40-Day Separation Period: Thoughts and Readings: Week #1

Week #1

Things to think about for the week:

One way to figure out what we are most grateful for – is to consider what would be the most difficult thing to lose.

When you look at nature, what part gives you the strongest feeling that love is behind it all?

Action Steps

#1, Each day of this first week, find one thing about yourself (your personality, your attributes, your character, etc.) that you are grateful for. Share it with your spouse

#2, Each day perform at least one act of kindness for your spouse

Day 1:

God invested all of Himself in His creation. He did not reserve even one ounce of energy. Creation was His total labor, His total effort of giving all of Himself. When God put His entire heart and soul into the creation of His object, He was investing 100% of Himself. Only in this way could He create his second self, the visible God. *(God’s Hope for Man, 10/20/1973)*

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (*Psalm 118:24*)

Day 2:

God, the Creator, exists. He is the first cause of the cosmos. He is absolute, eternal, unchanging and good. He made all things in the universe according to His purpose of creation, His basic design. God is the origin of heart and emotion, and His purpose is to create joy. *(CSG Bk 1, Ch 3 Sect 1, #1)*

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! (*Psalm 107:1*)

Day 3:

What is the essence of a life of faith? It is a heart of gratitude to God. That heart is the basis by which we can transcend the relationship ordinary fallen people have with God and enter a higher relationship with God – that of oneness. Should we thank God only when we are prospering? No. Did God care for us only when things were going well for Him? No. The more difficult the situation, the more firm was God’s determination, regardless of the suffering, to labor and struggle on our behalf. Therefore, today, to properly serve God as our Father, we should demonstrate our gratitude to Him when we are going through difficult situations rather than easy ones. When you understand this principle, you will be able to give gratitude to God even when your path requires you to bear a very heavy cross. (*World Scripture and the Teachings of Sun Myung Moon, p. 766)*

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. *(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)*

Day 4

Even as we endure and bear up under difficulty, we should be thankful and sing hymns. God may be on His way to visit us, but if He sees that we are enduring not thankfully but with bitterness, He will turn back. With what do we need to endure? A thankful spirit! Without a thankful spirit, we cannot endure. And even if we do endure, if we do not have a thankful heart, God cannot be with us. (*World Scripture and the Teachings of Sun Myung Moon, p. 767)*

(This is yesterday’s passage – it needs to be read again)   
Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. *(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)*

Day 5

Whenever I look at nature, I think deeply about how God created all these things. I have such a sense of awe and wonder when I think about how all the trees and plants were created. We should have a sincere concern for and interest in everything around us. Only after we grasp the details of things can we manage them well. But even through simply appreciating the original value of nature, we will receive a great blessing. Then we will comprehend the fact that nature was made for us. *(CSG Bk 6, Ch 1, Sect 1, #1)*

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. *(Genesis 1:28)*

Day 6:

The universe is so awe-inspiring. How wonderful is our world when you understand that God created the universe for us, that He did not create it just for His own entertainment or for fun, but through devoting Himself out of profound love for us! We should be deeply grateful in realizing that our Father created the entire cosmos just for us. With that heart we need to walk through the garden looking at flowers, grass and trees, listening to and appreciating the chirping of birds, admiring the flowing water and the gentle breeze. Looking at all this, you cannot but realize in your heart how wonderful this world is! *(CSG Bk 6, Ch 1, Sect 2, #11)*

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. (*Psalm 103:2-5)*

Day 7:

Among fish, the model of love between male and female is the salmon. That’s why I love salmon very much. This fish leaves its birthplace and travels thousands of miles through the oceans. When they are about four years old, they return to their birthplace. In Alaska, because of the cold weather, there are not many insects for the baby fish to eat, so the parents die and let their young eat their bodies so they can grow well. What about human beings? We are meant to be the lords of creation. So if we are inferior to a fish, is that acceptable? If love has such great power in the animal kingdom, what should it be like among human beings, the lords of creation and masters of true love? The issue for us as human beings is how to attain the highest ideal of conjugal love. Not all the principles I discovered are from the Bible; I found out many things from nature. *(CSG Bk 6, Ch 1, Sect 3, #14)*

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. Ever since the creation of the world his eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made. So they are without excuse. *(Romans 1:19-20*)

Week #2

Action Steps:

#1 Each day find one point in your spouse for which you are grateful. Share that point with your spouse.

#2 Write a letter to your spouse. Include in the letter the qualities in him or her that inspired you when you first met.

Day 8:

True love is not about being served, but serving others. When God created His object partner of love in the beginning, He invested all of His energy, all of Himself, 100 percent. In this way God set the example of true love. In other words, God set the tradition of true love by exhausting Himself completely. This true love is the center of the cosmos. (CSG, Bk 3, Ch 1. Sect 1, #31)

You have heard that it was said, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.” But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you. You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.” But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. (*Matthew 5:38-45*)

Day 9:

How did the universe begin? When we look at God, who created everything based on the ideal of reciprocal relationships, we can see that the universe began with the principle of living for the sake of others—investment and self-sacrifice. Then what was He seeking to achieve by expending Himself in order to create His object partner? Both subject and object partners invest everything of themselves, and they gain love They do not mind how much they exhaust themselves if they can attain love. Love is based on this concept, and this why God began His work of creation centered upon love. He did not end up losing anything. Why would God have invested everything if He thought if would result in loss? Within love, there is an energy that can more than fill everything; therefore, God did expend and invest Himself, but He comes out to find love in return. True love does not diminish with investment; it grows bigger. Movement in itself consumes energy, whereas true love grows stronger the more you invest. (CSG Bk 6, Ch 2, Sect 1, #5)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. *(1 John 4: 7-12)*

Day 10:

Who teaches about love? The natural world is our teacher. The animal that run about in the hills are male and female, as are the butterflies; everything exists in a system of pairs. When the flowers bloom, the twittering and chirping of birds can be heard in the beautiful hills. For what purpose do the male and female birds sing? There are three reasons they do so. One is to express hunger, another is to express love and the last is to call to their young. They are singing because of love. (CSG Bk 6, Ch 2, Sect 2, #17)

But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female.” For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. *(Mark 10:6-8)*

Day 11:

However evil a person may be, the force of his conscience, which impels him toward a virtuous life, is always active within his inner self. This is true for all people of all ages and places. No one can quell the force of conscience, which is powerfully at work even without one's conscious awareness. The minute a person commits an evil act, he immediately feels pangs of conscience. If the function of the conscience were absent in fallen people, God's providence of restoration would be impossible. How is this force of conscience generated? Since all forces are produced by give and take action, the conscience cannot generate the force needed for its operation all by itself. That is to say, the conscience can operate only when it forms a common base with some subject partner and engages in give and take action with it. The ultimate subject partner of our conscience is God. (*Exposition of the Divine Principle*, p. 23)

Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. *(Psalm 34:14)*

Day 12:

God set the pattern for the universe. In the ideal existence we live for others. The subject exists for the object and the object exists for the subject. God's definition of goodness is total giving, total service, and absolute unselfishness. We are to live our lives for others. You live for others and others live for you. God lives for man and man lives for God. The husband lives for his wife and the wife lives for her husband. This is goodness. And here unity, harmony, and prosperity abound.

I can see a great change, a great new surge of revolution coming to America-not by fire, not by bullets, but by God's truth kindling a revolution of men's hearts. I have come here to ignite this spiritual revolution. I don't need to demonstrate in front of the White House or in Lafayette Square. The answer does not lie there, but in the hearts of men, in the quiet revolution from selfishness to unselfishness.   
(*God’s Hope for Man*, October 20, 1973)

See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. *(1 Thessalonians 5:15)*

Day 13:

Can you imagine how wonderful the ideal society will be? Individuals will belong to their families, the family will belong to the society, the society will belong to the nation, the nation will belong to the world, the world will belong to God, and God will belong to you. He who gives the most will know God most deeply. (*God’s Hope for Man*, October 20, 1973)

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. *(John 3:16)*

Day 14:

Ladies and gentlemen, a man or woman alone can only be one half of the whole. That is how God created us. For that reason, He has interchanged the owners of the sexual organs, the love organs. The owner of the wife’s sexual organ is the husband, and the owner of the husband’s is the wife. Only when each is rooted in true love for the sake of the other are they in the position of the owner of their spouse. In other words, irrespective of who they are, human beings can only become complete individuals—rather than one half—when they have secured the position of an owner through marriage.  
(*Messages of Peace*, P. 110)

The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. Do not deprive one another except perhaps by agreement for a set time, to devote yourselves to prayer, and then come together again. *(1 Corinthians 7:3-5)*

Week #3

Action Steps:

Each day do one of the following

1. If your spouse’s parents are still living, contact them and ask them about how your spouse was as a child.
2. Think of one point that makes for a good sibling, and then put that into practice with your spouse.
3. Share with your spouse what it is about him/her that you think makes him/her a good daughter or sister or a good son or brother.

Day 15:

The human sexual organ is sacred. It is the palace of life where the seed of life is sown, the palace of love where the flower of love is made to bloom, and the palace of lineage where the fruit of the lineage is given life. Through this absolute sexual organ, the absolute lineage, absolute love and absolute life are brought forth; and absolute harmony, absolute unity, absolute liberation and absolute tranquility are brought about. For what reason, then, are we trying to restore the position of the owner of the sexual organ? It is in order to possess God’s love from that position. (*Messages of Peace*, P. 110)

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple. *(1 Corinthians 3:16-17)*

Day 16:

The reason God created male and female was for the two to love each other and unite. God did not create Adam for Adam or Eve for Eve. God created Adam for Eve and Eve for Adam. Also, God created Adam and Eve for His love and His happiness. God did not create Adam and Eve for the sake of knowledge, power or money. The almighty God did not need knowledge, power or money; it was love that He needed. (*Blessing and Ideal Family, Ch 1, Part 1, Sect. 3)*

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. *(1 Corinthians 13:1-2)*

Day 17:

God is omniscient and omnipotent. He can obtain everything He desires and do everything He wishes. It seems ideal, and that there is nothing God could need. Nonetheless, there is still one thing that He needs: love… No matter how all-knowing and all-powerful God is, He cannot possess love on His own… Of course He has love’s attributes, but the stimulation of love can come only from another person, not from within oneself. Such is love.  *(CSG Bk 1, Ch 2, Sect 2, #1)*

If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. *(1 Corinthians 13:3-8)*

Day 18:

It is a matter of fact that we must love God as God loves us. This is the law of the Principle. If you respect and serve God as the vertical center, you will be able to receive His love as His sons and daughters. Therefore, unless we form a tradition of loving each other, we will not create the starting point for our individual perfection. (*Blessing and Ideal Family, Ch 1, Part 1, Sect. 5)*

He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. (*Matthew 22:37-40*)

Day 19:

We, who are born of the fallen relationship, must meet the son of God, who will enable us to transcend the condition which Satan can accuse. After meeting the son of God, we must meet the parent. You have had fallen parents, but you have never had a true parent. Therefore, you must find a true parent whom God can love.

Then you must find the parent's family. After finding the parent's family, you must find God's love. If you have found God's love, then you will be able to meet God.

Likewise, fallen men should search for their brothers and sisters, their fathers, their mothers, "my house," and "my hometown," centering on God. You should understand the fact that humankind on this earth had to walk this path.

When the sons and daughters who can receive God's love become parents and form a family in which they love each other centering on God's love, then in the environment in which everything can be accomplished through family peace, they will automatically prosper, singing the song of love. Then, a God-centered tribe will also take form automatically. (*Blessing and Ideal Family, Ch 2, Part 4, Sect 1*)

Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. *(Deuteronomy 31:6)*

Day 20:

What is happiness? It is the feeling of orphans when they find their parents after six thousand years. What can be a greater happiness?

Religion is to help find these parents. The parents you thought were dead for eternity are now able to live. If you find you have a means to discover if your parents are alive, you will not do anything else. Will you let your properties be an obstacle to finding your parents? Even if you had to put everything aside, you would invest all your sincerity in finding your parents. (*Blessing and Ideal Family, Ch 2, Part 4, Sect 1*)

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' *(Luke 15:11-24)*

Day 21:

The family is the place in which God's ideal is realized ...   
The ideal is to bring about a world in which love is made real, and the family is the place where this love overflows. (*As A Peace-Loving Global Citizen, p. 214*)

Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready; to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure— for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are true words of God." *(Revelation 19:6-9)*

Week #4

Action Steps:

Each day share with your spouse one point about him or her that you value.

Day 22:

People in this world believe that the good life is to live in comfortable surroundings, wear good clothes, drive a fancy car, and fly to any destination anytime they wish. You should know that their standard of judging what is the good life is a bad habit of worldly people. (*World Scripture and the Teachings of Sun Myung Moon P. 106)*

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (*Matthew 6:19-21)*

Day 23:

Every person possesses a unique individuality. No matter how many billions of people are born on earth, no two will ever have exactly the same personality. Each person is God’s substantial object partner who manifests a distinctive aspect of God’s dual characteristics. Hence, that person is the only one in the entire universe who can stimulate that distinctive aspect of God’s nature to bring Him joy. (*World Scripture and the Teachings of Sun Myung Moon P. 108)*

Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' (*Luke 15: 4-6*)

Day 24:  
  
You can be so confident as to say that “without me, God cannot be happy.” (*Change Of Blood Lineage, January 18, 1973)*

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?” or "What will we drink?” or "What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. *(Matthew 6:25-33)*

Day 25:

Become such men and women of character that God will say He cannot live without you.   
(*World Scripture and the Teachings of Sun Myung Moon P. 111)*

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.   
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.   
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.   
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.   
Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.   
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.   
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. (*Matthew 5:3-9)*

Day 26:

Take two tuning forks of the same frequency: when one is struck the other one resonates with it; likewise, when true love strikes the conscience, the body will resonate with it. Such an individual requires no instruction about how to behave. (*World Scripture and the Teachings of Sun Myung Moon P. 111)*

Behold, the kingdom of God is within you. (*Luke 17:21)*

Day 27:

Your conscience should be your constant internal teacher and parent, leading you to complete unity with the ultimate parent of humankind, God. Your conscience is the agent of God within you. Do you think you should indulge and go along with your body, the enemy of the conscience? Or, should you control and restrain your body and vindicate your conscience? Your body seeks only after carnal desire. It always seeks for comfort, and wants to take advantage of others. To conquer the realm of the body is an awesome responsibility, which every person must undertake. (*World Scripture and the Teachings of Sun Myung Moon P. 116)*

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. *(Romans 12:1-2)*

Day 28:

“Before you desire to have dominion over the universe, you should first have dominion over yourself.” This is the first article in the life of faith. To attain self-perfection you should have dominion over yourself. In other words, you should reach the state of self-mastery, controlling your body, with no conflict or opposition between your mind and body. (*World Scripture and the Teachings of Sun Myung Moon P. 119)*

Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. *(Matthew 5:48)*

Week #5

Action Steps:

1. Each day, express one point of gratitude to your spouse

2. Each day, perform an act of kindness for your spouse

Day 29:

The Lord God sent him forth from the Garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken. He drove out the man; and at the east of the Garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree of life. (*Genesis 3:23-24)*

The human ancestors fell and a man and a woman were chased out of the Garden of Eden, therefore the husband and wife must triumph over that situation. That is the Blessing. (*Blessing and Ideal Family, Ch 3, Part 3, Sect 1*)

Day 30:

The perfection of a man and woman's love is the perfection of the universe. The day this love was broken, the universal order was destroyed and the vertical world was broken. Therefore, from the providential viewpoint, you must know how important marriage is. The Blessing centering on God is the place of meeting of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth and Kingdom of Heaven in heaven. Horizontally, it is the place of meeting in the external and temporal world. Through true love, man and woman gradually get closer to the center of the eternal world. Man and woman centering on God will unite into one in the center. Man and woman centering on God, giving and receiving love, will become one and will give birth to sons and daughters. (*Blessing and Ideal Family, Ch 3, Part 3, Sect 1*)

In you [Abraham] all the families of the earth shall be blessed. *(Genesis 12:3)*

Day 31:

All things reach perfection after passing through the growing period (the realm of indirect dominion) by virtue of the autonomy and governance given by God's Principle. Human beings, however, are created in such a way that their growth requires the fulfillment of their own portion of responsibility, in addition to the guidance provided by the Principle. They must exercise this responsibility in order to pass successfully through the growing period and reach perfection. (*Exposition of the Divine Principle*, p. 23)

He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. *(Isaiah 40:30-31)*

Day 32:

What is the human portion of responsibility? First, it is to become true children; second, to become true brothers and sisters; third, to become true couples; and fourth, to become true parents. That is why we are born as babies and then become children, siblings, couples and parents. *(CSG, Bk 4, Ch 2, Sect 1, #5)*

Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. (*Galatians 6:9-10*)

Day 33:

The reason God set the standard of the human portion of responsibility was to complete the ideal of love. God apportioned 5 percent of the responsibility to human beings when He created them because He needed them as His object partners. One being alone cannot attain love. Even though God is omniscient and omnipotent, He cannot manifest His love without object partners. *(CSG, Bk 4, Ch 2, Sect 1, #8)*

Blessed is anyone who endures temptation. Such a one has stood the test and will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him. *(James 1:12)*

Day 34:

Why did God give human beings a portion of responsibility? It is because we were the only ones who could, by abiding by this law, receive true love from God. God gave us our portion of responsibility because He wanted to enable us to attain true love. If the first human beings, while in the realm of indirect dominion, had lived for the sake of God and each other, they would have matured naturally. *(CSG, Bk 4, Ch 2, Sect 1, #10)*

Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” *(Matthew 19:26)*

Day 35:

The Blessing is to connect us to God’s life, love and ideal. That being the case, where does God rejoice? He rejoices at the place of the Blessing. *(CSG, Bk 11, Ch 3, Sect 1, #7)*

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. *(Jeremiah 29:11-13)*

Week #6

Day 36:

When people feel good, they want to be with their parents, siblings, and relatives so they can share their joy. Happiness is eternal, and what is eternal is of the heart. (*World Scripture and the Teachings of Sun Myung Moon P. 125)*

The LORD makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him; though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the LORD upholds him with his hand. (Psalm 37:23-24)

Day 37:

Why does a man need a woman and a woman need a man? It is so they can resonate with God’s love. It is to reach a state of ecstasy where they exclaim, “Wow, it is wonderful!” They are too happy to even eat or sleep. A man and woman need each other because only in the fullness of conjugal love can they resonate in full consonance with God’s love. (*World Scripture and the Teachings of Sun Myung Moon P. 128)*

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. *(Genesis 1:31)*

Day 38:

Your spirit self grows, matures and is finally perfected only within your physical body, through an earthly lifetime of having actualized true love, bringing your mind and body into a smooth, unified relationship of give and take. (*Messages of Peace*, P. 48)

As for me, I watch in hope for the LORD, I wait for God my Savior; my God will hear me. (*Micah 7:7)*

Day 39:

Then what is true love? Its essence is to give, to live for the sake of others and for the sake of the whole. True love gives, forgets that it has given, and continues to give without ceasing. True love gives joyfully. We find it in the joyful and loving heart of a mother who cradles her baby in her arms and nurses it at her breast. True love is sacrificial love, such as that of a devoted son who finds his greatest satisfaction through dedicating himself with all of his body and mind to helping his parents. (*Messages of Peace*, P. 90)

Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. *(Matthew 18:18)*

Day 40:

The main attributes of God’s true love are that it is absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal. Whoever practices true love will therefore live with God, share His happiness, and enjoy the right to participate as an equal in His work. Therefore, a life lived for the sake of others, a life of true love, is the absolute prerequisite for entering the kingdom of heaven. (*Messages of Peace*, P. 90)

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever. *(Psalm 136:1)*

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## Blessing and Ideal Family

#### 3. GOD'S PURPOSE FOR CREATING ADAM AND EVE

**4. ADAM AND EVE'S GROWING PERIOD**

The reason God told Adam and Eve "not to eat" was because the time for them to love each other as husband and wife had not yet been reached. Because Adam and Eve were still in the growing period, God gave them a commandment to wait until they matured.

However, because Adam lost that family standard, we must recover it through religion. Until we find the family, we cannot find the clan, tribe, nation or world.