

## THE BLESSING RENEWAL SACRAMENT: TEACHING

Marriage of one man and one woman is ordained by God. God created Adam and Eve to be fruitful and multiply and have dominion. Satan destroyed God's creation by tempting Adam and Eve to fall. The Holy Marriage Blessing of True Parents, called by Jesus and led by the Holy Spirit, restores marriage to God's full, complete and perfect ownership, untouched by Satan.

The Holy Marriage Blessing is like unto the marriage that God hoped to celebrate with His children in the garden of Eden. To complete the image of God, we need to fulfill Genesis 1:28, to be fruitful and multiply. This is why God created us in his image, male and female, and called us to become one flesh. "Has not the Lord made them one? In flesh and spirit they are his. And why one? Because he was seeking godly offspring." (Mal 2:15) True parents are the complete image of God—but this requires our obedience to the commandment that Adam and Eve violated. They followed Satan and engaged in selfish love, and created a dysfunctional family. The Holy Marriage Blessing reverses this, by the power of the Holy Spirit working through the pioneers of the Holy Marriage Blessing, Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.

Jesus said there is no marriage in the resurrection, because to be bound in heaven, it first has to be bound on earth, and he saw no resurrected marriage on earth. Rev. Moon did refer to the Holy Marriage Blessing as resurrection in his tri-part "rebirth, resurrection and eternal life."

By God's grace, through the Holy Marriage Blessing we become a new Adam and Eve in our Father's eyes, not the serpent's lies. We can bind on earth through the Holy Marriage Blessing vows, and thereby bind in heaven. There we dwell as male and female in God's image together in eternity, for God is love, and Heaven is the realm of love.

The Blessing Renewal Sacrament means that we who have received the Holy Marriage Blessing have a calling, a responsibility before heaven and earth, before Jesus and the Holy Spirit, before the True Parents. But we neglect this. We fall short of the glory of God. We have anger and frustration with ourselves and with our spouse. We doubt, we criticize, we judge. We can't love enough, we get sucked back into the ways of the fallen world, and this infects our marriage and

our parenting. We hurt each other, usually without realizing it, but sometimes we know we are doing it but we can't help it.

We join in the Holy Marriage Blessing Renewal Sacrament to say that we recognize our sins and mistakes as husband and wife, and feel sorrowful and want to grow out of it. We repent to each other, forgive each other, and renew our commitment to God, to each other, and to our vows to help bring world peace through ideal families. We minister to each other to help each other fulfill our true love. We raise our children and extended family to be pure, happy and find the same true love that we celebrate.

We offer this Renewal Sacrament uniquely to those who received the Holy Marriage Blessing. If this inspires you and you want to learn more, we would love to share with you the biblical teachings about the Holy Marriage Blessing. Please consider if you feel called by Jesus and the Holy Spirit to take this wonderful step in God's love.

We believe that the path of pure love is difficult, and we need each other, gathered in churches that minister to us as couples and families, because successful marriage needs support from a pastor and a spiritual community—plus the grace of God that Jesus and the Holy Spirit release to us. Without God's grace we can never do it. But with God's grace the salvation of man woman love can move churches and all congregations to inspire towns and cities. With the power of God, we can build a culture that supports victorious marriage and family life—and this is the key to solve all the world's problems.

Through the Holy Marriage Blessing, we dwell in God's love. This we signify by saying "aju." Aju means, this is dwelling in God's love and God's love is dwelling in this. True family life is the path to the Kingdom of God on earth, the nation in which two become one, which we call, in Korean, *Cheon Il Guk*.

As we renew our commitment, we invite our friends to pray for us and study with us and to become a Holy Marriage Blessing church. And may God bless these words.