

Biography
REV. PURNELL SPICER JR.

A man of impassioned faith, love, and obedience to God, Purnell Spicer Jr., the oldest of seven children, was born in Baltimore on December 6, 1958, to Purnell and Alcora Spicer. Raised in the Baptist Church, at the age of 18 he joined the Unification Church, and on July 1, 1982, he was blessed in marriage to Jenice Godofsky. Together they have three beautiful children: Avniel (13), Esua (11), and Mercia (8).

Reverend Spicer is legendary for his ecumenical work. His ability to express God's heart and teach the Divine Principle through the gospel of Jesus Christ helped many prominent clergy and other leaders to understand the heart and vision of his church's founder, Rev. Sun Myung Moon. He led many successful revivals and trained others how to succeed in clergy outreach, and because of his reputation many church leaders asked that he be sent to their state to help. He has hundreds of blessed spiritual children throughout America.

His most recent mission was as assistant regional director of the American Family Coalition in Region 2. In October 2000, though relatively new to the mission, he still set the standard for AFC activity by organizing a highly successful conference of 170 leaders in Wilmington, Delaware, in only 17 days. Later in 2001, he helped to bring over 300 prominent leaders to the Inaugural Prayer Luncheon in Washington, D.C., while holding several successful AFC programs in Delaware as well. He also invested tremendous energy in his travels throughout America for the American Clergy Leadership Conference.

For the special "Making the Dream Real" American Leadership Conference held in Washington, D.C., in May this year, Reverend Spicer worked so hard for over two months, at great sacrifice to his family and himself, to bring the highest-caliber Black American leaders in the areas of politics, civil rights, religion, business, and community affairs. The conference was a tremendous success in educating American leaders, due in large part to the Spicer family's sacrifice.

Purnell Spicer was called home to his Heavenly Father in mid-July due to a tragic heart attack. Just around that time he had spoken about how happy he was over his breakthrough with the Parents Day event in Delaware. The mayor of Wilmington, the president of the Chamber of Commerce, a representative from the governor's office, and several key community and business leaders had agreed to hold a citywide Parents Day awards ceremony. They also agreed to hold a Summit on Violence Prevention and Family Renewal together with the American Family Coalition of Delaware.

Purnell was and is a true brother who will live with us always. He made the love of God and True Parents substantial to all who knew him. He loved his family deeply, yet often sacrificed being with them to respond to the calling of God. Many times he wept because he could not spend the time he wished with his wife and children.

Rev. Purnell Spicer Jr. was a man driven to give everything for the sake of God's will. He will be deeply missed by his family and by his many friends. He is a patriot, a saint, and a loving son of True Parents.