

◆GOALS◆

Godly Worship Service
Raising Kingdom Workers
Evangelizing Korea
Evangelizing the World
Social Service for 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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Short Term Mission Teams Here Am I LORD - Send Me Three Teams Left Last Week

Short term summer missions of 1998 has begun. Choong Hyun Church prepared for these mission trips since last year's winter missionary training retreat. The young people of Choong Hyun are reaching out to the places where the gospel has not been preached. Choong Hyun Church had a commissioning service on June 14 during the five o'clock service. China team one is the first team to have left on June 20. The second team left for Bangladesh on June 25. The Sudan team left on June 27. Four more teams will be leaving for Sri Lanka, India, Mongolia, and a second team to China during the last week of July through the middle of August.

The members of China Team One are from the second young adults group. Team leader Elder Hwan Chang Song and Pastor Hyung Joon Jun along with seven young adults left on June 20 and will arrive in a city in China. The Chinese government is currently opposed to the propagation of the gospel within its borders. They have an official Christian church which is heavily controlled by the government. They are resistant to the influx of Christian missionaries. It is against Chinese law for any foreigner to proclaim the gospel of Christ or to have any other religious contact with a Chinese person. The fine for being caught is about eight million won alone with immediate deportation. We must pray for our team of young missionaries.

China Team One will be trying to make contact with minority groups such as the Korean-Chinese or Mongolian-Chinese and the underground churches. It is their task to find a common point of contact for evangelism in China. China Team One

will be divided into three groups and each group will search for these minority peoples. Then they will meet back at the appointed place for discussion and prayer. They will return to Seoul on June 29. Another very important task for them on this journey is distribution of the Chinese Bible which can be a very dangerous mission given the position of the Chinese government.

The Bangladesh team left on June 25. The Bangladesh team is comprised of eleven members - team leader Elder Hong Shik Jung, Pastor Kyung Han Park, General Secretary Deacon Eui Hong Jung, along with eight other members.

Their main strategy for evangelism is direct contact with the people of Bangladesh. The team will work in pairs, visiting various cities of Bangladesh including remote and poor areas. They will be sleeping at the homes of some of the warm people of Bangladesh. They will have direct contact with many Muslims as they rely on the work of the Holy Spirit in their very dangerous ministry. The Bangladesh team received language training from native Bangladesh workers. They could also find out about their sleeping quarters through these two guides. The team experienced the guidance of God even before they left. They will be back on July 4.

Sudan team leader Chang Ho Lee, Pastor Hee Soo Kim, General Secretary Evangelist Tae Yang Park, and eight other members will be going to Sudan. The Sudan team will also have direct contact with the people of Sudan using a variety of strategies such as praise and worship, drama, and movies. The Sudan team left on June 27 and will be visiting native churches, hospitals, and prisons. The government of Sudan does not allow public witnessing but the Sudan team has a plan for man-to-man evangelism. Most of the members of the Sudan team are future career missionaries. They are waiting for God's specific calling through this summer's short term trip.

Choong Hyun Church must pray for these mission teams so that they may bring a fold harvest hundred.



21 Sunday School Departments Participating in Vacation Bible School June 5 to August 15

'98 Vacation Bible School (VBS) and retreats have started with the Newly Married Couples group on June 5. There are 21 different departments which are having summer programs from Infants to English Worship Service groups, including the College group and the Young Adult group. The College group will have their summer retreat from July 6 to July 10 at the Retreat Center for Young People. The theme is "Let us Hear the Whisper of God." The Young Adults group is having their retreat from July 16 to July 18 at Nong Hyup Training Center. Their theme is "Live a Life Worthy of Your Calling."

The overall theme of this year's VBS and retreats is "Love of God and Love of Neighbors" according to the decision of the General Assembly. Choong Hyun Church must pray for

these summer programs of our Sunday School so that all the people who participate in these summer programs may come to realize the love of God and how they ought to love their neighbors.

CHEWS Summer Retreat

On July 17, 1998, Korean Constitution Day, the English Worship Service will be having a retreat. English Worship members will be keeping this day free so that they can participate together. Furthermore, Choong Hyun Church as a whole should remember this retreat in prayer. The theme of this year's summer retreat is "the Help of the Lord in Times of Trouble" from Acts 27:24.

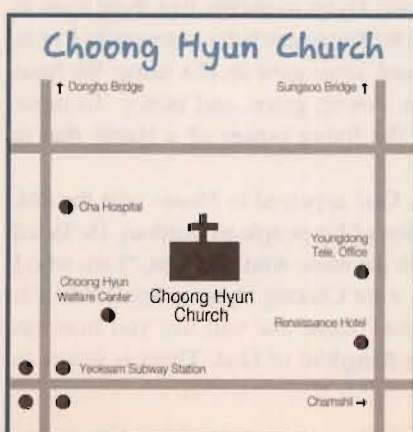
Evangelism Team for Farming and Fishing Villages Educating and Commissioning Schedule

All the members of the evangelism team for farming and fishing villages have to receive training in order to be sent according to the schedule below. Please participate in the prayer and training according to the schedule. Let us all remember that we must be spiritually ready before we take our first step in this ministry.

✽ June 28 and July 5 from 3:30-4:30 pm at Bethany Hall

Only for College group and Young Adult group from 4:00-4:30 pm at Bethany Hall because of the 3:00 service.

✽ Commissioning on July 12 during 5:00 Worship Service



The Name

(Exodus 3:15-16)

The biblical story of the call of Moses contains God's revelation of Himself. This disclosure develops from a distant deity of an oppressed people in Egypt to one in intimate relationship with the people of Israel. It is a theological gold mine that impacts the concepts and ideas of the rest of the Old and New Testament. Since God is not open to direct observation, a meaningful account of Him can only be given by indicating at each point His relation to ourselves and the world we know. Scripture does this and today's message is a manifestation of divine truth that holds invaluable meaning for us; in that we are able to grasp the true significance of how great and powerful God's name really is.

The request of Moses to know the name of the being who had filled him with such unutterable awe rested on ideas deeply rooted in ancient modes of thought (v. 6). Names had much meaning and were closely associated with identity rather than identification. Remember how God changed Abram's name to Abraham and Jacob's to Israel. In Bible times names had other significant functions. The idea of Name often revealed a basic characteristic of an individual. A real name expresses the nature of that to which it is given, it is significant! The name of God proclaims aspects of His nature and His link with mankind.

When you look back in Scripture to Genesis 32:29, you hear God rebuking Jacob, why do you ask My name? God's name is a revelation of His tribute or essence; it is the disclosure of some part or aspect of His deity. Language thus fails us in moments of the extraordinary experience, not always because none of the words we know would suit our purposes but because language tends to become conventional and the profounder meaning which lies in words gets rubbed off.

The name which God gave in His conversation with Moses, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, The Lord, the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial-name to all generations" (v. 15), is the name we must not only remember but must fully understand. First, the term YHWH or Jehovah means the Lord. Strictly speaking, it is the only proper name for God. Second, the phrase, "the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob means that God spoke to the fathers of old" (the patriarchs). He is the God of the Old Covenant - the old fathers.

The name which God gave was, after all, not a new one but an old name with new life put into it (cf. Gen. 2:4). God grants His servants requests. Moses asked God His name and God replied, "I AM WHO I AM" (v. 14). This mysterious phrase reveals that God exists as a deity who is active and will work in behalf of His people. He will be what He will be. Mere existence is not in mind, but the willingness to work for Israelite deliverance. The name acts as a word of assurance to Moses and to the Israelites. God is living personally - there's nothing abstract about His nature. He is the angel of Jehovah (v. 2)! He is the same God who spoke to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and is now speaking to Moses. His covenant is faithful and filled with unfailing power. God is merciful and compassionate. God is personal and self-existent. His name is Eternal. His name is independent of His creatures. He is self-identical. He is self-revealing. He is gracious. He is changeless in His purpose and faithful to His promises. He is able to fulfill His promises and certain to do so! All these ideas are expressed in the name Jehovah, which represents the highest



By Sung Kwan Kim
Reverend

*God also said to Moses,
"Say to the Israelites, 'The
LORD, the God of your
fathers-the God of
Abraham, the God of Isaac
and the God of Jacob-has
sent me to you.' This is my
name forever, the name by
which I am to be
remembered from
generation to generation.*

*"Go, assemble the elders of
Israel and say to them,
'The LORD, the God your
fathers-the God of
Abraham, the God of Isaac
and the God of Jacob-
appeared to me and said: I
have watched over you
and have seen what has
been done to you in Egypt.*

richness of Old Testament revelation.

Abraham, Isaac and Jacob knew God's name. They understood its meaning. Moses feels that when He goes among His brothers, they will not know God's name. They will not know who the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is - they will need a name. All the nations of that time had a name for their gods. The gods of Egypt had good deity names. Even though the Egyptians knew the name of the Israelite God, Moses had yet to learn that God was God alone. All other deities, however imposing, were nothing more than the fiction of wayward imagination. The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob - He is the only one who can say "I am." He's not represented by some worthless and dumb idol. Moses is to go to his people and say "The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the I am has sent me!"

Just as in the Old Testament where the name of God represents the person of God and all that He is, so too in the New Testament the Name represents all that Jesus is as Lord and Savior. The name for Jesus is the same as the divine name - YHWH or Jehovah. Indeed, the divine name, YHWH or Jehovah, was given to Jesus, that every knee should bow to Him and every tongue confess that He is Lord (Phil. 2:9-11; cf. Isa. 45:20-23). New Testament believers are to live their lives in Jesus' name just as the Old Testament believers were to live in the name of God, the Lord. Jesus said, truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am (John 8:58). The necessity and value of Jesus' presence here on earth belonged to the future rather than to the present. His preexistence helps us to understand the Triune Deity of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

In mainstream Christian usage, God (capital G) functions as a proper noun; that is, it is a personal name, belonging to one being only, which draws into itself all the thoughts that the biblical names and descriptions of God express. We are God's children. When we say God or Jesus, we must understand the concept of "I am who I am." We must remember that our Lord is the same Lord who appeared to Moses and the same Lord of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and the Israelites. He is extremely gracious and awful powerful in His judgment. We see this through Jesus at the cross.

Oftentimes we look at the cross as a failure - Jesus died on the cross. We neglect that Jesus is God long, long before the cross and He is God long, long after the cross. The cross is truly a sign of victory; it reveals God's mighty power in conquering death. It reveals God's gracious love in Jesus Christ for mankind. It reveals God's plan of salvation! We also often think that the Name is so great and mighty that it can not touch humanity; it is an impersonal name. This is far from the truth, God is personal and He has touched us! His love never fails because His name is truly Great!

I hope that all Choong Hyun members live their lives in Jesus' name just as the Old Testament believers were to live in the name of God, the Lord. Jesus gave us His name. We have the greatest gift of love, power, grace, and mercy. To those who believe, we have the living power of a Name that is above all other names.

At the burning bush, God appeared to Moses with the task of bringing two (2) million of his people to freedom. He failed before but now he is with the name who sent him, "I am who I am" was God's name. I want Choong Hyun to know that it is the mighty power of Jesus' name that will free you from sin and deliver you into the Kingdom of God. There is power in the Name!

Real Glory

(II Corinthians 3:12-18)

Today's passage regards Paul's letter to Corinth, wherein he really explains and brings to light the real glory of our Christian ministry. When we Christians truly understand and experience the hope we have in Christ, when our hearts feel the true happiness of His mercy, we also become aware of the real glory found only in the new covenant.

Paul begins with two questions, "Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, like some people, letters of recommendation to you or from you?" (vs. 1)? The first question underscores the attitude and behavior many people express when they accomplish something good. The tendency is to focus on the self rather than God. It is important to always keep in mind that all "good works" come from God, not by any measure of our own doings. The second question highlights the significance of who we are. As Christians, we are God's children. We do not require or need any special introductions. Our qualifications have already been approved and accepted by the Almighty!

Naturally, you may wonder how others will know your credentials. Paul succinctly states, "You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everybody" (vs. 2). Paul is referring to his ministry and its evidence in the lives of the people. The Corinthians were witnessed to and accepted the gospel of Christ. Their transformation was known not only to Paul but to everyone (including us) through Paul's communication.

Now comes the beautiful, amazing, true, and real glory of our Christianity, "You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts" (vs. 3). Yes, our credentials are our testimony! God's letter of recommendation is written not on a piece of paper for you to carry around and show everyone; it is not written in ink (something that can fade, blur or dissolve); it is permanently written on our hearts. Every Christian heart carries with it God's everlasting letter of recommendation.

Do you know what this means? Every Christian is a qualified minister for God. No one is better and no one is less important than any other Christian. It does not require special talents, skills, knowledge, or abilities. The only requirement is your faith, trust and obedience in Christ. Is that not incredible? So many Christians look at other Christians as more qualified, more spiritual, or more godly. They think they need to be more disciplined, more holy, more of whatever, in order to become a qualified Christian. Nonsense! This is a total waste of time, time better spent in communication with God and His direction for your life.

Therefore, we Christians should always have great confidence! We do not need to ever worry about whether or not we are qualified. We are qualified! We have the best credentials in the world! "Such confidence as this is ours through Christ before God" (vs. 4). In Christ, we have priceless value. His precious blood cleanses us into perfection before God.

Again, Paul reminds us that our competency has nothing to do with our own doing. "Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God" (vs. 5). God is not only our Creator, but He is also our provider. "He has made us competent as ministers

*"We are a letter from
Christ written with the
Spirit of the Living God on
tablets of human hearts"*

*"... Our qualifications are
awesome, for the real glory
of God glows more and
more in us through the
wonderful Spirit of the
Lord!"*



of a new covenant - not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life" (vs. 6). Wow! Here we have it spelled out for us quite clearly. "The letter kills but the Spirit gives life". The letter refers to written laws; such as the Ten Commandments. Paul, in no uncertain terms, makes it perfectly understandable that we are not saved by the law but solely by God's grace. What is God's saving grace? Jesus Christ!

It is important to understand that the ministry before Christ had its glory. Remember Moses' face after he came down from Mt. Sinai? It shone with the glory of God, so much so that the Israelites could not look steadily at him. Although this ministry's conclusion led to death and its glory faded, can you imagine how much more the glory and ministry of the Spirit of the new covenant shines? "If the ministry that condemns men is glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness" (vs. 9)! "And if what was fading away came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts" (vs. 11)!

Because we Christians have such a great hope in Christ, we are fearless! We are bold in our actions and in our proclamations! "We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at it while the radiance was fading away" (vs. 13). Our glory shines forever! Our hearts and faces have a permanent glow that we do not ever have to hide, that we can show everyone we meet and everywhere we go.

The sad news is that there are still people, just like the Israelites, who rely solely on the written law. Their faces and hearts are covered because Christ does not dwell in their hearts. "Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts" (vs. 15). The good news is, "...whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away" (vs. 16)!

The gospel of Jesus Christ offers life and liberty. "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom" (vs. 17). So many Christians do not grasp the significance of this freedom. Their perspective of freedom is limited to worldly enjoyments. They think that having fun is being free to drink alcohol, do drugs, party and totally indulge their self-interests. Is this freedom or is this bondage? There is no greater freedom than in Christ! He provides a peace that passes all understanding - a happiness so great that there is no worldly comparison.

"And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit" (vs. 18). I would like to shout AMEN! We Christians are being transformed daily by the Holy Spirit into an amazing likeness of Christ. The glory that is in us grows. Unlike Moses, whose glory faded, our glory increases!

As Christians, we are all ministers of the new covenant. Like Paul, who spread the gospel of life and liberty, we too are commended and commanded by God to do the same (Mt. 28:18-20). Our Christian ministry, led by the Holy Spirit, evidences itself in the lives of people we witness to in all our activities; both great and small. Our qualifications are awesome, for the real glory of God glows more and more in us through the wonderful Spirit of the Lord!

News from the Mission Field-Kenya

Come to the Lord
Across the Prairie

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I thank God for the people of Choong Hyun Church who have prayed for and filled the needs of missionaries even in the midst of economic crisis.

The ministries in Kenya are going well without any serious difficulties by the grace of God and the continuous prayers of the people of Choong Hyun.

We had a revival meeting from April 28 to May 2. I could experience the love of God that is deeply rooted in the people of Kenya who came to the revival meeting from a far distance. They are longing for the word of God. They wanted to keep on going on praising and praying without any break in the revival meeting. They never got tired of listening to the word of God. I give all thanks to the Lord for the wonderful deeds he has done in Kenya.

We have completed one more classroom in Rae Rae Elementary School on the second week of April. It was not easy work at all. It took a long time, and there were many difficulties in delivering construction materials, but we give thanks to God that we were able to finish this project to educate children of Kenya according to the ways of our Lord. We have to build three more classrooms, but we have to stop for a while because of financial problems. I hope Choong Hyun Church can pray for the constructions and vehicle acquisitions. May the blessings of our Lord be with you all.

Lay missionary *Eun Bin Koh* from Kenya.

The People's Republic of Bangladesh

Gospel for the Unreached

Bangladesh is a small country of about 132 million people living densely in 144,000 square kilometers of land to the northeast of India.

They are comprised of 50 ethnic groups. 97% of the people are Muslim or Hindu Bengalis. 24% of the population is literate in the official languages of Bengali. English is also often used. Bangladesh has a total of 37 languages. Fourteen have complete Bible translations; three have New Testaments; and seven have portions. The Bangladeshi capital of Dhaka has about seven million people. Another major city is Chittagong with over two million.

Bangladesh has one of the world's poorest economies resulting largely from gross overpopulation and natural disasters including devastating floods and cyclones. The average income per person is less than one percent of the average income of a person living in the United States.

Formerly known as East Pakistan, Bangladeshi and Indian forces defeated Pakistan in a bitter civil war. Political instability and corruption have led to eighteen coups. Finally, in 1991, a democratic government led by a woman, Begum Zia, came to power.

From 1971 to 1988, Bangladesh had been a secular state. Then the government declared Islam to be the state religion. Consequently, there is high tension between Muslims and others. About 87% of the population is Muslim; 11.7% Hindu; 0.6% Buddhist; and 0.44% Christians. About half the Christians are Protestant and half are Catholic.

Bangladesh has been quite resistant to



accepting the gospel. The 1971 civil war lowered loyalty to Islam. Nevertheless, there are many extremist Muslim groups obstructing the Christian witness. Despite vast opposition from the powers of darkness, Christians continue to grow. There is also a Great Commission Movement designed to plant a church in every one of the 464 sub-districts of Bangladesh.

Perhaps there is no nation in the world with a greater number of unreached peoples totally untouched by the gospel. From among 100 million Muslims, only a few thousand have accepted the gospel. Among the Hindus, the upper castes have been resistant to the gospel. Even the lower classes have only a very small number of converts. Because of the large number of illiterate people, Christian media is very important compared to other Christian literature.

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

Prayer Requests from China Team One

1. Be our guide, O Lord. We are ready to be spiritual spies for the revival of God's kingdom.
2. Let us not have divided hearts when we confront Chinese people. Keep us purified.
3. Help us, O Lord, that we meet those people that we are supposed to meet and see the things that we are supposed to see and hear the things that we are supposed to hear according to your will.
4. We are trying to contact nine minority people groups in China. Come Holy Spirit. Use us to do your great work.

Prayer Requests from Sudan Team

1. Let all the team members be equipped with the word of God as a soldier of Christ.
2. Keep us from all dangers including malaria and scorpions so that all the team members may have good health to carry out their mission.
3. Prepare the people that we are supposed to meet and open their hearts so that we may win over many lost souls by the preaching of the gospel.
4. Pray for Missionary Young Dae Kim who ministers in Sudan so that his ministry may expand.
5. Let all the members be salt and light wherever they go. Through them, our church's goal to send 7000 missionaries around the world may begin.

**Short Term Mission Team
Request Urgent Prayer**

**Must Remember
that Mission Work
Includes Church Prayer**



Prayer Requests from Bangladeshi Team

1. Each team member may be filled with the Holy Spirit so that they can have intimate fellowship with God.
2. Let all the members overcome the difficulties of living with native Bangladeshi in their homes.
3. It is the heavy rain season in Bangladesh. Let us adjust smoothly to their weather and culture. Grant us good health.
4. Let us have thankful hearts in all circumstances.
5. Let the Holy Spirit work ahead of us so that the people of Bangladesh may open their hearts when we preach the gospel.