

GOALS

Godly Worship Service
Raising Kingdom Workers
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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Choong Hyun Children's Park

A Place of Joy to Play and Share the Gospel

It is hard to miss these days the cheeriness brought to Choong Hyun's neighborhood by way of the two new parks established nearby. Before these parks were built, it was rare to see children playing nearby. But now, children can be seen playing about regularly and almost every morning adults come out for morning exercise. Even some youth and young adults can be seen talking to the elderly who come to the park, sharing the good news with them about Jesus Christ. These two parks provide a place of rest and play, but also a good opportunity to meet others and share the gospel with them. Then these others can know the true rest and joy that comes from knowing Christ.

Sending Bookbags to Kenya

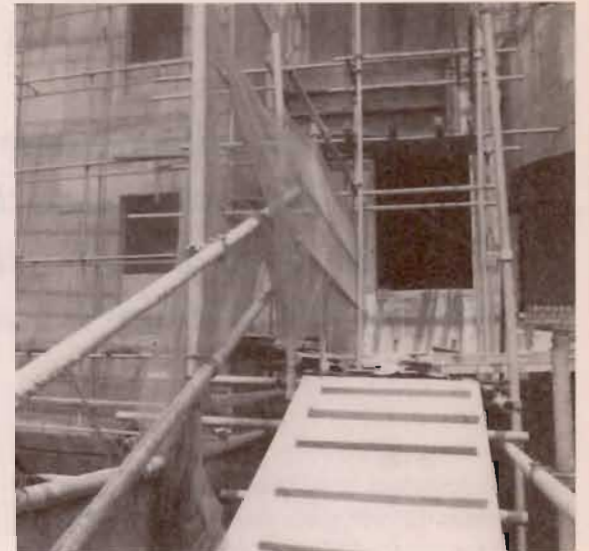
The First Education Department has decided to send bookbags to Kenya, where Missionary Eun Bin Goh is currently working. The bags will be sent to an elementary school there. The department will collect both new and second hand ones. When they have enough, they will ship them to Kenya.

The elementary students in Kenya generally carry their books in plastic bags. So, the need for the bookbags is clearly evident. The department is encouraging all church members to gather any bookbags they are not currently using to donate to this program. For more information, please contact the First Education Department Office.

Expansion of the Choong Hyun Welfare Center Building

To Be Completed in Early July

The Building Committee started the expansion of the Welfare Center on December 5th. It is to be completed this July. At this point, it is at about 65% completion. This building will be equipped with a bathroom for the handicapped, an assembly room for the handicapped to work within and an expanded parking lot. Many disabled people may come to register this June for the fine programs offered, while learning about the word of God.



'99 Second Semester Evangelism Institute Begins Training

The Missions Department has begun their second semester of training as of May 12th with an enrollment of 30 students. Many of these students are from Choong Hyun and others have joined from other congregations to participate in this important training. Pray they will be attentive and grow in maturity of faith and understanding of their calling to missions.

All Pastors and Elders Prayer Meeting

At Choong Hyun Presbyterian Church
May 17th-19th

The 36th Annual All Pastors and Elders Prayer Meeting was held from May 17th-19th. The theme was "Renew the Power." Beyond Choong Hyun participants, many other elders and pastors attended from all over Korea. It was a blessed and successful meeting. All the attendants were encouraged by the messages and prayer time together.

'99 United Young Adults

To The World As One Body 20-Somethings Gather Together

Saturday, May 29th and Sunday, May 30th

The Young Adults I will hold events for the '99 United Young Adults from May 29-30. This is to encourage the young adults to identify themselves in their Christianity as being part of one body, to promote revival, strengthen them to carry out short-term mission work in July and August and to take part in countryside evangelism.

The group will hold a flea market, bake sale and temporary coffee shop on Saturday, the 29th. These are designed to raise awareness about missions and collect financial support for the summer short-term missions planned. If the turnout is good, this will be a great encouragement to this group of young people.

The flea market will be held Saturday beginning at 1pm at the back of the Main Sanctuary. The goods will include stationery, books, electronic kitchen appliances, furniture, accessories, gardening products and clothing. Donations will be taken from May 9th to the morning of the 29th. The donations can be dropped off at the Businessmen's Evangelism Office in the Education Building, 1st floor. Contact Deacon Sueng Kyu Jang at 011-227-7777 or the President Eun Sook Song at 017-265-4960 for more information. The coffee shop and bake sale will be held in Manna Hall on May 29th, beginning at 1pm. Homecoming Day will be held on May 30th from 11am at the Education Building, in room 507.



by Sung Kwan Kim
Reverend

TRINITY

(John 16:12-15)

Jesus loves His disciples. You can feel just how much he wants to tell them all the secrets and revelation of God's truth in today's Scripture passage. He knew that He would soon die and that His death would give life to those who believe in Him; to those who trusted in God's great plan of salvation. How strong His desire was to pass on this life transforming information to those whom He held so close! He plainly told them, "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now" (v. 12). Such important things He had to share with them; only He couldn't because they were unable to understand.

These important things wouldn't become clear to the disciples until after His resurrection glory. Until

1:14). The Word became flesh. God sent Jesus. And it's Jesus who says, "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now" (v. 12). People couldn't fully understand Jesus. That's why Jesus tells us that another 'He' will come to us and guide us in the things we need. Jesus tells us specifically what 'He', the Spirit of truth, will do, "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you" (v. 14). The wonderful Spirit of truth will give us Jesus' teachings and everything else that relates to Him.

Even more importantly, Jesus tells us, "All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you" (v.15). Here

Here is convicting evidence for the trinity of God: one God (the name) who subsists in three Persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). Each of the three is distinguished from the others; each possesses all the divine attributes; yet the three are one. The sun, sunlight and the power of the sun may come close to a suitable illustration but only the Holy Spirit can truly reveal this mystery to us.

Let's look at another biblical passage that supports the Trinity, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all" (2 Cor. 13:14). Is not this a clear witness to belief in the Trinity? Paul received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and completely understood God's truth and recorded His truths in many of the books in the New Testament - including this one!

Now you understand when we say God, we refer to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit came! When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth. Not by His own initiative but through the glorious harmony of God. This trinity is so important for this earthly life. Through our experience we come to know God as the creator of life and the Father of Jesus. Jesus reveals the Father to us. Even though Christ dies, the Holy Spirit ministers the real truth of His death. We see life! He reveals the whole story of God's salvation plan from Genesis to Revelation. He gives us the faith and guidance we need, "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you" (vs. 14). He illuminates for us the honor and glory and everything divine about the Trinity. He gave us God's secret revelation.

God gave us His living Word - His Son - who is the truth, life and way. And through faith in Christ we receive His Holy Spirit that enables us to understand all things. In the Old Testament the Word is sometimes like a whisper; just think of Elijah and how he talked with the Word as a gentle blowing. In

"...I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you" (v.15)

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the Spirit of truth - the glorious Holy Spirit!

Without His guidance we cannot understand the Trinity.

that time, Jesus told them, "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come" (v. 13). The word 'But' is a very big word that reveals a secret of God. The disciples weren't capable of God's full revelation but this secret they would be able to understand. Jesus tells them that 'He'; which is not an 'it' or inanimate object but a Person, will guide them into all truth and uncover the whole picture of what is to come. These things include the meaning of Christ's death and resurrection as well as things yet in the future concerning His resurrection, the Christian life, and His return. Indeed, this is one of the greatest messages to sinners!

The disciples and others heard Jesus spoke directly from God the Father. They saw it happen but they didn't understand it. They weren't able to fully grasp the overall significance of this event. God gave us His Word. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. He said, "Let there be light" and there was light (cf. Gn. 1:3). Then God established His Word so that humans could hear, worship, and glorify Him. Sadly, people still juggled about and made God an external part of their life instead of an internal part. They could hear the sound of God's Word but they couldn't see it. The Old Testament saints had to die in order to see God's Word.

So from the beginning, people were able to hear God's Word but not completely understand it. What happened? "And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth" (Jn.

we can see the all importance of the Spirit of truth - the glorious Holy Spirit! Without His guidance we cannot understand the Trinity. We cannot see how the Father is God, Jesus Christ is God, and the Spirit is God. We can't personally know our one and only God in three Persons without the Person of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit brings together the truth of God's triune deity and our need to know God in this way. He opens our eyes and hearts to see God's Word and to fully understand God's grace and mercy.

And through faith in Christ we receive His Holy Spirit that enables us to understand all things.

Over the last twenty centuries, the doctrine of the Trinity has undergone many debates, arguments, and battles within the Church. It is one of the Church's main doctrines because of its deepest truth. It's also one of our best confessions of Christian faith. Sometimes it becomes perplexing because of its nature. For the Trinity can show up like water and run anywhere; or it can show up like vapor and rise all around; or even like a solid and firmly take hold. This wonderful doctrine that shakes so many in the Church is more of an internal problem than an external one.

Let's look very closely at Jesus' final words prior to His ascension, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit" (Mt. 28:19).

the New Testament, the Holy Spirit showed an adulterous woman her sin and need of forgiveness and Jesus forgave her. Now, in today's passage through the Holy Spirit we receive the richest life! We meet God through His Word, through Jesus, and understand the whole thing through the Holy Spirit.

Today is Trinity Sunday. The Holy Spirit leads us into all truth. His spiritual guidance opens our hearts to see the works of God and reveals His mysterious secrets to us everyday. Not through His own doings but through the doings of the harmony of God - the Lord of Lords - our Savior! Let's glorify God the Father, Son, and Spirit. For without One, God cannot save us. Amen!



A Poet's Evangelism

By Eun Yang Kim
(Deaconess, 2nd district)

Once upon a time there was a poet who loved Jesus. He often wrote poems to praise God and usually enjoyed singing them too. One day one of his friends visited him while he was praising God by the river. His friend asked the poet, "Hey, my friend, who is Jesus? You are always praising Him!" He replied, "He is so wonderful and holy that He gave His own life to save people from their sins." "Oh really? Asked the friend, "How did you meet Him?" The poet said, "Are you interested in meeting Him?" The friend answered, "Yes, I would love to." The poet said, "O K, come with me." The poet took his friend to a church. "Where is He?" the friend asked. The poet did not answer, but encouraged his friend to sit down. He said, "Come sit here and repeat after me." The poet started to pray, "Jesus, I am a sinner. I do not know where I came from nor where I will go. From now on, I will follow you and believe in you. Please, save me. I pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen." The friend repeated every single word the poet said. The poet then said to him, "Now open your eyes, I finished the prayer." The friend replied, "Could you leave me alone for a while? I feel so peaceful. I have never had this kind of inner peace my heart before."

Yes, we all have this great gift from Jesus Christ to lead others to Him. It is spring; a good season to go out and meet people. Now is also a good opportunity to share the gospel. Our daily deeds will be a great witness to introduce Jesus Christ to people around us.

A Missionary Daughter

By Jin Shil Kim (Young Adult 1)

To my Mom and Dad who are in the Republic of South Africa:

I am glad to write you, Mom and Dad. I have learned a lot since you left for South Africa. I was excited to some degree with the fact that I could do many things that I really wanted to do while you were away. But, I quickly realized how much I miss you, Mom and Dad. As a daughter, I started to understand how hard it is for a mom of a family to do all the housework, cooking, cleaning and caring of the children.

I have now learned how to do laundry, such as separating colored clothes from white ones and to wash them separately. I have also learned how to clean house even though I am not as good at it as Mom. It is very funny to me that I miss Mom's scolding. I often think that if Mom saw what I was doing, I wonder what she would say? Would she admire me or scold me? I, myself, have now become a scolding person just like Mom. I intervene at every single little thing happening at home like Mom used to do. Sometimes I feel like I became a mom for my sister and brother. It makes me laugh.

I saw a drama on TV the other day. There was a scene in which a whole family sat at the table together and had dinner. It reminded me of the "mystery soup" which Dad cooked for us when

Mom was sick. I called it "mystery soup" because I had never seen soup like that before. Unsliced potatoes, hand-cut green onions, bean sauce and chili sauce, combined in a way no one could imitate or cook. I do not remember the flavor, but I do remember that somehow we ate it all. We all must have been very hungry. Since then, I have become a more flexible person about food.

I mailed a gift for Mom. I am still looking for one for Dad. Actually, the other day, I went to the market to buy a tie for Dad. I spent a lot of time to try to find a South African-style tie. I even had a long talk with a woman who runs a tie shop to find a place where I might find a good tie for Dad.

Recently, I saw some carnations through the window of a flower shop. This made me miss you, Mom and Dad. I really do miss you, Mom and Dad. However, I also really enjoy writing letters. Whenever I write a letter to you, I feel like I'm writing to my best friends who I can talk to about things happening in my daily life and share my heart. It has become my habit to wait for letters (except for the ones telling me Dad's requirements) from Mom and Dad.

As I understand, it is winter there. Please take care of yourselves. I love you, Dad. I love you, Mom.



My Testimony

Sent From Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

May 14th, 1999

Dear Members of Choong Hyun Church,

I have translated a part of my testimony including a testimony of a friend mine named Vilma. After you read this, you'll see how God joined our two testimonies in one testimony to His glory. It was very difficult to me translate her testimony into English. Please read it and write me back, when you can. I have received all the newspapers that you've sent to me (including the newspapers in the Korean language and the photo of your church on the cover of the church's bulletin). God bless you.

*In Christ,
Henrique Senra*

The one who is writing this letter to you is somebody that was led to meet Jesus Christ, through the Love of the Living God. I was born again in the Lord Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. Before this, I was living confused with life, with the world, with people, with myself and with God. My life had turned into an immense interrogation, an immense uncertainty. I felt mired in a quagmire of doubts. It seemed good to me to find an exit to this situation. But, I had fear that the exit that I would find would lead me on to death and not to Life.

As I began to search for the True Way, I found many ways, with many cities, with many riddles. Religion and science were before me. In my curiosity, I perceived that the animals, the vegetables, the nature, the earth, and the sky gave testimony to the

existence of God like the Supreme Being, Creator of all things. Therefore, looking even tonight at the stars of sky, I feel that Universe speaks to me of the Intelligence of Living God, but not so much about His Love. In my heart I feel that this may privilege to give my testimony of the Love of Living God from one human being to another.

In reflection, as I turned my eyes to the religions of the world, and analyzed them, I noticed that they had an emptiness inside like the emptiness I had inside me. I remember that I had heard evangelical preachers talking about how Jesus Christ offers eternal life. But, I hadn't even the desire to live the next minute of life, and much less the desire to live the eternal life...

There was a big silence inside me. I was living a terrible depression which was destroying me. I felt that I was at the Gates of Hell. There were only a few steps left to the eternal torment. Desperate, I sent a last plea to God. I said, "God prove Your love for me. Please." My thought was that if He didn't exist, He couldn't prove Himself to me. But, if God did exist, how would He prove His love for me? I was quite sure that God wouldn't get to prove His love for me. But, today I can say to you: There is a Living God, because He won my unbelief. The Lord Jesus Christ proved His love for me. I am a new creature now (II Cor. 5:17).

What did God do to prove His love for me? He led my hands to pick up a newspaper. At that time, I was seriously thinking about committing suicide. The newspaper was named "Socorro Divino" (Divine Help or Divine Relief). As I began to read, I found the

testimony below:

"It was 11:30 pm, when I was finishing writing my last note of farewell to the people that I most prized. By that early morning, I would have consummated my fixed idea that tormented me day and night: suicide. In my mind, this would be the better solution to all my troubles. From the top of a viaduct I would jump over the railway, when the train would be approaching. I reclined on my bed to remember all of my entire existence as a 22 year-old. Already in the days of my childhood, I had suffered the evils of this world in a poor home, where there were many children. I even had a bigger problem, because I'd seen and I'd heard many supernatural things. Some people led me to a spiritualist place, where they said to me that I was a "medium." So, being only 7 years old, I was already involved with the devilish web of the Candomblé (African witchcraft practiced in Brazil). As I grew older, I went to other places searching for the peace that I'd never found. I often frequented all kinds of entertainment places, but, deep inside, I felt a terrible depression. So, I began to smoke and drink until I lost all consciousness. At 21 years of age, I was led into a marriage that, after much bad treatment, dissolved some 5 months later. I was alone, yet with a child in my arms, that would go on to die some months later. Soon next, my mother suffered from an attack of tuberculosis. There wasn't any more hope for me. There was so much suffering. I decided that suicide would be the solution to it all. But, then I remembered God. I had never searched for Him yet, in that moment, it was like I was seeing Him. I began to vent all my feelings to Him. I threw all my disappointments to Him, because in my ignorance I thought that I had suffered more than His Son Jesus.

(To be continued in the next issue)

Short-Term Mission 2

Opportunities for Enduring Results

"You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things" (Matt. 25:21). It is very easy for most of us to understand short-term missions as "a few things," but it is not so easy to discover that many things are in a few things. Short-term missions can be called as "a few things" when you compare them to long-term missions. Of course, it does not mean that one is less important than the other or vice versa. Short-term missions can be a critical bridge builder for the gospel.

Absolute Necessity of Good Preparation

Good preparation can be the key for the short-term missions to be successful or not. Preparation is the ground work for some ideas to create strategies to share the gospel with the people in the mission field. To prepare well, it is necessary to pre-visit the field to find out the needs of the people. Since the short-term mission is considered as a short visit to deliver the word of God, the unity among team members is also a very important matter.

Continuing Follow Up

The most important step in short-term missions is follow-up. In many short mission cases, the job is finished at the point the mission team returns home. But, the people left behind still need spiritual care. To have successful follow-up, the mission members who went should continue to meet to pray and make

plans to return to the same group again sometime in the near future. It is important for the members to share with the congregation what happened and to encourage the congregation to join them in prayer and practical follow-up efforts.

Advice from Experienced Short Term Missionaries

The experienced short-termers have much to pass on to new short-termers. Their advice includes not to expect too much and not to be too disappointed if things don't go as planned. They advise against giving candy and goodies to the children, since this may cause more quarrelling among them than good will. Take good care of your health and bring enough clothing suitable for the mission climate. Problems among team members should be resolved from within, so as not to throw dirty laundry to the nationals.

Prayer Support is Like an Instantaneous Care Package from a Long Distance

The short-term mission is not only for the members who go, but for the entire congregation. This is because it is a spiritual battle. The team members are frontier people and the congregation is the support structure. In this regard, the entire church goes together to the mission field. The prayer support is much like an instantaneous spiritual care package sent by members of the congregation.

A Letter from the Mission Field of Suriname
Surveying Villages Without Churches

By Missionary Sok Yeol Ahn (Missionary in Suriname)

On February 22nd, 1999, I celebrated my 12th anniversary of serving as a missionary. I do sincerely appreciate the gifts I received from the members of Choong Hyun Church in commemoration of this event. This gift was a visit of three elders from the church, coming to me all the way from Korea. This visitation greatly encouraged me to open my heart to the voice of the Lord. I felt strongly impressed that He said to me, "Go, to lands without churches." This was a confirmation of what I had already doing been. But, the visit encouraged me to continue to follow through with God's leading.

I began to survey areas around me that needed to have a church established. I went to one village, called Matta, and found many of them to be Catholic, believing themselves to be very blessed. But, in fact, they were deceived. After spending much time and consideration in prayer, I had a church structure built there with a cross on the top. The next morning, when I awoke, I found the church was destroyed with the cross shattered into pieces. However, this church was later re-established, and now many believers are there who are baptized, believing in Jesus Christ.

Sometime later, I found another village, Bekinsharon, about 15 km from Matta, which had never heard of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I decided to move there to share the gospel. To spread the gospel, I had to get permission from the Catholic priest there. I submitted my request, but was rejected. I told this to the believers in Matta and they prayed for the people in Bekinsharon for six months. After this labor of prayer, we were able to establish a church. We were intending to hold services at an elementary school, but the priest again blocked our ability to do this. So, after this, we built our own church sanctuary. Many believers from Matta helped to pray and financially and physically support the building of the church structure. In this new building we had an open worship service the first week of January this year.

Now we are planning to move to another village that doesn't have a church yet. We have located Bikiboika, which is 30 km from Bekinsharon. We are praying now for this village that the people's hearts will be open to the gospel there also. Paramaribo, the capital city of Suriname, first heard about the gospel approximately 250 years ago. However, the villages I have just told you about have only heard the gospel within these last three years. Many of the villagers who accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior, admire Choong Hyun Church for sending missionaries all this way to the hinterlands Suriname.

The country itself is not an especially attractive one. It is not a tourist area. Yet, it is an exciting place to be, since many nationals have never heard the gospel, but they are ready for it. Many Muslims and Hindus are scattered about throughout Suriname and they also need this good news. Despite the religious diversity that exists, we have the freedom to spread the truth of Jesus Christ and what He has done for all nations. I would love to see many more missionaries come here as co-laborers with me, to continue to reach out to the many villages that have yet to hear the wonderful news of the gospel.

Foreign Workers Evangelism Department

A Good Place for Missionary Training

Evangelical Field Days: May 22nd-23rd

The Foreign Workers Evangelism Department is holding a sports field day event this Saturday and Sunday, May 22nd-23rd. Many volunteers are participating in this important set of events. There are approximately 70 foreign workers involved in the department. The field days are being held at Shin Weol Elementary School, in Kwangju, Kyonggi Province. The activities began with a service yesterday and finished at 5pm. The rest of the evening was spent at the Choong Hyun Prayer Garden. Today, they will return to church and attend the 1pm service.

In the past, this event was held in conjunction with other districts,

however, this year it was decided that the event would be held solely for the foreign workers. Hence, the need for volunteers was greater this year than usual. Despite this challenge, the Foreign Workers Evangelism Department is expecting fruitful spiritual results as the gospel is shared throughout this field day outreach.



Service Information

Sunday	Services in the Main Sanctuary 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm <i>The 11:00 am service is simultaneously translated into English, Chinese and Japanese.</i> <i>The English Service is held in the Welfare Center (Deaconal Bldg. B 1) at 9:00 am.</i>
Wednesday	Services in the Main Sanctuary 11:00 am and 7:30 pm
Friday	Praise and Pray in the Main Sanctuary 7:30 pm
Daily	Early Morning Prayer Meetings in the Main Sanctuary 4:40 am

Foreign Workers Evangelism Department

Wednesday	Teachers Prayer Meetings - 8:30 pm
Sunday	Service in Amen Hall - 9:30-10:30 am
	Bible Study in Amen Hall - 10:30-12:00 noon Service in the Main Sanctuary - 1:00 pm