

Overview of Unification Church

Key Person, Date, Location

The movement was founded by Sun Myung Moon (1920–2012), who started the “Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity” in 1954 in Korea. It is now known as the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification. In the United States, it operates under the name “Lovin’ Life Ministries,” based in New York City.

Key Writings

The central text is *Divine Principle* by Sun Myung Moon, considered the “Complete Testament.” Other writings include *Outline of the Principle, Level 4*, and the Bible, which is viewed not as the truth itself but as a textbook that teaches the truth.

Who Is God?

God is described as both positive and negative. He created the universe out of himself, and the universe is considered God’s “body.” According to this belief, God does not know the future, is suffering, and needs humanity—specifically Sun Myung Moon—to bring him happiness. The doctrine rejects the Trinity.

Who Is Jesus?

Jesus is seen as a perfect man, but not God. He is believed to be the son of Zechariah, not born of a virgin. His mission was to unite the Jewish people, find a perfect bride, and begin a perfect family—but this mission failed. Jesus did not resurrect physically. The second coming of Christ is said to be fulfilled in Sun Myung Moon, who is considered superior to Jesus and the one who will complete Jesus’ unfinished mission.

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Who Is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is understood as a feminine spirit who works with Jesus in the spirit world to lead people to Sun Myung Moon.

How to Be Saved

Salvation is achieved through obedience to and acceptance of the “True Parents”—Moon and his wife. This eliminates sin and leads to perfection. Those married by Moon and his wife participate in a ceremony that includes drinking a special holy wine containing 21 ingredients, including the True Parents’ blood.

What Happens After Death?

After death, individuals enter the spirit world. There is no physical resurrection. Advancement in the spirit world is achieved by convincing others to follow Sun Myung Moon. Ultimately, everyone will be saved—even Satan.

Other Facts, Beliefs, or Practices

The movement emphasizes mediumism (channeling) to contact the dead and “liberate” the souls of one’s ancestors. Mass marriages are arranged and performed by Moon, often pairing individuals from different racial backgrounds. Followers actively work to persuade churches to remove their crosses. It is taught that Jesus bows down to Rev. Moon, who is proclaimed to be the King of Kings, Lord of Lords, and the Lamb of God.