thing that you can boast of to the world or to the spirit world is how much you have a good standard in front of True Parents. There are no families that True Father remembers. Results are important. Your remaining time on earth is important. I hope that you can make decisions and resolutions here. 

Sixty One Years: the anniversary of the founding of the Family Federation

The sixty-first anniversary of the founding of FFWPU took place on June 16 (5.1 on the heavenly calendar) beginning at 10:30 am at the main church, Cheon Bok Gung. Dr. Man Ho Kim, director general of the FFWPU International Headquarters, Choi Yun Gi, chairman of the Tongil Group, and Seuk Joon Ho, chairman of the Sunmoon Education Foundation, joined ministers and church leaders from around the country and over seven hundred central members in the celebration. True Father established the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity (later known as the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification) on June 16, 1954, at

Bukhak-dong, Seongdong Borough, Seoul. He sent missionaries to Japan in 1958 and to the United States in 1959. This has now expanded to nations on all continents.

The event started with Yu Gyeong Deuk, vice-president of FFWPU-Korea making an opening declaration. Everyone then sang the Cheon Il Guk anthem and then recited the Family Pledge. Lee Gi Seong, president of the Cheongpyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center, prayed. The leader of the northern Seoul district, Kim In Chang, and his wife offered flowers. FFWPU vice-president Lee Hyeon Yeong and Jin Jang Jin, the Gyeongbuk district leader, offered gifts. Various people sang congratulatory

songs. Main church district leader Park Jeong Ho read the hoondok text. Chairman Seuk Joon Ho made some congratulatory remarks and gave awards to church elders. Ryu Kyeong Seuk, president of FFWPU-Korea gave a speech and prayed. The whole affair concluded with Jeonbuk District leader Lee Myeong Chae leading cheers.

In President Ryu's address, he expressed respect and gratitude toward True Parents. He said, "I feel the memories in my heart of True Parents' sincere devotion of blood, sweat and tears in not just all of Korea, but in all the corners of the world. He spoke of the two declarations True Mother made during this past tour is Europe.



On Friday, May 1, members commemorated the sixty-first anniversary of the founding of HSAUWC at Cheon Bok Gung, the headquarters church, in Seoul.

The first, "The UN must accept Heavenly Parent, and believe in True Parents who have brought the ideal and word of Heavenly Parent" was stated at the UN headquarters openly to all the 7 billion people, not just to the European participants. The second, he explained that after the Christian cultural sphere which is the era before the coming of heaven has disappeared into history, a new cultural era which is the era after the coming of heaven has opened centered on True Parents and the culture of heart. He said that True Mother called this "a cultural revolution."

True Mother returned to Korea on June 14 after her tours in Europe and the United States. It was raining when she arrived. She exclaimed, "This rain is rain that brings good fortune!" The draught in Korea had continued to such an extent that some places had difficulty finding drinking water. However, lots of rain came along with True Mother's arrival. On the drive back to Cheon Jeong Gung, she received a report on activities in Korea from President Ryu who was riding with her. Afterward, she said, "For the substantial era of Cheong Il Guk to be

established on earth, the people must know True Parents' status and value. You must pray and offer sincere devotions when you interact with Heaven."

On the other hand, Director General Kim posted, "The First Letter Given by the President of International Headquarters' on June 15 and in the letter, he said, "True Mother has received the reports on the MERS (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome)

situation and is deeply concerned for the situation of Korea and the safety of our members. He also said, "We should have attended as representatives of all humanity and the realms of Abel and Cain, for the victorious return of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind after forty-eight days spent touring Europe and the United States. However, we substituted that with a simple gathering due to the MERS situation. 7P



- 1 Ryu Kyeong-seuk, president of the Korean church gave the main address
- 2 A view from the back of the sanctuary
- 3 The president awarded pastors for their achievements.
- 4 Yu Gyeong-deuk, vice-president of the Korean church introduced the event.
- 5 Rev. Seuk Joon-ho gave a congratulatory address.
- 6 Senior members cut a cake.





A Prize to Help Build a Future Culture of Peace

The Sunhak Peace Prize Foundation announced the first winners of the Sunhak Peace Prize on June 8 at the National Press Club in the US capital, Washington DC. The winners were Dr. Modadugu Gupta for standing at the forefront of bringing relief to impoverished people by developing a simple means of doing aquaculture, which could help divert a possible future food crisis; and President Anote Tong of Kiribati for spreading awareness of the severity of climate change. The awards ceremony will occur on August 28 at the Seoul Grand Intercontinental Hotel among the events coinciding with the commemoration of the third anniversary of True Father's ascension to heaven.

Especially in the twentieth century, human conflicts threatened peace on earth. As we have come into the twenty-first century, disasters due to the changes of the earth's environment such as climate change, food

shortages and resource exhaustion are threatening humanity's survival. In order to prepare for these threats, we need to rely on our collective wisdom.

The Sunhak Peace Prize represents a hope to achieve peace together for the sake of future generations. Its creation was meant to promote the continuous peaceful coexistence of future generations and environmental protection. Under the awareness that we are a community of love that carries on from one generation to the next, we can dispel non-peaceful causes that threaten future generations and propose a vision for the future. True Parents, who founded the Sunhak Peace Prize, have proposed a vision: "World peace is achieved when all human beings practice true love." Under this vision, True Parents have initiated peaceful practices that transcend borders, peoples, religions and cultures. We will achieve the correct future of humanity when we have

torn down the boundaries between us and our neighbors.

The Sunhak Peace Prize Committee, which comprises eminent individuals from various countries and with various religious backgrounds, started its work in August 2014. Notably, during that initial stage, the government of East Timor created a sensation by contributing funds based on affinity members of the government felt between the basic outlook of their nation and the Sunhak Peace Prize vision. The first winners were nominated through a fair evaluation of 182 candidates from sixty-six countries. More than thousand people had been chosen from all areas of the world to recommend candidates for the prize.

The Sunhak Peace Prize focuses on achieving peace for future generations. It will pay attention to peace-related activities that transcend borders as well as religious, political and eco-



- 1 The general scene at the press conference
- 2 Dr. Thomas Walsh, Dr. Hong Il Shik and Dr. Kim Man Ho
- 3 Chairman Hong announced the laureates
- 4 The Sunhak Peace Prize Committee
- 5 Television and print media covered the announcement




conomic environments and that expand a sustainable culture of peace while not depriving future generations of opportunities.

Ceaseless natural disasters, food problems, climate change and destruction of the ecosystem are threatening our future survival. Climate change is the worst disaster in all of history. Even now, eight thousand of the world's children are dying from starvation. We must take seriously the challenge of feeding an ever-increasing global population. We can look with hope toward the ocean, which is the origin of all life and controls the environment that helps all lifeforms to co-exist. The ocean is a vast repository of food and thus a bastion against starvation that may arise on a wide scale as well as being the origin of infinite clean energy. True Father had special interest in the ocean as a place to look for solutions to crises that arise among people on land. True Father pushed forward with a vision that the ocean will play an indispensable role in assisting human being to coexist peacefully.

The first Sunhak Peace Prize has the ocean as its theme. Through the



ocean, we believe that we can prepare for peace for future generations and begin working toward peace in our world today. Those who are living now are building the future. The Sun-

hak Peace Prize represents a dream of the earth and all human beings beautifully coexisting. The Sunhak Peace Prize will achieve a beautiful future with a culture of peace. 

People before Plutonium

North Korea and the South Korea gained admittance as members of the United Nations along with Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Micronesia and the Marshall Islands on the same day, September 17, 1991. A few days later, President Roh Tae Woo, then president of South Korea, said in an address to the UN, “It took the two Germanys seventeen years to combine their UN seats. I sincerely hope that it will not take as long for the two Korean seats to become one.”

Yet, North Korean nuclear ambitions clouded people’s initial elation over the two Koreas joining the UN together. Despite three months of negotiation, five days before joining, North Korean Foreign Minister O Chang-rim announced that North Korea would not sign an agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The agreement was intended to ensure that North Korea’s nuclear program remained safe. Over the years, concerns about North Korea as a threat to its neighbors have only grown.

Beyond missile launches

In announcing on January 14, 2013, that the UN would conduct an in-depth investigation into human rights abuses in North Korea, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, said, “At the international level, the spotlight is almost exclusively focused on DPRK’s nuclear program and rocket launches. While these, of course, are issues of enormous importance, they should not be allowed to overshadow the deplorable human rights situation in DPRK, which in one way or another affects almost the entire population and has no parallel anywhere else in the world.”

What the high commissioner, who had invested her early years as a lawyer in ending apartheid in her native South Africa, set in motion was the Commission of Inquiry on

Human Rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. This commission came into existence in March 2013 and had a yearlong mandate to “investigate the systematic, widespread and grave violations of human rights in the DPRK, with a view to ensuring full accountability, in particular, for violations that may amount to crimes against humanity.” Michael Kirby, a retired judge from Australia, led the investigative panel, along with Sonja Biserko, founder of the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia, and Marzuki Darusman, who is the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in North Korea. Mr. Darusman is a former attorney general of Indonesia. Ms. Pillay assigned nine seasoned human rights officials to the commission, but the commission was independent of the high commissioner.

It may be disappointing for Korean members to read this, but for some non-Korean members, the issue of Korean reunification springs primarily from theological sources. Korean reunification is necessary to reverse the Fall based on our belief that “God divided the Korean nation, just as Abraham’s sacrifices were supposed to be divided.” Interacting with the material uncovered by the commission can cause Korean unification to directly appeal to our human sensibilities, as deep sympathy for the plight of North Korea people naturally wells up.

Eighty victims testified

Having failed to gain cooperation from North Korea, the commission advertised in Seoul, Tokyo and London, requesting those who had experience or knowledge of human rights abuses to testify in front of the commission. Nearly eighty victims testified. Some requested that their testimony remain secret out of fear of retribution. Use this URL www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/CoIDPRK/Pages/PublicHearings.aspx for English, some Korean and some

Japanese transcripts and videos of the testimonies.

The following edited excerpts are from the first two people that testified in Seoul. The first is from the interview of a young man. Later, he would describe how as a child he had reported his mother and older brother to the guards after overhearing them discuss a plan to escape and the terrible consequences that followed. Here, he simply explains why as a young child he was in a prison camp.

Mr. Michael Kirby: What is your understanding of your birth? When do you understand you were born?

Mr. Shin Dong Hyuk: It was the nineteenth of November 1981.

Mr. Kirby: Where do you understand that you were born?

Mr. Shin: I was born in camp 14 Bowiso, Pyong-an Namdo Prison Camp which is the Southern Pyong-an Province.

Mr. Kirby: Why were you in the camp as a child, as an infant?

Mr. Shin: I was born there.

Mr. Kirby: Was your mother in the camp?

Mr. Shin: In fact, I don’t know exact details as to why my mom came to be in the camp. It may not be 100 percent accurate, but from what I understand my father’s relatives... I think his older brother, went to South Korea, so that’s what I understand. That’s what I heard when I was younger. That’s not 100 percent accurate, but that’s what I know.

Mr. Kirby: Did you get released from the camp at any time before your subsequent escape from the camp? Were you set to freedom?

Mr. Shin: Not once.

Mr. Kirby: What do you remember about early days when you were a young boy in this camp?

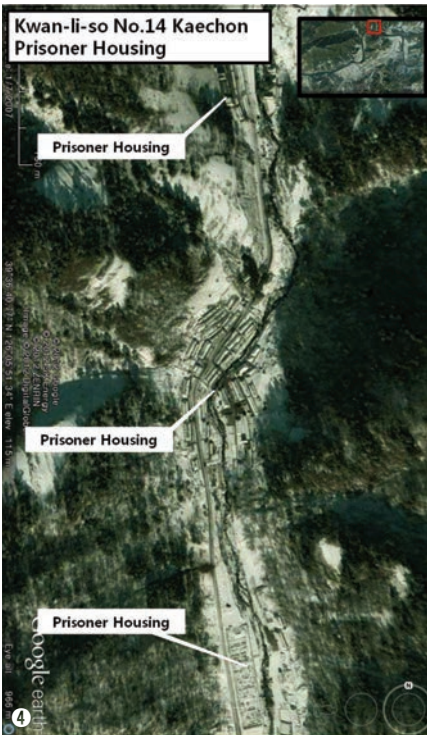
Mr. Shin: My memories... I think I was about five and that it’s my first memory. My Mom and I were at this place. There were many people in that place, and the military brought one person



1



2



4



3

- 1 Tears come to a woman's eyes as she testifies to what she experienced in North Korea.
- 2 The Commission in Tokyo interviewing witnesses
- 3 Michael Kirby, a retired Australian judge, was chairman of the UN Commission
- 4 Satellite images like this one and testimonies from escapees led to an estimate by trained analysts of 150,000–200,000 inmates in North Korean prison camps.

and tied the person to a wooden column. At that time, I had no idea what it was. I was just watching, and then I heard the gunshot. That's the first time I heard a gunshot. I remember being so surprised. I actually fell back and I remember being truly scared.... I was six when I first started going to school. I was taught the rules that I needed to follow in the camp and they also taught us the kind of work that we needed to do in the camp.

Mr. Kirby: To the incident that you say

happened when you were five, and in the light of later experience what do you say was actually happening at that time when you saw a person who was taken to a wooden column and heard gunshots?

Mr. Shin: In the camp, twice a year, there was a public execution. I don't know the exact meaning of it, but I think it was in order to keep the prisoners on their toes and to scare them. In front of many inmates, the prisoners, they would tie this one person

against the wooden column and they would shoot or strangle the person, so I understand that that happened at least twice a year. The first time I witnessed such an execution, I was five.

A woman's experience
This is from the testimony of Ms. Jee Heon A. She lived near the Chinese border. Her father was born in China. Though she was taught to be loyal to the supreme rulers (the successive Kims that have led North Korea) her

father convinced the family to leave North Korea after he had gone back to China once and seen KBS television from South Korea and realized they had been lied to. In separate subsequent trips, Ms. Jee was separated from her parents and never saw either one again. She was caught and sent back to North Korea four times. This excerpt follows what occurred after a North Korean tricked her, brought her and three other women to China and sold them to human traffickers.

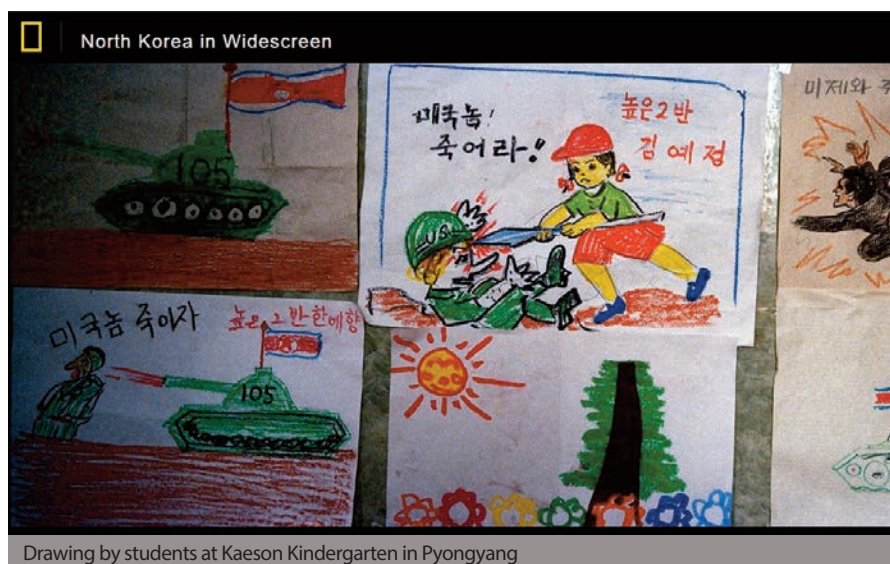
Ms. Jee

An old lady bought me from the brokers. She lived alone. She had a son who had gone to Japan to make money. He was coming back in a few months, and she purchased me in advance of his return. I lived with this old lady for several months.

But the head of the Chinese police asked if life was okay for me, and I said, yes better than in North Korea. He asked our identity to register our information. So we gave out everything, and accepted his intention to register us, but within less than a month, they came back and arrested every single one of us. At that time, they arrested sixty North Korean women in that way. We stayed in prison in Yun Yun Sung, China for almost two months before being repatriated to North Korea through the Dandong boarder guard.

We went to the Dandong border by bus, about nine hours. One lady was nine months pregnant, but we did not take any break when we were traveling. The pregnant lady was in the restroom when labor started; the baby's arm started coming out first, a sign that something was not going well. The baby did not make it, but she survived. She went back to North Korea. We had given the pregnant lady milk powder, eggs and nutritious food that the Chinese hospital gave us, but they were taken away by the North Korean security agency.

We were punished by being forced to squat and stand up repeatedly. Even the women who had recently given birth were forced to do the same. It made us feel degraded as women. We were stripped naked when we were arrested; they searched our bodies, even our vaginas. They made us squat and stand, repeating



Drawing by students at Kaeson Kindergarten in Pyongyang

this. We had to spread our arms sideways, stand up and they searched.

Mr. Kirby: Who performed the search?

Ms. Jee: The North Korean security agency did.

Mr. Kirby: Were they male or female officers of the agency?

Ms. Jee: They were men.

Mr. Kirby: Only men, or some women?

Ms. Jee: There were no women.

Mr. Kirby: What was the reason for getting you to do squats?

Ms. Jee: The security...

Mr. Kirby: For pregnancy or what? Or just to humiliate you, in your view?

Ms. Jee: They wanted to find if we had hidden money.

Mr. Kirby: Did you have any hidden money or not?

Ms. Jee: Yes, I had some hidden money in my clothing. It was spring, so I was wearing thick clothing. There is an outer and inner lining, so in between I sewed in the money. It was not discovered.

Holding perpetrators accountable


To fulfill its mandate to hold the North Korean regime accountable for the human rights abuses against its populace, the commission had to explain the means the leadership used to gradually and seemingly methodically tightened its control over the people, leaving them helpless.

Some of the research on this process came from archives in former communist countries, East Germany and Russia. Among a multitude of sources, they also relied on research done by Korea scholars, such as Andrei Nikolaevich Lankov, a Russian

and a specialist in Korean studies who was an exchange student at Kim Il-sung University in 1985.

Readers learn that Kim Il Sung utilized Confucian concepts to present himself and his heirs as the supreme leaders of the nation and that over time, court judges lost their independence and became subservient to the views of the supreme leader. We learn of purges as described by those that lived through them and have some sense of what terror the purges must have spread. We learn that each person in North Korea had been categorized as core, wavering or hostile. (The categories have changed over time, but the practice continues.) A hostile person means the family falls into that category for generations, or forever.

Reading this material, it is as if one is watching a boa constrictor approach a drunken farmer asleep on the ground; the snake comes out of the nearby jungle moving slowly but with deadly intent and then stealthily wends its way around the farmer's body and begins to squeeze.

In regard to looking at North Korea's human rights situation rather than its missile program, policy expert and human rights advocate Frank Jannuzi, put it this way: "It is time to put people before plutonium." Scrutinizing this report and the associated materials may also help those of us who have seen reunification only as a theological matter to place people at the heart of this vital mission. 

This report was prepared by a TPmagazine staff member.

Please grant that we become true filial sons and daughters

Father of love! We thought Jesus came to earth solely to find us, but that was not all he came for. We thought he came for the sake of our families, but that was not all he came for. And we thought he came for the sake of the chosen people of Israel, but that was not all he came for. Neither did he come for the sake of any one denomination.

We have come to understand that Jesus was simultaneously the hope of the created world and the representative of its entire value. Father, what is the state of our mind today in relation to Jesus, who had the mission to restore everything? Please do not allow any of us to become people who die clinging to their family. Please do not allow any of us to become people who die clinging to their people, their nation or their world.

We earnestly hope and pray, beloved Father, that You allow us rather to become people who can live risking our

lives for the sake of the life and death of the cosmos, that is, people who represent heaven and earth in life and in death.

Please grant that no outcries of lamentation among the things of creation remain, due to the failure to accomplish the restoration through Jesus. If such laments remain, we earnestly hope and desire, Father, that You allow us to become true sons and daughters who are able to resolve this, to bring You and Jesus relief, and to penetrate Your heart through an eternal relationship with You. And please work together with us, Father, that we may resolve all historical sorrow and that You may receive the comfort of that liberation. Furthermore, please grant that we may go forward together with You. We earnestly hope that You allow us to become true dutiful sons and daughters who are able to forget everything and praise Heaven. I pray all these things in the name of the Lord. Aju! ㄸ

(March 23, 1958)



Peace Road 2015

For the sake of peace and human welfare, I propose that we build a passage for transit across the Bering Strait, where Satan has historically divided east and west, and north and south, and where the North American and Russian landmasses are separated. This passage, which I call the “World Peace King Bridge–Tunnel,” will link an International Highway System that will allow people to travel on land from Africa’s Cape of Good Hope to Santiago, Chile, and from London to New York, across the Bering Strait, connecting the world as a single community.

—True Father, September 12, 2005, on the founding of the Universal Peace Federation

In recognition of Father’s efforts to establish an international highway as a practical means of initiating interaction, commerce and mutual peace among nations, Peace Road 2015 launched on the same day at the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa, in Las Vegas in the United States and in Santiago Chile.

We held the Peace Road project to help end problems such as racial or religious discrimination that cause disputes and conflicts in the world. Particularly we emphasized the importance of peaceful reunification of Korea and the realization of a DMZ world peace park, which will lead to support and cooperation of the international community.

The Peace Road participants followed a route based on course of the projected International Peace Highway, which True Parents proposed at the tenth International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences in 1981 as a way to implement peace in the world. The International Peace Highway draws on a vision to connect the world via one transport network and to end various international conflicts for all time.



Zimbabwe, June 20: 165 people—our members and the Zimbabwe United Nations Association and children from ten schools—marched for Peace Road.



Nicaragua, June 13-16: Twelve cyclists rode 90 km. from Managua to Leon; 340 people marched the last 3 km.



D. R. Congo, June 13; Dr. Modia Antoine, member of the NGO, Angels Foundation, speaks after an 8 km. march by hundreds of people for Peace Road 2015.



Benin, June 11: After biking to Porto Novo from the Nigerian border, the cyclists celebrated at the National Assembly Building. The staff director for the president of the National Assembly spoke and signed the banner.



Togo, June 12: From Togo's first holy ground, ambassadors for peace and a parliament member launched Peace Road.



Argentina, June 7, ninety blessed members marched 5 km. The closing took place at the FFWPU headquarters.



Brazil, June 13: In nine cities, 363 people rode; one man rode for thirteen hours (101 km.) from São Paulo to Sorocaba.



Ecuador, June 6: Sixty people including a motorcycle club joined, so they did a 27 km. motorcycle ride.



Panama June 8, members and guests marched, later in heavy rain; many prominent figures signed the Peace Road flag.



Hannam International Training Center and Guesthouse

The Hannam International Training Center and Guesthouse

The Hannam-dong official residence, where True Parents' love and presence remain because they lived there from 1983 until 2006 has been re-sanctified as a guesthouse. With the third anniversary of True Father's ascension approaching, the History Compilation Committee is preparing ten books featuring photographs of life at the Hannam-dong official residence over the years. We will briefly inform you of the background to the transformation of the building as a guesthouse and its providential significance.

True Mother's benediction and dedication prayer:

Beloved Heavenly Parent, on this day, a few days before the celebration of Foundation Day in the third year of Cheon Il Guk, we are opening a guesthouse here at the Hannam-dong official residence and dedicating this to heaven.

Beloved Heavenly Parent, this is a historic place through which the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind manifested true love through their lives, shedding tears, sweat and blood for the sake of God's liberation and the salvation of humankind.

Father, may heaven embrace this place, so that when many of your children stay at this official resi-

dence in the future, they can personally experience our Heavenly Parent's existence, offer gratitude and glory for the achievements of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind and truly feel and experience the perfection of Cheon Il Guk as your children.

I trust that this place will greatly contribute to the nation and world by allowing the people that come here to live according to their original minds and to practice true love, as True Parents did.

I pray that heaven can dwell in this place. Please remember all the many children who from today will visit this place and help them mature. I offer everything to you. This I pray in the name of True Parents. Aju.

True Mother offered the prayer on the day that she re-sanctified the Hannam-dong residence as a guesthouse, February 27, 2015. She had explained the significance of transforming the official residence into a guesthouse on August 8, 2014, at the sanctification of the True Parents' Historical Archives, which we held during the commemoration of the second anniversary of True Father's ascension. What follows is that explanation:

I thought of something on my way to the dedication of these archives. I received a report while in Hawaii. An elder member from Japan hoped to see for himself, before he died, the many achievements that he had heard True Parents had carried out for the Las Vegas provi-

dence. With this hope, he came to Las Vegas. When I heard the news, I thought that upon my return to Korea I should make better use of the Hannam-dong residence; I am thinking of using it as a guesthouse and as a church. This, too, would be recorded in the archives. Even though members around the world are living in the same era as True Parents, among them still are members that have not been able to make it to Korea for particular reasons and those who cannot afford to. You know that there are members like that around the world, don't you? Even though many of the world's people have come here to experience many events, still some could not afford to come. For members, the place that True Parents stayed or lived... Aren't all members worldwide True Parents' children? As children, wouldn't they want to sleep at least once in a house their parents had lived in or stayed in? They would want to feel their love and sense their essence, wouldn't they? That is why I am resolute about doing this.

A historical building

The Hannam-dong International Train-

ing Center is the place where True Parents resided during the most important period of the providence. There True Parents educated members and sent them out as missionaries and tribal messiahs. There they shouted to the world about God's situation and heart.

True Father established the Holy Spirit Association for Unification and World Christianity at House of Three

Doors church in Bukhak-dong, Seoul. In 1955, he established the beginning-stage churches by moving through churches in Seoul's Heungin-dong, Jangchung-dong church to Cheongpa-dong. After their period of residing in the Shinmun-ro residence from 1981, they lived in Hannam-dong from August 29, 1983.

The Han River flows south of Han-



한남국제연수원 영빈관 개관식

천일국 3년 천력 1월 9일 (금)

Hannam International Training Center and Guesthouse Opening Ceremony



True Mother offered a dedication prayer.

nam-dong UN Village, which is in the Yongsan Borough of Seoul. Mt. Nam is to the north. Together these two features resemble a dragon's body. Thus, taking in the landscape, the site of the house seems to be the dragon's head. Thus, according to geomancy, the place is said to have strong energy and is an area that will attract riches. In the 1950s, it was zoned as an area for for-

eigners, UN military personnel, embassy personal and official residences. Recently, it has become the center for the diplomatic community. In the following quotation, True Father speaks of the Hannam-dong residence:

This house is at the highest location in Hannam-dong. It is known that the atmosphere of this site is so

strong that not just anyone can live here. It is just like a dragon's head! We can live here because Rev. Moon has come here. If any normal people had come first, they would all have died one-by-one. The atmosphere is strong. I am educating you here because it is like this. By representing the nation... They cannot attack this place without attacking the nation first.

Because this topmost location is like the head of a dragon and has a strong energy, nobody was able to settle there until True Parents came, and they passed this energy to the members and missionaries of the world.

On the first floor, True Parents would hold meetings. Celebrations welcoming them back to Korea took place there as did leader's meetings, etc. They taught members and celebrated holy days in the basement auditorium. In good weather, they would go out to the garden and have Wonhwado classes or spend time with members listening to testimonies. Particularly when hoon-dokhae officially started in 1997, many members came to hear True Parent speak.



They held numerous international or interfaith conferences there and received many political and societal figures such as ex-president Gorbachev, Pelé (Edson Arantes do Nascimento) the football legend, Neil Bush and Makarim Wibisono (an erstwhile president of the UN's ECOSOC). There they discussed methods of bringing about world peace. True Parents also brought about rapid providential development through important proclamations during their time at Hannam-dong:

September 27, 1988: Proposal for the World Culture and Sports Festival

January 3, 1989: Declaration of Tribal

Messiahship

February 27, 1990: Declaration of the Parents of Heaven and Earth and Declaration of the Realm of the Liberation of the Spirit World

July 1, 1991: Declaration Day of God's Eternal Blessing (Chil Il Jeol) and Declaration that all blessed couples would restore their tribes as tribal messiahs

February 2, 1998: (True Parents' birthday) Declaration of the Completed Testament Age and bequeathing the word for that age

June 20, 2000: Declaration of Restoring the Cosmos to God and, on the 41st (True) Children's Day, Declaration of the Age of Family Kingship

August 20, 2003: Declaration of the Beginning of the Fourth Israel

True Parents lived at the Hannam-dong official residence for twenty-four years until their coronation and their entrance into Cheon Jeong Gung on June 13, 2006. True Mother, who understood the heart of her children who are longing for True Parents all over the world, bestowed her grace on us by rededicating this building as the Hannam-dong International Training Center and Guesthouse. As this is one of the holiest locations in the history of the providence, doing so was an expression of True Parents' love for all our Heavenly Parents' children in the world. 



- 1 At the Hannamdong house, True Father wrote, "The path for the sake of the three great kingdoms and four-position foundation is the path to love the king."
- 2 Korean church district leaders meet Father at Hannamdong
- 3 The front of the Hannamdong house
- 4 The first floor living room
- 5 Gorbachev visiting True Parents
- 6 Members of the Soviet Union Press





Group discussion during the largest seven-day Divine Principle workshop in the US for many years

Recapturing the Essence of a Good Life

The story of an unforgettable seven-day workshop

How often do you get the chance travel to a mountainous region to have a transformative experience with individuals that are excited about their journey of self-discovery? A hundred and thirty people shared just such an experience only half an hour away from that flashy city, Las Vegas, Nevada. Each morning, we rolled out of bed, looked out our windows and gawked, in awe of God’s creation. We spent the days with a diverse group, surrounded by the largest national forest outside of Alaska, learning from each other and exploring our own hearts.

That a group including so many complete strangers could converge in a place they had never been before, bond and experience profound personal reassessment is remarkable. Each personal investment of heart, mind and energy contributed to our overall growth; in just a day, we coalesced as if we were one family.

The first day began with morning exercises, a short service about God’s

heart and the formation of fifteen study teams. We dove into the first chapter of the Divine Principle, discussed it with one another and asked questions of the presenter.

That evening set the tone for the entire week. While staff members handed out ice cream floats, teams spent time reflecting on their “bucket list,” a term from a 2007 movie that means “a list of anything you have not done but want to do before you die.” As the teams discussed items on their lists, spontaneous laughter wafted throughout the room. Participants shared their lists with the whole group. People teased one another from across the main hall. Unificationists and guests alike shared openly, freely and felt safe doing so.

Our second morning began under beclouded skies. We worked off the chill with an invigorating and fun exercise routine. As we settled into the lectures, we were ready to dig deeper. “The motivation levels are high and the commitment levels are 100 percent, which is refreshing for a lec-

turer,” was the assessment of Rev. Kevin Thompson, one of our Divine Principle teachers. “People are already engaged; they want to be here,” he added.

Rev. Thompson delivered thought-provoking lessons on the Fall and on the need for the Messiah. The topics gave us all a chance to think deeply about our lives, to search our own hearts, and to communicate our discoveries.

The evening program was a gear switch: a high-spirited session of singing and a lesson on public speaking. Everyone practicing to give a speech was exciting. It is a useful skill to develop.

Personal worth, tolerance of others

Rev. Thompson’s witty personality coupled with his deep understanding of the text kept energy levels high through lectures on the Divine Principle chapters on eschatology, resurrection and predestination. In the afternoon, Teresa Ferrete spoke of her personal struggles, self-discovery and

self-value. She asked the group, "If you knew your value, how would life be different for you?" The session ended with the whole group praying, hand-in-hand, giving thanks to God, our Heavenly Parent, for the chance to be together.

In the evening, we sang, swayed and lifted our hands to the sounds of music. Participant Josh Hardmon coordinated the program, using music to introduce the distinction between tolerating and truly loving one another as God's children. He played three clips of religious praise music from different genres including a Jewish prayer, a Catholic chant and a Pacific Island song. Participants took time to appreciate the variety of ways to express God. Groups reflected on aspects of religions we love.

Blessed are those who thirst

"No matter how long you've been studying it, we're all students of the Divine Principle," said workshop director and CARP president, Mr. Naokimi Ushiroda. As an indication of the caliber of students at the workshop, Rev. Thompson observed, "In all of my years of teaching I don't ever recall being asked for longer lectures before.... This highly motivated group is thirsty to study and digest what God's hope and expectation are for us in this age. The questions after the presentations were deep and insightful and the overall enthusiasm was refreshing."

In the evening of the fourth day, we engaged in a creative activity that was artistic and profound. Each team had to make a picture representing "God's ideal world," but with some type of limitation, such as not being able to talk or to see. As always, the activity was engaging and fun but had a deeper aspect. This put us in a position to recognize that though God is always trying to reach out to us and show us his dreams for the world, our own limitations prevent us from fully understanding them.

Coming alive via compassion

Day Five of the workshop was somewhere between warm and chilly, as if the radical desert weather were reflecting the transformations being experienced through the Divine Principle each day. Starting the morn-

ing right, we warmed up with martial arts and stretching.

Gerry Servito spoke about the "heart of restoration," explaining that the heart overrides thinking and that knowing God's heart is crucial in our spiritual journey. He asked participants, "Was there ever a time you felt so excited about something, so hopeful, and it didn't happen?" This provided us access to God's utter frustration and despair when the world he created did not become all he had hoped it would be.

Miilhan Stephens gave a lecture on Jesus in which he outlined the temptations Jesus had had to overcome. He asked participants to remember a time they were tempted, whether they overcame it or gave in, and what they learned. One participant described a very personal experience of someone from an old relationship tempting her. She shared how close she had come to falling to this temptation, but that at the very last second, she felt God giving her strength. The man pursued her on four occasions. She stood her ground and became increasingly stronger. After lots of prayer, she was able to receive her wonderful husband and experience true love. The old boyfriend also began his search for a wife. The participant's strength helped both of them heal. Her personal account revealed that the Divine Principle is a set of core values that can guide us even in the darkest of times.

Lunchtime presented an opportunity for hiking, singing, snacking and relaxing. The afternoon included further lectures and discussions.

True life, legacy and vision

Day Six was different from all of the other days at the workshop. It began with a visit to the International Peace Education Center, the new building in Las Vegas that Father intended to be a place of study for people from many nations of the Divine Principle and of peace. A Unificationist crowd was on hand to celebrate the momentous day. Many of the workshop participants saw True Mother for the first time, as she spoke to the crowd and sanctified the center. The beautiful, modern building was the perfect setting for a presentation on Father's life, by Dr. Michael Balcomb, who gave his per-


sonal insights into Father's life, legacy and vision. He began by reading of his favorite excerpt of *As a Peace-Loving Global Citizen*:

My encounter with Jesus changed my life completely. His sorrowful expression was etched into my heart as if it had been branded there, and I could not think of anything else. From that day on, I immersed myself completely in the word of God. At times, I was surrounded by endless darkness and filled with such pain that it was difficult to breathe. At other times, my heart was filled with joy, as though I were watching the morning sun rise above the horizon. I experienced a series of days like these that led me into a deeper and deeper world of prayer. I embraced new words of truth that Jesus was giving me directly and let myself be completely captivated by God. I began to live an entirely different life."

Rev. Balcomb, the FFWPU president in the US, called this the defining moment in Father's life. Learning about Father's calling and his deep heart toward Jesus was inspiring. Those of us that had had an enlightening experience about Jesus during other lectures and discussions could relate to this. A man of great determination, Father persevered through many trials to ease God's pain and to bring peace to the world. In that spirit, Father had called for the creation of the International Peace Education Center.

Carry the kingdom home

The Hoover Dam has always inspired awe. Father and Mother saw it as a symbol of America's heart and spirit. We had a wonderful time visiting the historic site. Many of us took tours or just walked along the dam. Many shared True Parents' sentiments, and shared personal stories of past visits to the dam.

The final evening went late into the night, as participants spoke of their experiences over the seven days and exchanged cards of appreciation. "People really didn't want to leave," Mr. Ushiroda said. "I feel that we were able to create a sample of the kingdom of heaven." 



Those who have lost a loved one in the past year offer a flower at the Oze ceremony.

The 33rd Seiwa Festival in Japan

Inherit the spirit of filial piety and let us achieve victory as heavenly tribal messiahs

On May 24, at Oze Cemetery in Katashina Village in Gunma Prefecture, where the fresh green leaves had a sheen to them, we held the thirty-third annual Japanese *Seiwa* (ascension, seonghwa) Festival to express gratitude and respect to blessed family members and other Unificationists that have ascended to heaven. From all parts of Japan, around two thousand people came, including family members of those that had ascended, people from our national headquarters and the congregation of our church in Oze. Concurrently, our members held ceremonies at Hongkyoden (“hometown” or “palace”) Cemetery in Shizuoka Prefecture, Naka Nihon (central Japan) Cemetery in Mie Prefecture and at Osaka Peace Cemetery, Kochi Cemetery and Kyushu Cemetery in Fukuoka Prefecture. Many church congregations in Japan watched the ceremony through an internet broadcast; in that way, many more members could participate in honoring those who have

gone ahead of us.

A human being’s death entails leaving one’s body and departing on a journey to a new world, the spiritual realm. Thus, our Unification Church regards “death” as “ascension.” Every year around this season, we hold Seiwa Festivals for family members, relatives and friends to come together and remember the deceased.

This year’s festival began with entertainment at 10:20 AM. Thirty-nine seonghwa students from the South Tokyo area did a dance with a heart of praise based on their faith, which was clear from the title, “The Glory of True Parents.” From our church in Kawasaki, the White Lily Choir sang in clear voices three songs including, “Everybody is in Cheon Il Guk in 2014.”

Following the entertainment and after all the assembled had prayed in silence, Rev. Tokuno Eiji, president of FFWPU Japan, offered a representative prayer before he and his wife Hisae offered flowers as an expression of good wishes for all Unificationists in the spiritual world.

Mr. Tomaru Hiroyasu, the president of Oze Cemetery, spoke about the history of the burial ground and cited the number of people interred there each year. He also expressed with enthusiasm, “I want to enhance and expand all of our cemeteries in Japan.”

Next, President Tokuno addressed the audience, giving thanks for and recognition of the service and hard work of the people who had ascended. He then read a message from Song Yong-cheon who is president of the Blessed Family Associations in Japan. Rev. Song emphasized that True Parents have accomplished and resolved Heavenly Parent’s six-thousand-year providence of restoration through indemnity. “On September 3, 2012, after True Father’s seonghwa, True Mother inherited God’s will to realize Cheon Il Guk and is leading from the front to accomplish this,” he said. “Regarding all problems, such as the need for nuclear weapon eradication, terrorist incidents stemming from radical ideologies, and family collapse, if people do not accept God,



Seonghwa Students performing



President Tokuno leading four cheers of og mansei



Oze, one of several sites that held the festival



The festival in Oze drew two thousand people.

True Parents and the truth, no other way remains to solve them.”

In conclusion, President Tokuno stressed, “Our blessed members are objects to True Father, Hyo Jin Moon and Heung Jin Moon in the spiritual world and to True Mother on earth. They also are to inherit the spirit of filial piety from Sun Jin Moon, who supports True Parents; therefore, let us determine to move ahead with fresh spirit for victory in our heavenly tribal messiah mission.”

After family members that had lost loved ones in the past year placed individual flowers on an oblong table draped in white cloth, unison prayer was offered for those that had recently ascended.

Mr. Yokoi Tsutomu, chief director of Oze Seonghwa Family Association, representing the families, said, “To realize True Parents’ wishes, I want to make this a new starting point in doing my best to respond to God’s expectations.”

The ceremony concluded after Rev. Tokuno prayed and Mr. Kamijo Kaisuke, director of Area Four in Japan, led four cheers of *og mansei*. ☞



Mrs. Otsuka gives a representative prayer.



Rev. Tokuno delivered a sermon.



President Tokuno and his wife offer flowers.



General Affairs Director Yano was MC.



Tomaru Hiroyasu, president of Oze Cemetery



Seonghwa Family Association President Tsutomu



Mr. Milos Klas giving a Divine Principle lecture to theology students

How to Reach Out to Students of Theology

Interfaith Activities of FFWPU Slovakia

Without doubt, the people most be prepared to listen to Divine Principle lectures are Christian theologians and Catholic priests. Unfortunately, in most countries our movement still has great difficulty in capturing their attention. Therefore, we appreciate that in Slovakia, we are in a very fortunate position—the Evangelical Theological Faculty of the Comenius University in the Slovak capital, Bratislava, gave us the opportunity on three occasions to explain our faith.

That opportunity did not come out of left field but developed through many years of patient work. Gradually, since 1990, we have established good relations with some theologians,

mainly from Protestant denominations. Some of them attended interfaith conferences that we held in the early 1990s after the end of communism. In March 2002, FFWPU representative Milos Klas sent a letter to hundreds of priests and theologians in Slovakia introducing Rev. Moon’s interfaith initiatives and inviting them to find out more about our founder. The response was exceedingly modest. A few years later, the early MEPI pilgrimages inspired us; as a result, UPF and the WFWP organized a series of events titled “The Children of Abraham” in 2008. On several occasions, we asked representatives of Judaism, Christianity and Islam to present their views and traditions. A

highlight in this context was the Palestinian Evening, which attracted much attention and an overflow crowd of guests.

In recent years, our interfaith gatherings have focused on the UN World Interfaith Harmony Week. Some religious leaders keep friendly contact with us, and occasionally open the doors of their facilities for meetings. A recent highlight took place in December 2014, when UPF Slovakia commemorated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the end of communism with a panel discussion on “Religious Freedom in Eastern Europe after 1989: Has persecution changed its target?” The presentations focused on cases of religious persecution before and after



Barbara Grabner, Dr. Monika Zavis, Milos Klas, Dorota Simekova

1989. Among the audience were the heads of the Old Catholic Church, the New Apostolic Church, Hare Krishna, Falun Gong, as well as of other religious bodies.

A few years ago, WFWP representative Dorota Simekova, with Milos Klas, visited the famous scholar Dr. Peter Gazik. Professor Gazik is one of a very few supporters of interfaith dialogue in this predominantly Catholic nation. His conviction is that the best way to overcome prejudice and conflicts is to study other faiths deeply. His lectures are quite popular and he has a good reputation. Professor Gazik had invited his younger colleague, Dr. Monika Zavis, to the meeting. Afterward, he asked her to stay in touch with us. Dr. Zavis teaches at the Department of Contextual Theology, which offers classes about the world's religions—the perfect setting for interfaith communication!

In March 2015, she invited us to speak to her students for the third time. In our first two visits, we explained the basics of the Divine Prin-

ciple and the blessing. This year, we introduced the founder of our religion to the class. To present the teachings and life course of Rev. Moon to any audience is a challenge. The challenge is even greater if the listeners are students of theology! Thanks to the autobiography and other rich material being available, we were confident to present True Father in the most professional and dignified manner. For the PowerPoint presentation, we took pains to select pictures and facts that appeal to non-members. Searching for photographs, we considered what is most suitable for a Christian audience. How would they view a new messianic figure? Whether covering blessing events or life in the early church, not all pictures were suitable.

Dorota Simekova and I (his wife) supported our FFWPU lecturer, Milos Klas. In the classroom, twenty-five young people faced us with friendly but reserved spirits. They had heard some basics by docent Dr. Monika Zavis. After a while, the presentation and Father's manifold aspects and activities seemed to captivate the audience. To remove any doubt about True Father's mission, they heard an outline of the Parallels of History. Milos Klas emphasized that the Second Coming should have happened between 1917 and 1930—and that it had. One student wanted to know how Jesus and Rev. Moon cooperated and how they differed from each other. He

did not refute our explanation. We had ninety minutes, which passed all too quickly. At the end, Dr. Zavis expressed joy and deep satisfaction. She said that looking around she could see that "The students had been truly listening and not just sitting there passively." At the end, every student received the Slovak autobiography, which we had given the title, "In Search of the Lost Peace." Pictures of our lecture later appeared on the faculty website.

Our older sister Dorota keeps friendly contact with Dr. Zavis during the year. In addition, she and other members occasionally visit the Department of Religious Studies, which is part of the Philosophical Faculty of Comenius University. Our members bring literature there, such as the book *World Scripture*, and *Exposition of the Divine Principle*, as well as some brochures. Some staff members are more open than others; our main purpose is to keep in touch with each other and make our resources available to them. Based on our experiences over the last three years, we recommend that members everywhere approach teachers and students of religious history. They are more open to or even obliged to study new religious movements. Many theological faculties have a department of religious studies or offer related courses. I hope opportunities of this kind arise in countries around the world. *✠*

Interreligious Meeting: The Role of Spirituality in Public Life

Paris, April 18, 2015

On April 18, in Paris, at Accueil Barouillère, a conference facility owned by Catholic Sisters, the French chapters of the Universal Peace Federation and the Women’s Federation for World Peace hosted their third interreligious meeting this year on the theme, “The Role of Spiritualities in Public Life.” The supporting partners were the Association France Euro Méditerranée, and the Circle of Reflection of Nations, both headed by peace ambassadors.

Terrorist attacks in France and violence in the Middle East have raised many debates on the role of religion in French society. Thus, the fact that we invited well-known religious figures from Catholicism, Islam and Buddhism to speak on such a theme

was enough to attract a good audience, composed of peace ambassadors and several first-time guests.

After a few words of introduction from Mr. Patrick Jouan, vice-president of UPF-France, the first session began with our Catholic speaker, Stan Rougier, a Catholic Priest.

A longtime high school and university chaplain, Father Rougier has become a well-known preacher. He has authored nearly forty books. The title of his presentation was “From which God Are Young People Atheists?” With his warm, powerful spirit, having eighty-four years of rich life experience in France and around the world, Father Rougier was able to enthrall his audience from the moment he began speaking, and he never let it go. His lucid com-

ments on the spiritual wilderness we call modern society, making good-natured fun of all sorts of dogmas and deep insights into the evil power lurking behind world conflicts moved the audience. These revealed to anyone meeting him for the first time that he is a man of deep faith, though remarkably open-minded about other people, whatever their convictions are.

As a respondent, Michel Thao Chan, the president of the Circle of Reflection of Nations, in his dignified Buddhist attire, gave insightful and careful remarks on Father Rougier’s talk, underlining the altruistic dimension of his path. Both speakers spoke with deep feeling about the other and made the panel a warmly enjoyable experience for the audience. During



The meeting drew a large crowd


the break, Father Rougier signed his latest book, *la passion de la rencontre* (the passion of encounters), a testimony of meetings he has had with extraordinary people throughout his long life.

Mrs. Brigitte Wada, president of WFWP-France, opened the second session by introducing Mrs. Lila Boukourt, head of the Association France Euro Méditerranée, a co-sponsor of our meeting. The session theme was "Interreligious education in a secular society." As president of UPF-France, I began with a report on my experience with character education programs in Russia and the former Soviet Union in the 1990s. For several years, right after the demise of the Soviet Union, the International Educational Foundation taught a course on ethical values and personal development for adolescents, "My Journey in Life," in thousands of schools throughout the region. Students, teachers and parents widely appreciated the course's innovative, interactive approach, particularly its interreligious approach to teaching values. On that foundation, UPF has developed a course aimed at ages six to eighteen, called "Discovering the real me," with twenty-two manuals for students and teachers, which is being used in various countries around the world.

The main speaker of the second session was Mr. Ghaleb Bencheikh, president of the French chapter of the World Conference of Religions for Peace. French people know him as the host of a Sunday morning TV program introducing Islam. The son of a former rector of the Paris Mosque, he is a brilliant scholar of Islam in his own right. In a thoughtful and incisive talk, Mr. Bencheikh analyzed some of the challenges Muslim people face today in France. He criticized Islamist fanatics for their lack of genuine religiosity and answered with clarity a few tough questions from the audience on the Koran. Muslim people should not avoid looking at the problems within Islam, he said. At the same time, he underlined numerous biases deeply rooted in French society, based on our long-maintained ignorance of Islam. Interreligious education would be difficult in French schools today, he said, associations or

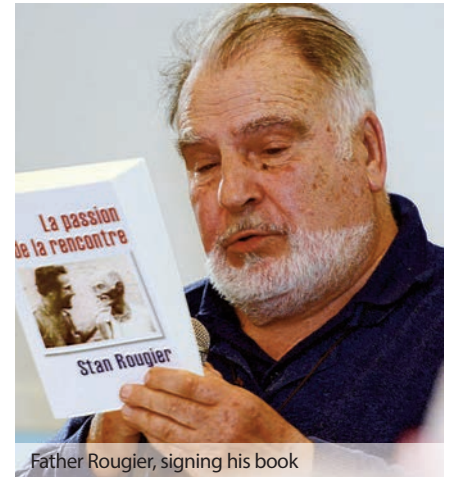
families should take care of teaching about various religions.

After two sessions, which held the full attention and heart of the audience members, the event concluded with our conferring of peace ambassa-

dor certificates on Mr. Laurent Cadet, an NGO leader from the Brittany region; Mrs. Rime Al-Sayed, a Syrian writer and poet; and Sheikh Abdelkader Achour, an imam in a large Muslim neighborhood in Paris. 



Michel Theo, CRN president



Father Rougier, signing his book



French UPF president Jack Marion



Ghaleb Bencheikh



A number of figures being appointed ambassadors for peace

Speaking to Leaders Longing for Lasting Peace in Nigeria

By Raphael Ogar Oko

I led a team of UPF Nigeria staff members and some ambassadors for peace on a courtesy visit to the outgoing governor of Kaduna State, Alhaji Mukhtar Yero, at Government House, Kaduna, to introduce UPF and True Parents' global work. I wanted to commend him for his support for peace initiatives in Kaduna State, which has led to a relatively peaceful situation there. I complimented him on his recent conduct in accepting defeat by his opponent during the general elections on April 11 and for

congratulating his opponent, a practice rarely engaged in by political leaders in Africa. After the private meeting, I was invited to speak at the council chambers to all the members of the Kaduna State Executive Council, who were at Government House to attend the monthly council meeting.

The event at the state executive council began with the permanent secretary at Government House introducing our UPF Nigeria team. Following this, I spoke to the assembled council members. I focused on UPF's

activities, our principles for peace and the need for political leaders, faith-based organization leaders and other non-governmental organization leaders to work together. In particular, I spoke on the proposal for the creation of a federal ministry of interreligious affairs, a National Assembly committee on interreligious affairs as well as the introduction of interreligious education in schools, colleges and universities as a localization of the UPF founders' call for an interreligious council in the United Nations.



I informed the governor and members of the Kaduna State Executive Council about UPF activities to strengthen marriage and family life. Council members applauded the announcement that UPF Nigeria will be launching the National Directorate of Marriage and Family Affairs on May 15, 2015, as part of activities to commemorate the 2015 International Day of Families. I used the visit to congratulate the people of Kaduna State for their peaceful conduct during the general elections. I said, "While congratulating you for accepting defeat and commending the citizens for the peaceful election, let us not ignore the fact that seeds of division along religious and ethnic as well as political lines have been planted in the hearts of Nigerians. We believe that your acceptance of the outcome of the elections made it possible for the people to remain peaceful despite the tense situation in the state during the elections. Our visit at this

time is to again reemphasize our message that this is the time for us to come together, beyond our past differences, and work together as one people, one nation and under one God."

Governor Yero welcomed the UPF delegation and thanked the State Executive Council members for being part of the visit, too. He commended UPF for the work that we are doing around the world and in Nigeria. He spoke on the issues raised and pointed out that Kaduna State has already created structures and programs to promote interreligious harmony and cooperation. He supported the idea of calling on the federal government of Nigeria and the National Assembly to create governmental structures for interreligious dialogue and cooperation. He expressed his availability to attend UPF events locally and internationally and said, "I am graduating from being a political governor to becoming a peace gover-

nor," a position he emphasized as being a lifelong calling.

We later presented the outgoing governor with a certificate designating him an ambassador for peace and a copy of *As a Peace Loving Global Citizen*. As he received the book, we announced that by reading the autobiography of UPF's founder, you would find inspiring words that guide you on how to live in peace so that whenever you die, you can rest in peace. Members of the State Executive Council requested copies of the autobiography, which we were unable to provide due to the few copies we had in our office. We are hopeful that readers might donate copies of the autobiography, which we will distribute to the council members that requested them.

The government house media crew reported the event on local radio and television stations in Kaduna. *TP*

Dr. Ojo is secretary-general of UPF Nigeria.

- 1 UPF members and peace ambassadors visiting the retiring governor
- 2 The retiring governor
- 3 The writing presenting *As a Peace-Loving Global Citizen*
- 4 Visitors taking a photograph with the governor
- 5 Peace ambassadors that accompanied the writer
- 6 Michael Ojahom a lawyer and human rights activist presenting a medal to the governor



The Purpose of a Home Group is the Success of Tribal Messiahs

By Sasaki Koichi

Rev. Oldair Almeida, leader of our church Brumado, Brazil, received an achievement award at the thousandth-day memorial of True Father’s ascension at the International Peace Education Center in Las Vegas. (I accepted it in his place.) This article will introduce the witnessing activities that are currently developing in Brazil and home group activities happening in Brumado under Rev. Almeida’s guidance.

In Brazil are 330 home family churches (home groups). All around Brazil, testimonies about success in reviving neglected local churches like the one in Brumado are arising. This is due to members in Brazil that have been working toward our goal to establish a witnessing culture through home groups. Through this, success as tribal messiahs, which was difficult before, has become possible and witnessing activities are energizing our churches.

Seeking a witnessing model

When we first started home group activities, many people did not have sufficient understanding of the correlation between home groups and the heavenly tribal messiah mission. However, through our Home Group Manual and other materials along with consistent education and practice, we naturally came to understand that the central purpose of home groups is success as heavenly tribal messiahs.

In the past, a few model churches or individuals have brought great results in tribal messiah work or witnessing activities. Yet it was difficult for members as a whole to follow such examples, so no development occurred beyond that. The overall view was that “those people” could do it because they have special skills. I

concluded that we would not be able to develop a model of witnessing upon which all members could succeed if we did not develop one that all members could put into practice.

Our previous witnessing system—mainly comprising workshops, witnessing centers and events—had brought results, but was not easy to practice because it often conflicted with work and other activities and required going to and from a witnessing center. Though the church had many people, most were not witnessing.

Moreover, a witnessing system implemented through programs in large churches such as conferences or workshops, only resulted in members becoming professionals at bringing guests. Most members did not gain experience in lecturing, caring for guests and other elements necessary to restore a person. Thus, when they returned to their hometowns and tried to do tribal messiah activities alone, contrary to their expectations, they were unable to bring witnessing results. A concept also arose that a building or location was necessary before they could even start.

However, home groups and one-on-one studying activities can take place anywhere. What is more, once a home group model exists, practicing it in the same way elsewhere is easy. Even if we developed thousands of models, economic and location problems would not be hurdles to implementing them. Consequently, the percentage of active witnessing members in congregations that have good home groups is higher. Attendance at some churches, such as the one in Brumado, can reach 100 percent for worship services.

We based our home group system on the concept that even without special skills anyone can succeed in wit-

nessing if they follow the manual with a willingness to change themselves. Though being able to pray powerfully and lecture skillfully is ideal, anyone that undergoes training through home groups can be proficient at witnessing in their day-to-day lives. Put concretely, through *oikos* witnessing, even members too busy to participate in church witnessing programs can train themselves to be people that move others by loving them, befriending them and gaining their trust.

We are doing home group work with this type of process, which can develop each individual’s skills so that he or she can flourish as a heavenly tribal messiah. For all our members to be effective in heavenly tribal messiah work, as True Parents have shown us, they must establish a foundation of three disciples and then twelve disciples of their own and love each one of them.

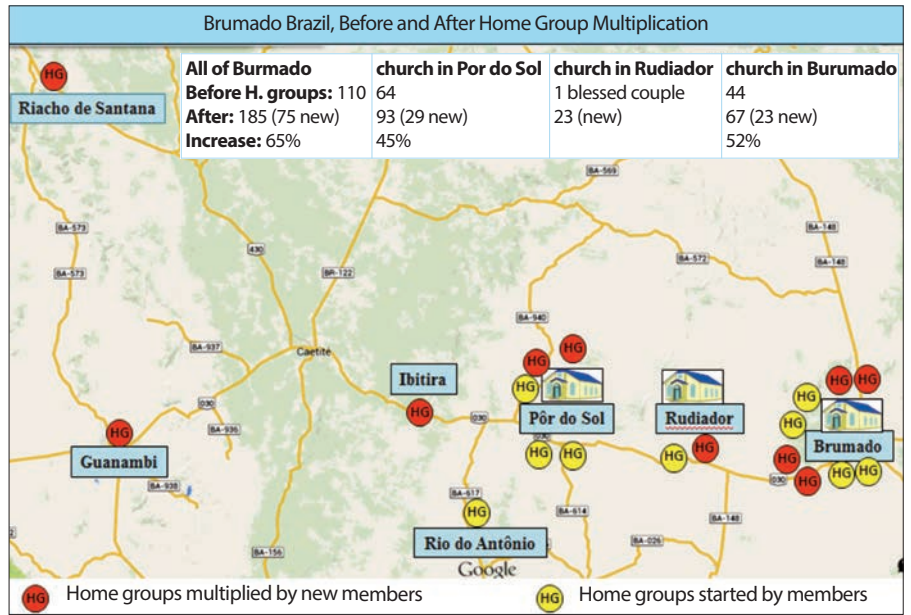
Tribal messiahs in Brumado

The city of Brumado, with a population of about seventy thousand, is in Brazil’s Bahia State. Through *oikos* witnessing, home groups and one-on-one lectures, Oldair Almeida, the minister of our church in Brumado, is steadily developing the churches’ foundation. His congregants now feel conviction and hope that they can also be successful in tribal messiah work.

Rev. Almeida explained that development occurred when he balanced *oikos*, home groups and one-on-one witnessing activities. With results from a balanced investment in home groups, which are small groups within his church itself, the congregation increased by 65 percent. Moreover, as Rev. Almeida explained, “We were able to create a natural church-growth atmosphere after home groups became a basin of love. Mem-



Rev. Odair and his wife



bers felt revived through home groups and the worship service atmosphere became filled with life. We expect that if we continue to develop this type of culture, anyone can be successful as a heavenly tribal messiah.”

According to Rev. Almeida, based on his ministering experience, they concentrated on a few key points to spur development. The most important is for the pastor to set the example by investing himself completely. Another point is to encourage visitors to speak about their situations and to express their feelings. He added that for the pastor’s wife to accompany him on visits to home groups is important. He and his wife visited home groups without rest. To some homes, they traveled more than a hundred kilometers, to guide the members in person. More than 70 percent of his home group investment has been in visiting, loving, caring, educating and reviving members one by one.

Field visits result from leadership being the most important factor in Brazil’s home group development. When you start home groups, members are not as motivated if the leader focuses on a system, as they are when he focuses on working hard and making personal contact. During his visits, members resolve questions, leading to rapid growth.

Even now, this pastor tries to improve his understanding by studying our official home group workshops,



A Home Group Conference

manuals, church service material related to home groups, videos, etc. Notably, he had all his members read the Home Group Manual. He emphasizes achieving external and internal goals, but in whatever activity they do, the internal objective, perfection of character, is more important than honing external witnessing skills.

Home group members set specific weekly goals to overcome bad habits or broaden their hearts. Changing themselves first is important. Once one succeeds and changes, hope and joy follow. Our goal is for our church in Brumado and all home group members to restore their tribes and to

have explosive witnessing results based on continuously encountering joy.

Through weekly goals, people experience peace, and love of the original self grows greater thereby erasing resentment or scars of the past. Members meet the God that they met at the beginning of their faith. The initial goal of home groups is to witness to oneself and meet God again. Based on their internal success, members witness to others, who naturally connect to home groups. *✠*

Rev. Sasaki is the FFWPU-Brazil national leader.

In Search of Giant Bluefin Tuna

By Allan Hokanson

The author was captain of the *New Hope*, True Father's boat 1974–1983 and then of the *Ocean Hope*, a 180-foot trawler in Alaska 1983–1998. What follows is an excerpt from his forthcoming book, *Fish Follow the Fisherman*.

Tuna season is like the Olympics of sport fishing, and I was determined to be a record-breaking tuna fisherman. It took me twenty-two long days to catch my first tuna, however. There were many strikes during that time, but from lack of experience, they were all lost. When a strike is so exciting, you can imagine how disappointing it is to lose the fish, but then you restore your spirit and resolve to go on. When the sun starts to sink at the end of the day, I feel like ordering the sun

to stay up so I can stay out and get another strike. You really do not understand how I feel. If you have this spirit when you attack any task or problem there is nothing you cannot do. Though you lose the tuna, you just keep trying until you catch one. That's the way it goes.
—Sun Myung Moon

It was in July 1975 when the *New Hope* returned to Gloucester to seek the giant bluefin tuna. This was our first full tuna season. The previous year had been a learning experience

but no fish were caught during the two weeks Father stayed. We were again docked in front of the Rockaway Hotel where the True Family was staying, and every day Father went to the sea very early in the morning to arrive at the fishing grounds before daylight. Six fishing rods were set out and lines prepared to secure the rod into the fighting chair. It was not long before we hooked the first fish, but due to lack of experience, it was lost. Two more fish were hooked in the first three days. The first of them was lost when the line hit the trim tab because I



Father fished throughout his long life.

failed to move the boat quickly enough. The third fish was a long fight and things were going well. The tuna was about thirty meters from the boat when Father and Mr. Yu started talking loudly and began tying the line of a second fishing pole on the line the tuna was on. Watching this, I said in my mind, "What's going on here?" Right at that moment the fish was gone.

Many American leaders were onboard and others came and went during the first twenty-one days. Only Mr. Yu remained for the entire period. One important ingredient for success was unity with True Father, and my own unity with Father was most important. The instant my faith wavered, the fish was gone and the destiny was sealed. Although thirteen more fish were hooked, the New Hope would go twenty-one days without landing a tuna.

Catching a tuna is by no means an individual effort; it requires a team. Like a well-oiled machine, everything has to be just right.

"During the tedious wait for a tuna to strike, people may complain and fight, but when the tuna bites, they are instantly united. I have never seen such instant unification! That is the unification spirit I am trying to promote. Rather than just talk about it, I particularly want Unificationists to come from all over the world and experience it."

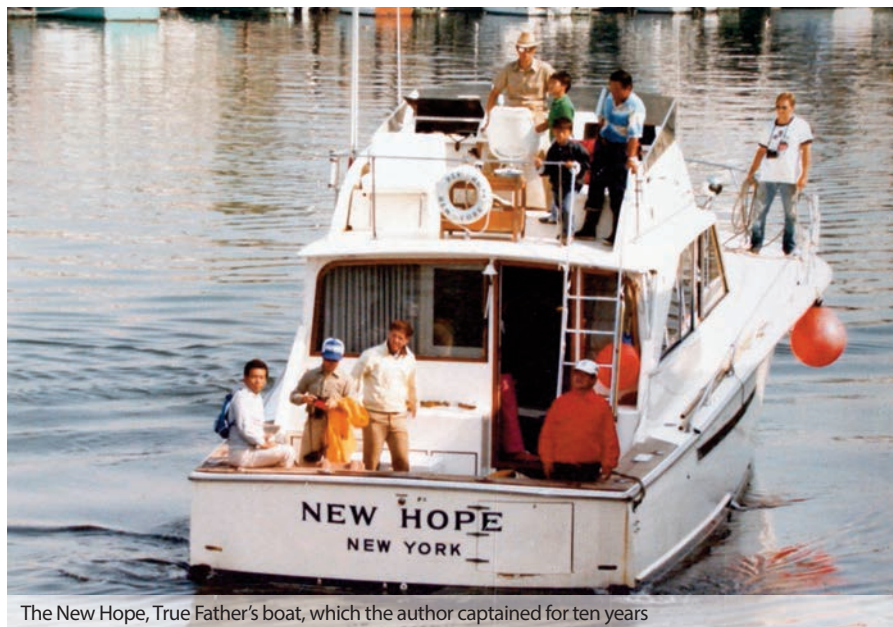
—Sun Myung Moon

This is the procedure for catching tuna: I anchor the New Hope among many other boats in the fishing grounds with a buoy attached to the anchor line. The anchor line attaches to the boat via a (quick release) pelican hook, which has a release line running up to the fly bridge so the captain can release the anchor. On the back deck, six lines are set out with buoys to float them in the current behind the boat. Each line is a little farther out and hangs a little deeper. All are baited with fresh fish. Father would buy up to three hundred pounds of fresh fish, or "chum," which is cut and thrown overboard continuously throughout the day so that it will drift by the baited hooks and attract tuna. Father baits the

hooks and sets out the gear, and then moves to the fly bridge just above the ladder where he has a good view of the deck and the gear in the water. From there he instructs Daikon Ohnuki on how to adjust the lines so that the chum will pass by the baited hooks. The current is due to the tides and therefore constantly changing. As a result, extreme vigilance is required to keep the chum and the baited hooks in proper alignment at all times. Once the lines are out, one person will begin cutting the chum, usually Whiting, into one to two inch pieces and throw them over the side precisely where Father instructs, so

they will drift by the hooks. Usually the chum is fresh, but sometimes it is left onboard for a few days before it has finished, and it is putrid.

Once the boat is shut down and the gear out, I begin the day sitting just inside the salon door, making a new leader (a short length of silkworm gut, wire or heavy line used to attach the end of a fishline to the hook). The strain of the fish is so great that once a fish is hooked, that leader cannot be used again. So the wait begins. All day long, day after day, Father remains on the fly bridge watching the gear. When at last the shout rings out, Fish on!, everything is set in motion. Father



The New Hope, True Father's boat, which the author captained for ten years



The author with Father and a tuna fish Father had caught



True Father showing his catch to True Mother and two of the True Children



One of two tunas Father caught on one trip

descends the ladder and everyone hits the deck to pull in the lines while Daikon controls the line with the fish on it. While Father is coming down the ladder, I am going up the edge of the ladder, jumping over the rail and to the control station where I start the engines and release the anchor. Once the extra gear is clear, Father takes his position in the fighting chair and the fishing rod is strapped in. Just as you cannot stop a car on the expressway with a piece of string, there is no way you can stop a tuna with a fishing line. It is a matter of teamwork between the fisherman and the captain to maintain control of the fish.

The first task is to follow the fish before he strips all the line off the reel, and get clear of the fleet. We're talking about a thousand pounds of muscle, moving at over fifty miles an hour (23 kph) and more than a hundred other boats on anchors with gear drifting behind. If the fish is moving the right way, we simply follow him. If not, we try to keep enough tension on the line to turn him. In the meantime, every boat in our path will have to drop their anchor and pull their gear. Once

clear, in about three hops I am on the deck at the aft control station, where I sit on the steering wheel using only the engines to control the boat. Then the fight begins. The boat moves with the fish, Father pulling in line when he can, slowly wearing the fish down. A tuna can swim all day at twenty miles per hour with bursts over fifty miles per hour. He will take line at unbelievable speed and then in an instant turn and come right back toward the boat, trying to cut the line on the propellers. Running, spinning, turning, Father in the chair and the captain at the controls, we do our dance with the tuna.

The primary reason the pole is tied into the fighting chair is so that Father can slip out and allow the guests to take a turn and experience the power of the tuna. None of them is an experienced fisherman, certainly not with a fish the size of a tuna, and it is important to keep the line tight so that I can see which way the tuna is going and to prevent the tuna from shaking the hook out. So while others are in the chair, I use only enough power to stay with the fish, and though they are

pulling with all their strength, none of them is able to pull in much line. When Father returns to the fighting chair, all that changes. The team is together again, the fish wears down, and it is time to get serious about bringing him in. To the cheers of the crowd, Father brings in line as I back down on the fish. The final step is to drive in the harpoon. The fight is over. A happy crew pulls the fish aboard through the transom door.

Day 22: The New Hope was on its way home with tuna on board—not one but two. Before going to the fish dock to unload, Father stopped at the Rockaway Hotel so that Mother and the children could see the fish. It was dinnertime, so the restaurant was full when someone went in and hollered, "The New Hope has a tuna!" The entire restaurant emptied out immediately. There were so many people trying to get on the dock to see the fish that the float began to sink. This was the beginning of a new era in Gloucester tuna fishing, in which Father became known not only as a great fisherman but also as a friend of fishermen. Over the next eight years, Father



The New Hope drops anchor at the fishing ground.

would set the standard, averaging thirty-five fish in seventy days each season. No other fishermen came close.

One of my jobs was to make sure that Father was adequately informed of any situation that might affect our operations, and then Father would make the decision and take responsibility for it. It was also true that when Father was not there to take responsibility, he never questioned my decisions. Well, one morning there was a storm in the forecast—fifty-knot winds from the northeast. What could be worse! Father said, “Let’s go.”


Oh yes, there was one more unusual event that morning. It did not seem like much at the time, but it never happened again. One of the guests came up to the fly bridge as we were pulling out to ask, “Do we have enough fuel?” I assured him that we did and we headed out.

Although the skies were dark and gray, the sea was calm as we dropped anchor and began fishing. Needless to say, we were alone. Over the next few hours, the wind and seas increased until we were taking water over the stern. Some of that water was leaking

through the hatches into the bilge. It was time to go. By the time we stowed the gear and hauled anchor, I was looking up at the waves from the fly bridge. My eye level was fifteen feet (4.5 meters) above the water but the waves crested at least ten feet above that. The prudent thing to do was to put the seas on our stern and head for Provincetown. Within thirty minutes, we would have been in protected waters. Yet, somehow, I felt that it was important that we return to Gloucester that night, so I did not question Father’s decision.

I have spent a lot of time in the mountains as well as on the ocean, and I have always said, “The only difference between the mountains and the ocean is that on the ocean, the mountains are moving,” and moving they were. The waves were white peaks threatening to crash down on us at any time. On the course to Gloucester was no headway at all. The seas were too high to go straight into them, so I headed to the northwest, toward Boston. Quartering the waves, I attempted to find low spots and at all cost avoid being hit

broadside by one of those towering mountains of water. Alone on the fly bridge, wrapped from head to toe in yellow rain gear, I stood, surrounded by a vast ocean that would not be conquered. In the swirl of pelting ocean spray and driving winds, I had to harmonize with the sea. As a dancer glides with his partner across the floor, we moved, the sea and I, bowing and swaying, spinning and turning, to the music of the northeast wind and crashing waves.

It was slow going, but at least we were moving. Father, at this time, was down in the salon with the rest of the crew, watching the numbers on the Loran slowly click off as it monitored our progress. Eventually we got close enough to shore to begin getting some protection from the land, and I was able to swing our course up toward Gloucester. Four and a half hours later, we pulled into the dock at the Rockaway Hotel, glad to be home. To my surprise however, the story did not end here. The next morning I went to start the engines to move to the fuel dock, but one wouldn’t start. There was no fuel! 

The Korean Media Covers True Mother's Initiatives



Hong Il Shik explaining the method of selection during the press conference

Key Korean media outlets reported on the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of European mission work, which started on May 10 in Vienna, Austria. The June *Monthly JoongAng* reported, "The entrances to the Austria Center in Vienna were bustling with people even an hour before the event. Dozens of tour buses arrived bearing hundreds of people. Long lines formed in front of registration tables.... The second floor of the center was abuzz with anticipation. The auditorium had filled completely for the event before the program began. The host organization estimated the total number of participants to be around three thousand, including members, politicians, ex-politicians and ambassadors for peace from thirty-five nations, including Austria, Germany, England, the United States, Japan and African nations."

They also wrote, "The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Unification Movement in Europe, held in Germany (May 14) drew a crowd of about eight hundred Family Federa-

tion members. At this day's event, Family Federation International President Sun Jin Moon, who was appointed in March and is currently carrying out a world tour, gave the keynote address."

This article carried quotations from True Mother's keynote message and descriptions of the Family Federation in Europe; it also included a notable amount of detail. After observing the International Peace Conference held at the UN Office at Vienna on May 11, journalists who had come from Korea to cover the events interviewed True Mother. The journalists took an interest in True Mother's successful leadership of the Family Federation since True Father's ascension and especially focused on True Mother's comment, "I have lived my life for the sake of others. I can accomplish anything if I live for the sake of the nation and the world." They also emphasized her intention to visit North Korea. "The time is approaching for a visit. I am waiting for the right time when both the North Korean and South Korean governments are comfortable with it."

The May 25 *Weekly Chosun* under the title, "Much Care and Investment in the Family Federation for North Korea" with the subtitle "Waiting for the best time to visit North Korea" dealt mainly with the press conference True Mother had given. The following day, the *Dong-A Weekly* ran an article, "Fiftieth Anniversary of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification in Europe," subtitled, "Austria, Germany, England, held conferences... thousands of members and families gathered in swarms." They mentioned the conferences held in Germany and England but focused mainly on the Austrian conference. Moreover, the *Sisa Journal* focused on True Mother's leadership in successfully guiding the Family Federation after True Father's ascension and included the interview with True Mother. Daily newspapers such as *JoongAng Ilbo*, *Yeonhap News*, *Newsis* and the *Segye Times* prominently covered the event. The main material from the press conference with True Mother in the *Sisa Journal* was presented as follows:



Media reports on the announcement of the Sun Hak Peace Prize. From left: *Monthly JoongAng*, *Sisa Journal*, *Weekly JoongAng*

You have a scholarship foundation, so what kind of social activities are you doing?
 Reverend Moon Sun Myung and I are the "True Parents." I think of the seven billion people of the world as my own children. (The True Parents) are people who open the way for them. I believe that if you can enhance society, you should; and I will do many activities from now on. I plan to produce leaders who can guide and lead the whole world into the future. I will hold nothing back and invest into this.

Are the leaders you are trying to produce church leaders, or societal leaders?
 If those who are not church members are willing to follow the will, the path will open.

What is the relationship between the True Parents and Jesus?
 Jesus is the person who came as the second Adam. However, he was unable to have a family. Thus, in the Book of Revelation, to St. John, Jesus said that he would return and hold the marriage supper of the Lamb. Here the marriage supper of the Lamb means he would marry. The two thousand years of Christian history was the history to prepare the foundation for the only begotten daughter of God. "True Parents" are the third Adam and Eve. This means completion.

Why do you think that unlike other religions you have many young believers in Europe?
 If you receive specific education on the Principle and on unification, you will know the reason. Young students

enter our church because they are moved when they learn the Principle. That many young people are coming means there is hope for the future.

The theme of the UN conference was "resolve tension on the Korean Peninsula and plan for unification." We heard that North Korea invited you to visit, when do you plan on going?
 Reverend Moon and Kim Il Sung had an extremely close relationship. Kim Jong Il and Kim Jong Un are maintaining that relationship.

Do you intend to meet Kim Jong Un, chairman of the National Defense Commission?
 I can accomplish anything if it is for the sake of the nation.... I am waiting for the right time when both the North Korean and South Korean governments are comfortable with it.

Announcement of the first Sunhak Peace Prize
 The Sunhak Peace Prize Committee chairman, Hong Il Shik (president of Korea University 1994-1998) announced the first recipients of the Sunhak Peace Prize on June 8 at the National Press Club in Washington D.C., the US capital. The co-recipients were the president of Kiribati, an island in Oceania, Anote Tong (age 63); and Dr. Modadugu Gupta from India (age 76). They will split the prize money. Korean news outlets such as *Monthly JoongAng*, *Yonhap News*, *MBC* (Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation) *YTN* (Yonhap Television News) the *Chosun Ilbo* and the *Segye Times* reported this.

The *Chosun Ilbo* explained, "The president of Kiribati, an island in the Pacific Ocean, has been raising awareness of the situation in his country, which is facing a crisis; the island will be overrun by the ocean by 2050 due to the rising sea level caused by global warming. He is seeking a worldwide solution for climate change. Dr. Gupta has led the "Blue Revolution" with fish aquaculture technology; he has been teaching the poor of Southeast Asia and Africa so that they can support themselves."

Chairman of the Sunhak Peace Prize, Hong Il Sik said, "As we entered the twenty-first century, many disasters occurred around the world due to climate change and food crises. Before long, we were seeing signs that these will grow into global crises and could threaten our very survival. To our agenda to secure future peace, we have added a determined effort to find those who have the wisdom to save humanity from these crises."

For the past year, the Sunhak Peace Prize Committee received nominations from around the world of 182 candidates from sixty-six countries who have received top international prizes, famous figures, academic associations with global authority, and NGOs. The committee explained that they selected the first candidates by focusing on the solution to climate change and food issues for sustainable peace and for humanity's future. The largest cash prize in Korea, \$1,000,000 will be given every year. The first awards ceremony will take place on August 28 at Seoul's Grand Intercontinental Hotel.

» GLOBAL NEWS

» ASIA

Cambodia

In the early morning of June 13, almost five thousand students lined up to enter the Sopheap Maengkol Center for the International Youth Convention on the theme "The Role of Asian Youth for World Peace" co-hosted by UPF-Cambodia and Union of Youth Federation Cambodia. We had several other partners. After rousing opening remarks by Chan Sophal, governor of Battambang Province, Dr. Yong, chairman of UPF-Asia, introduced UPF's core principle of peace based on Father Moon's teachings and explained how important youth ambassadors are in the peace process.



Malaysia

Dr. and Mrs. Yoo Chong Young, sen-



ior advisors to UPF Malaysia, led eleven Malaysian Members Parliament to a leadership conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, in the US. The delegation listened to explanations about Father and Mother Moon's philosophy on peace and human development. At the end of three days of education, Dr. Yoo gave a stirring oration concerning Malaysia's unique role in bringing peace to Asia and the world. His address connected to Father Moon's life-mission of building world peace while highlighting the special relationship between Korea and Malaysia.



Thailand

The chief of a district office in Surin Province fully supported a Blessing Ceremony because he agreed with all of FFWPU's teachings and work. He called for all government officers

under him, such as director of Social Development and Human Security, village leaders, etc. to understand and accept the project. He issued official letters to each village to send at least ten couples to receive Divine Principle education and to receive the blessing. Most of village and community leaders were inspired with the project and mobilized the people.

» NORTH AMERICA

United States

The Clifton Boys and Girls Club in the state of New Jersey was the location of the tenth Youth Martial Arts Peace Cup. A hundred boys and girls participated in the competition, from seven or eight martial arts schools including the Clifton Tong-Il Moo Do Academy. Mr. Nathaniel Nitro said, "Martial artist love the way we run it. It is very clear; we have no bias and we try to give love to each other.... We have passion. We do not need to be pushed; we just do it."

» SOUTH AMERICA

Peru

Working with members of Gran Fraternidad Universal, spiritual organization founded in Venezuela in 1948, we celebrated the UN's International Day of Yoga in our Lima head-



quarters. There, we held a yoga demonstration. Dr. Carlos Alberto Yrogoyen, a lifelong student of yoga, spoke about how he first encountered this spiritual practice and how it has changed his life. Dr. Isabel Rodriguez gave examples of how she uses yoga in her work as a psychologist and lifestyle coach. Two experts demonstrated yoga and guided us all in meditation.

» OCEANIA

New Zealand

Ambassadors for peace met to continue study of the Divine Principle in late June as a follow-up to studying they had begun in May. Thirty-five people took part. The emcee was Mr. Morrin Cooper, a former mayor of Howick, an eastern suburb of Auckland. Dame Jane Seccombe gave a moving opening prayer. Rev. Julius Gicole, UPF director, explained the Divine Principle concept of dual characteristics and connected it with the principle of order and the importance of the unity of mind and body as the fundamental point towards the path of world peace.



Marshall Islands

Members began a ninety-three day special condition to prepare for the third anniversary of True Father's ascension. The previous Sunday we had read in Gen. 1: 28, "God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.'" Through the Fall, we lost these blessings. Today we can see the phenomena of restoring these blessings, which gives us courage.

» AFRICA

Togo

Blessed members attended a four-day



seminar on My Family and Vision 2020 at the national FFWPU center. The national leader, who had recently returned from a forty-day workshop in Korea, gave the presentations. The seminar was intended to enable members to truly understand God's heart and True Parents' hearts, understand and practice the Divine Principle, build a true family, understand the spiritual world, find one's true identity, clean off fallen nature and become a central figure, a heavenly tribal messiah.

Swaziland



Our Swaziland UPF chapter conducted a seminar for ambassadors for peace and for heavenly tribal messiahs at the George Hotel in Manzini,

the commercial hub of the kingdom of Swaziland. Rev. Mensah Noumonvi, our FFWPU national leader there said that thirty-eight people attended the event. Charles Mbingo, deputy secretary general of UPF-Swaziland, stated that the ambassadors for peace seminar will be a continuous feature in the leadership capacity building and humanitarian programs for promoting peace in Swaziland.

» NORTHEAST

Russia

Our movement in Russia held a workshop, which ended in early June, for members of our second generation, seven to ten years old, in Malakhovka, a Moscow suburb. Thirty-seven children came. Every day they talked about how a person can meet God in daily life—through one's parents, one's conscience, prayer and good deeds. Older children pondered what qualities we should possess to bring joy to God, and what principles should guide our lives. They played many fun games and engage meaningful interaction. ☞



