

The Value of the Marriage Blessing

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July 2026

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I first learned about True Parents in Togo, West Africa, when I was 17 years old. At that time, I began studying the Divine Principle and came to understand True Parents as the ones sent by Heavenly Parent to restore what went wrong in the Garden of Eden between our first ancestors, Adam and Eve. Through that teaching,

I learned that God's original ideal was not centered only on individual salvation, but on establishing God-centered families filled with true love, harmony and true peace. True Parents came with the mission of restoring that original ideal and guide humanity back to God's lineage through the Marriage Blessing.

In 1992, I had the privilege of receiving the Marriage Blessing as part of the historic 30,000 Couples Blessing Ceremony officiated by True Parents. It was an extraordinary international Blessing at which couples from many different nations, races, cultures and religious backgrounds came together as one family under God. The atmosphere was filled with hope, joy and a vision for world peace.

Through the Marriage Blessing, True Parents seek to break down the barriers that have divided humanity for centuries and remind us that we are all children of one Heavenly Parent.

The Marriage Blessing is far more than a wedding ceremony. It is a sacred covenant and a lifelong commitment to establish families centered on God's love and to live for the sake of others. True Parents teach that world peace begins within the family. When husbands and wives sincerely love one another and raise their children with God at the center of their lives, peaceful communities and nations can naturally emerge. This vision reflects the very heart of Jesus' teaching that the greatest commandments are to love God with all our heart, soul and mind, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Through Marriage Blessing education, True Parents have encouraged individuals to pursue purity before marriage and faithfulness within marriage so that families may embody God's original ideal.

Nobody else in history has presented such a comprehensive vision for achieving world peace through the transformation of the family and devoted their lives so completely to realizing it. Although True Parents endured misunderstanding, criticism and persecution, they never ceased investing themselves for the sake of humanity and world peace. Their lives have been marked by an unwavering commitment to reconciliation among races, religions and nations, demonstrated through countless Marriage Blessing ceremonies and global peace initiatives throughout the world.

True Parents first established the model of God-centered marriage through their own Holy Wedding in 1960. Jesus came 2,000 years ago with the hope of fulfilling the role of True Parent for humanity.

However, because the people prepared to receive him could not fully recognize and support his mission, he walked the path of the cross before he could establish a God-centered family. The long history of

Christianity culminated in the preparation, for the first time in human history, of the foundation for the advent of True Parents. On that foundation, True Father and True Mother, Holy Mother Han, fulfilled the position of True Parents and opened the way for all people to receive the Marriage Blessing.

My own family stands as a testimony to the value and beauty of the Marriage Blessing. My wife is from Japan, while I am originally from Togo, West Africa.

Through the Marriage Blessing, we were able to establish a loving family rooted in faith and true love.



We have been blessed with five wonderful children whom we cherish deeply and who are thriving in their lives. Among them, two have already received the Marriage Blessing themselves, continuing the beautiful tradition established by True Parents. This is the enduring value of the Blessing: to create families connected to God's lineage, where future generations inherit a tradition of loving God and loving one another beyond every boundary of culture or nationality.

Recently, during a pilgrimage to Japan with pastors from the American Clergy Leadership Conference, many clergy members were deeply moved by the testimonies and hearts of young Pure Waters from both America and Japan. Having been raised according to the teachings and traditions of True Parents, these young people demonstrated remarkable sincerity, purity, humility and devotion. The pastors were especially inspired by the pride these young people took in their identity as sons and daughters of blessed families and by the genuine love and respect they expressed toward their parents, their faith and True Parents. Their lives reflect the fruits of the Marriage Blessing and serve as a living testimony to the lifelong investment that True Parents have made for the sake of future generations and the realization of God's dream for humanity.

Today, our world continues to face division, conflict, broken families and moral confusion. In the midst of these challenges, the vision of True Parents offers both hope and a practical path forward. The more families that participate in the Marriage Blessing and strive to live according to God's ideal of true love, the closer humanity will come to achieving lasting peace. True peace does not begin from within political systems or institutions; it begins within the family. Blessed families who live for the sake of God and others have the power to transform communities, nations and ultimately the world into one global family under God.

May Heaven's blessing and love be with all families.

Thank you for reading.