

“Family Pledge and the Messiah” November 29, 2017

In Philippians 1:20, we read that having reverent awe of God is the foundation of our life. Offering glory to God is the purpose of our life and returning to God becomes our goal. Luke 15:11-24 also describes this, but I mainly think of Philippians 1:20.

As it is my eager expectation and hope that I shall not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. (Philippians 1:20)

This is what the apostle Paul said to the Philippians. True Father explained Family Pledge many times, because the contents are so important. So, I would like to talk about it today.

Family Pledge is the absolute standard for building Cheon Il Guk. Its value is the same as a constitution. Have you ever heard the word “Family Pledge” in the secular world? Father has introduced it for the first time in history. Because Adam and Eve, who God created as the ancestors of humanity fell, they lost the true family. Therefore, God has the providential goal to restore the absolute standard of His ideal of creation. That is why the Family Pledge has been declared.

When a model of a true family, an original ideal family, reaches maturity, humanity can bring God eternal joy. What is more, we can attend God directly in our family. The Blessing is an indispensable instrument for the sake of building the heavenly kingdom on earth and in heaven. In order to reach this goal, our mind and body should be completely united. One heart, one body, one mindset, one harmony— this is the standard of perfection.

Conscience is your owner, parents, and teacher. Centering on your conscience, your body should be completely obedient, 100%. God wants us to reach the standard of maturity through absolute faith, absolute love, and absolute obedience. Every family member should become one centering on God’s Will—that is, unity of mind and body, unity of father and mother, unity of parent and son, unity of siblings. When the united realm of true love is thus achieved, we can say the Family Pledge. This is what Father taught us.

When we enter the Completed Testament Age, it is the Family Pledge that becomes the absolute standard of the Cosmic Peace and Unification Kingdom. In the future, our success in life will be dependent not on an individual, but on every family as a whole. So, this is the greatest blessing. If we cannot live according to the absolute standard, our own family has to be very miserable. Therefore, we have to truly become the cornerstone for building Cheon Il Guk. We should have a true family, which is the way to gain citizenship in Cheon Il Guk. We have to think of it. Father prayed and did a lot of jungsung, devotion, and sincerity in order to give the Blessing for creating a true family.

Our beloved blessed families! Family Pledge is the very best prayer of all. Family Pledge is the record of Father’s total victory. We have to think about it all the time. The present era is the age of justification by attendance. Family Pledge sets the legal standard for the Completed Testament

Age. Therefore, true love is the backbone of Family Pledge. Creating a true family with our shimjung, Family Pledge is also a bridge to connect our life to God. So, we have to obey the law and practice according to God's Word. Reciprocal relationships of vertical and horizontal, north and south, and front and back have the common central point of true love. What we have to understand is that the energy and wisdom of the eternal spherical movement can start at the center of true love.

Family Pledge is the key to be able to open the gate of the heavenly kingdom. A golden or silver key cannot open it. The key of a true family centered on matured true love can open it. This is Father's word. Therefore, each of the eight vows begins with, "Our family, the owner of Cheon Il Guk, pledges..." The age of justification by attendance means that we daily attend God. The Ten Commandments of the Bible teach us to love God above all, not to worship another god. We should not put anything above God. It is now the Revolutionary Era after the Coming of Heaven. God appears in front of everyone in the form of the True Parent. Because Unification Church attends True Parents, it cannot be compared with any other power or authority.

Therefore, we have to follow the law and fulfill our responsibilities as a family. It is our privilege to receive orders directly from Father. For the first time since the Fall of our ancestors, True Father is governing history. We should live our daily lives with the knowledge of God's Will. Father has come with the lineage of God and leads the providence very strongly to connect the whole world to God's lineage. Glory to True Father, because the foundation to return to a new world has been built. Glory to True Father, because a spiritual relationship has been established to bring Satan into submission. Thanks to True Father, the central core for liberating God has been determined.

Therefore, we should always be with the True Parent. Furthermore, we have the responsibility to receive orders directly from True Father. Thus, we are born in a marvelous time. So, we should be grateful to God that we are living in an era of amazing grace. When you are completely united with the True Parent, you have your own country, your own ethnic people, and your own tribe. The substantial standard that has integrated the value of glory on earth and in heaven has appeared on earth through our True Father.

A lot of people were born and passed away in the Old Testament Age. However, True Father is greater, higher, and more precious than all of them. As for the New Testament Age, a lot of people, beginning with the 12 apostles, were born and passed away. However, True Father has appeared with more value than all of past humanity. No one can change humanity's lineage into God's lineage. Father's intention is to connect everybody in the whole world to God's lineage.

Therefore, we have to understand the value. That is why we should live together with True Father. We are born in the age of grace receiving orders directly from True Father. It is the merit of the age. When we acknowledge the grace as ours, we appreciate it with a grateful heart. When we practice it, God comes to us, walking with us, working with us, and giving blessings to us. If we are confident in this faith, we can bring fruit.

When you live completely united with our True Parent, our True Parent is the substantial standard who has integrated all the values of glory on earth and in heaven. True Father came on earth with more value than people of the Old Testament Age, even together with those who lived before that. The population of the world is now 7 billion. When I was a child, the number was 2.4 billion. The value of True Father is greater, higher, and more precious than all those people, even including all those who will be born in the future. We will harvest the fruit corresponding to our faith. We have to think about it. When you appreciate his value completely, you never can exchange True Father for anything else in the world. Now we have to deeply understand that True Father is so praiseworthy. It is not guaranteed that you will receive that same value, even though you are willing to sacrifice your life.

Although Satan made a mistake that turned the world into a very dark hell, even Satan has to surrender in a natural way by raising up his hands when Satan understands God's Will correctly. Thus, we can build the foundation for God's Fatherland, Cheon Il Guk. Therefore, the Messiah has never wanted to sit down in a comfortable place when he began the providence of restoration. The Messiah did not intend to build one or two nations, either. Individual, family, tribe, ethnic people, nation, world, and cosmos; at each level the Messiah is to build a pattern for God's kingdom. The Messiah has also come to be responsible for those who are working hard in miserable situations in hell. It can be expressed as the miserable responsibility of the Messiah.

The master of the Messiah is God. Therefore, the Messiah has come to be responsible for liberating God by building the heavenly kingdom in the spirit world and on earth. On January 13, 2001, the Coronation Ceremony for God's Kingship was carried out in Seoul, Korea. Having observed the scene, God could finish the providence of salvation. All the people of the world, having the heavenly kingdom in their minds, can live their daily lives in God's kingdom. Having achieved everything, the Messiah will sit down on the heavenly throne as the head of God's kingdom. This is the ideology of the Messiah.

Heavenly Father created everything in the universe. At this time of service, please have the sincerest and deepest conviction that God is not only our Father, but also my Father. As my Father, God expresses sympathy with us. God works for the sake of us from trivial things to big matters. When you have faith in God's being always with you, it is certain the fruit will be brought forth corresponding to your faith.

Now we are walking a different path from others. They opposed us because of the Unification Church. When you belong to Sanctuary Church, nobody welcomes you. They oppose you. Meeting with opposition, you go the way of truth. We have to find the truth and live within it. Today, you are walking on this path, embracing God's precious Will. "I cannot exchange this Way of God's Will for anything. This is the most precious way!" When your earnest conviction wells up from your mind, blood, flesh, and bone marrow, God will surely come to you and say, "You are mine. You truly trust God as your Father!"

Therefore, even meeting with opposition, you have to have indescribable joy. Originally, you should be very grateful, but you are self-centered. I once asked Father after I saw Japanese members working very hard on the front line and offering large donations. "Father, when I pray for Korean members, my heart aches and I shed tears. When I pray for Japanese members, warm tears well up." Father replied, "What do Japanese family members not have? They are selfless."

Because we are still self-centered, we cannot work well. You have doubts on the way of faith, or dark clouds often interrupt your way, even though you think you are going the way of truth. Why do I shed tears when I pray for Japanese family members? What Father told me is really true: Japanese family members are selfless! They live only for the sake of God's Will, True Father, and Heavenly Father! That is why God can come and work with them. When we can stand in the same position with faith and confidence, God will truly come to us with love, being together with us to allow us to bring forth the fruit of His Will. We have to think about this.

In 1 Thessalonians 5:16, the Apostle Paul writes, "Rejoice always." When we truly know that we are sons and daughters of God, and that True Parents are our True Parents, it is absolute faith. When we are always rejoicing, God comes to where we are. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 says, "Pray constantly." So, we should always rejoice, and we also have to pray constantly. 1 Thessalonians 5: 18 says, "Give thanks in all circumstances." It means to have a daily life of gratitude.

How much am I truly grateful today? Do I always rejoice with a bright countenance when I talk to Heavenly Father? When we think of God, we do not know why, but we become solemn. We have to be forgiven our sins in front of Heavenly Father. We have to repent. That is why we become so serious. Aren't we serious if we just call "Heavenly Father!"? Therefore, we should live our daily lives being grateful to God.

I would like to tell you the story about Mrs. Seok-won Jeong. In those days, she truly loved Father. Because she was not very beautiful, Father often spoke about her with brutal honesty, “Although she was born with a face like that, she chases after me without hesitation.” Because Father commented about her appearance so much, she prayed and fasted for several days. “Father mentions I was born with a face that is not very attractive. Heavenly Father, what shall I do?”

“Your face is God’s external form, hyung sang. Whether you were born with a lovely appearance or were born with an ugly appearance, it is My hyung sang. According to God’s hyung sang, you are created as you are. So, you are My daughter because you are similar to Me!” This was the answer.

Mrs. Jeong said to Father, “Because Father told me I was born with ugly countenance, I cried and prayed while fasting. “If you are born with a beautiful face, you are My daughter. If you are born with an ugly face, you are also My daughter. An ugly appearance also corresponds to God’s hyung sang, so don’t worry about it.” This is what Heavenly Father answered me.” Then Father made Mrs. Jeong stand in the front. She testified, “I am God’s daughter, so my hyung sang is similar to that of Heavenly Father! It does not matter whether I was born with a lovely face or not. I am God’s daughter. Therefore, I belong to Heavenly Father and God created me in the image of His hyung sang.”

Father commented, “God has given us a clear answer! Because we are truly sons and daughters of God resembling His hyung sang, people are proud about having those high positions in our secular society. God has truly given us the qualification to be His sons and daughters. With His recognition, determination, and judgment, Heavenly Father comes to us. Therefore, you should trust God as your own Father. What I said to Mrs. Jeong was wrong. I have to change it.”

God is truly my Father. When you trust and believe it, Heavenly Father comes to embrace you and to shower His sons and daughters with His grace. I sincerely wish you will welcome Heavenly Father as your own Father today rather than as our Father. “I am Heavenly Father’s begotten son. I am Heavenly Father’s begotten daughter.” This is a God-given absolute relationship. It is also so marvelous that you might wonder whether you are dreaming or really living when you receive such an amazing grace at that moment. “Ah, God is also my Heavenly Father!” Please have this absolute faith in your mind, in your blood, in your flesh, in your bone marrow! Please stand on the side of God with shimjung welling up from the depth of your heart.

In 1968 Mrs. Seok-won Jeong and I went out witnessing together. With Grandmother Jeong, I went witnessing for seven years in the Pagoda park. Father especially told Mrs. Jeong, “Whenever you meet miserable people, or sick people while witnessing, pray for them with your merciful heart.” Her mission place was Jeong-eup, Jeonla-pukdo, Korea. There she met a junior high school student who suffered from leprosy. Because her household was rich with property, her parents used a lot of money to buy medicine for their daughter. However, she was not cured.

What happened next? Those who suffered leprosy visited Mrs. Jeong. Therefore, Mrs. Jeong sent them one or two big packages of rice. Mrs. Jeong felt very sorry for them. But she never prayed for their being cured from leprosy. Father told her, “When you meet people who seem to you to be miserable, pray for them.” Being obedient to what Father told her, she never asked Heavenly Father for them to be healed. It did not matter for her whether leprosy was cured or not. Being obedient to what Father told her, Mrs. Jeong prayed, “Heavenly Father, please allow thy will be done!”

Curved hands became straight after 3 days. Her face was pale before, but now the original red color in her cheeks returned. Moreover, she gave birth to a child. Mrs. Jeong still lives in Seoul. Father did not tell her to cure any illness. “When you meet someone, who seems to you miserable, pray for that person.” This is what Father told her. Because Mrs. Jeong felt sorry for the student, she prayed. The student has been cured completely, and I remember she gave birth to a son after the Blessing.

When you practice being exactly obedient to Father's word, surely your actions will bring forth fruits. I earnestly pray that you will remember that. I see many of you are very tired. I do not know if you were told many bad things, but you look so tired.

As 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 says, "Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances." Let's offer gratitude in our daily life. When you always rejoice, pray constantly, and your countenance is bright, try to pray for those around you by calling on Heavenly Father and True Father. Pray for your close friends, for brothers and sisters of the church, and also for church leaders!

Those who have received your prayers will come to your side, which belongs to the one who prayed for them. Their diseases will be cured, their lifestyle will change, so the way of resurrection can be opened. I have experienced this many times. Although I am not a doctor who is able to cure disease, Heavenly Father does not stand by quietly when you have absolute faith in the Living God and pray. God will come to you immediately and help you. You will surely experience miracles when you have this kind of shimjung.

The path we have to go is not easy. Due to hardships in their lives, some people are worried, some struggle with adversity, some are sick, and many are worried in distressing circumstances that only God knows about. "Heavenly Father, I am truly grateful to You!" Shouting in this way, please try to live your daily life. It is important to offer gratitude to Heavenly Father from the bottom of your heart, not just crying in a loud voice. I mean, express your gratitude with shimjung melting your bone marrow. Then, many wonderful things can come to you.

I have experienced it many times. "Heavenly Father, I truly thank You, for You have come to me and You are always with me!" "Heavenly Father, please come to me, be with me, and live within me!" Your earnest prayer will open up the way. God leads True Father to come to me, to be with me together, and to live within me. When your prayer is so earnest that Jesus comes to you and you can live within Jesus, your shimjung comes to the point of change. Your mind changes. God opens up the way so that yesterday's "you" and today's "you" are totally different.

We are often blocked by a wall in our life course. You can neither go forward nor go backwards in such a situation. When the Israelites were to cross the Red Sea, the sea was blocking them in front and Egyptian chariots pursued them from behind. There was no way out. Then, Moses prayed and what happened? Because the waters became a wall to them on their right hand and on their left, the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground. Next, the Egyptians were buried in the midst of the sea.

When I think of it, God can make one thing disappear and create something else out of nothing. Heavenly Father has the ability to resurrect the dead and to bring death to the living! When you think about it, you will also have the same confidence, faith, and mindset. Something unimaginable or unexpected that is marvelous will take place.

The Apostle Paul was truly faithful. He wrote letters like, "Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18) He also preached. The welling up of shimjung is something that no one can stop! When you live with the welling up of shimjung toward heaven then no one can stop you, everything can be accomplished. I want you to cultivate this mindset of faith.

Adversities, hardships, suffering from disease, earning a living, or struggling with a dilemma that is difficult to solve—in whatever situation—please always be grateful to Heavenly Father and True Father. If you say, "It is impossible to overcome this! This is too much! Nothing can be done about it, no matter how much I pray or whatever I try to do!" then you will just suffer from being unable to do anything.

However, when you have the right mindset, everything can be achieved. Father has been unjustly imprisoned six times, but he never prayed like this, "Heavenly Father, please let me get out of this prison as soon as possible." Knowing God's Will, Father never betrayed Heavenly Father even for one second in his life course. Instead, Father prayed: "Don't worry, Heavenly Father. I will walk the path I have to. Because this is the way I should go, I will do

it. Therefore, please don't worry about me." Although Father was imprisoned six times, he has never been weak. Father has never thought it impossible. Father has always held the conviction that everything is possible.

Now, we have our Second King. As the successor of True Father, representing Father, Heavenly Father had to ask him to do this and that. Can you imagine how much God's heart has ached and choked up? When you have a conviction that you can do whatever is God's Will, Heavenly Father truly comes to you, and lives with you. We have to have this kind of shimjung. Because it is Korean Service today, of course, there are only Koreans here but please be like this.

I went to Kwangju, Jeonla-namdo, for pioneer witnessing with a team and established a Unification Church there. Our witnessing was very successful. A housemaid witnessed to the wife of a university professor. The wife stood up for God's Will. Then, Father said, "You have to have a conviction and faith that you can do anything. The wife said, "I also have to go this path. I have to die on this way." I saw Father was very happy about it.

Therefore, we have to remember this morning: We have to keep saying Family Pledge, practice it, and witness it. Father thought Family Pledge was very important. So, we also have to think it is important. Even though Father was in the position of the Messiah, Father was always ready to save even one more soul in hell. That is why Father declared he would destroy hell completely.

Therefore, it depends on what kind of mindset we have, whether God will come to us, whether we will be happy or not. You by yourself decide whether you will be happy or not. Nobody decides that for you. There are people who truly live in happiness, and there are also people who live in the hell of death. Believe and say, "God is my living Father!" If you have this kind of faith, marvelous things will happen. So, we should rejoice always. Live together with Heavenly Father with 100% absolute faith, declaring, "Everything has been already achieved!" This shimjung surely brings results to you. I wish you to have this kind of absolute faith.

Oh, I hear no response. Does it mean nobody was moved by my sermon? (Response: We are moved!) It is a fact! It was difficult for me to get up this morning. I thought, "Ah, I cannot preach today. I have to sit down." But I changed my mindset. Heavenly Father, spirit world, and the cosmos (physical world and spirit world) are with me together. I should not say, "I cannot!" Heavenly Father, please be with me! I came here with this shimjung! The sister with me saw that I could not walk, so today I could not even stand up. Thus, her conclusion was that I cannot do it. Therefore, I am very grateful for being able to come and to talk to you today.

My wish is only one; it is to be grateful. Kam-sa-ham-ni-da is only five Korean letters. From the top of my head to the toes of my feet, when I live the life of gratitude, how will things be? Because God is truly living, we can have absolute faith and believe that Heavenly Father will work with me. Above all, when I am on the side of the Living God, Heavenly Father can walk with me, work with me, and bless me. When we have this kind of shimjung, heavenly energy wells up.

We have a lot of God's words today: the Bible, Exposition of the Divine Principle, the Cheon Seong Gyeong, for example. We have to give life to people. Even one word is enough to hurt another or to be hurt by them. Courage can be instilled in others by our words, and our temper can come out through our words. Our mind is swayed by words. When our mind is filled with will and hope, we can live our daily life overcoming everything. When you fight with me, you can win. When you fight against the secular world, you can overcome. You can win victory when you battle with Satan. Heavenly Father will recognize you, giving you His decision, and judging you. Standing on God's side, you are truly sons and daughters of Heavenly Father. When we live with this kind of absolute faith, nothing is impossible.

Those who listen to the Word will try their very best to respond by practicing it. Therefore, we express our gratitude to those who are more responsible above us. Try to truly praise those who work under your leadership more. Miracles beyond the realm of your imagination can take place. However, we are the descendants of fallen ancestors.

So, we often cannot truly practice this, even though our mind tries its best. There are also many occasions when we need to repent afterwards. Thus, we need to make more changes in our daily life.

What kinds of changes should take place? The answer is in Philippians 1:20. In other words, it is the purpose of our life to bring glory to God. How much glory do we really bring to our Heavenly Father? What does the Apostle Paul say in Philippians 1:20? "As it is my eager expectation and hope that I shall not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death." The Apostle Paul said that he had overcome the world (John 16:33). Christ will be always honored in his body, whether by life or by death. It is Paul's eager expectation and hope with full courage before and now.

It is the purpose of our lives to return glory to God. It is the foundation of wisdom to revere God in our lives. Proverbs 1:7 mentions it. We are getting older, too. Isn't it true that I am the eldest here? Our destiny in life is to return to God. Please remember that we all have to return to Heavenly Father when we die. With this conviction and faith of shimjung, we should return to God while not being ashamed.

My heart aches when I remember those days. True Father has encouraged us with love to practice Family Pledge by reading and explaining his own handwritten notes. We should truly practice Family Pledge. Our True Father, the Messiah, initiated the providence of restoration not for the sake of sitting at the head of the heavenly kingdom, but for the sake of building a world where all people can live well. Overcoming the world, we have to bring forth the fruits of victory through the grace of God, Jesus, and True Father.

As for me, I do not mind my being in a dark place without light. Even a corner is enough for me. Jesus and True Father have come on earth in order to build the world where everybody can live well. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." Jesus has come for the sake of teaching eternal life. The Heavenly kingdom is made up of all the people in the world. God has been seeking to build such a world. Carrying the cross, Jesus mentioned nothing about his loneliness. The true path of our lives should be paved so that everybody can live worthy, valuable, and meaningful lives. Jesus prayed earnestly so that there would be no more pain. However, because we are descendants of our fallen ancestors, we are vexed when things do not go well, or we feel hurt. Now, let us get over it. Heavenly Father and True Father come to us always to be together with us, and to work with us to bring more blessings. With absolute faith, let's build the world where everybody can live well.

Our king has come as the Second King. One family member saw me and shed tears, "Mrs. Kang, please pray very much for the sake of the Second King. It seems to me your prayers will have a greater effect than others. Please pray for the Second King!" I replied, "The Second King is filled with God's Will from the top of his head to the toes of his feet. That is why surely the King will accomplish the word, which is the earnest wish of Heavenly Father and True Father." My answer brought a joyful "Aju!"

Today, we have to pour out our sincerest jungsung devotion, with our soul and body totally united, for the Second King so that God's kingdom will come. Kook Jin Nim said, "Whenever I listen to Mrs. Kang on the King's Report, I literally hear a big noise of Family Federation breaking down." I thought, "Truly, Kook Jin Nim has such absolute faith."

When we are united with the same mindset, even passersby cannot help but visit us. True Father told us, "Where can we find the heavenly kingdom? It is the place where even a beggar wants to stay." Therefore, let's build God's kingdom so that every nation and every person will be able to enter. As a family, we have to live well. Our children should be successful. A new providence centering on the Second King should be accomplished. It is the most important thing, because it truly brings joy to Heavenly Father, Jesus, True Father, the whole spirit world, and cosmos (physical world and spirit world together). Let's have this kind of absolute faith. ("Aju!")

We truly should have such an absolute faith, thinking, “This is the only place where I want to live. This is the only path I want to follow.” A lot of citizens will come like a swarm of bees. We have to pray a lot and offer our sincerest jungsung devotion. Aju!

Whenever I have to give a sermon, my heart aches, because I have to share as much grace with you as possible. How will it be if I cannot fulfill my responsibility? Having experienced a lot of hell, I gave sermons in those days. I am sorry for the contents of today’s sermon; there is a lot of repetition.

[True Mother prays.] Heavenly Father, please forgive our having shortcomings. A lot of people have gathered here at Sanctuary during a short period of time. So, please allow each of us to be able to represent Your glory. Let us represent Your altar of joy. Let us come to know Your bitter heart, being able to embody Father’s shimjung. Father, You trust us little ones, and we are so grateful for Your coming to us and being together with us here.

All the time until today, You have trusted us; there was no other way but to trust us. Because of this, Your heart also aches. We pray sincerely so that we can be able to invite You to be with us. There are a lot of people who do not have faith in God at all. There are also many who persecute us. Please forgive their past mistakes.

Father, You have an ideal of creation to accomplish on earth. May Your Will be accomplished victoriously during our physical lives. We pray this earnestly. Thank you very much for being with us today. I pray in the name of True Parents.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUAXIF_oc6U