

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)

Place of Publication : Choong Hyun Church
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Fifth National Church Choral Leaders' Seminar

Starting with an opening worship service on Aug. 9, the Fifth National Church Choral Leaders Seminar ended a four-day session. Organized by Praise Committee of our church, the seminar was attended by about 200 people from all regions of Korea and also by conductors, accompanists, and other Choong Hyun members. The seminar included general lectures, elective lectures, evening praise rallies, praise during the Friday evening worship, chorus competition, and other activities. Many participants acknowledged that it was a chance to not only learn music theories and practices, but also deepen the spirituality of praises of God. The nationwide choral seminar was established to assist church choirs in small churches, and its function to provide praise leaders more opportunities of learning. It hoped that this seminar would help people to praise God with more clarity and purity.

Summer Retreat for Senior Deacons and Deaconesses

The Senior Deacons and Deaconesses Assembly will have their summer retreat at the Choong Hyun Retreat Center from Aug. 14-16, and will invite wives and husbands of senior deacons and deaconesses. The theme is "The Gospel and the Kingdom of God" which could be meaningful since Korean Independence Day is around the ear. This retreat will include the bible-reading service, special lectures, group activities, mountain prayer and other activities. It is expected to strengthen the spirituality of deacons and deaconesses by experiencing the love of God, the grace of Jesus, and the fullness of the Holy Spirit. Speakers will be Rev. Seung Soo Lee, Rev. Chil Soo Cho, Elder Kwang Heon Noh, and Elder Jung Heon Oh.

Mongol Mission Team Departed on Aug. 10

The Mongol short-term mission team has left on Aug. 10, for a 10-day mission trip. There are 16 team members led by Elder Moo Chun Yim and Rev. Jong Dae Yi. For their ministry, they will visit the families of Mongolian laborers who currently work in Korea and attend our church, and hold a revival rally as well as street evangelism. In addition, they will select particular regions for evangelism and carry out one-to-one evangelism. Members will also go to local colleges and meet students on their campuses for evangelism purposes. Above all, they are going to survey the area so that we may establish a foundation for further consistent mission in Mongolia. Please pray for them and their ministry during this mission trip.

A Suggestion for a Blessed Worship Service

For an even more blessed worship service, one suggestion is to take notes of the week's sermon. Since we need to remember the message to apply it in our daily lives, writing it down will be more effective than simply listening to it. It is obvious that taking notes helps us to remember things and also reinforces our understanding of the message. From September, the church is going to publish a new type of quiet time booklet, The Choong Hyun Manna, which will contain empty pages for taking notes. Let's start a new habit to taking notes while listening to sermons.

Schedule of Fourth Baptism and Catechism Questions, 2000

Date	Time	Catechumens	Location	Baptism and Conversion	Location	Infant Baptism	Location
8/13 (Sun.)	Per.1	Introduction to Bible	Education	Theology of Church	Education		
	15:00	by	Building	by	Building		
	15:50	Rev. Hyun M. Chung	#314	Rev. Gap S. Chung	#307		
	Per.2	Christology	Education	Baptism	Education		
8/20 (Sun.)	16:00	by	Building	by	Building		
	16:50	Rev. Hae S. Chung	#314	Rev. Byung T. Kim	#307		
	Per.1	Introduction to	Education	Soteriology	Education	Infant Baptism	Education
	15:00	by	Building	by	Building	by	Building
8/27 (Sun.)	15:50	Rev. In S. Kim	#407	Rev. Jong D. Lee	#307	Rev. Hyung J. Chun	#314
	Per.2	Catechism	Location		Location		
	16:00	Questions of	Depending on	Questions	Depending on		
	16:50	Catechism	Parish		parish		
8/27 (Sun.)	Evening	Catechism and Baptism for Adults			Infant	3 p.m., Gaillee Hall	
	service	(Sunday Evening Worship service, Main Sanctuary)			Baptism		

Sweating Life

by Rev. Byoung Hee Ryu

The summer has been extremely hot and humid. I bet many people want to go to some beach or river and jump in the cold water to enjoy themselves. Yet, I see many young people going down to rural areas and working for the gospel. My admiration toward them is endless. A lot of kids make money by working part-time jobs or saving their allowances and go on summer travels to different places. However, our young men have chosen to sweat for their neighbors and the gospel of the Lord. I believe their sweating faces teach us very valuable things. The looks of their committed labor

for the Lord is such a beautiful artistic painting in front of us.

Through this year's college group ministry, our college kids showed their devoted and joyful hearts, is establishing a bright future for our church. They are not like those who believe in worldly compromise. Most people in this age would compromise with unrighteous things for money. Yet, our youngsters must be taught the way of integrity and faithfulness. We must teach them about labor through sweat and tears; it is true happiness of human beings. "Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy (Psalms 126:5)."



by Rev. Sung Kwan Kim
Senior Pastor

WHO ARE YOU?

(1 Corinthians 2:10-13)

“We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God,
that we may understand what God has freely given us.”

The basic answer to this question is a human being. However, did you know that there are two types of human beings? The Bible teaches us that there are natural and spiritual humans. A natural human being is a person who cannot understand the Spirit of God. A spiritual human being is a person who accepts and understands God's spirit. So, the question, who are you, is really about which kind of human you have chosen to become. Are you a natural individual or a spiritual individual? A natural person follows and relies on the ways of the world. A spiritual person follows and relies on the Holy Spirit. As a Christian, do your words and actions reflect the Spirit of God or the spirit of this world? Are you a person who is willing to let God's Spirit, the Holy Spirit, totally work on you?

Too many Christians misunderstand the revealing ministry of the Spirit. Instead of dying to self, their lives are entangled in the dangerous web of the world. They hopelessly and tirelessly struggle to mix human wisdom with God's Spirit. Day after day they experience inner-conflict, and wonder why there's no lasting peace in their lives. Today's Bible passage emphasizes the fundamental aspect of the Gospel. It explains that from God you receive the grace of God, and that the grace of God is what helps you to understand God's secrets. God's secrets are revealed through His Spirit, not through man's power.

Actually, the fundamental message of the Gospel is simple and clear. Whoever has natural character lives through their own worldly way. They depend on the world, and the values that come from it. They derive their happiness from worldly things. Whoever has spiritual character lives through the Spirit's way. They depend on God, and value the things of eternity. They obtain happiness living by, for and with everything from the Holy Spirit. In other words, humans have only two ways of living—in the natural or in the spiritual. There's no in between! When we look at 2 Corinthians 5:17, we read, “Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.” Isn't that powerful? The grace of God makes a new creation, a spiritual person, which results in a changed way of life.

The Holy Spirit teaches nothing but God. He enables, equips and empowers you only with the truth of God. “For to us God revealed them

through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God” (v. 10). God had revealed His wisdom through His Spirit. Do you believe it? The Spirit even makes known the deep things of God. What are the deep things of God? These not worldly things. The depths of God deal with the free gift of heaven—Jesus Christ. God freely gives to you His Son, and through Him eternal life. His free gift allows you to communicate with Him, and He with you. Whoever has these deep things not only communicates with God, but is bounded with Him as one. There is unity between you and God because of the Holy Spirit's teachings.

One of the saddest matters is when Christians use worldly language, worldly thought processes in their lives. Sometimes they use spiritual language, but the end result is still their own worldly language. Thinking like that is a big mistake. Spiritual thinking and worldly thinking are two separate components. They are not compatible or interchangeable. Every time you talk, you need to appreciate God's blessings. A Christian's life is about spiritual things, and therefore, requires spiritual talk. If you focus on worldly things, you can't think about the spiritual and deep things of God. You're unable to talk spiritually.

Natural wisdom is totally against spiritual truth. Spiritual people understand the truth of God. Natural people cannot understand the truth of God; they can only understand natural reasoning. “For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the spirit of God” (v. 11). Those who have the Holy Spirit can know the thoughts of God. Those who don't have the Holy Spirit can't know the thoughts of God. Natural people are proud of worldly wisdom. To them, it looks like God's idea.

Spiritual people accept spiritual truth. Natural people cannot accept such truth. The worldly spirit works within natural man. For them, the principle is natural wisdom, which is away from God's wisdom. Those who stand opposed to worldly wisdom are God's people. They are believers of God, not the world. In them, the Holy Spirit works miracles. God can reveal His secrets to those who possess His Spirit. “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God” (v. 12). Amen!

Christians don't teach God's truth with human wisdom. The things which they receive from God's Spirit are “not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words” (v. 13). Do you believe this? Christians don't mix spiritual thought with human wisdom. Do you really understand this truth? Who are you? Are you God's child? Have you seen what God showed to you or do you rely on those in the world who are famous, highly respected and experienced follow? Do you really communicate with God, or do you interrupt His Spirit? Are you applying His Word in your life? Are you discerning the differences between the wisdom of God and the wisdom of humans?

The real truth of wisdom has to be taught by the Holy Spirit, not human wisdom. The Spirit of God is the absolutely perfect teacher. This great teacher researches all things, which humans are unable to do. This great teacher teaches God's people. Natural people can't figure it out! The works of God can't be understood by humans, only the Spirit of God knows them — only the Spirit of God can reveal them.

The Gospel manifests the favor and fellowship of God. It reveals the assurance of sonship and the promise of heirship. It shows the divine truth and imparts divine grace. Amen! Jesus Christ made His own people wisely, righteously and holy. He made them His redemptive people. The privileges of Christians are that they have wonderful joy and an eternal future. They can rejoice in the face of all adversity. Their eyes can see the works of God, their ears can hear the mighty voice of God and their hearts can feel the presence of God! Everything is above things, which God Himself made.

Who are you? Are you a true believer? Is your life under the control of the Holy Spirit? I challenge you, my dear friend, to re-evaluate your manner of thinking. Do you combine natural and spiritual wisdom? Listen carefully to God's words. Accept them. Obey them. The Gospel has taught you, simply and clearly, the deep things of God. Only the Holy Spirit can reveal God's truth. What grace! I really deeply cry out, to you today—please fellow Choong Hyun members, be a spiritual person. Let God's grace define you, and guide you toward the deep things of God. 



Valuable Heart for Little Souls

by Reporter Jung Suh Um

Whenever I see adorable kids singing praises in the front yard of the church, it reminds me of a new beginning on Sunday morning with the birds singing. We hear their tiny voices praising in the church echoing all over the places. There are teachers with a vision to those voices to make this church more lively.

The First and Second Elementary School Division teachers go out for outdoor evangelism to the Non Hyun, Hak Dong and Do Gok Elementary Schools at noon on Saturdays. They used to search some for a better way to bear evangelical fruits, and this evangelism was then initially started by Deacon Yong Hee Chang and Deaconess Jae Soon Han. It has been five weeks now, and they mostly talk to first and second graders, acting in group with four people. One person writes down their names, addresses and phone numbers, so they could ask their parents permission for children to attend at church. Two other teachers talk to kids about the gospel, write the other member makes a presentation about our church. They don't simply tell children to come: since kids are too young to come by themselves,

teachers take them to the church every Sunday morning.

Youth minister Young Ki Kim says, "The younger they are, the more likely they are accept to the gospel. There are many examples of those who received the gospel at an early age and later became great believers when they grew up." Many unbelieving families are open to the gospel because of their kids going to the church. Elder Ui Mahn Hwang says that the evangelizing teachers happened to meet not only first and second graders, but students of other ages, and suggests some kind of joint evangelism with other Sunday school departments to bring them to church.

There are some requests by the teachers in charge of educating our future church workers. They would like an area where students can board and get off from a bus in order to attend Sunday school. Providing shuttle bus service to pick up children who live too far away from the church would also be helpful. I see that these teachers are the ones who have realized the value of young souls and worked for them in silence.

Heart for Uganda

by Yong Dong Chung



Have you ever been chosen for "Christ only"? Fourteen people - Elder Ui Mahn Mahn, Rev. Byung Hee Ryu, Senior Deaconess Soon Lim Cho, Deacon Hyun Ki Hong, nine college students and one high school student - left for Uganda.. Since we started praying for the nation, there have several difficulties in our ministry. Satan tried to frustrate us every step of the way. Yet, we know that God has so much grace to work through many souls, - including ours - in Uganda. Naturally, we all give thanks to God for his calling and striving environment to train us.

In April, we started our first meeting for the Uganda short-term mission, and our hearts have been passionate for the lost souls there. We

were first new to one another, but now have become such valuable friends working together and praying for each other. Just looking at each other makes us to pray with a thankful heart.

At first, we only thought about giving and sharing with them, since Uganda is a poor

country. Yet, the Lord wants us to be poor just like them in nakedness and poverty, as we throw away everything that hinders our obedience and devotion to God. We make a resolution before God to completely pour out His great love and grace on to the land of Uganda.

Please pray for the following:

1. For our full spirituality of mission team members;
2. Hearts to be renewed in love toward souls in Uganda;
3. Leaders to have wisdom and insight;
4. Safety during the entire mission trip (Aug. 3-16); and
5. Our unity.

God Will Change You

by Jung Min Kim



Dear Min,

The rainy season has begun, and so does our summer ministry. Last time when we talked on the phone, I couldn't say anything for you and your suffering heart. At least, it is great to write you a letter like this. Whenever I see you, I remember what the Apostle Paul said to the Philippians church. "I thank my God every time I remember you, Min, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for Min..." That's right, Min! I was so happy to see you slowly stepping forward God.

Now I want to tell you my story. It was last summer, and my team and I went to an

unknown islet for ministry. It was in the middle of the rainy season, and we could hardly sleep at night because of the downpour. Since it was an islet, the place lacked water so we couldn't shower at all. The humid weather and terrible conditions were enough to frustrate us. Yet, we were able to overcome all those obstacles by caring for others. We met various people there: one who used to misinterpret the Bible by himself; one with a crippled leg from an accident; an old mother whose son died during his years in seminary; and another person who had a long hatred and anger toward God. We could hardly meet someone without any pain at all; everyone had their own story.

During my time there, I was attracted by a pastor working there. Everyone in the islet appreciated the pastor, and he knew about every family and each circumstances and stories. As praying together with him, my love toward their souls grew. Without trusting in God, it was impossible for us to overcome storms and help people in pain. All we can do was completely depend on God. In fact, there wasn't enough time to embrace all of their scars.

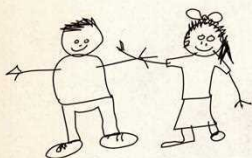
Yet, God's blessings overflowed among our team members. We had one member who could not really pray. He used to stay silent during prayer time, or used to leave early when we had an individual praying session. He told us that he didn't know what to pray, and had nothing to pray for. I wondered how this kind of person could come all the way down here. Miraculously, God worked in him.

After the ministry, we continued our prayer meetings. He later made some important changes in his life. He used to choose something more convenient for himself, but then began to think about times for meeting God prior than any other businesses.

One day, he said that he wouldn't drink anymore because it hindered him from having QT the next morning: You don't know how happy I was to hear him. I sometimes thought of him in the middle of night and give thanks to God for changing him. Nothing can be more rewarding than watching a soul growing before God.

I am hopeful, that if God can change him, He can also change you, Min. I am sure you will experience how much God loves his own people on this earth.

A Little Thief



by Joseph Kwon

It's been very busy since I joined the short-term mission team. Every team member was working, and at the same time, they devote their energy and time on the mission trip. It was quite stressful, but no one ever outwardly expressed it. Every meeting was full of laughter, and I thought it was a blessing to see all these happy people preparing for the trip.

One day, we were having our usual meeting joyful - and I guess the devil was jealous. We were practicing body worship in Bethany Hall, sweating and laughing. Suddenly, a noise came from the office where we kept our bags and purses. Then, someone screamed, "My wallet!" and another yelled, "Get 'em!" That moment was chaotic. We checked our bags and purses, and learned that some money was missing. All of us went outside searching for the thief. We were no longer sweating for practice and laughter, but for anger and doubt. Later, two 13-year-old girls were discovered, and we were suspicious of them. We kept interrogating them so that they

might confess. Everyone was yelling at those kids. They strongly denied the accusations. I was concerned that we might have picked the wrong people. However, we were so sure about it, and kept questioning them. Then, it seemed we were no more Christians, but just regular grown-ups.

At that moment, I thought my father, who used to be a pastor. There was a thief who often came into my father's library and stole things from it. Then, my father wrote a letter to that robber one day. The next day, nothing was missing except the letter, and there were no more thefts. Recalling that incident, I compared myself to my father back then. Suddenly, one of them started crying and said, "I did it because my family was so poor." Yeah, she was only a little girl. Even though she stole things from others, she was just a little girl.

How did we react to them for those few minutes? When I was a little kid, I stole a bar of chocolate; of course, I got busted right away. Then, the storeowner gently talked to me and even gave me that chocolate. But ... what did I do to those girls? I felt so ashamed of us. Everyone felt the same way, and we gave them a warm hug with smile and some snacks to eat. Then, we listened to their story - a story of a mean stepmother, domestic violence, alienation and leaving home; it was terrible and sad. One of us handed them some money and we all showed our true compassion. Well, I felt better about it. I hope that they saw how Christians should be - though it wasn't enough. In choosing, we prayed for the girls and returned to our work. In my prayer I said, "Please, let them grow in love and care of God. Make them God's people."

Marks of the Holy Spirit

by Sook Ja Chung

It was a typical hot summer day. The cross of the church stands out in the middle of town, and the neighborhood is tranquil and peaceful. There are about one hundred households surrounding the church. We organized four teams, with two to three people in each team, and knocked one very door to evangelize. I remember an old lady who at first resisted the gospel because of her Buddhist faith. However, she opened her heart and even treated us with cool water in her house. There was also an old man who welcomed us and said that he was waiting for us when we told him, "Come and believe in Jesus, and we'll give you acupuncture and a haircut, too." When we went out for street evangelism after preparing only with prayers, everyone was waiting for us with open hearts. It was just amazing. Many people showed clear indications of the work by the Holy Spirit. An old lady who suffered their paralysis for three years, and her husband who spent most of his time, money and energy ... After praying with a sincere heart and giving her acupuncture, we could see that the lady was able to move her arms and walk much better. During the evening revival rally, she stood up deciding to accept Jesus. Later, we visited the lady and conducted a home

service. This family turned away from Buddha to Jesus. Her husband also came to church the next Sunday, and he even promised that he would love to bring more people to church. Praise the Lord!

A 28-year-old woman suffers from mental disease lives with her mother who had been suffering chronic illness. This family was largely devastated by demons. Our evangelism team visited that house and praised for hours, sharing the gospel as well. This family also eventually came to church.

There is one more story to share. It was in the middle of the sermon by Rev. Sung Ki Yeo. He said "Water tastes so good in this town, just live the taste of your kindness. Our Jesus is the water of everlasting life. He springs out himself as if cool water." An elderly woman was carefully listening to his sermon, and she got up immediately and said that she would like to accept Jesus. An old man sitting by her also told us that his condition was not good enough to stand up, but that he would believe in the gospel and attend the church from now on. We visited the homes of new believers and headed to Seoul. We had forgotten about the hot weather, because of our eagerness for evangelism. There were some members in our evangelism team who had to bring their medication along the trip because of their physical condition. Nonetheless, they were active participants. Besides, we cannot forget our friends who remained in Seoul and supported us with prayer. Most of all, I could not forget to admit that the Lord did everything for our ministry trip. I pray that the gospel may reach many people as quickly as possible to those who are called out by the voice of the Lord.



The Gospel for Shamans

by Sook Jung Han

Parish 16 went to Yae-ji Church located at Ha-dae 1 Ku, Kaeryong Country in Kongju. It is a church established in an area that most shamans in Korea feel proud of. Our mission team started our prayers for

this ministry since the beginning of the year, and also organized a relay fasting among team members on Jul. 10. We took "The Four Steps of Salvation" as our evangelizing model and also printed out extra handouts containing

the message of the gospel. After finishing our relay fasting and prayer, all the parish families prayed together fasting between Jul. 17-19.

In the bus to Kaeryong Mountain, I had difficulty staying calm. On the first day, we provided acupuncture service for local residents. The next day, we gave residents a haircut service. The front yard of the church was filled with people who wanted their hair cut among other barber services. We tried to visit door-to-door on the first day, but it was not successful because most people were working in the field then.

On the second day, we decided to join them. Then, the work of God began in the morning of the third day. Rev. Hyun Min Chung was visiting 30 shamans' houses and evangelized to them. On the way, Rev. Chung met a powerful shaman at Blue Dragon Stone. The shaman told the pastor that she used to go a Methodist church and a Presbyterian church and boasted that she has one thousand disciples under her control. The pastor sometimes

urged with gentleness and other times spoke with boldness. As he kept persuading her to accept Jesus, the shaman finally repeated the prayer of receiving Jesus, and we all praised the Lord for one soul's return. When we walked into the church, bringing in the former shaman, everyone was surprised and said that over two hundred people used to come together just to meet her and receive her oracle.

Before this evangelism, the Yae-ji Church had 12 people not counting the pastor's family. During that period, however, 23 people were brought into the Yae-ji Church, and there were 94 people who delayed accepting the gospel but were receptive. Yet, there were 14 people who avoided us when we tried to tell them about "The Four Steps of Salvation", and 17 people who simply walked away from us even before having said a word. We witnessed the gospel to 148 people during our mission trip. We give thanks to God who granted us the great blessings through this evangelism trip.