

# 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,

March 2023

We hope you are well and enjoying the blessings of the Lord. Last month was an exciting time of ministry for our family. The Lord used us to personally share the Gospel and allowed us to make several new contacts. After finding our church website, a man contacted me asking some questions about salvation. I was so glad to share the truth of God's Word with him as we exchanged text messages. During our regular Gospel tract distribution efforts across Busan, Sarah and I both conversed with people who expressed interest—including one lady who contacted us the following day. On a Saturday afternoon while distributing tracts for the first time near a busy traditional market in the western part of Busan, I had a conversation with a young man who expressed a desire to visit our church. We pray that each of the souls that we were put in contact with last month would accept our invitation and come to Jungbu Independent Baptist Church so that they might learn more of the eternal salvation that is found only in Christ and have their lives transformed by His Gospel.

As we labor to communicate the Gospel in this place where there is both a strong rejection of religion on the part of so many who are blinded by materialism and also fanatical participation in false religions by others, we are in great need of the wisdom that can only come from above. Last Thursday afternoon, I received a phone call from a young man who had seen our church sign and wanted, along with his friend, to make an appointment for spiritual counseling. The next morning the young men met me at our church and introduced themselves as college students coming from non-religious backgrounds having recently developed a keen interest in learning about the Bible. They requested that I meet with them regularly and teach them the Bible. What an exciting opportunity! I opened my Bible right then and began to share the Gospel with them. However, over the course of our lengthy conversation, I began to get the distinct impression that these young men were not being honest and were in fact trying to deceive me. Much of what they told me about themselves was actually quite difficult to believe. So, instead of committing to hold a regular Bible study with them, I invited them to come to our Sunday service which they eagerly promised to attend. Though it was certainly a wonderful privilege to have the opportunity to thoroughly share the Gospel with two young men who seemed so willing to listen, the more I thought about their somewhat strange behavior and some of the odd responses that they gave, it became clear to me that they were likely sent to our church as an undercover team from one of several indigenous cults in Korea that twist the Bible and engage in spiritual wickedness. I then called one of my trusted national pastor friends and discussed the situation with him. He told me that it was highly likely that these young men were indeed cult members bent on wreaking havoc and advised me to take several precautions. As we prepared for Sunday, we sought the Lord for wisdom, guidance, and protection. Just like they promised, the young men returned on Sunday morning. We greeted them warmly and attempted to demonstrate the love of God to them. They listened as I preached a lengthy Gospel sermon. As I spoke, I tried to remember that, regardless of why they came, these young men are precious souls that our Lord Jesus desires to save. I pleaded with them to turn to Christ by faith and be reconciled to God. After the service was over, I sat down and talked with them as Sarah served us rice cakes and coffee. Following the advice given by my national pastor friend I asked the young men, "Do you want to learn the Bible quickly?" To which they enthusiastically replied, "Yes!" I then told them that God gave us His Word for the purpose of total life transformation and that, since the Bible is a book that a truly saved person will spend a lifetime learning and applying, I could not teach them the Bible quickly. During our conversation I stressed the necessity of being born again and I also warned them of the many false teachers who try to deceive others by perverting the Scriptures. Though they denied being sent from a cult when asked, their actions and particularly their responses to my questions showed otherwise. Even though I made my suspicions clear to them, these two will probably return again. Their goal is likely to ensnare those that start attending our young church plant and lead them away to their cult. Scripture tells us that we have an adversary and that we are engaged in spiritual warfare. Please pray with us that the young men, Pak Yoo-geon and Han Yoon-seo, would come to Christ for salvation, that we would be able to deal with them properly should they return, and that the Lord would protect the ministry He has entrusted to us. We praise the Lord for what He is doing now and also for what He will do through us in the days ahead. Thank you so much for your faithful prayers and sacrificial financial support. We are so honored to represent you here as we work to communicate the Gospel of Christ and plant Jungbu Independent Baptist Church!



Your Missionary,

Andrew Brown 

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