

## 4. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Knowledge

It is said that modern society is in an era where authority has disappeared.

Husbands' authority is disappearing at home, teachers' authority is disappearing at school, the seniors' at job places and in society, and people are not afraid of even God. The words in the Bible are ringing an alarm: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Knowledge (Proverbs 1: 7).

### **The True Authority is the Authority of Love**

People often say young people today are ill-mannered.

A survey result recently conducted on young people shows that Korea is one of the countries which have young people who are the least respectful to their elders. Korea was once called the 'country of courteous people in the East.' But from some time ago, it became a country with no elders nor fearful people, and even the president became a subject of cartoons, comedies, and gossips. A world with no fearful person and no elders is the most fearful world of all. A world where a person is judged solely by his/her usefulness and everything is controlled only by power structure is not different from the animal world where the

stronger prey upon the weaker.

There should be elders to restore order at home, in society and in the country. However, the cause of the disorder is not just because of the young who do not respect elders.

For, the true authority is only from love, not from money, power, knowledge, or honor.

We can own and rule as much as we give. If we give the whole, then we can rule over the whole. Jesus took the mankind just like trophies by giving his life for us. Only the authority of love is the true authority.

There should be elders to restore order at home, in the society and in the country. However, the cause of the disorder is not just because of the young who do not respect elders.

For, the true authority is only from love, not from money, power, knowledge, or honor.

We can own and rule as much as we give. If we give the whole, then we can rule over the whole. Jesus took the men just like trophies by giving his life for us. Only the authority of love is the true authority.

### **Test-tube Babies:**

#### **An Example of Knowledge without Fear**

A sterile couple visited us and asked if they



Garden in Kkottongnae Hyundo University of Social Welfare

A class, Kkottongnae Hyundo University of Social Welfare



were allowed to try a test-tube baby since they had had pains because they did not have a child. And they also asked what the reason was if it was not allowed. They strongly argued for the test-tube baby, saying that if they have to continue living without a baby, their marriage will be in jeopardy and thereby deeply trouble their parents as well. We explained God's will sincerely to the couple who were anxious for a baby. The test-tube baby originated from wrong assumptions and technology, which were caused by improper knowledge lacking reverence for the LORD. The reasons why the treatment is unjust are:

First, a life is born by manipulation of test tools and not by the normal conjugal love of a couple.

Second, the treatment process of a test-tube baby imposes physical and psychological burdens on a mother, and if multiple pregnancy occurs, an unethical process of selective artificial abortion must follow.

Third, the treatment of a surplus of fertilized eggs is illegal and unethical. Since a fertilized egg is a perfect life, it should not be allowed to be frozen, used as a test subject, or disposed of.

The church does not allow the test-tube baby for these reasons.

The words in the Proverb of the Bible teach those who would forego the grace of God, not following the teachings of the Church: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Knowledge."

### **Kkottongnae Hyundo University of Social Welfare**

The founder of Kkottongnae, Fr. Oh Woong-

Jin, established Kkottongnae Hyundo University of Social Welfare to cultivate specialists in social welfare with academic knowledge and love, having learned that passion alone is not enough to care for the poor through his 20 year-experience of running Kkottongnae. This university is a mini college specialized in social welfare. To cultivate a pool of well-balanced social welfare experts with theory and practice, field education is an essential and integral component in the curriculum, so students are required to take at least one practicum course and do voluntary work during the academic year. The university started with three majors consisting of Social Welfare, Social Welfare Administration, and Social Welfare Psychology in 1999. Now it has expanded to include a fourth major of Nursing, with the admissions quota set at 120 students in each academic year.

*The educational philosophy is the practice of truth, justice, love, and service based on the Catholic tradition and the spirit of Kkottongnae to cultivate well-balanced social welfare experts with intelligence, sensibility, and spirituality.*

*The disciplinary motto of Kkottongnae Hyundo University is "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Knowledge"*

### **We Need Elders in Our Society**

If we deny our history, underestimate our seniors' work, and so make a world without elders, then homes, workplaces, societies, and countries would fall into a state of disorder. Kkottongnae takes care of those who are

deserted because they have nobody to rely on and no strength to beg for food, serving them as our elders. The secret to Kkottongnae's well-harmonized community is that we live with the least and the poorest, placing them at the center of the community, and we respect and follow the elders of church.

*Our community will be strong, our home, society and country in good order, if we live our lives with our elders, respecting and consulting them.*

If we follow the LORD, the greatest elder, we can have true knowledge and bear a lot of fruit with blessings.

*“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Knowledge.”*

A class in Kkottongnae School







A complete view of Kkottongnae Hyundo University of Social Welfare