



THE *Brown Family* MISSIONARIES TO SOUTH KOREA

대한민국

*"For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord;
and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake." II Corinthians 4:5*

Dear Pastor and Church Family,

March 2021

Last month the important three-day holiday, Lunar New Year, was celebrated here in Korea. Though many Coronavirus-related restrictions were in place, such as banning groups of more than five people (including extended family members) from gathering in private homes, the traditional markets were still jam-packed with people buying items for the festivities. Our family braved the crowds and bought the ingredients necessary to make the traditional rice cake soup which we then enjoyed eating on the first morning of the Lunar New Year. Though we still feel out of place at times in this culture that is so different from the culture we were raised in, we are grateful for how the Lord is helping us to learn to adapt and enjoy the field that He has called us to.

Last month we also "celebrated" another important day. The 21st marked exactly one year since the first Coronavirus case was reported in our city which was the beginning of the "new normal" here in Korea. Just as we have had to do every day for the past year, we continue to be required to wear a face mask every time we leave our home. Similar to what has likely been the case for you, many aspects of our life have been probably permanently changed. Yet, there is so very much to thank our Lord for! He has protected and guided us every single day. Even in the face of new obstacles, He has opened doors for ministry. Perhaps most importantly, the Lord has taught our family valuable spiritual lessons about trusting Him and seeking to do His will no matter the circumstances around us. We may be perplexed at the tumultuous events occurring in this wicked world, yet by the grace of God we do not have to be in despair as we trust our sovereign Lord.

Thank you so much for continuing to pray for our little baby girl that is due to be born next month. Recently when we went for a checkup, the doctor told us that the baby is "정상이다"—which means that everything is normal. Praise the Lord! As we prepare for her arrival, our (especially JoAnn's) excitement is growing. Please continue to pray for a healthy delivery.

As we seek to serve the Lord here in Korea, we are constantly reminded of the great spiritual need in our city. Recently while distributing Gospel tracts on a busy sidewalk, a lady not far from me began to distribute copies of one of the Buddhist scriptures (the 법화경, or in English, the *Lotus Sutra*) to people waiting to cross the street. In this country where spiritual blindness is ubiquitous and interactions with people are often superficial, we are grateful for the opportunity to distribute a thorough presentation of the Gospel in written form to many lost souls each week. We are also prayerfully seeking opportunities to meet people and personally share the Gospel with them. May the Lord use us to effectively communicate the Gospel and bless His Word as it goes forth here in Busan even as the Coronavirus pandemic continues to dominate Korean society and the rest of the world.

It was a joy to see the Lord work and bring a man to church last Sunday who had received a Gospel tract from me back in December. At that first point of contact on a busy sidewalk last year, I tried to witness to this man after he expressed some interest, but he said "not now" and hurried on. A few days later he called asking about the church service schedule. Since a phone call from someone who has received a tract is rare, we began to pray that the Lord would give us an opportunity to present the Gospel to him personally. How exciting it was to see him come to church on Sunday! After the service, the Assistant Pastor and I were able to sit down and share the Gospel with him. While doing so, I was filled with compassion for this particular soul—one out of tens of thousands of people who had received one of our Gospel tracts over the past three years and one out of the nearly 3.5 million people that live in our city. The Lord sent us to this city to reach, and our Savior Jesus Christ gave Himself to save, individual souls like this man. The man listened intently as we presented the way of salvation to him. When we invited him to trust Christ for salvation, he exhibited hesitation so we encouraged him to think deeply about what he had heard. It was such a great privilege to be able to communicate the Gospel to this man who came to church after receiving a tract several weeks prior. We praise the Lord for this opportunity and we pray that this man will come again. Please pray with us for Mr. Kim to turn to Christ for salvation soon. The Gospel ministry is truly the Lord's work. It must be done in full reliance on the Holy Spirit. May the Lord accomplish His will through us for His glory as we seek to serve Him here in Busan, South Korea. Thank you so much for partnering with us for the sake of the Gospel going forth to the Korean people. Your faithful prayers and sacrificial support are such a blessing to us! May the Lord bless you as you serve Him.

Your Missionary,

Andrew Brown



Andrew, Sarah,
& JoAnn Brown
Missionaries to
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