



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

October 2016

As we enter the Autumn season, we hope you are enjoying the grace and blessings of our Lord. This past month was a very profitable month of deputation. We safely traveled many miles and had the privilege to present our burden for Korea to churches located in Alabama, Ohio, Indiana, South Carolina, and Virginia. We are so happy to be busy in the Lord's will. Our current monthly support level is 53%!



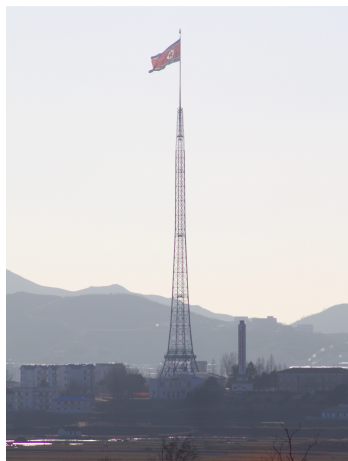
A North Korean soldier stands guard at the Joint Security Area (JSA).

South Korea's neighbor to the north, The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), has been a source of concern recently. The rogue state detonated a twenty-five kiloton nuclear bomb on September 9, 2016. This was the largest nuclear test by the North and the latest in a string of serious provocations. The communist government claimed that the bomb was designed to be delivered by ballistic missile. For South Koreans this latest incident is troubling but not surprising. Tensions between the two nations have been high since the ceasefire agreement in 1953. Technically, the North and South remain in a state of war. This fact is most evident at the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), the buffer zone between the two countries. A great number of troops and military assets are positioned on both sides. We were able to visit the DMZ on three occasions during our time in Korea. Each visit was interesting, but also disturbing as we realized the severity of the conflict. If a full-scale war occurred again, the U.S. backed South would most likely win; however, there would probably be hundreds of thousands of South Korean casualties.



We visited the JSA inside the DMZ. This is the only place where soldiers from both sides stand face-to-face.

There is, of course, a great need for the Gospel in North Korea. Now it is a "closed country" but it will be a wonderful day when the door finally opens for Independent Baptist missionaries to go into North Korea and preach God's truth. Many, however, do not realize that there remains a tremendous need for the Gospel to be proclaimed in South Korea. The most recent national census indicates that of the roughly fifty million people in South Korea, 46% claim to be atheist or non-religious, 23% are Buddhist, 18% identify as Protestant (sadly, the vast majority of these do not understand biblical salvation), 11% are Catholic, and 2% claim various other beliefs. While the South Korean people are highly educated, very few have been truly engaged with the biblical Gospel. We are excited about returning to Korea and fervently communicating the Gospel to people of every religious background. Please continue to pray for us as we press on toward Korea!



The flag of the DPRK located just North of the DMZ. It stands at a height of 525 feet.

Please also pray for several individuals that we shared the Gospel with this month. The Scripture tells us that God's Word will not return void. The Holy Spirit can work on hearts long after the initial contact. Thank you for your prayer and financial support. We are honored to be your missionaries!

In Christ,

Andrew Brown



There are throngs of people in South Korea that need to hear the biblical Gospel.



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