

GOALS

Godly Worship Service
Raising Workers for the Kingdom
Evangelizing Korea
Evangelizing the World
Loving Neighbors

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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Church Expels Elders With Criminal Connections

The General Session of the Choong Hyun Church decided to dismiss and expel eight elders - Myung Sik Yoon, Cha Sang Kim, Eun Won Kang, Dong Woon Sohn, Ki Jun Wu, Seung Joon Park, Kyung Soo Sohn and In Sang Lee - on Nov. 8. The decision was made after a police investigation determined their involvement in an attack against Senior Pastor Rev. Sung Kwan Kim. The Session reached the following conclusions:

- 1) Session's Reasons: The above mentioned elders were on probation since the police investigation determined their active involvement regarding the assault against Rev. Kim earlier this year but in October, they sent letters to all church staff and deacons asserting their innocence and blaming deceased Elder Ki Chae Lim. Their actions indicated that they have not shown any remorse for their wrongdoing; therefore, the General Session decided to act accordingly.
- 2) The reasons for the elders' involvement in the attack against Rev. Kim are attached in a nine-page report.
- 3) Signed by Session members.

What Does Dismissal and Expulsion
From Church Mean?

The General Session decided to dismiss and expel eight elders from church on Nov. 8. The decision was made since they did not repent nor show any remorse for their actions.

Since the attack against Senior Pastor Rev. Sung Kwan Kim in January, the church offered many opportunities for them to repent by putting them on probation. However, they neither took this probation seriously nor repented for their behavior but sought understanding of their behavior by distributing a letter of explanation to church members.

According to the Bible and church law of Dae Han Presbyterian Church Order IV Politics Chapter Eight; Act Four, and Church Discipline VI Chapter Five; Act 35, and Worship Act Chapter 16, dismissal and expulsion means revoking member's church membership and being able to serve as an elder. The member is no longer a member of the Choong Hyun church and cannot be serve as an elder in any other church. Expulsion and dismissal are the final consequences for those who are given probation but show no repentance. They can no longer participate in Communion and are cut off from fellowship with other believers. (Matt. 18:15-17; 1 Cor. 5:1-5)

The church will no longer recognize them as members. All worshipers are requested to refrain from fellowship with the expelled members in any capacity. The church established this law so that those who are cut off from a believer's fellowship will come to understand how important it is to remain in the body of Christ and repent for their wrongdoings.

Choong Hyun Church Recycling Program



The Choong Hyun church has asked all worshipers to cooperate in its recycling program. Any organization that is larger than 300 pyung (approximately 990 square meters) is responsible for establishing an independent recycling program. Reducing excessive trash and waste at church is a top priority. Recycling is something that must be strictly followed by all Choong Hyun worshipers and employees. This can be done by separating different kinds of papers, glass, cans, general trash and food waste.

(Pictured are Choong Hyun church employees sorting out church garbage.)

Worship Schedule

Sunday	Services in the Main Sanctuary 7:00 a.m., *9:00 a.m., **11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. <i>*The English Service is held at Galilee Hall (Main Sanctuary, B1) at 9:00 a.m.</i> <i>**Simultaneous translation is provided in English and Japanese for the 11:00 a.m. service</i>
Wednesday	Main Sanctuary Services 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Friday	Prayer and Praise Service, Main Sanctuary 7:00 p.m.
Daily	Early Morning Prayer Meetings, Main Sanctuary 5:00 a.m.

Evangelism Department for Foreigners

Wednesday	Teachers' Prayer Meetings - 8:30 p.m.
Sunday	Service in Amen Hall - 9:30-10:30 a.m. Bible Study in Amen Hall - 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Service in the Main Sanctuary - 1:00 p.m. <i>*Simultaneous translation in Sri Lankan, Chinese, Mongolian, Hindi and Indonesian are available.</i>

Making Worship More Spiritual

In order for all worship services to be more God-centered and spiritually pleasing, the Choong Hyun Church has asked the following of all its members:

- Turn off your cellular phone before entering the church.
- Fill in the seats starting from the first row of pews.

- Follow the sermon using the Choong Hyun Manna.
- Be on time for whichever service you want to attend. Please follow these fundamental yet simple rules and all Choong Hyun members will benefit from your cooperation. Thank you.



by Rev. Sung Kwan Kim
Senior Pastor

Ancient Paths (Jeremiah 6:13-16)

"This is what the LORD says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths,
ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.
But you said, 'We will not walk in it.'"

We are living in an age where people are trying to tear down many of our old-time beliefs. This is the work of Satan Himself. Recently, we hear people speak about the need for a Gospel designed for a modern age. They come along and try to give us new things; things they have hatched up; things that have no foundation in God's Word. Everybody wants something new. But certain things are not simply outdated because they're 2000 years old. The Gospel today is the same Gospel that Paul preached some two millennia ago. It's the same Gospel that turned the world upside down! God is the same as He was millions of years ago. Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever (see Heb. 13:8). Yet, we find people wanting to change a church's worship services and direction. They want Christians to adopt to a secular society. All these things are not based on the foundation that comes from the Word of God. Today's Bible verses state:

"For from the least of them even to the greatest of them, Everyone is greedy for gain, And from the prophet even to the priest Everyone deals falsely. They have healed the brokenness of My people superficially, Saying, 'Peace, peace, But there is no peace.' Were they ashamed because of the abomination they have done? They were not even ashamed at all; They did not even know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fail; At the time that I punish them, They shall be cast down, says the Lord. Thus says the Lord, stand by the ways and see and ask for the ancient paths, Where the good way is, and walk in it; And you shall find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it'" (vv. 13-16).

Let's focus on, "Thus says the Lord, stand by the ways and see and ask for the ancient paths." Let's look at the ancient paths and really try to understand them, so that our requests in honoring God's glory reflect His ways.

The ancient paths led believers to believe in God. The people of Judah didn't believe God. They believed in society and greed. Real believers, like

Abraham, truly believed in God and followed His ways. Think of David, who lamented, "The fool has said in his heart, 'There is no God.' They are corrupt, they have committed abominable deeds; There is no one who does good" (Ps. 14:1). In other words, the problem originates from people's hearts. They don't believe. Their hearts are filled with decay, evil and horrid deeds. Therefore, no one who does good is called a "fool" by the Lord.

When I visit my home in the United States, I have to fly around 9,600 kilometers. I say fly because I can't even jump two meters. The flight takes roughly 15 hours at 20,000 feet in the air. Do you think the ability to fly comes into action naturally? Of course not! It took architects, engineers and pilots a lot of time to design a 767. It took enormous resources and plenty of cautionary measures. You can't just say it happened automatically. A lot of thought went into such a project. Now, look at the flowers. Did you know that there are over 10,000 different kinds? Do you think that just happens naturally, without any designer or builder?

Psalms 8 reads, "When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained; What is man that You take thought of him, And the son of man that You care for him?" (vv. 3&4) Amen! David confessed the true wonders of God's fingers. He proclaimed God's creation of the heavens, moon and stars! He understood that God made people of the utmost importance from all His creation. The very next day, David said, "The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands (Ps. 19:1). Amen! All the universe proclaims God's glory, even the expanse proclaims His hand. And what do the most important elements of creation - humans - do? Their philosophy and sciences try to get rid of God. Their thoughts are centered on the world, but God is, and always will be. Amen! You can put Him out of your life now, but some day you are

going to have to face Him.

The ancient paths guided believers to believe in the Bible as God's Holy Word. Followers of God believe that, "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16). Amen! Old Testament and New Testament believers knew, without any doubts, that "no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God" (2 Pet. 1:21). Man's will did not originate Scripture. Yet, men were involved as the Holy Spirit bore them along as they wrote, guarding them from writing error and guiding them to write God's Word to us. The Bible speaks God's Word because it is God's Word. Think of Moses, who wrote the first five books of the Bible, and Jeremiah, Isaiah, and Daniel; all these people were inspired by the Holy Spirit. Think of Paul, Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John who wrote down, not their own thoughts but God's! Think of Peter, who was an uneducated, fisherman. There's no way this man y could have written such marvelous Bible verses. God dictated his thoughts and Peter just wrote down God's Word, as did others.

When I'm preparing my sermons for publication, working on a school project or just writing responses to church business, I dictate God's message to the helpers He has provided me who, in turn, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, write down God's message. Let me tell you that as the years have passed since my arrival here, my English needs God's help! It's phenomenal how God works through His Spirit!

The ancient paths instructed God's children to understand that all humans are sinners. "All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him" (Isa. 53:6). Amen! Another Bible verse that probably comes to mind is, "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). Everyone is involved in Adam's sin because everyone is related to Adam. The

Bible tells us that Adam sinned and brought sin into the life of every person. The Bible clearly tells us that we all have some of the old Adam in us, and that everyone who goes on without Christ dies. Why? Because the wage of sin is death, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. 6:23). Amen!

The ancient paths directed believers to believe that humans need to be born again. Nicodemus asked Jesus, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he" (Jn. 3:4). Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit" (Jn. 3:5 & 6). Jesus' answer changes people's lives for all time and eternity. Judas Iscariot followed Jesus for three years. But he was not born again. He ended up committing suicide. He didn't go to God's place, but rather his own. The Bible mentions that it would have been better if he had not been born. Why? Because he ended up going to his own place, not God's!

Finally, the ancient paths influenced believers in the truth that the only way to escape hell and enter heaven is through the blood of Jesus Christ. "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him" (Jn. 3:36). The wrath of God falls on all unbelievers! "Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 8:1). Amen!

My dearest friends, listen and follow the ancient paths. Believe in God, not the world. Believe that the Bible is God's Word, unchangeable, infallible and holy! Believe that you are a sinner and need to be born again through the blood of Jesus Christ, so that you can escape hell and go to heaven! Stand by God's Word and see and ask for the ancient paths! Let your soul find rest. 🙏

Edified Through Visiting Mission Memorials

By Missions Department



About 100 years ago, Western missionaries came to Korea to proclaim the Gospel. The blond-hair, blue-eyed Western missionaries were often referred to as 'Western ghosts' by Koreans. How marvelous was their works for God! 100 years after Jesus was introduced to Korea, Jesus became everything in our life. During this autumn, we are introducing and recommending various Christian mission memorials in the Seoul vicinity where God's presence is felt so that we may be edified.

- 1) Christian Museum at Soong Shil University, Seoul : To find many valuable remains of Korean Christian history.
- 2) Foreigners' Cemetery in Yanghwa Island, Seoul : Early Korean missionaries and their families are buried here. A children's tomb was found; apparently not knowing why they came to Korea. It will be a double blessing to visit Chul Doo mountain, a sacred place within walking distance.
- 3) Korea Christian Martyrdom Memorial; Yongin, Kyonggi Province : Numerous Christians were

martyred during the 1910-45 Japanese colonization who refused to worship the Japanese emperor and during the 1950-53 Korean War. This memorial is a place to honor their spirit and be challenged through their commitment to advance His Kingdom.

4) Che Am church; Whasung County, Kyonggi Province : "All men over 18 should be present at the Che Am church!" By the orders of the Japanese military commander, the people in the village gathered in the church. Doors were nailed and shut behind them as the entire church was in flames and armed guns were fired. 23 people, including Christians, were killed.

When we go to these and other memorial places, we could not hide our disappointment of the place due to their poor conditions. However, we should remember that the place testifies to God's active work in history and pray for our dedication to His calling.

Father, Father

By Chang Soon Lee (Deaconess, Fourth District)



I thought it was impossible to bring my father to Christ. I prayed about it for a long time but because he was such a stubborn dad, I could not openly discuss who Jesus was with him. I tried several times but his reply was always the same: "Believe in yourself. Don't bother to tell us about it." I frequently asked other district families for an interceding prayer but God's answer seemed so slow.

However, I did not give up my prayers and petitioned this request to God. Slowly but surely, God shed some light on my prayers.

My dad became severely ill and was hospitalized in an intensive care unit. While running to the hospital immediately after hearing the news, I prayed this might be the chance that he would come to receive Jesus. Upon arriving at the hospital, I was disappointed to find out that visiting hours were over. But somehow in my heart, the spirit told me that I needed to go see him. Undaunted, I begged to briefly visit my father and was allowed to meet with him. I began praying beside him and that was God's appointed time. My dad listened to my prayers and somehow I felt that this was the time. I presented a saving grace of the gospel to Him. Then, a miracle happened. My father replied, "I believe." On my next visit, I asked an elder to pray with me. My dad is very open-minded about God now. He even asks my brother why he doesn't go to church when he used to be a faithful churchgoer. Although he has many things to understand, I nonetheless give thanks to God for opening my father's heart and mind to the Lord.

Hoping for a Day of Change

By Young Sook Ma (Elementary School Teacher)

The elementary school worship service begins at 10:30 a.m. but I feel my heart pounding heavily from 10:25. My eyes constantly look at the entrance and examine who enters but I do not see any familiar faces. I begin to complain in my heart, "Oh Lord, are you testing me?" The children promised me last Sunday, with their fingers crossed and sealing their thumbs together that they would be there on time.

During class, all of us are eager to share what had happened during the week because we get to see each other only on Sundays. I asked them, "How was your week?" After I asked them, six children began talking almost simultaneously. I asked them to speak one-at-a-time but they didn't listen. Suddenly, the class is like a zoo...



playfulness. While teaching them, I am often challenged by their keen Biblical knowledge and am able to observe their potential through active participation in the choir.

Every Sunday, the Fifth Class; Ninth Division is noisy and at times disruptive, but I pray that God would make them sincere and faithful by honoring God and loving Him through spiritual worship. I hope and look forward to the day they would be changed by Him.

While trying to control them, I discover my voice is as high and loud as theirs. But, I am so thankful that there is seriousness in their eyes in the midst of their

Jesus Saved Me

By Ha Eun Cho
(Elementary School)

I was in the intensive care unit of Seoul National University Hospital. Everyone was shocked after hearing of my sudden sickness. My mom, dad and other family members prayed for me. I also prayed when I was conscious. "Dear Loving Jesus, please heal me." And, he did! Doctors and nurses said it was a miracle. But I knew that it was Jesus who healed me. I knew this was the answer to my prayers to Him.

It was so painful when the nurses took blood from me. But, I then realized the pain Jesus went through. "Painful Lord, don't be hurt anymore. I love you so much." There were so many children who were sick in the hospital. I prayed for them that they would also be healed by Jesus so our spirits would meet together in heaven. Jesus, please reach those unbelieving souls! I will proudly testify to those unbelieving friends that it was Jesus who healed me from my sickness and saved my soul.



Reverse-Ramadan Prayer Movement, Nov. 27-Dec. 26

"I looked for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found none." (Ezekiel 22:30)

From late November to early December, we can easily find phrases like "Reverse-Ramadan or 30 Days of Prayer for Evangelizing to Muslims" in Christian bookstores or churches. Today, we will introduce this Reverse-Ramadan prayer movement so that our congregation can partake in this important Christian event.

23% of the world is Muslim. Although there is only a small number in Korea, mosques are more prevalent than in past years. As an increasing number of Muslim workers enter this country, we no longer can regard Korea as being safe from Islamic influence.

Islam declares that when the Ramadan period begins, the gates of heaven are opened and hell's gate is closed and at the same time evil spirits are chained and encourages all Muslims to fast during this event. Such fasting is shows they are indebted to Allah and fasting partially constrains their sins and controls one's feelings that leads to sin. Fasting is also required to help the poor and enter heaven. Many Muslims think the period of Ramadan as their gateway to 'upgrade' their spiritual condition. In other words,



Ramadan reminds Muslims that without works, based on religious beliefs, there is no hope and believers cannot receive Allah. Therefore, all Christians are called to pray for the one billion Muslims so they would turn away from idol worshipping. There are abundant testimonies that Muslims have experienced Jesus in their dreams. Such result is because of the prayer's of God's people's and martyrs to change them.

This reverse-Ramadan prayer movement began in Korea in 1993. Last year, an estimated 1,000 churches and about 50,000 Christians participated in this prayer movement. This prayer movement began in 1992 in a meeting held in a Middle East country as

God laid a heart to a Christian leader and was called to fast and pray for the Muslim. God envisioned this leader that many other Christians will come for intercessory prayer and this call to pray for Muslims later on came as the Reverse-Ramadan Prayer Movement. This movement was observed by Christians that some chose to fast as the Muslims and others participated in this movement in prayers. The reality is that some Islamic extremists are threatening missionaries and Christians who do not observe this practice. Until now, we've been praying for those scattered churches and

isolated Muslim converts to Christianity. However, we also need to pray for those who serve God secretly in the midst of Muslim hostility and that there would be many faithful souls who would come to lead other unbelieving Muslims to Christ.

We need to remind ourselves that there is power in the prayers for all lost souls. One man's earnest prayer is the best participation into God's working history. Prayer is key to manage the nations. This year's Reverse-Ramadan Prayer Movement is from Mon., Nov. 27 to Tues., Dec. 26. During this period, many prayers are needed for the one billion Muslims. More information on this prayer movement will be printed in future Bi-Weekly articles.

It's Time to Open Your Eyes

By Bong Soon Nah (Wife of Duk Jin Choi)

My husband has a rare illness called Croits Helt Jacob. It remains a mystery to modern medical science as to how this sickness developed and can be cured. This is an incurable disease, which happens to one in one million people. We had no idea if this was something serious from the beginning. The illness started in July when I noticed that his eyes were slightly close. We went to an ophthalmologist and he said that it wasn't serious. However, his eyesight continued to deteriorate so I had his eyes examined and they said it was a kind of inflammation in his eyes. He began treatment but with little improvement. We were afraid he might lose his eyesight so we went for further examinations. Doctors discovered that there was a hole in his brain. It was not like cancer or anything like it but a hole!

My husband became unconscious after hearing this. He has not woken up since. There is little

information about how this disease is carried and can be cured. Doctors are saying that this illness could be more severe than AIDS.

He has no consciousness but his body continually suffers from pain. Sometimes the convulsions are so severe that four or five people try to keep his body down. At this point, I felt that our family had no hope. Then, Deaconess Choi from Choong Hyun Church came and discussed the Word of God and His salvation through Jesus. I wasn't religious so it was good to hear about God. Then, more people from Choong Hyun came to pray for us almost everyday. I came to understand more about God's love and His words. Our family shared the Bible with my husband and prayed together. The senior deaconess said that the whole family should also come to believe in Christ so our entire family started attending Choong Hyun. I needed to share the love of God with my husband but

since he could not respond I felt sad. Sometimes, his eyelids blink and I feel as if he's responding so I pray and sing hymns with him - even if there is no way to know if he understands. I know that this is an incurable disease with no cure but I still believe he will recover. How did he suddenly get sick? Through his sickness, our family came to know God - everyone but my husband. He also needs to know God and receive His salvation. I grab his shaking body and speak to him today: Dear, there are strangers who are praying for you. I met many good people while you are here. I met God. You need to know Him too. You need to stand and thank them. You can do it. Stand up! You need to hear God's word. I know you can wake up. You can't just go, you cannot go without knowing God.