



Dear Pastor and Church Family,

December 2018

Greetings! We hope you are experiencing the blessings that come from serving the Lord. As we come to the end of the year, each day is a reminder of how quickly time is passing. Our little daughter JoAnn is growing up! She is now able to walk around freely and is making friends with the little kids at church. She is learning English and Korean. We are amazed at how she responds to words in both languages. She likes eating rice, riding public transportation, and meeting Korean people. She has opened doors of opportunity for us to share the Gospel. JoAnn is truly a precious gift from God! We desire to raise her in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.



I would like to share two recent experiences that highlight some of the challenges we face as we labor to communicate the Gospel here in Korea. One morning on my way to language school, I saw four men in front of our neighborhood train station holding signs and lifting up large portraits of a man. As I got closer, I realized they were boldly proclaiming that the person



pictured (a Korean man who has been deceased for many years) was the second coming of "Jesus". They were saying, "The Kingdom of Heaven is near; believe on this man, he is Christ." While I have encountered many false religions here in Korea and elsewhere, I was quite shocked at this sad display of utter blasphemy. While this indigenous cult group (known as the "Second Advent Jesus Church") is quite small numerically, they have been actively spreading their false message for years. On another day, while Sarah was at her Korean class, I took JoAnn to a nearby park. Two women approached us and struck up a conversation. They asked me my occupation. After I told them that I was an

Independent Baptist Missionary, one of them said, "Oh, we are Christians too." They then identified themselves as members of the "World Mission Society Church of God." This group (founded in Korea) is also relatively small yet it is a very visible and aggressive cult that preaches a counterfeit christ and a false gospel. One of the main teachings that this pseudo-christian cult espouses is the belief in a "mother god" that complements the "father god". They believe that this mother god has come down to earth as a Korean woman. Though my language ability is not quite up to the level needed to thoroughly present the Gospel yet, I was able to ask the ladies a couple of probing questions about the inconsistencies of their religion and give them one of our Gospel tracts. I am saddened as I think of how deceived these women are. The Scriptures plainly warn us that in these last days false prophets and false christs will come deceiving many. In this time of great spiritual confusion, not only are there many examples of literal false christs, there are also some professing Christians around the world who have actually believed in a christ of their own making instead of the true Lord Jesus Christ as He is revealed in Scripture. Because there are so many competing messages and false teachings, we who have been gloriously saved must be so careful to biblically and precisely communicate the truth to lost souls around us. Though the cults and false religions of this world will naturally seem very foolish to us, they are actually examples of the crafty spiritual deception that our adversary Satan is engaged in. While the majority of the people in our city of Busan identify as atheist, non-religious, or Buddhist, pseudo-christian cults like the two I mentioned (as well as quasi-Buddhist and shamanistic cults) are quite



active here. The prevalence of these bizarre groups in part causes many Korean people to be skeptical and resistant to the truth. Humanly speaking, it can be very difficult to communicate the Gospel in Korea. Yet, in spite of the challenges that we face, we know that the Lord desires for the lost here to be saved. We are confident that He will bless His Word as it is preached. Please pray for us as we labor to clearly present the glorious Gospel of the True Lord Jesus Christ to the precious souls of Busan, Korea.

I will start my fifth semester of university language studies on December 3rd. Please continue to pray for our family's progress towards proficiency in the Korean language, for the Lord's guidance on our lives, and for opportunities to personally present the Gospel. Thank you so much for your faithful prayer and financial support. We are so privileged to represent you here in the Lord's harvest field!

Your Missionary,

Andrew Brown



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