



THE *Brown Family* MISSIONARIES TO SOUTH KOREA

"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,

November 2022

We hope you all are well and enjoying the blessings that come from serving the Lord. October was a busy and blessed time of ministry for us here in Busan. One evening last month, a lady who received one of our Gospel tracts called me, expressing her desire to meet us. When Sarah and I met with her at our church building the next afternoon, the lady told us of the many difficulties that she was currently facing. After sharing the Gospel with her we invited her to our Sunday service. It was such a joy to see her return the following Sunday at which time we had the great privilege to thoroughly present the Gospel of Christ again. As is so often the case here in Korea, it appears that it may take multiple encounters with the truth before this lady turns to Christ by faith and personally experiences the life-changing power of the Gospel. Please pray with us that we might be used to lead Miss Kim to Christ for the glory of God. Since so many here seem to be utterly uninterested in even considering the truth of God's Word, it is always a great blessing when we are able to personally present the Gospel to someone willing to listen. On a recent Saturday afternoon I was distributing Gospel tracts on a busy sidewalk across from an inter-city bus terminal. Two men who received a tract stopped and began to talk with me. I was glad for the opportunity to tell them of eternal life that can be found only in the Lord Jesus Christ and then invite them to visit Jungbu Independent Baptist Church. Thank you so much for praying for our family as we seek to be used of the Lord in these last days before our Savior's return for His own.

In recent years, the South Korean entertainment industry has gained a world-wide audience. In fact, one of the most popular music groups in the world currently is the Korean group known as "BTS" (방탄소년단). Though loved and worshiped by many young people both in Korea and around the world, the reality is that this group fervently promotes unrighteousness. Last month this group gave a special concert at a large stadium not far from our home. An estimated sixty thousand people were in attendance. Most of the devoted fans wore purple clothes as a way to show their dedication to their idols. Near the event venue our family was able to distribute many thorough Gospel tracts to those heading to the concert. While it was sad to see so many young people captivated by the spirit of the age, we are glad that the Lord allowed us the chance to give some of these lost souls an opportunity to encounter His truth.

Recently, serious provocations by North Korea have been widely reported by news outlets around the world. However, to most people in South Korea there was another news story that caused much greater concern. A fire at a major data center caused serious disruptions to the Kakao company's services. This internet company's instant messaging app, internet banking service, payment service, taxis, and rental bikes all experienced significant outages that lasted for nearly an entire day. As 47 million people here use Kakao services in some fashion each month, this incident affected South Korea in a major way. Though we certainly benefit from advances in technology, the news stories of people being unable to communicate, travel, or operate their small business reminded us of the uncertainty of these times when many foolishly entrust more and more of their lives and livelihoods to giant technology companies. May the Lord give us all wisdom as we navigate these last days before we meet our Lord Jesus Christ face to face.

Last weekend a terrible tragedy occurred in the capital of South Korea. Around one hundred thousand young people gathered in a popular "nightlife" district to attend various "Halloween parties." (Halloween, and the various vices associated with this celebration of unrighteousness, have only recently become popular among teenagers and young adults in Korea since being imported here from the United States.) Tragically, 156 people were killed and many others seriously injured in a crowd surge that took place in a small alleyway. It was truly a horrific event that has shocked the entire nation. While investigators have yet to determine the exact cause of this awful tragedy, the Korean government has declared this week to be a period of national mourning. I cannot help but wonder about the eternal fate of those that abruptly lost their lives that night. Had any of those young people ever heard a thorough presentation of the Gospel? Had any of them ever meaningfully encountered the truth about reality and eternal destiny? This question motivates me to be more diligent in working to fulfill the task that the Lord has given our family. Please continue to pray for our ministry. We certainly appreciate your faithful prayers and sacrificial support as we labor to communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Korean people for the glory of God.

Your Missionary,

Andrew Brown



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