Northern Asia-Pacific Division



NEWS & VIEWS

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Let Us Work Together

Message from New President

That a privilege it is that we can work together to enhance the Lord's work in the great territories of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. We say that we have many challenges in our division territories. We know it is true in many respects. The NSD is one of the most challenging fields. We have challenges everywhere. But we don't have to be dismayed or discouraged, because more challenges mean more opportunities, more responsibilities, and more privileges.

We believe this is the Lord's work. He has begun the work, and surely He will finish it. For this very purpose Christ has established His church on earth. In Matthew 16, we read that Jesus established His church. Jesus said, "Peter, on this rock I will



Jairyong Lee, President

build my church." Later on Peter testified that Jesus Christ is the rock. (1 Cor 10:4) Jesus is the rock of ages. He is the eternal rock of salvation. And Jesus said, "On this rock I will build my church."

Christ has established His church on earth to accomplish the plan of salvation of men and women. The pen of inspiration wrote in Steps to Christ, p. 81, "The church of Christ is God's appointed agency for the salvation of men. Its mission is to carry the gospel to the world."

When we read the Bible closely, especially those chapters of the early church, we can see that the church was organized for three significant purposes.

1. For an effective proclamation of the gospel message. In Acts 1:8 Jesus said to His disciples, "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, all Judea, and Samaria and even to the end of the earth." When the early

church met together in Jerusalem after returning from Mount Olives, they prayed together for ten days, and on the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples in the form of flames like tongues. All of them were filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, and began to preach the gospel message to the people in Jerusalem, all Judea and Samaria, and even to the end of the then known world. The purpose of the church of Christ was to preach the gospel message to every nation, tribe, tongue and people. Today we still carry on this responsibility.

- 2. For Christian fellowship among church members. We clearly see this in the early church. As members of God's great family, they had close, unselfish, and fraternal relationship among themselves. Acts 2:44 says that they had everything in common. "Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer" (Acts 2: 41-42). Through Christian fellowship they encouraged each other, understood each other better, and strengthened each other's faith. There was mutual love, joy, peace, dedication, and forgiving spirit among the church members. There was Christian fellowship in the early church. Today we still enjoy it in the church.
- 3. For the third service. The church of Christ was established for the purpose of service to God and to other fellow human beings. We clearly see this in the story of the early church. Acts 6 says that the church was busy doing service to the people. The church even elected seven men who were "full of faith and of the Holy Spirit" especially to coordinate the service to the people. The church served the people who were in need both physically and spiritually. It was an important work of the church. Today we still carry on this responsibility as the church of Christ.

The early church that practiced these responsibilities was the most ideal church found in the Scripture. The Bible says, "the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47). The early church was very successful in doing the gospel ministry entrusted to them by their Lord Jesus Christ.

Then, what was the reason of the fast growth of the early church? Was it the power of the Holy Spirit? Of course, it was the power of the Holy Spirit that they had received on the day of Pentecost.

The power of the Holy Spirit made them effective in their gospel ministry. Then, how could they receive the power of the Holy Spirit? Interestingly enough, in the story of Pentecost and the activities of the early church written in Acts chapter 2, we can find a particular word repeated several times (Acts 2:1, 5, 44, 46). It is "together." In Greek Bible different words are used, but they all have more or less the same meaning, "together."

Here we see the cohesive and cooperative spirit among the disciples of Jesus who met together in the upper room. They were together in one place with spirit of unity. They prayed together. They encouraged each other. Then repented each other. They asked for forgiveness from each other. They were united together. They were willing and ready to launch the gospel work together.

When they were fully united with brotherly love, they could work together to meet the need of the people. They sold their possessions and generously distributed it to their fellow men that were in need. They loved their brothers in Christ as themselves. There was a spirit of togetherness among them.

In church service, they were united together. They came together and praised and worshiped God together in one accord. When they worshipped God together with the spirit of unity, I am sure that they experienced tremendous blessings from the Lord. Their faith was strengthened. They were ready to do the Lord's work together, and when there was the spirit of togetherness among them, the church grew leaps and bound day by day.

The unity among the church leaders as well as church members is a crucial element for the growth of the church. The idea of working together in one accord is absolutely important for the church; because where there is unity there is life, power, and cooperation. But where there is disunity among God's people, there is destruction, strife, and spiritual death.

What we urgently need in our church today is a sense of "togetherness." We must work together in one accord. Please remember that when the disciples were united all together, the power of the Holy Spirit was poured upon them on the day of Pentecost. We can do many more great things for the Lord when we are working together with united hearts. Let us work together for the accomplishment of the gospel commission that our Lord has entrusted to us.

9T, 196 - "It should be understood that perfect unity among the laborers is necessary to the successful accomplishment of the work of God... We are to demonstrate to the world that men of every nationality are one in Christ Jesus. Then let us remove every barrier and come into unity in the service of the Master."

9T, 188 - "Strive earnestly for unity. Pray for it, work for it. It will bring spiritual health, elevation of thought, nobility of character, heavenly-mindedness, enabling you to overcome selfishness and evil surmising, and to be more than conquers through Him that loved you and gave Himself for you. Crucify self; esteem others better than yourselves. Thus you will be brought into oneness with Christ."

Jairyong Lee, President

Literature Evangelists' Convention in Korea

bout 250 literature evangelists, including leaders, participated in the Mountain Prayer Meetings sponsored by the Korean Union Conference (KUC) Publishing Ministries Department at Bohoon Retreat Center, Angsung, Chungjoo City, Korea on May 22-25, 2003. The total working hours of those literature evangelists were 237,507 and sale was US\$2,790,746.82 in 2002.



Um, Gil Soo, the KUC Pub. Ministries Director

Um, Gil Soo, KUC Publishing Ministries Director, his two staff and five local conference publishing leaders, worked very hard to prepare for this event conducted every two years. The venue was at the southern part of Seoul, capital of Korea, a distance of two hours drive. The literature evangelists came from all parts of the country and spent three nights and four days for programs and were refreshed in the remote retreat center.

The main speaker was Chun, Jung Kwon, KUC Secretary. He spoke on the importance of recognition and family. Since literature evangelists mainly leave their home and work outside all day for visiting people, he reminded them about the responsibility of taking care of their own family. His messages were very much appreciated by all. Tadaomi Shinmyo, Northern

Asia-Pacific Division Publishing (NSD) Ministries Director, promoted literature evangelism at the opening and closing sessions through PowerPoint presentation. introduced unique literature evangelists in Japan, Hong Kong and Taiwan. As he showed a picture of an old lady,



Tadaomi Shinmyo doing a presentation (left) & Jung-Kwon Chun, translator (right)

94 years of age and is still doing literature evangelism, all attendees were amazed and gave a big applause.

One of the exciting programs was recreation held at the retreat center playground. Literature evangelists enjoyed the tug-of-war, rope skipping, volleyball, and football. Since there are five local conferences in the KUC, they competed with one another in volleyball and tug-of-war. Then, winners were awarded with food. Although the NSD Publishing Ministries Director has participated in many kinds of meetings, it was the first time for him to witness such enthusiastic games by the Korean literature evangelists. Generally speaking, majority of them are still physically young as well as their outlook. The power expressed in the recreation hour shows great hope of literature evangelism in Korea from now on.



The Participants of the KUC Mountain Prayer Meeting

Another unique program was the prayer meeting on a mountain in the afternoon of the Sabbath, May 24. It took about one hour to climb the mountain. Most of the participants tried to climb and joined the meeting. After reaching the top of the mountain, they sang songs, listened to a message, and prayed for a while. It was really a refreshing time to pray in the cool and quiet mountain site.

The Sabbath day concluded with a joyful mini music concert conducted by the SDA Ensemble, a group of young people composed of Tenor, Soprano, Baritone and a pianist. The Literature evangelists were really moved by the excellent and professional performance of the vocalists.

Tadaomi Shinmyo, Publishing/Communication/PARL/ATN/SOP Director

"Give Me The Bible"

n September 1, 2003, you and I will join 13,000,000 Seventh-day Adventists who will reach out to the families of this world and whisper, "don't be afraid." Within one year, we will share that message from God with one billion friends, neighbors, and strangers, by giving out 2 pamphlets per day.

That Biblical message is now being prepared for 57,600,000 Mongolian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and English readers who live among the 1.5 billion residents of the Northern Asia Pacific Division. Each pamphlet includes an invitation to find out how to live with no fear by enrolling in a Bible study course. This huge project is called "Sow One Billion"

Currently, five Bible Correspondance Schools in Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, and Taiwan are in operation. Mongolia will soon open a school. However if 10% of those who receive our pamphlets respond, our schools would have to process an unbelievable 5,760,000 requests for Bible studies in one year. But, you say, that many people would never respond. Let's agree to accept your argument. So what if 1% responded. That would mean 576,000 new requests for Bible studies would come to six Bible schools next year.

Even if it were possible for the staff members of our Bible Correspondance Schools to send lessons to, grade, give personal responses, and encourage in writing each of the half a million new students, the church would still have a big problem to solve.

As I mentioned last month, we would have given the Bible to our students, but we would not have given them brothers and sisters in Christ who can personally help them to have no fear for the future. In the past, due to our neglect, other Christian groups have followed up these Bible students with personal visits to their homes. Many joined the churches represented by the visitors.

Now, we'd like to do better. Consider the following goals which were recommended by the General Conference and the NSD recently. "That 10% of our churches, companies, and groups operate church-based Bible Schools by the end of 2003. And every year therafter, another 10% will be added so that there will be 100% of our churches who operate Bible Schools by the end of 2012."

What does that mean for the NSD? We have just over 4000 churches and groups in our territory. You do the math. To achieve this goal we held a special event on June 5 - 7, 2003, at the NSD office. It's purpose was to equip master-teachers who would equip their colleagues to start 400 church-based Bible Schools by December 31, 2003



Ma, Yo Han (John McGhee)

Our Guest teacher was Elder Calvin Smith the former GC SS leader and founder of Sabbath School Action Units, who did an outstanding job of providing detailed instructions, many illustrations, and personal passion through his teaching. Elder Smith is currently the Associate Discover Bible School Director for the Voice of Prophecy. His team has started 2,400 church-

based Bible Schools during the past 7 years.

Our master-teachers were given the resources and training to start a church-based Bible School after giving a 3-hour seminar to at least two church members who promise to run the Bible School.

Training for master-teachers was given on Thursday and Friday. Before leaving, your master-teachers pledged to begin 236 Bible Schools by September 1, 2003. Sabbath was the laboratory. All serious delegates were sent as teams to practice what they had learned. On Sabbath evening, there was an evaluation. Together we praised God for using our master teachers to open 23 new church-based Bible Schools.

At this moment we need at least 3000 volunteers who would help to staff these church-based Bible Schools. You can receive enough training in one Sabbath afternoon to start. Please let your pastor know in writing that you and some members of your Sabbath School class would be willing to help. Would you kindly send a copy of your message to your country's Bible School Director?

Should you choose to help, you will experience the joy of giving the Bible to people who would like to live with no fear. You will also be one of the first to become their brother or sister. "Give me the Bible, when my heart is broken, When sin and grief have filled my soul with fear; Give me the precious words by Jesus spoken, Hold up faith's lamp to show my Savior near." Priscilla J. Owens (1829-1907)

The names and email addresses of your Bible School directors are:

Chinese Union Mission - Daniel Jiao E-mail Address(es):

jiaowx@chumsda.org

Hong Kong - Lee Choke Woh E-mail Address(es): wohlee@hkmcsda.org

Korea - Lee Hark-bong E-mail Address(es): kucspm@kuc.or.kr Taiwan - Paul Liu E-mail Address(es): paulliu@twmsda.org

Japan - Tadashi Yamaji E-mail Address(es): yamaji@sda.or.jp

Mongolia - Dale Tunnell E-mail Address(es): tunnell@magicnet.mn

Ma, Yo Han (John McGhee), Sow One Billion Coordinator/SSPM Director

First Missionary from Mongolia - Mrs. Tseggi Toyoda

Mitsuaki Toyota, after working at UNICEF, ADRA Japan, Cambodia, Laos, respectively, was called by ADRA Mongolia in August 1998, as a coordinator of the public health project. He was qualified as volunteer for the United Nation. He met Tseggi, a Mongolian lady who is a gynecologist. They got married and worked together. Toyota was called to be an associate director of ADRA India beginning of July 2003. This family is the first missionary from Mongolia.



Mitsuaki and Tseggi Toyoda with an infant son, five-month-oldMiki

Shoko Hashimoto, Staff of ADRA Japan

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