

# 11. Make Something Non-Existent Exist, and Grow Something Existent Bigger

## **The Importance of Spirituality**

A professor and 10 students from Social Welfare Department at Kansas University in the U.S.A. visited Kkottongnae on May 31, 2005. We asked Professor Kanda who accompanied the students what reasons led him to visit Kkottongnae. He replied that his group was making a special study, "Of how spirituality can influence processes of social welfare and so we have come to visit Kkottongnae to experience spirituality and social welfare in action on the spot. We have found that Kkottongnae's work for the poor and abandoned is permeated with a unique Kkottongnae spirituality and we are deeply impressed by what we have seen here."

The social welfare students who accompanied Professor Kanda said, "We can see, feel, and experience something here which we have not seen or experienced anywhere else. We are deeply impressed. And we can feel how valuable the spirituality is." Talking with the students, Father Oh Woong-jin summarized spirituality as, "Anything in the world has some dysfunction. Even the pinnacle of academic or technological achievement, which is recognised as the best of its type with the award of a Nobel Prize, has some dysfunction. However,

spirituality has no such dysfunction but is always adequate to its purpose. Love is the same." Giving Father Oh a translated copy of a book he had written about social welfare, Professor Kanda emphasized the importance of spirituality. He said, "It is a big fallacy when the liberal arts and technology condemn religion and consider religion an obstacle to the development of science and learning. Rather, it is both the starting point and finishing line of everything contributing to harmony and is a valuable force motivating and helping develop science."

What do we have to do to reveal the invisible spirituality to the real world?

## **Make Something Non-Existent Exist**

The cause of my existence is due to the love of God for humans. The invisible Spiritual Being created the world and made human beings of spirit and body visible following his own image with His love.

Kkottongnae was born out of love as well.

The 30 years history of Kkottongnae that started with only 1,300 Won of pocket money is the history of God's love toward the poor at

every step through the life of the founder, Father Oh Woong-Jin.

Reflecting on the course that Kkottongnae has followed with the concept of creating something out of nothing, we can see that we have established comprehensive social welfare facilities to treat those abandoned and poor, built the Training Institute of Love to teach love in the hope that there will be no more abandoned people, and finally to create a social welfare university to educate the religious and voluntary workers to be professionals of love with both academic knowledge as well as passion. Kkottongnae has taught people about true happiness in the Love Training Center, and started the Love Research Center on August 15, 2004, which has already got into its stride in teaching and helping people learn and experience God's love. We are preparing a spiritual center for this work as well. It is possible to make something new exist where love dwells, but on the contrary even the things that exist will disappear where love is absent.

### **Make Things Existent Grow Bigger Not Smaller**

There is a cage for monkeys that was donated by patrons that stands in front of the nursing home at Kkottongnae.

A monkey is known to breed a baby once in three to four years, while the monkeys at Kkottongnae breed more than one baby every year, the number of which reached the point of selling out to others. Not only the monkeys but also the goats, deer, cattle and dogs are all growing and breeding very well at Kkottongnae. Though domestic animals are given as an example here, Kkottongnae is pro-

ductive today just like the life style of Father Oh Woong-Jin who has lived throughout his life 'making something non-existent exist and things that exist not to decrease.'

The founders of worldly enterprises often devote and sacrifice their whole lives to making and growing a company. However, the next generation following the founders often make the company be smaller or even disappear by failing to keep and develop it. Where does this difference come from? Even if the founder is neither a professional in business management nor a genius, there is no one who can come close to his/her love for his or her own company. This is because at all times and in all places, the founder is sacrificing himself/herself in only thinking about the development of the company.

### **Devoting the Whole Life Only to Kkottongnae**

Father Oh Woong-Jin wishes that a day was 100 hours long. He lives only thinking about Kkottongnae 24 hours a day even at his meal times, on the road, and in the bathroom.

Whenever Father Oh is asked "What are you thinking now?" he always answers that he is thinking about Kkottongnae-related things. He has actually been living such a life. He has a wish that he could work for Kkottongnae even in his dreams when sleeping and after his death as well. He made a will as follows:

"I would donate my eyes and body for Kkottongnae family after my death. Use my body freely, but bury my heart which loved Kkottongnae next to other Kkottongnae family side by side. My tomb should not be bigger or