

July 2019
Dear Friends,

Summer Prayer Letter Update

It is the rainy season here in Korea. Our rainy season consists of about two weeks when we get periods of rain every day. This usually comes in mid July and signals the arrival of hot, humid summer. We thank God for the change in seasons that are a constant reminder of His faithfulness to a promise made over 4,000 years ago in Genesis 9. Allow me to recount some of God's other faithfulnesses to us over the past several months.

On the Home Front

The old saying goes, "Almost only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades." We have also learned that it does not count when talking about the empty nest. Thanks to the generous gift from our sending church, our three oldest children are back in America for several weeks visiting their grandparents and enjoying one week at the WILDS in North Carolina. Our youngest daughter, Hyae-Jin, is too young to make the trip and so is at home with us. So close and yet so far away. In all seriousness, we are having a good time with her, and she is adjusting well to her brief stint of life as an only child. Please pray that our older children will have a great time in the States with family and that God would work in their hearts at camp.

The pregnancy is going well. The baby is healthy and according to the doctor is a boy. His name is Yae-Joon Marcus Facenda. Yae-Joon means "prepared of Jesus." We are excited to meet the little guy in early December.

On the Ministry Front

I want to tell you specifically about God's work in the hearts and lives of three men. Last summer, God brought a lady to our congregation named 진희 (Jenny). Her husband is unsaved and had no desire or interest in God. They have had a very rough marriage, to say the least. However, over the past year God has brought some tremendous difficulties into his life and has begun to soften his heart. In February, he attended our church Valentines banquet with her. Then, about a month ago, he wanted to have lunch on a Saturday with us and his wife. We had a tremendous time for four hours talking about the Gospel, the Bible, life, etc. Then, to our surprise, he showed up the next day for church. And, for several weeks he came to church each Sunday. He has not been back for several weeks but I was able to meet with him last week. He is intellectually curious about Christ and the Gospel. He is asking great questions, and the other week during lunch, we had a very deep conversation with two other brothers. Please pray for Jenny's husband to be saved.

About two months ago, God bought a lady to our church from New Zealand. She is a believer married to a Korean man. He claims to be a believer, he loves to read the Bible, he loves to listen to the Bible Broadcasting Network (a conservative Christian radio station in America that broadcasts in multiple languages over the Internet), but he refuses to come to church, and there are parts of his life that do not match a Christian testimony. He said he wanted to find a church where he and his wife could go. God has opened his heart, and we now have a good, deepening friendship. He has not come to church yet, but every Sunday afternoon, he and his wife listen to the morning service on our YouTube channel. Please pray for Chan to be truly converted, if he is not, and if he is saved, pray that he would grow and walk with the Lord.

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Several weeks ago we had another answer to prayer. For the past two years, there is a homeless man who comes to the church from time to time asking for money. Sometimes, I am able to help him, but other times, he refuses the kind of help we can give. Every time, I have invited him to come to our services. Several months ago, I said, "If you come and sit through a service, then we will help you financially afterward." He never took me up on the offer. Several weeks ago on a Sunday night, just after our service had started, he came into the church. One of our faithful brothers talked to him, got him to sit down, and he sat with us carefully listening through the whole service. Of course, I preached the Gospel straight at him. Then after the service, we helped him financially, and he left. Please pray that he will come again. Pray that our people will respond like Christ and welcome him. And pray that he will be saved.

God is working. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support. We love you all.

In Him and for Korea

Jonathan, Rachael, Yae-Chan, Yae-Sun, Hyae-Lan, Hyae-Jin and Yae-Joon Facenda.