

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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Nothing But Prayers *Special Ongoing Dawn Prayer Meeting* *Look Out for the Resurrection Morning*

Also, Friday Praise Worship

Special dawn prayer meetings, which began in March for four weeks, will continue this week. When the nation is in turmoil and there are difficulties in the church, there can be nothing but prayers. Prayers are the most powerful tools that are entrusted to us as Christians. The ongoing special dawn prayer meetings will continue as the different districts rotate their participation. On Apr. 16, when Passion Week begins, all congregation members are encouraged to attend the Friday Praise Worship. Therefore, the Choong Hyun congregation will earnestly pray until Resurrection Sunday on Apr. 23. At the same time, intercessory prayer meetings will also continue. We should seek God's special mighty hand to rule over the church and congregation.

Missionary Eun Hee Chung: From Kenya to Sudan

Missionary Eun Hee Chung, who was in Kenya for language training, has moved to Sudan. She will serve as a long-term missionary replacing missionary Young Dae Kim who moved to Rwanda. Missionary Chung will focus her ministry with an Arab school, Youth House ministry, training short-term missionaries in Sudan and general missionary work in Sudan. Meanwhile, Missionary Joon Kyo Lee will frequently visit Sudan to assist the Ezra Bible School and local Sudanese church leadership.

Foreign Workers' Mission: *Continuous Revival, Day After Day*

The Foreign Workers' Mission is increasing every week. Dedicated and faithful teacher visits and worship services designed for worshippers from various countries are attracting foreign workers. For example, the FWM is planning to invite a Chinese pastor for the Chinese congregation. Expanding membership also calls for an increase in the simultaneous translation facility and hiring more charter buses to help them attend worship. We must continue to pray for those poor in spirit and who are away from their native lands. May the gospel message transform their lives.

Semi-Annual Spiritual Training for Districts From Apr. 6-Jun. 1; *Revival and Fellowship Through the Gospel* *Two Districts to Merge*

The semi-annual spiritual training session, held each spring and fall, will soon begin. As spring is upon us, all district members will regain strength through the training session to be held at the Choong Hyun prayer mountain. This year, the spring spiritual training session will from Apr. 6-Jun. 1. From this year, two districts will merge and train as one combined fellowship. This is to seek harmonious fellowship and spiritual revival in the church. Joint fellowship is expected to bring an active and continuous communion in the church. Spiritual training topics will include worship and seminars, table fellowship, lectures by the district pastors and an environmental clean up around the prayer mountain.

Military Evangelism Mission

The Military Evangelism Mission will sponsor a baptism ceremony that will be held at the Korean Army 30th Division, at a recruit boot camp on Sat., Apr. 1. MEM members will also visit the site and assist the baptism ceremony. MEM is also scheduling a military chaplain training seminar on Apr. 3 at the International Conference room. They will also hold nine baptism ceremonies for the Army 25th Division through December. Through the MEM, we should pray for the evangelization of our nation's armed forces.

Good Friday and Easter Sunday Choong Hyun English Ministry Seeks for Volunteers

On Good Friday, April 21, the Choong Hyun English Ministry will hold a service of scripture, meditation and prayer. We will meet quietly by candlelight and read the passion narrative: the story of Jesus suffering and death. On Easter Sunday, April 23, we will celebrate the Jesus resurrection with drama and praise. Both events need volunteers. We need seven people to read scripture on Good Friday, and 12 people to read monologues on Easter. The monologues are stories told by eyewitnesses of the gospel: Judas, Peter, a High Priest, Ciaphus, Pontius Pilot, a member of the Mob, the Thief, the Centurion, Joseph of Arimathea, Mary Magdalene, Cleopas and Thomas. The monologues do not have to be memorized, but 'actors' should practice thoroughly and read with feeling. If you would like to be a scripture reader on Good Friday or on Easter Sunday, please contact Heidi Vande Voort 3479-0356 (O) , 3479-0604 (H) or the Choong Hyun English Ministry (ext. 334)

Choong Hyun Medical Missions Night: *"A Beautiful Foundation for Missions"* At Calvin Hall on Mar. 28; All Choong Hyun Medical Practitioners Invited

The Missions Department will hold a "Choong Hyun Medical Missions Night" on Mar. 28 at 7 p.m. in Calvin Hall. All medical practitioners-doctors, nurses, pharmacists, medical technicians and students -will come together to discuss ways to reach out to the unreached by combining their professional skills. The evening will be a meaningful time to establish a united channel of medical missions and develop a foundational ground for future missions at Choong Hyun Church.

First, medical missions have proved their worth compared to other services on the mission fields. Not only do medical services easily assist people who are unreachable but it also provides a long-term mission infrastructure for those missionaries currently on the field. Moreover, medical missions can successfully support our church's mission goal of sending numerous short-term missionaries as a foundational ground. Until now, medical mission activities were handled by the Medical Evangelism Committee led by elder Churl Sohn. However, due to the medical practitioners' time constraints, opportunities to participate were sometimes limited. This meeting will bring about the best ways to gather the church's communal work for the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus. The Missions Department and Medical Evangelism Committee hopes that many medical-related personnel will participate.



by Rev. Sung Kwan Kim
Senior Pastor

AMAZING THING

(Matthew 8:1-4)

Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said "Be clean!" Immediately, he was cured of his leprosy.

When Jesus began His ministry, He went throughout all Galilee teaching in the Jewish synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and sickness among the people. This was an amazing thing! Under Jewish law, only good people or clean people were allowed to enter into the Temple or synagogues to hear the high priests or scribes preach, not unclean people and especially not lepers. The news about Him quickly spread throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all who were ill, those suffering with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, paralytics; and He healed them. Large crowds followed Him from Galilee and the Decapolis (a district, originally containing 10 cities, south of the Sea of Galilee, mainly to the east of the Jordan River) and Jerusalem and Judea and from beyond the Jordan (see Mt. 4:23-25). Unlike the high priests and scribes, who had a limited audience, Jesus attracted everybody! Seeing the crowds, He went up on the mountain and preached the now widely known and loved Sermon on the Mount (see Mt. 5-7). When He had finished, the crowds were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as their scribes (see Mt. 7:28-29). The scribes had to rely on tradition for authority; Jesus' authority was His own. Indeed, His ministry contrasted the new Way with the "old one" of the scribes and Pharisees!

Today's Scripture passage comes after Jesus' long sermon-the Sermon on the Mount. Just how long it took for Him to deliver it is unknown, perhaps hours. Nonetheless, the people weren't bored or tired. Quite the contrary, "When Jesus came down from the mountain, large crowds followed Him" (v. 1). His preaching was different. He was different. Many heard His words and took them to heart! One such person was a very sick man, "And a leper came to Him and bowed down before Him, and said, 'Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean'" (v.2). What an amazing thing! In the Jewish religion, the high priests judged whether or not someone had leprosy in order to cast them out of God's family; they never healed them (see Lev. 14). Here, a

leper comes to Jesus, bows down before Him, and requests healing. He calls out "Lord" because He believes. He believes because He heard the Word of God. He heard the Word of God because of Jesus. Amen!

Jesus didn't push the leper away, He "stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, 'I am willing; be

received of Him? So many blessings flow from the Father through Jesus to you. Do you ever think of the amazing things He did for you? If I invested \$200.00 in some new mutual fund and made \$2,000,000 in a relatively short time, everyone would look at this occurrence as an amazing thing. How many here today think that when they

Jesus' death on the cross opened the way to salvation. His blood provided the forgiveness of all sin! No one can come to the Father except through Jesus. Is there anyone who doesn't understand the phrase "no one"? It means no person. Nobody can have a relationship with God without Jesus. To know God is to know Jesus. Without Jesus, no person has any connection with God. Only Jesus provides the truth, way and life of God.

Jesus said to the leper, "See that you tell no one; but go, show yourself to the priest and present the offering that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them" (v. 4). Just imagine the stunning impact on the priest, since no record exists of any Israelite being cured of leprosy except Miriam (remember Naaman was a Gentile). What a testimony! What an amazing thing! Where the Law ended with a leper being cast away, Jesus finished with a leper being brought into God's family. This leper is now an Israelite.

He's now God's child! He is clean and free, filled with joy and the hope of eternal life.

How many times have you gone to Jesus, asked Him to cleanse you, with the desire to be God's child? How many times has Jesus responded, "I am willing, be clean"? Did you ever testify to this? Do you truly appreciate His sacrifice and blessing? Let's pause for a moment. When we come to the Lord, we pray in part, "Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done". God always gives an answer. Do you appreciate His awesome response? Are you proud to be a child of God? This is a blessing, an amazing thing! How excited are you? Do you believe that if you come to the Lord and ask Him to please forgive you that He will, and, in so doing, make you God's child? So often our minds wander to other things and we don't ponder the incredible and amazing gift of His grace. This sermon about the man with leprosy gives us tremendous spiritual power. This Word of God teaches us that between leprosy and communion with God there is the proclamation of heaven! Jesus asks us to witness to this truth. Let us join our hearts and pray, "Lord, if you are willing, cleanse me". Amen!

Wake up! God's grace that comes to you in

Christ Jesus is the most amazing thing ever!

This life is filled with amazing things,

like the birth of a child, airplanes and computers,

the special love between a man and a woman, etc.,

but none so utterly amazing

and all important as to be cleansed from sin.

cleansed.' And immediately his leprosy was cleansed" (v. 3). Isn't this amazing? If this leper had come to any other priest, the priest would have cried out, "Unclean, unclean" and asked that the sick man immediately depart. Jesus touched him and brought him into God's family. He touched him in the same way He now touches you and I. I can't think of a better way to describe the affects of Jesus' touch than to call upon the hymn which so beautifully rings with this truth, "Shackled by a heavy burden, beneath a load of guilt and shame, then the hand of Jesus touched me and now I am no longer the same, He touched me, Oh He touched me and Oh the joy that floods my soul, something happened and now I know, He touched me and made me whole."

My dear Choong Hyun friends, right now, as we stand before the Lord God, do you realize that Jesus shed His blood for you so that you could have the opportunity to be reconciled with God? Let's be honest. How many times have you, like the leper, stood before Jesus and asked of Him and

ask the Lord, "I'm a sinner, please cleanse me" and they become an Israelite, a special child of God, that this is indeed an amazing thing? Wake up! God's grace that comes to you in Christ Jesus is the most amazing thing ever! This life is filled with amazing things, like the birth of a child, airplanes and computers, the special love between a man and a woman, etc., but none so utterly amazing and all important as to be cleansed from sin.

Throughout the entire Old Testament, there's only two occurrences of someone actually being healed from leprosy-Miriam (see Num. 12:10-15) and Naaman (see 2 Ki. 5). Everyone else suffered. God made Moses' Law for our benefit, to point out the serious consequences of sin and the need for redemption. There wasn't one Old Testament saint who lived up to the Law of God. No one could but God Himself. The Son of God came to this earth not only to uphold the Law but to finish it to make it so that you and I through His grace could live in harmony with God.

Hospital Evangelism by 12th District Women's Mission

"Now, Go and I Will Teach"

By Soon Ja Lee

(Deaconess, 12th District Ludia Evangelism)



Once worked as a hospital worker with a burning vision and desire to help others. My job was aiding cancer patients, who are in a terminal stage, to prepare for their impending death and comforting the patients' families. The hospice ministry enabled me to lead the patients and their

families to think about where we came from and where we are headed. Thus, the ministry was truly a blessing. I looked after their wounds and gave careful treatments. I thanked God how He was using me as His small tool.

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" (Phil. 4:13). As Paul confessed, and by the help of the Holy Spirit who resides in me, I knew I could

have helped those people. Sometimes, I had to give strong painkillers to patients who cry out due to severe physical pain. I prayed for their salvation and God's deliverance. The patients' tears of confession soaked into my heart and I too confessed along with them that I am a sinner before God.

There was a liver cancer patient in his mid-50s. Because of a misunderstanding of Jesus, the patient was in fear of death and full of anger against God. I visited him frequently but he died without having the hope of eternal blessing in heaven. Since his death, I rebuked myself, as if his unbelief was due to my lack of effort, and so I quit the hospice ministry and stopped participating in the women's missions hospital evangelism outreach. But, God redirected my ministry as Director of Evangelism and quoted Exodus 4:12: "Now, go and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you to say."

The 12th district women's mission started its hospital evangelism from last year. Every Tuesday, we would group in pairs to visit patients with a smile and encouraging message to give spiritual peace so that they can overcome fear of physical pain. The message of hope and comfort in Jesus Christ is not only for the patients but also for us who minister to experience the true grace and faith in Him. We are all God's messengers, only though humility and sincerity, clothed in the full armor of God, we should approach to those who are in pain with the saving power of Jesus Christ.

Choong Hyun Medical Practitioner Missions Night

Lord, Use Us as a Team for Missions!

By Jung Sup Um, Reporter

On Mar. 28th, 7 p.m. at Calvin Hall, there will be a "Choong Hyun Medical Missions Meeting." This will be the first meeting for medical practitioners held by the Missions Department. It is estimated that over 100 medical professionals will attend. However, only a handful of them participate in mission activities. This may be due to difficulty in finding free time as a medical professional, but more likely due to a lack of information on how to participate. Therefore, this event is very meaningful for all medical practitioners.

Medical Mission members meet at 9 a.m. every third week for prayer meetings. Utilizing short-term missions, they will go on medical missions to



Mongolia, Pakistan, Sudan and Kenya.

Through medical missions, practitioners are finding God's special calling when they come across those poverty stricken people who never met a medical practitioner. Also, the local missionaries are greatly encouraged by the medical missions. Deacon Yu Ju Lee, who went on several short-term medical missions says, "God has a special plan for all the medical persons. I

pray that we must not forget that special privilege before God and serve Him through short-term missions." We hope the coming meeting will serve to bring all the medical personnel to lay a foundation for Choong Hyun's goal-World Evangelization.

I'm So proud of Sarang Choir

So Young Sohn (Conductor of Sa-Rang Choir)



"So difficult to lead Sarang Choir, isn't it?" "You're doing a challenging job." Many people would encourage me with words of pity when I tell them that I am a conductor of Sarang Choir, the handicapped choir. I always reply, "No, it's really fun!" We cannot praise God in fun, but I love my Sarang choir because the members do well.

Reason1: Sarang choir members memorize the hymnals. At present, we have about 20 choir members and our practice time is total 30 minutes — 15 minutes before the service and 15 minutes after the service. And we try to memorize the hymns during this time. It's not simply memorizing the hymns. We select hymns appropriate to the seasons and church calendar. When the lyrics are explained and repeated several times, the choir members memorizes the hymns like little children. The words could be memorized in a week or so but we practice the same hymn for four weeks just to make sure that everybody knows it well. So far, we have memorized about 30 hymns in which nine of them we memorized all four stanzas. We are continuing our memorization of the stanzas in other hymnals.

Reason2: The Sarang Choir arrives promptly for to choir practice. If they are late for practice time before the worship service starts, they cannot stand in choir that day. At the beginning, some members begged in tears that they wanted to sing even they were late, but now all choir members know that if they are late, they will remain seated quietly with their Sunday school class and participate in worship. And when the service is over, those latecomers will come up to me in a sad face and say "Teacher, I'm sorry for being late today. I will come early next week." I want to stop here for a second and examine ourselves: Have we not come to worship late and sought for excuses for my tardiness? Have I not come with an attitude that we can sing and praise God whenever since there are hymnals available but in our hearts there were no praise to God? Of course, most of the believers would not come to services late and sing hymnals with deep meditations about the message we sing.

Reason3: I can see that God is so pleased by our praises when I see my choir members. There are those who can read, who cannot read; those who cannot sing clearly or move mouth correctly; friends whose lip muscles are weak. However, I can sense that they are praising God with all their heart and effort. Their music may not be so perfectly tuned or someone's voice may be louder than the others — the musical perfection may be less than perfect. But, praises that are memorized and are from their heart is so beautiful. One thing I ask is not to ignore or be indifferent to these friends who try so hard. We need to remember that we are all created beings that God commanded us to "Praise!"

Hello, Brother!

Profile: Eric Kwaku Asare



Eric Asare is from Ghana while his family still lives there. His wife, Charity, works for the YMCA-Ghana. He has a son named Andrew, who is 13 years old, and daughter, Susana, aged 10. Eric is presently a student at the Torch Trinity Graduate School of Theology, located in Yangjae-dong, southern Seoul. He also studied at the Christian Service College, Ghana and Tyndale Bible College, Canada.

Before he came to Korea, he worked for the Scripture Union in Ghana as a National Director for Special Projects. He grew up in a Presbyterian church in Ghana. Since he was converted in 1967 at a Student Weekend Conference, he has been nurtured to the help of some pastors. Eric also served Trinity United Church in Ghana as president of a men's fellowship, church council member and Christian education board member.

In the Choong Hyun English Ministry, Eric serves as a bible study teacher at an adult class and anyone who wishes to have fellowship with him may come and join his class.

He can bring helpful insights for those who are planning to go to Africa as a missionary. He also can provide specific information about people in Africa and fruitful ideas for African ministry—both in the classroom and on the mission field. Eric desires to have intimate fellowship and share God's love with Korean Christians.

Bangladesh: Land of Hope

Seo Young Kim (College Group member)



prepared souls at Dhaka University through praises. Although open evangelism is prohibited, many people were led to open their hearts, through praises and

instrumental plays for the saving work of Jesus Christ. What precious souls! Our team was praying in our hearts as we saw how their closed hearts for Jesus was gradually opening. We also had a chance to visit a local church. There, we witnessed a bold church where the gospel message was proclaimed and faith was kept in the midst of severe social and political persecution. Our team was challenged and came to firmly believe the mighty working hand of God for His people and the church. Our Lord sows and grows the seeds of gospel. He allowed us to witness how He works His glorious riches in the people of Bangladesh and how His kingdom is expanded. God opened our spiritual eyes to see the poor and desolate land and, yet, this is the land of hope where His chosen people would come and He would open the doors to His kingdom.

We arrived in Dhaka, the capital city of Bangladesh, in the late evening of Feb. 8. The next day, we started our local lay ministry and campus ministry. We were divided into groups and went to people's homes for overnight fellowship. The sisters stayed at Akaci's house, who was a Hindi, but showed interest in Christianity. At the last night with her, we presented the gospel and she accepted Jesus as her personal savior. We thanked God how she began to open herself and gradually became responsive of the good news. At the beginning, however, not only did she reject the gospel but also was very critical and opposed it. The Lord granted the same grace to her as to us. He gave us the boldness and pure zeal for the lost souls despite language barriers and closed hearts against the gospel. Also, God brought to us His

Short-Term Lay Missions News From Suriname

Shalom to All Choong Hyun Members Who Pray for the Nation!

"Halica Jacuba?" This is an Indian phrase meaning, "How are you?". The Oppa (grandfather in Dutch) and Ooma (grandmother) of our church prefers using the Indian dialect to the Dutch. In addition to weekly Sunday schools, every Wednesday and Thursday at Mata and Bicinsharon we would teach children how to play the recorder and keyboard to elementary school students starting from the fourth grade. On Sundays, three short-term missionaries would take turns and tell Bible stories. Sometimes, we would give candy as a snack to these little children. If it were in Korea, it would be almost a joke to give candy as a snack but to these children it satisfied their mouths. They are so lovely. A small piece of candy can be their afternoon snack. This can be an incentive to bring them to the church. When was the last time we were satisfied with candy in our hands? This showed that we are not satisfied with what we receive but constantly ask for more. We love these Indian kids. Please continue to pray for our ministry that we can reach the spiritual thirst and needs of these children. May we proclaim the living God to them so that they may receive true joy that far exceeds their lives.

By Kyung Jin Oh, Soo Kyung Lee and Jung Eun Han

Supporting Young Sudanese as Workers of the Kingdom: Decision to Support Sudanese Ministers

Sudan is one of the poorest countries in Africa. A Muslim dictatorship controls this country. Historically, an Ethiopian eunuch - who was converted through Philip in the book of Acts - is known to be the forefather of today's Sudan. This is because Ethiopia in those days was equivalent to today's Sudan. Thus, in a museum at Karthoum - Sudan's capital - there are numerous instances that Sudan once was a Christian country. God is using the Choong Hyun church to build the base camp for the entire African missions.

Our church sent Mohammed Sala Romadan, who is from north Sudan, to the Reformed Theological Seminary in Uganda to grow as a Sudanese spiritual leader. Also, our church has decided to support six Sudanese believers - Thomas Tutu, John Shol, Abraham, Steven, John Wial and David Daeng - to educate and nurture them so they can also become spiritual leaders. They are presently staying and training at the Youth House, which is operated by Missionary Eun Hee Chung, and is supported and maintained by our church. These six brothers play a leading role in the Sudanese church. Continuous intercessory prayers are asked for God's hand over our church to help these brothers and the Sudanese churches.

Visitation: Sri Lanka Day



The Foreign Workers' Mission selected Feb. 27th as "Sri Lanka Day" and special programs were held. They played a comical skit that earned much applause for showing how a non-believing foreigner comes to believe Jesus. Evangelist Tae Kyu Oh preached in Sri Lankan and after the lunch, a Sri Lankan specialty - Ceylon tea - was served to all FWM brothers and sisters. Praises and worship dances in their own languages was very meaningful in that it testified how they are born-again Christians who accepted Jesus as their Savior. The FWM will continue to select one day every month for a country to boost its foreign mission work.

God's Love Toward Sri Lanka

By Ka Mini

(Sri Lanka Translator, Foreign Workers' Mission)

In the Foreign Workers' Mission, there are several teams represented by different countries. The Sri Lankan team was once numerous but membership has steadily declined. The church, teachers and remaining Sri Lankan brothers and sisters could not but pray in tears before God because of the departures. Then, on the last Sunday of January, our pastor announced that Feb. 27th will be "Sri Lanka Day." I rejoiced in my heart.

It was God's answer to my prayers for those lost souls. The Sri Lankan team began to prepare skits, praises, worship dances and Sri Lankan food with joy in our hearts and, in the process, we found many gifted talents in our brothers and sisters.

Also, despite the challenges and offers for evangelism, most of us were passive about reaching out to others. But "Sri Lanka Day" enabled our friends to call up others and we were able to meet those long lost friends. I could see what God wants

for Sri Lanka through the Choong Hyun church. I saw the love of God for Sri Lanka through our teachers' fervent efforts even late in evening to reach those lost ones.

Feb. 27 finally came. Many new friends came for the event and they heard the saving good news of Jesus Christ and praised God and some came to accept Jesus as their savior. I cried, "Only Glory to God!" I was confessing my faith and, with seven other nationalities present, we were all praising God and could feel our praises echoing up to God's kingdom. "Save all our brothers and sisters!" The event was over by the grace of God.

I think setting a day for a country to share its culture so that people can invite their lost friends to the event is a sure way to fulfill a step closer to the forth goal of Choong Hyun church - "World Evangelization." I thank our Senior Pastor Rev. Sung Kwan Kim; all the elders; senior deaconesses who prayed for the Foreign Worker's Mission in their secluded prayer rooms; and our teachers. I ask you for more prayers. I pray that more Sri Lankan brothers and sisters who are in Korea will come worship God at church and be saved through Jesus. I pray the revival that is happening in Korea may also happen in Sri Lanka. I also pray for God's richest blessings on "Mongolia Day" slated for Mar. 19.