**17 points for the**

**Role for Religious Leaders**

**Found in one Speech of SMM**

***["Realizing the Ideal Religion and the Ideal World,](http://www.tparents.org/Moon-Talks/sunmyungmoon95/SM950821.htm)***

 ***[The Responsibility of the World's Religions](http://www.tparents.org/Moon-Talks/sunmyungmoon95/SM950821.htm)"*** [*(link)*](http://www.tparents.org/Moon-Talks/sunmyungmoon95/SM950821.htm)

***The Third IRFWP Congress* (95-08-21)**

A religious leader should set an example that leads others out of spiritual desolation in order for them to regain their original nature of goodness.

Assume the responsibility to change the reality of wrongdoing, sin and suffering

Should always do their best to seek the cooperation of the world's religions and religious leaders

Work to establish an ethical human society

Work to eradicate decadent culture

1. Practice true love and the ideology of "true parentism”

Work to regain ideal families through true love and to establish an ethical human society is a precious responsibility given to the religious leaders of this era

Religious leaders should the lead in ending world's corruption and wrongdoing

Religious leaders should give way to a living faith

Religious leaders should set an example that leads others out of spiritual desolation to regain their original nature of goodness

Religious leaders have the responsibility to lead unconditional and sacrificial lives for the sake of others, and to teach this way of life to others

Religious organizations should use all their strength and work together to produce food and support under developed nations

Religion should practice and educate others in the heavenly principle of seeking the happiness of others before our own

IRFWP should work constructively for the sake of inter-religious harmony and world peace.

1. IRFWP should function as the conscience of the world.
2. IRFWP should not only advise and guide leaders at every level in the world, including those in politics, economics and education, but also set an example itself
3. Religious leaders should [not] avoid sacrifice but should re-establish the original integrity of religion

 See sources on the next two pages.

The following two sections are from the speech named above **(95-08-21)**,

And from which the list of 17 points were derived. (See footnotes)

**“*God has to restore His original ideal of true love by all possible* means.**

“God's providence of salvation is the providence of restoration. For the sake of the providence of restoration, He has established religions and expanded the sphere of goodness. The Messiah sent by God is the person who comes with the overall responsibility for completing the providence of restoration. Accordingly, the Messiah must come as the True Parents. The mission of the True Parents is to restore true human beings through true love, and to raise them up as true husband and wife and true parents.[[1]](#footnote-1)

 **“*The responsibility of religions***

“Who should solve the problems of the world that contradict the will of God? Religious leaders should assume the responsibility to change the reality of wrongdoing, sin and suffering.[[2]](#footnote-2) Since the day I received my mission from God, I have devoted myself to this responsibility. While absolutely keeping to the path of the Principle and the providence, I have fought against the evil that, transcendent of time and space, has penetrated deeply into the very lives of human beings. With all my heart, and utilizing all my foundation, I have always done my best to seek the cooperation of the world's religions and religious leaders.[[3]](#footnote-3) In going in that way, I have never deserted the responsibility that I vowed to accomplish before God.

“At the Assembly of the World's Religions in San Francisco in 1990, when I announced the establishment of the Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace, I explained God's purpose of creation, the essence of true love, and the role of true parents. I strongly exhorted the participants to work to establish an ethical human society,[[4]](#footnote-4) to eradicate decadent culture,[[5]](#footnote-5) and to practice true love and the ideology of "true parentism."[[6]](#footnote-6) The work to regain ideal families through true love and to establish an ethical human society is a precious responsibility given to the religious leaders of this era.[[7]](#footnote-7)

“Moreover, religious leaders should take the lead in ending world's corruption and wrongdoing.[[8]](#footnote-8) While religions remain indifferent to widespread lawlessness, inequality and injustice, religion can neither find its way out of the swamp of present reality nor move toward the ideal. It is clear that religious practices based merely upon formalities should give way to a living faith.[[9]](#footnote-9) Religious leaders should set an example that leads others out of spiritual desolation to regain their original nature of goodness.1[[10]](#footnote-10)

“Next, I believe that religious leaders have the responsibility to lead unconditional and sacrificial lives for the sake of others, and to teach this way of life to others[[11]](#footnote-11). Still today, there is a great deal of poverty and widespread starvation. Inequality has deeply pervaded this world. The responsibility of religious people for this problem is very great.

“During the past twenty years I have made a considerable investment in marine ventures, keeping in the forefront of the developments by going out to sea myself.

“I am channeling my determination into this plan to rid the world of the misery of starvation. I think that through the development of agriculture and ocean-related enterprises, religious organizations should use all their strength and work together to produce food and support under developed nations.[[12]](#footnote-12)

“If it were not for the investment of God's true love, the universe would never have been born. According to the laws of the existence of the universe, the subject takes care of its object as parents care for their children, or teachers for their students. However, instead of subjects taking care of their objects, people in the fallen world try to use others in self-centered ways. That is why they perish. I believe that religion should practice and educate others in the heavenly principle of seeking the happiness of others before our own.[[13]](#footnote-13)

“Respected religious leaders! I believe that IRFWP should work constructively for the sake of inter-religious harmony and world peace.[[14]](#footnote-14) IRFWP should function as the conscience of the world.[[15]](#footnote-15) It should not only advise and guide leaders at every level in the world, including those in politics, economics and education, but also set an example itself.[[16]](#footnote-16) Since the great religions were nurtured in the soil of persecution and martyrdom, and stand on the foundation of each founder's great tradition, none of us should [not] avoid sacrifice but should re-establish the original integrity of religion.”[[17]](#footnote-17)

Compiled for Rev. Michael Jenkins, ACLC National President

By Jim Rigney 3/28/12

1. Set an example that leads others out of spiritual desolation in order for them to regain their original nature of goodness. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. should assume the responsibility to change the reality of wrongdoing, sin and suffering [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Should always do their best to seek the cooperation of the world's religions and religious leaders [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. work to establish an ethical human society [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. eradicate decadent culture [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. practice true love and the ideology of "true parentism” [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. work to regain ideal families through true love and to establish an ethical human society is a precious responsibility given to the religious leaders of this era [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. religious leaders should the lead in ending world's corruption and wrongdoing [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. should give way to a living faith [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Religious leaders should set an example that leads others out of spiritual desolation to regain their original nature of goodness [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. religious leaders have the responsibility to lead unconditional and sacrificial lives for the sake of others, and to teach this way of life to others [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. religious organizations should use all their strength and work together to produce food and support under developed nations [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Religion should practice and educate others in the heavenly principle of seeking the happiness of others before our own [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. IRFWP should work constructively for the sake of inter-religious harmony and world peace. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. IRFWP should function as the conscience of the world. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. IRFWP should not only advise and guide leaders at every level in the world, including those in politics, economics and education, but also set an example itself [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. should [not] avoid sacrifice but should re-establish the original integrity of religion [↑](#footnote-ref-17)