

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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Stewardship Seminar: "What is Filled in Your Cup?"



From Wed., Oct. 11 to Fri., Oct. 13, the Choong Hyun church hosted a Stewardship Seminar for all church. The keynote speaker was Dr. Timothy Z. Witmer, a professor of Practical Theology at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This seminar was for all cell group leaders, Sunday school teachers, leaders and employees as well as lay believers. The theme was "May I Participate in Your Cup?" and Biblical imagery messages were proclaimed about them.

On the first night, the meaning of two different cups was compared and challenged the church. The

first cup is the cup of God's wrath, anger, shame and judgment; the second, in contrast, is the cup of blessing, life, salvation and peace. Jesus Christ accepted this cup of judgment and anger for our sake, so that we are now able to drink the cup of blessing and life. However, for those who do not participate in this cup of blessing through Jesus Christ, they are destined to receive the cup of wrath and judgment. This was the core message Dr. Witmer shared regarding the good news of the cup.

The second night's seminar involved Exodus 25 and 35. Dr. Witmer's message was that we are to use

our talents and skills for God's glory. The tabernacle in the wilderness was a place where God came down to meet His people. The pillars of fire and clouds are the representation of His power and promise and clear and vivid will of God to carry His covenant with Israel. Thus, God's intention was to call Israel to build the sanctuary to share their talent, skills and material. Today's believers are building the eternal sanctuary - we are to share our time, material and dedication of our talent to share with others. We are to share our cup of blessings with those who still hold the cup of judgment.

On the seminar's final evening, Dr. Witmer spoke about our contentment through message entitled, "Half Full or Half Empty?" He challenged us to be content about what God has given to us. True contentment, he said, does not depend on the level of one's demands but on the positive response to what one already has. But there are factors that hinder our satisfaction; from Romans 1:20 and Exodus 20:17. These factors are examples of a negative attitude towards God and greed. In closing, he invited all of us to receive God's cup of blessing through Jesus Christ.

Through these seminars, we pray that all believers would carry their cross and participate in this cup of blessing in Jesus Christ.

Now if we are children, then we are heirs - heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory (Romans 8:17).

Change in Worship Times from October

Starting October, Wednesday and Friday worship times will change. They are as follows (see chart below):

Type of Service	Previous Time	New Time
Wednesday, Second Service	7:30 p.m.	7 p.m.
Friday, Worship Service	7:30 p.m.	7 p.m.

Weekly Spiritual Worship by Bethel High School Choir

The Fifth Service, often referred to as a 'young worship service' bringing together all young Choong Hyun members, celebrates its fourth year. They serve God in a more classical, worship style compared to the other services contemporary worship style. The most active participants of the Fifth Service are from the Bethel Choir and Orchestra and High School Choir and Orchestra. They always memorize their music and when the two choirs sing together they sing in a unified voice.

Although most high school students are busy with their studies, they nonetheless dedicate their time in praising and glorifying God through choir and orchestral music. The Bethel choir and orchestra consist of college students and young adults. This is their way of expressing their love for God through joyful singing.

When the Fifth Service first started, the conductor was selected from amongst the members and orchestra members voluntarily served God through their musical talents. This commitment is seen through autonomous prayers after the worship service and through All Night Friday prayer meetings. The young choir and orchestra members not only challenge other Choong Hyun choir and orchestra member but the entire church as well.

The High School Choir and Orchestra and Bethel Choir and Orchestra will continue to strive for a deeper spiritual worship service. Please encourage them and pray for them. All church leaders should

work harder to help our young people come to God through serving Him.

Worship Schedule

Services in the Main Sanctuary	
Sunday	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.
	*The English Service is held at Calvary Hall (Main Sanctuary, R1) at 9:00 a.m. *Simultaneous translation is provided in English Service and Japanese for the 11:00 a.m. service
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.
	*Simultaneous interpretation in Sri Lankan, Chinese, Mongolian, Hindi and Indonesian are available.

Request for Used Clothes and Items for Foreign Workers

If you have clean, unused clothing and/or extra household items sitting around your home, consider donating such items to our brothers and sisters of the Foreign Workers' Mission. As the fall season is upon us, please help improve the lives of our foreign members by generously donating items such as unused jackets, furniture or heaters.

Donations will be accepted from Oct. 8-22 (except on Mondays) at the Missions Office. If you have any questions, please call 552-8200; ext. 356.



by Rev. Sung Kwan Kim
Senior Pastor

BE FRUITFUL

(Matthew 21:42-44)

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures?" "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?"

Jesus asked the chief priests, Pharisees and elders whether or not they had read their Bible, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'The stone which the builders rejected, This became the chief corner stone; This came about from the Lord, And it is marvelous in our eyes'" (v. 42)? He bombasted these high religious officials with this question by pointing out how they had thrown away the most important element in their lives in favor of other things. Have you read your Bible? Are you discarding the most important thing in your life only to pick-up material nonsense? God made available the most valuable thing for you through the Bible. Is it really wonderful for your eyes?

Jesus quoted these exact verses from Psalm 118:22-23, "The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief corner stone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes." Is this true? Do you believe it? People say they are believers but many don't really believe that Jesus Christ is the precious cornerstone. This most important stone which is the Word of God they throw away. We're not just talking about servants of God, but also about officers of the church like you see in today's Bible verses.

Jesus led into today's message with the parable about the landowner and vine-growers. The landowner rented out his property to some vine-growers who refused to pay him his share. The vine-growers beat, stoned and killed two groups of slaves that the landowner sent to collect his produce, "But afterward he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son'" (v. 37). Unfortunately, they killed his son. The vine growers represented the leaders of the Jews, and often most of the people too, who rejected the slaves, the Old Testament prophets and who would shortly crucify the Son. These servants of God threw away the Word of God. They killed the Son of their Master. Now, they say there is no Son,

and everything belongs to them. The Bible tells us that because of their rejection everything is now for us!

The Jews, the original builders, threw away the most important stone. As leaders they had great responsibility, but they rejected the Word of God. God particularly communicated His laws to Israel, thus distinguishing her from all other nations, "He has not dealt thus with any nation; And as for His ordinances, they have not known them" (Ps. 147:20). He especially loved and cared for the Israelites. He expressly loves you, but you still throw away the most important stone in your life by ignoring, pushing aside and discarding His Word over your way. Even though the highest priests, Pharisees and scribes killed Jesus on the cross at Calvary, God still made Him the cornerstone. God made Him the Messiah. The real sad thing is, "He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him" (Jn. 1:11). Isn't this true? How does it apply to you? When your mind is on more important things and you don't read your Bible, are you rejecting Him? Jesus has victory at the cross, even though the Israelites rejected the Messiah. He became the Messiah.

"Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation producing the fruit of it" (v. 43). When you reject the Son, you lose big time! Other people will receive the awesome blessings you have refused. This is God's eyes! He's saying that He leaves it up to you to live with His Word or not. It's your choice. You can't have it both ways. You either live for money or your live for His Word. God wants your spirit to be fruitful. "Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, For His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him (Ps. 2:12)! Amen! Love Jesus, not the things of this world. If you do things your own way, you will die in that

way. Do you realize how much God truly loves you? Do you fully understand the depth of His love for you through Jesus Christ? Submit to God, kiss His Son, not the things of this world.

If you live with His Word your heart will have peace, "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you" (Mt. 5:12). Why worry about worldly things when heavenly blessings are upon you? Yes, this earthly life will be difficult as a Christian but don't be dismayed! This life is temporary, short-lived. Heaven is your eternal home. Heaven is your destination! Live for heaven and your soul will be forever delighted. You will be totally gratified in your daily life!

"Therefore thus says the Lord God, 'Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone, A costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed. He who believes in it will not be disturbed'" (Is. 28:16). Do you understand? Jesus is the stone which was rejected by the Israelites, the builders, but which became the chief corner stone (see Acts 4:11). God laid the stone, "Behold, I lay in Zion a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense, And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed" (Rom. 9:33). I hope your dwelling is built with the only cornerstone that upholds God. In the figure of the church as a temple, Christ is the cornerstone, the apostles and New Testament prophets are the foundation, and each Christian is a stone in the building, "having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone" (Eph. 2:20). Amen! Christ is the cornerstone, not money, not anything else! He is a "stone of stumbling and a rock of offense" to unbelievers.

My dear friends, this church must relate to Jesus Christ. We have to proclaim His amazing resurrection, ascension and the sending of His Holy

Spirit. We have to glorify God in Christ Jesus! We have to live with the Holy Spirit in our heart instead of the lust for money, power and fame. We need to be rich and powerful with Jesus in our hearts. We have to be humble, not showing how hard we work or how much we get paid. You can't calculate your riches. The real calculation is what kind of life you live with your pure faith. Be fruitful!

There are a lot of spiritual leaders who confess that they believe in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. They can recite the words to the Apostles Creed, but are they really responsible with their faith in His Word? How fruitful are they? Do their words and behaviors really reflect God's actions? Too many church leaders and church members throw away God's Word. His stone. It's so sad. How often do we throw away the precious stone from our daily lives, and preter money, popularity, and material enjoyment? Let's pray, "Oh Lord, forgive me. Let my life be filled with your Holy Spirit. Help me to die on the cross and become alive with Your hurting hands. Let Your hand touch me and make me as your instrument. Let me bear fruit, the Holy Spirit's fruit. I can't do it myself Lord, only you are willing and able. I believe in Your power. Please control my whole life, my will, my destiny. Everything is Your's Lord. Let me have peace, even though I may have no money — no food, shelter or clothing, let me have You. Let me have the enjoyment that comes from knowing You and crucifying all my eager desires.

There's only one way to produce godly fruit and that comes through your faith in Jesus Christ. You need the Word of God more than you need anything else in this life. You need it to live! Earthly food only sustains the body but heavenly food sustains your soul. Eat heavenly food so you can be fruitful and your eyes can marvel at how spectacular God's cornerstone is in your life. 🙏

NMC Sungga Hospital Evangelism Team:

"Who Wants the Lord's Gifts?"

Every Tuesday, I go to the National Hospital to praise and pray as a member of NMC Sungga Hospital Evangelism Team. When we sing praises and worship, there are some patients and family members who walk by the alley and sing with us. But, at the same time, there are those who complain that we are being disruptive. Even though we sing the same song, the reactions of other people are quite different from those who welcome our singing and others who think it is loud. This brought a heart of thanksgiving in me that how thankful I am that I have God's gift in me.

We noticed the same thing when we visited the patients - some have this gift and others do not. But the most troubling thing to me is to find those who once had this gift but do not anymore. I recently met a patient on the eighth floor. He suffers from liver cancer and told me he went to church for 10 years when he was young but stopped going seven years ago. When we approached him with the good news of Jesus, he says that all is nonsense. When we asked if he

experienced any problem while attending church, he remained silent. I felt sorry for him so I just prayed that God would open his heart. Whenever I meet a person who lost the gift of God, I feel anxiety in my heart and wonder if that could happen to me. Whenever I speak with such patients, I feel sadness and sympathy that they have lost it all. In Luke 15 Just as the lost sheep when found and celebration erupted in the Kingdom, I think how much God would be delighted to find the lost sheep coming back to Him. One of the favorite hymnals we sang at the hospital is Hymn #336. I pray that the patient on the eighth floor who rejects God would come back to Him one day with remorse, repenting as the first stanza of this hymn:

Years I was caught in sin's dread snare, straying far from the fold of God.

Forgetting His grace who died for me, in vanity, proudly free.

Oh, open my heart, today. Abide in my heart to stay.

Oh, Lord, come in, be my friend and my guide, forever more to abide.

"What Kind of Life Are You Living?"

By Kyo Sang Park (College senior)



There are times in our life that we feel we are not doing much. At times, we do things that we do not enjoy. I recently turned 23 years old. There were times of joy, hardship and, at times, doing things that I hated more than dying. But there is someone who was along with me all throughout - of course, it is my God.

When I was started my military duty in November 1999, I felt just like most men who begin their military duty. Perhaps I could face reality a little more positively since I volunteered for early service. I strongly felt that I was wasting my time and losing too much of my life. I hated the fact that I had to do what I did not want and, at the same time, had to struggle with the fact that I could not do what want to do. But God gave me a different view about such things. God allowed time in my life to reflect upon Him. He changed many things about me through military service. Since I served as a Military Police officer, my experience was a bit different from others. I was on duty even on Sundays. As a result, I was forced to sacrifice attending worship services. From that experience, I

began to experience a different lifestyle. There was a desire in my heart to worship God for the first time in my life. I came to think that giving my life to God in my daily life is worshipping Him through my life. I thought worship is just about praising and praying on Sundays at church before. But I discovered that I can worship God through other means such as quiet time.

We talk about our worship as "fixed", "boring" or would say worship must be such and such. Upon looking back, such things are a reflection of our feelings about worship. The Bible is clear what is God's desire for our worship: in truth and in spirit. If there is truth and spirit in the worshiper's heart, we do not need to pay attention to form or format of our worship. That is because God has already received our true worship. We say we give our lives to God. But giving what? We give our best to God. I will give God my time, my life. That is so valuable to me. Giving time to God is equal to giving my life to Him. If our life is given to God as living worship, God will bless that person.

A Song in My Mouth:

I Will Praise Your Cup of Salvation

By Jung Woon Kim (Deacon, Fourteenth District)

I was like a sharp-edged stone. I come to the place where the sweet aroma was but did not know who Jesus was and what these praises meant. For a long time, I carried a dusted Bible and hymnal but God, according to His riches and His time, allowed me to understand the meaning of praises. When I was praising God, He would cleanse my pain, mend my wounds and show me how to repent. I could not stand still before the One who sees right through me. I could not say anything. He took away the dense fog covering my eyes and showed me the new world and His majesty. I confess that He is the only One who is worthy to receive glory and honor. He is, indeed, the master conductor. I will lift my cup of salvation and praise the name of God in joy or sorrow.

The Lord's TableBy Sook Ja Yoon
(Teacher, Kid's Department)

I thought my year would be smooth with such quiet and sincere children. I thanked God for allowing me to be a Sunday School teacher for such kids. God knows that I am a brand new teacher so He drew me to these young kids. Week after week, the kids started to show their intimacy with me through their playful actions during Bible study. Still, even though I sometimes raised my voice, they were still attentive.

Those kids became so sincere when I started talking about death in order to explain Jesus' death and His resurrection. Are the dead able to live again? Does it seem possible? When asked, they said it's impossible. But when I explained that God's son Jesus Christ died for them and lived again to save

them, their eyes were clear and I could see their hearts were challenged to accept Jesus in their heart.

When I taught children that we are to give true worship, one kid that came late to the meetings frequently changed his behavior to attend on time. I told one kid, who got into a fight with a classmate, and said to him that we are messengers of the love of Jesus. He burst into tears.

When I first started, I had struggled because I felt heavy responsibility that I needed to do something. But Jesus enabled me to confess that His grace is sufficient. I pray that all our children will grow to God's children and I thank God for the opportunity to partake in His kingdom.

Journey to Holy Land Where God's Breath was Felt



By Dong Suk Seo

(Elder, Assistant Secretary of the Session)

When I was serving at a Wangshimni church a few years ago, the senior pastor of the church called me and said, "Because Elder Seo is a seminary student, I wanted to tell you

this for long time." All seminary students should visit Israel if they have an opportunity. He said his first Holy Land trip was in his 70s and felt ashamed about misguided teaching in

his ministry. He also stressed the importance of visiting Israel. Since then, I tried to visit but was unable to. However, when this opportunity finally came, I went there to put the past behind. I started with a clear goal and purpose of the trip to experience the historical and geographical accounts of the Bible to learn and acquire Biblical knowledge. I thank God for safe travels.

Starting at Cairo, where a memorial church of Moses stands, we visited over 60 places and live and real Biblical education was available. Crossing the scorching heat of the Sinai wilderness brought an insight about how easy it was for the Israelites to grumble about the conditions and how difficult it was for Moses to lead the people. Without God's special blessing and provision, it became impossible to cross the wilderness. The rocky mountain of Sinai felt friendly remembering that this is the place where Moses received the Ten Commandments from God.

Upon our arrival in Jerusalem, we

heard many exchanges of gunfire between Palestinians and Israelis. But most tourists were calm and quiet. When walking on a road to Calvary, our hearts participated in the Lord's suffering and we burst into tears. Due to the violence in the region, it was difficult to enter Jericho at first, but we were eventually able to visit the place. Galilee, Jordan, River Bethlehem, valley of Gideon, Capernaum and Mt. Hermon were just a few of places we visited. When we came to Rome, we were astonished by the size of Peter's church. At Paul's church, we saw the stone where Paul was beheaded. Many believers kept their faith in underground Katacombe for over 300 years. Because of the challenge and commitment of Christians, we bowed our heads.

We had a great opportunity to witness the living hand of God's breath. Because it was such a precious time and a valuable opportunity was given, all of us tried our best to learn from our travels. We thank God so much for allowing us this edifying chance.

God opens our heart through His word

By Hyang Hyeon Shin

(First Young Adult Group)

These days, I felt God was distant. However, God gave me a perfect message to confront me. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

How blinded I was of God's heart! I was so ashamed of my hypocrisy thinking I knew everything about God.

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (2 Chron. 7:14).

When I realized why God gave me this verse, I understood why my prayers were not answered. God wanted me to repent of my sins and leave my wicked ways. I made excuses not to come to God under reason of studying for the teacher certificate exam. God does not need for me to pass the examination but I hardly relied on Him. I was ashamed of myself. God is glorious by nature. He does not need anything

To My Beloved Friends

By Ji Young Kang

(First Grade Teacher, Elementary Sunday School)

Guys, did you see the sky recently? The blue sky is so deep and clean. I gazed into sky for a while for its beauty. I guess you well know who made this sky and heavens. That's right. It is our Father - how wonderful! Guys, I pray that you will grow to appreciate God's wonders when you play with your friends or on the way to school. Last week, my heart was broken to see you guys fighting over something.

God loves us so much and gave His son Jesus to us to die on the cross for our sins. God must have heart-broken to see you arguing.

Hey guys, how lovely would it be to God that we love one another. If we embrace each other and care for others. We are God's precious children! Right? I will love you all the more.

Let us become God's favorite children. I love you in Jesus so much.

make Him glorious.