

◆GOALS◆

Godly Worship Service
Raising Kingdom Workers
Evangelizing Korea
Evangelizing the World
Social Services for the Local Area

The Biweekly Choong Hyun

I love you, O LORD, my strength.
(Psalm 18:1)

For to me, to live is Christ
and to die is gain.
(Philippians 1:21)

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Sending! Evangelism Teams to Farming and Fishing Villages

Searching for Precious but Lost Souls 600 People on 47 Teams Are Being Sent

Evangelism is required of every Christian because it is our Lord's command. Evangelism is not a heavy burden hanging on our necks. Rather, it is the source of great joy to those who obey Christ's Great Commission. The greatest privilege that we can have as Christians is to see smiles on the faces of people who have just been saved the moment that the power of God touches their lost souls. The people who volunteered to receive this precious privilege are being sent by Choong Hyun Church to the remote farming and fishing villages.

Evangelism teams are made up of members throughout the church according to the chart following below.

There are a total of 600 people in 47 teams. These ambassadors of Christ are being sent to these remote places of Korea including isolated islands beginning July 12 until the middle of August.

The representatives of these evangelism teams have finished researching their target people and environment. In particular, this year's

evangelism teams also include doctors and barbers. They will do door to door evangelism and visit nursing homes. Doing laundry and cleaning up the streets will be a part of their strategy to reach the unreached people in Korea. They also have a plan to connect these newly reached people with local churches. There are a few evangelism teams which have middle and high school students as their target people because they are the future of these remote places. Other evangelism teams have plans to visit army camps. The evangelism committee of Choong Hyun has trained these evangelism teams for two weeks. Choong Hyun will support each evangelism team with a million won (about US \$700).

Each Group	Number of teams
High school	2
College group	13
First Young adults	13
Second Young adults	2
Each parish group (17 parishes)	1 × 17 = 17

The evangelism committee tries to provide a booklet on how to evangelize to unreached people. This booklet teaches the heart of evangelism as the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit and the importance of prayer. Furthermore, this booklet cautions the evangelist against arrogant attitudes so that the local churches are able to lead these newly reached people for their continual growth in Christ. This booklet also teaches how to have thanks and joy in evangelism. The



people of Choong Hyun must continue to pray for short term missions teams and these 47 teams to remote farming and fishing villages in Korea.

"Issu Mussee Mayhi Suhjahiyeh!"

- Jesus Is Real -

Short Term Missions for India, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, and China

Short term missions teams for India, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, and China Team Two are leaving on July 22, 23, 28, and August 5 respectively. We had received such blessing reports from China Team One, Bangladesh, and Sudan. We trust that God will bring blessing times to the other places as well. As we heard from their mission

reports, we realized the importance of prayer once again.

We have to remember that we are also missionaries who are sending our fellow missionaries to remote places of the world. All these short term mission teams are bringing one message - that is, the gospel of Jesus Christ. They are proclaiming the truth of Jesus Christ.

will be having their retreats during the next couple weeks.

Choong Hyun must pray for these VBS's and retreats so that these programs will be filled with the Word of God and repentance and godly decisions.

CHEWS NEWS

Meeting the Real Jesus



About seventy to eighty people attended the CHEWS (Choong Hyun English Worship Service) Retreat overnight from July 16 to July 17. It was held in the college group's worship sanctuary in the church.

It was a blessing, fun, and encouraging time for all who attended. There were worship services,

seminars, a debate, a Bible trivia game, and time to get to know one another a little bit better.

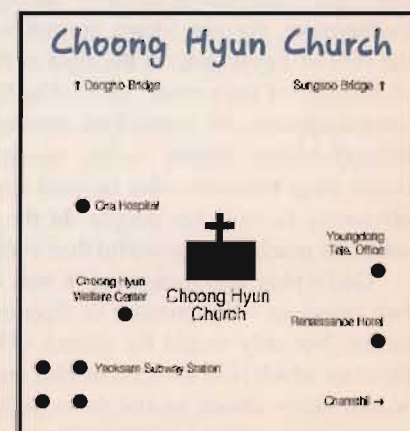
The scheduled speakers were Intern Pastors Benjamin Kim and Paul Lee. There was also an unexpected guest speaker, Senior Pastor Sung Kwan Kim. The people who attended the retreat were

strengthened by his presence and encouraged to be able to see him from such a close distance as he preached "Jesus is Real."

This retreat was a time for everyone to get to know Christ a little bit better. Everyone was "Seeking His Face" (2 Chronicles 7:14) in one another at this retreat.

Summer Vacation Bible Schools and Retreats

The Sunday Schools of Choong Hyun Church from the infants' group to the seniors' group and ten choir groups are having summer Vacation Bible Schools (VBS) and retreats. The college group, the second adults group, and the Hosanna Choir had their retreat during the second week of July. Elementary Sunday schools, the first young adults group, and the first and third adult groups and the disabled group, and the English Worship Service had a retreat last week. The middle school groups



A Night for Crying & Weeping

(Exodus 11:1-10)

This chapter comes at the end of the plague cycle. It is the last one - the tenth plague. It was the climax of God's revelation of Himself. Throughout the plague cycle there is a power struggle between Pharaoh (the king of Egypt) and his advisors versus Yahweh. Pharaoh and his assistants represented the power of Egypt. The voices of Moses and Aaron represented the power of Yahweh.

They were two lowly people standing up to the highest worldly power. - two lowly people with the holy power of Yahweh. Pharaoh and his people laughing with their unbelieving hearts at their ridiculous claims. The Hebrew slaves crying with their believing hearts at the terrible situation before them. It is not normal and in many ways does not make sense. This is definitely a peculiar historical reality! The deep conflict with the established authority that these two simple human beings officially began is mind blowing. From a human standpoint, just imagine two regular Christian guys going to our President and demanding the release of a whole group of life-long captives.

At the center of each episode we see the unleashed message of redemptive power. We see the immobilization of a nation at the bequest of Yahweh. We see that the enacted plagues were more powerful than an entire empire. In the plague cycle Yahweh's power demonstrates ultimate power! Yahweh's show of power is purposefully laid out at each interval for placement in His ultimate plan. The tenth plague - the death plague - is the decisive act. It is the climax of God's deliverance plan.

Today's message begins with God's sovereign speech to Moses, "Now the Lord said to Moses, 'One more plague I will bring on Pharaoh and on Egypt; after that he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will surely drive you out from here completely'" (v. 1). God promises one last plague to freedom. Keep in mind that from the first plague the idea of freedom was at hand. It is easy to believe the first, second, probably the third, maybe the fourth but after the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and now the promise of the tenth plague - I am sure many truly wondered. But it is here that God says He is really going to do it - this is going to be the last plague. Although the Israelites saw God's power and believed in it, they also saw the Egyptians hearts hardened at every episode. The results of the nine plagues did not bring freedom but it surely brought hatred from the Egyptians towards the Israelites.

God's second promise is that the Israelites would receive the spoils of Egyptian treasure (v. 2). After the tenth plague, each man and each woman were to ask their Egyptian neighbor for articles of silver and gold. Surely, it was the powerful elite who owned all the silver and gold. They had the good life whereas the bonded slave had nothing. Why would the Egyptians look with favor to the Hebrew slaves? "The Lord gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Furthermore, the man Moses himself was greatly esteemed in the land of Egypt, both in the sight of Pharaoh's servants and in the sight of the people" (v. 3). The Egyptians and Hebrews were witnessing the miraculous wonders of Yahweh's power through Moses. Moses' words had true power that no one could deny because what he said came to be. The power obviously favored his people. In the end, he is viewed as someone much more powerful than even the Pharaoh.

God's plan was fool-proof. It was designed to fulfill His two promises - the promise of freedom and the promise of riches. Not only would the climax of the tenth plague bring freedom which is in itself more than one could dream of but it would allow slaves to exit from their captivity as wealthy



By Sung Kwan Kim
Reverend

The succession of plagues caused the Egyptian hearts to harden more. There was no hope for their hard hearts. The aim of the soft heart is that you do nothing and God does everything. Human beings do not have the capacity to change hearts. Only God Himself does this! We have the greatest opportunity in Jesus Christ. Seek and you shall find.

people. It would be a complete turnaround of living standards for both sides. The Egyptians would be slaveless, penniless, and Godless. The Israelites, on the other hand, would be free, rich, and under the love of God.

The center of action in this chapter is seen in Moses' announcement of the tenth plague (vv. 4-8). This speech follows the speech of Yahweh. In an odd way, all that Yahweh says is that there is going to be one more plague. But this is Yahweh's awesome grand move! This is where Yahweh will come Himself to deliver punishment. There is powerful danger in His decree. Death will come to all the firstborn in the land of Egypt except to those who obediently place the lamb's blood on their entrance doors. Of course, the only ones who knew to put the blood on the entrance doors were the Israelites. Other than that, death would strike from top to bottom - the whole scale of Egyptians - from A to Z.

The devastation is massive. The power of Yahweh is incredible! "Moreover, there shall be a great cry in all the land of Egypt, such as there has not been before and such as shall never be again" (v. 6). The hard hearts of the Egyptians will wail in pain and suffering. At midnight, they will weep and cry at the irreversible consequences of sin and judgment. They will experience the depths of despair without consolation. Their hard hearts will force them to gladly release their captives at their expense. Not one of them will offer the least bit of resistance to their departure. Not only that but they will bow themselves before the Lord (v. 7). By the way, it is here that for the first time the exempt people are referred to as 'the sons of Israel'. The nameless slaves are now called Israel. Pharaoh is hearing the phrase 'sons of Israel' - he knew them as Hebrew slaves - now he knows them as Israel.

Israel will experience absolute protection. They are safe and totally saved from God's wrath in this event. World power means nothing; whereas God's grace means everything. Israel is the community that weeps now but will laugh later. The people of Egypt laugh now but will weep later.

After Moses delivered the announcement of the tenth plague to Pharaoh, he left in 'hot' anger (v. 8). He knew the seriousness of this matter and his heart burned with disgust at Pharaoh and his advisors continued stubbornness. The Lord told Moses, "Pharaoh will not listen to you, so that My wonders will be multiplied in the land of Egypt" (v. 9). And indeed, "Moses and Aaron performed all these wonders before Pharaoh; yet the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the sons of Israel go out of his land" (v. 10). Pharaoh and his people have hard hearts. Israel has soft hearts. God controls everything.

The hard hearted people are destroyed and the soft hearted people are saved. Look at Jesus. People were yelling and screaming to crucify Him. He asked God to forgive them for they knew not what they were doing. Now, that is a soft heart.

Which one do you want? The end times are coming, the night of judgment is approaching and you have to decide if you want to cry or laugh now. I hope that your faith is in Jesus - the only producer of soft hearts.

The succession of plagues caused the Egyptian hearts to harden more. There was no hope for their hard hearts. The aim of the soft heart is that you do nothing and God does everything. Human beings do not have the capacity to change hearts. Only God Himself does this! We have the greatest opportunity in Jesus Christ. Seek and you shall find. We need Jesus - we need soft hearts to escape the righteous judgment - the night of weeping and crying.

The Reign of Athaliah

(2 Chronicles 22:10-12)

There are many lessons to be learned from looking back at the biblical history of God's people. One of the major lessons that runs throughout scripture is the absolute necessity of single-mindedness. The community of faith is taught that God requires unwavering, true, and steadfast devotion. Nothing apart from these elements of love is acceptable. Why? Because anything that draws your attention away from the Lord and not just to yourself but to others around you, is harmful. Think about it. Evil is like a contagion that if left unchecked can spread and because of its potency can devour the hearts of human beings. That is why there can be no compromises between good and evil. Any deviant behavior causes evil to lure its way into the lives of believers. Today's message reveals the extreme danger of disobedience and the almighty power and love God has for His faithful people.

The six year reign of Athaliah of Judah is really quite sad. In order to fully understand how it came about and learn its significance, we must recall some background information. First, we must remember that the united Kingdom of God was divided after Solomon's sin. Solomon decided to love foreign wives who worshipped other gods. He went against God's command that Israel not associate with them because they would surely turn their hearts away from God (cf. 1 Kings 11:2). Of course, this happened and the consequence was that God's people were divided into two countries: the North (Israel) and the South (Judah). The Bible tells us that the Messiah would come from Judah (the South Country).

Second, we must keep in mind the story of Elijah and his successful challenge to the prophets of Baal (cf. 1 Kings 18). He showed Israel who the real God truly was by calling on God to make first and burn a watered-down sacrifice. The Baal prophets were not able to burn their dry sacrifice by calling on Baal. God totally consumed Elijah's wet sacrifice with fire! Thereafter, Elijah had all 850 false prophets of Baal killed. The king of Israel at that time was Ahab. King Ahab married Jezebel. It was Jezebel who threatened to kill Elijah for this situation (cf. 1 Kings 19:2). Jezebel was the daughter of the king of the Sidonians. Sidon was a world famous harbor that was rich and great. They were also a country that worshipped Baal. As such, Jezebel was a trouble maker that advanced the worship of Baal in Israel. Her vengeful anger against Elijah was rooted in her ungodly upbringing - her beliefs in a false religion.

Third, the peace relationship between King Ahab (Israel) and King Jehoshaphat (Judah) brought about the marriage of King Jehoshaphat's son (Jehoram) to King Ahab's daughter (Athaliah). That's right, Athaliah is the daughter of Jezebel (2 Kings 8:16). This relationship opened the door to Baal worship in Judah. We can see more clearly here how Sidon's wicked ways infected not only Israel but also Judah. From that country two princesses came forth to harbor their evil ways: the princess of Israel (Jezebel) and the princess of Judah (Athaliah). From Jezebel's evil actions to kill Elijah, we will soon see how well she taught her daughter (Athaliah) - we will see the consequences of sin.

It came about that Athaliah's husband (King Jehoram) died. He killed all his brothers to ensure his kingship and walked against the Lord because of his wife. That is right, the daughter of Ahab (the granddaughter of Omri), the evil wife of Jehoram had not failed to make an evil husband of Jehoram. Athaliah's youngest son (Ahaziah) became king of Judah

God's commands are non-negotiable, so do not compromise them! Never compromise them, for herein lies the dangers of evil. Stand firm in your faith and God's grace will fill your heart and mind. Serve the Lord and the powers of evil will be resisted and overcome. His grace is sufficient!

because all her other sons were put to death. Once again, the evil wife is undoubtedly also an evil mother. She does not fail to make an evil son of Ahaziah. Ahaziah died after only one year as king because of her bad counsel. It is here that today's message begins. Now when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she rose and destroyed all the royal offspring of the house of Judah (v. 10). Sadly, this evil woman wanted all her grandchildren dead so that she could rule.

It is hard to imagine such a woman wanting power so desperately as to kill her own grandchildren. Yet, from our look back we see that she was willing to kill God? People learned from her mother. Thankfully, we learn that her efforts were thwarted just as they were with her mother. But Jehoshaphath, the king's daughter took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons who were being put to death, and she placed him and his nurse in the bedroom. So Jehoshaphath, the daughter of King Jehoram, the wife of Jehoiado the priest (for she was the sister of Ahaziah), hid him from Athaliah so that she would not put him to death (v. 11).

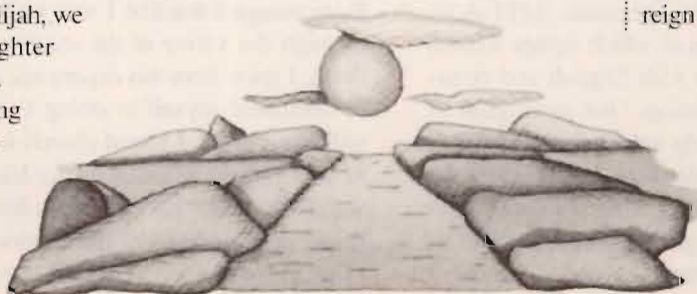
God is faithful to His promises. He promised King David that from him an eternal dynasty would be established. Although Athaliah seriously attempted to put an end to the royal dynasty and thought she had in her six years reign of Judah, God's Messiah was in His love. He saved Joash by having him hidden in His temple for six years under the care of the priest Jehoiado (v. 12). In other words, the whole country outside was undergoing collapse but inside God's temple a special child was growing in the Lord. He was not being influenced and counseled by evil doers but by good doers.

What we learn from this story is the ease with which God can defeat the project of the wicked. We learn that tender care takes care of children, as such as those that belong to the covenant. We learn that possessing pious parents and kinsmen is truly a blessing. We also learn that there is safety in those whom God keeps. For God's almighty power and love is evident! As such, we Christians must learn that if we allow one little evil thing to enter into our households that our entire family can be disrupted. How dangerous is this? Look at all the destruction of God's country! Only by the grace of God was Joash saved. We have to be careful. We cannot compromise with earthly things. Anything that is not Christian in principle or practice will destroy. Disobedience is a road that leads to destruction. Faithful obedience leads to God's blessings.

Our entire lives must be focused on only one goal. That's right - just one goal for it is the only one that makes any difference. It is the only one that makes any sense. It is the goal of following Jesus! This single goal constantly draws your attention towards God. It keeps you safe and gives you a peace that passes all understanding. It blesses you and your family. It changes your heart and mind. It lets the Holy Spirit reign freely within you. It brings ever lasting joy.

I hope that the members of Choong Hyun are able to read and understand God's warning against evil. Do not welcome it by opening the door to evil. Protect your household by keeping Christ the center of your life.

God's commands are non-negotiable, so do not compromise them! Never compromise them, for herein lies the dangers of evil. Stand firm in your faith and God's grace will fill your heart and mind. Serve the Lord and the powers of evil will be resisted and overcome. His grace is sufficient!



The Republic of India

A Large Field, A Rich Harvest?

India is a large country comprised of 25 union states and 7 union territories for a total of about 3.2 million square kilometers. In 1995, the population of India was over 900,000,000 people. About 16% of the world's total population lives in 2.4% of the world's land surface owned by India. There is also great diversity among the people of India with almost 5000 people groups identified. Almost 3 out of 4 people are Indo-Aryan. Almost 1 out of 4 are Dravidian. There is also a deeply rooted caste system. About 52% of the country is literate. The capital of India, New Delhi, has a population of almost 10 million. Over 20 other cities also have over 1 million people.

Agriculture and industry are both important to India. Though the economic growth of India is quite good, this is offset by the high birth rate. Over 600 million people live in deep poverty. 300 million live below the bread-line. The per capita income of a person in India is about 1.6% of the per capita income of a person in the United States.

India gained her independence from Britain in 1947. India has also faced some difficulty with surrounding nations

including Pakistan and China. There has also been internal strife. Though India is a secular state, the population is about 80% Hindu. Hindu power has caused some anti-Christian laws as well as some violence against Christians and Muslims. The Christian population is about 2.6%.

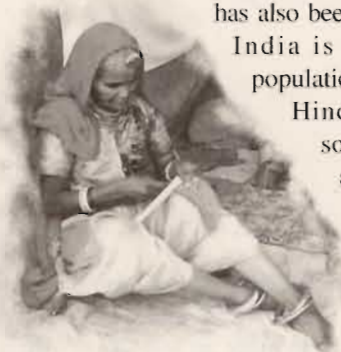
Praise God for the 200 years since William

Carey went to India. Nevertheless, the advances of the gospel are being challenged by militant Hinduism, discriminatory legislation, and nominalism within the church. Missionary visas for new workers are difficult to obtain. As a result, the missionary force is aging without replacements. Christian growth has slowed down in India.

The caste system is one of the biggest issues facing India. Most of the Christians belong to the lower classes. Many do not wish to interact with members of another caste.

India needs dedicated Christian workers. Bible schools and seminaries need to be developed. There is a need for more with so many potential Christians in the country.

(from Patrick Johnstone's *Operation World*, 5th edition)



Urgent Prayer Requests for Short Term Mission Teams

For Sri Lanka's (July 22 - July 30) prayer requests, please see the previous issue, July 12, 1998.

Prayers for India (July 23 - August 3)

1. Let us not proceed without the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
2. Let us experience the power of the gospel during these times.
3. Let our team work together to accomplish our goals on this mission.
4. Let all of us adapt to the food, climate, and culture of India.
5. Open the door for the gospel in New Delhi, Baranasi, Punjab, and Calcutta. Bless the team members and the Indians who hear.

Prayers for Mongolia (July 28 - August 4)

1. Let each team member help at least one person to trust Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.
2. Through this mission trip, let the team members become more spiritually mature and become an instrument of the Lord for his church throughout their lives.
3. Let all the team members be united as one and be effective in delivering the gospel in Mongolia.
4. Let God take care of the health of each member and their families.

Prayers for China Team Two (August 5 - August 11)

1. Let us bring a great harvest from China by the power of the Holy Spirit.
2. Let all the team members experience the guidance of God.
3. Let all the team members have confidence in the message of the gospel and be filled with love for China.
4. Let all the team members have a specific vision for world mission through this short mission trip.
5. Open the hearts of the Chinese people so that the seed of salvation through Christ may be sown.

Who Am I? - A Canadian Testimony -

by David Berry

Greetings in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This is the first time I have ever written in this church newsletter so I hope you enjoy these words. Most importantly, I pray that my words bring glory to Jesus our precious Savior.

Let me introduce myself. I am from Toronto, Canada, and graduated from the University of Toronto. For the last year, I have been studying how to become a better English teacher at Biola University near Los Angeles. I hope to graduate in June 1999 with a M.A. TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages). Because Biola is a missions-focused Christian university, this degree will be used to glorify God. After graduation, I am praying about where God wants me to teach and serve Him as a tentmaker. A number of closed countries come to mind. Before studying at Biola University, I taught English in an institute in Taegu for about two years. Taegu has such delicious apples!

I have been attending the English Worship Service at Choong Hyun Church for the last seven weeks. It is a church with an excellent worship, missions focus and good fellowship. The first time I heard about this church was while I was teaching English to missionary candidates with WEC (Worldwide Evangelism for Christ) International. This summer, I have come to Seoul to glorify God by being a volunteer English teacher with WEC and MTI (Missionary Training Institute). After finishing at WEC three weeks ago, I started teaching at MTI which is located in Seocho-Gu near the Express Bus Terminal. MTI is an excellent school which equips Korean missionaries with English and cross-cultural training. One main goal of MTI is to help unlock the potential of Korean missionaries to evangelize the world. The first time I heard about MTI is through the Internet via WEC.

I am a relatively young Christian. I accepted Jesus as my personal Savior in February, 1991 (around Valentine's Day!) after attending an IVF

(InterVarsity Fellowship) retreat similar to the CHEWS (Choong Hyun English Worship Service) retreat. I was discipled by some missionaries from Nigeria and learned to love the Bible and to take it more seriously. I spent six months walking where Jesus walked in Israel. But in 1995, God began to work in my life in a different way. He gave me a vision for ESL (English as a Second Language). This may sound strange but he perked my interest to teach ESL abroad, which I did at one institute. But then, I was tragically fired from that institute for not respecting the students enough. Even though I felt like I was walking through the valley of the shadow of death, I grew from this experience and re-dedicated myself to doing God's will. As a result, I placed church work as the highest priority in my life. I wanted to share King David's focus, found in Psalm 119:10 (paraphrased): "I'm single-minded in pursuit of you; do not let me miss the road signs you've posted." This firing was a road sign to remind me to stay focused on God.



After studying at Biola for eight months, I felt inadequate as an English teacher. I see all these other English teachers who have a very good relationship with their students, or have an exciting classroom where students are motivated to learn, or seem to really care for their students and show joy in their growth (personally and with language skills). But I must remember not to compare myself with others but only consider what God wants. I pray for all of these so that I might better serve students and understand from them. This, in turn, would mean serving God.

Please pray for me this summer. First, pray that God teaches me His ways and shows me how He wants me to join with Him in missions. Second, pray that I glorify God in Seoul this summer. Thirdly, pray that I learn my strengths and weaknesses as a Christian English teacher.