

• 'The Lord's Love Mission'

# A Gathering of North Korean Defectors who Have Picked Out Their Sites in Heaven

### Happiness not guaranteed

After crossing the death line that divides North and South Korea, it was no easy task for former defectors to adjust to the South Korean society. Among the elite defectors are graduates of North Korean colleges who had worked as government officials and have found places of stable work reasonable pay in the South Korean government and research institutions, but other defectors with lower education and less professional experiences are often confined to being cheap laborers. In addition, each time they crossed borders from North Korea, China, or third countries to South Korea, many of them incurred large sums of debts to brokers. Unable to completely abandon the family members left behind in the North, they send them the money through these brokers with up to 30% fees but oftentimes they find that the funds they send are not delivered. On top of that, memories of family



Sunday afternoon meeting of "The Lord's Love Mission"

members in the North, those who have died in accidents, murdered, or taken to prisoners while trying to cross borders, or those who are still in third countries, and unable to complete their journey to South Korea, still rankle with them. As these North Korean defectors suffer from agonizing tragedy coupled with relative poverty, loneliness, invisible discrimination, and cultural differences,

we must strive to embrace and look after them as members of Christ. As they have risked everything they had and come from North Korea for freedom, we must treat them with warmth, understanding, and patience by which we can wait for them to nurture their faith and come to church for services on their own.

### Experiencing God's power

When "The Lord's Love Mission" (Guidance Pastor: Rev. Sang-Joon Park) was first founded in 2004, the membership totaled 5 people. By the beginning of 2008, it had grown to a gathering of 70 people and as of September, the membership has grown to 180 people. This is because many North Korean defectors have come to Manmin after hearing the news of healing and blessings.

Many of them had not even known of a "testimony." Nowadays, it is commonplace to find them testifying to having received God's healing of arthritis, gastroenteric disorders, conjunctivitis, sequelae from pancreatic cancer operations, and grave depression, and having their backs straightened through the Senior Pastor's or the handkerchief prayer (Acts 19:11-12). During the Summer Retreat in August, Sung-Joo Hwang (alias; 35; Onsong County, North Hamgyong Province; 35), who had been previously healed of the stroke and stood up from the wheelchair by the prayer of Rev. Dr. Jaerock Lee, testified to having thrown away the cane he had been using by the handkerchief prayer.

From tremendous suffering they endured on a daily basis in North Korea and their horrific journey to the South, they had been stricken by many diseases but they have since been healed of them in the South. The light of hope for heaven illuminate in the faces of the former defectors who have met God without doubt after having been led to Manmin

and experienced many of His signs and wonders. After being assigned to various districts, the defectors see and fathom the love they receive from the workers who visit them at home in utmost care. Of the past they lament, "Why did I not hear this message sooner?" Holding fast to purity that remains untainted by the advancement of the civilization, these former defectors make every effort, as do children, to live by the Word they hear. Just like any

other Manmin members, they place their hope in New Jerusalem in the heavenly kingdom and cast off the weight of life that had been pressing them. From the "Self-examination Time", they had been used to criticizing themselves and others but by the love of the Lord, they are making every effort to place themselves in others' shoes and learning to throw away the habit of guarding against others, and become one in the heart.

### MINI interview

**We are an affectionate and grateful people.**  
Deaconess Myung-Ok Huh (alias; "The Lord's Love Mission," President; North Hamgyong Province)

#### Q: How did you end up coming to Manmin?

A: For a while in November 2003, I couldn't move about comfortably because of the arthritis in my knees. I thought I was going to die in a foreign land and was overcome with fear and loneliness. Then one day, I came across one of the Senior Pastor's books and a copy of *Manmin News* and with the help of my friends, I took my first steps to Manmin a little later. While listening to a message during the Revival Meeting the following year, I received the fire of the Holy Spirit and was healed of the arthritis. 'Ah! I said to myself, 'I am going to be all right now!' Soon afterwards, I even heard the news of my lost children and was so thankful. During my life in Christ, I have also been healed of gastroenteric disorders and gasping disappeared, and become certain of the existence of heaven and hell.

#### Q: I heard you've led many souls back to Christ?

A: I shouted, "God is alive!" every chance I got and have led some 60 people back to Him. I am so much healthier than when I first arrived in South Korea and more importantly, I am always glad and delighted because, as I listen to the message of life, I am becoming a good person receiving commendations of many people and my heart is filled with a hope for New Jerusalem. It is my hope for members of "The Lord's Love Mission" not only never to lose hope or their footing in this society but also for each of them to enter the heavenly kingdom where there are no tears, grief, and suffering.

#### Q: What is expected of Manmin members?

A: In North Korea, there are so many people who starve to death because they are unable to have even a bowl of corn porridge. Many risk their lives to escape from North Korea for ideological reasons but most of them do so to avoid starvation. As they are treated like animals on their way from the North to the South via China, many defectors in the South are easily hurt by even a trivial remark uttered with no particular intent; this is truer of elite defectors who feel as though others are pitying them or treating them like the homeless. They are all one people but because of different life experiences, delicate care is required. They are in a dire need of love, interest, and encouragement. We are an affectionate, responsible, and grateful people; once we come to believe in God, we march onwards without looking back and without a change of heart.

• Body of Publication: Manmin Central Church • Publisher: Seongkeon Vin • Editor: Geumsun Vin  
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ARISE, SHINE, (ISA 60:1)

# MANMIN NEWS

Manmin Central Holiness Church with the Vision of National Evangelization and World Mission

No. 128 October 5, 2008

## Joy of Filling Up the Truth 'The 8th Bible Quiz'

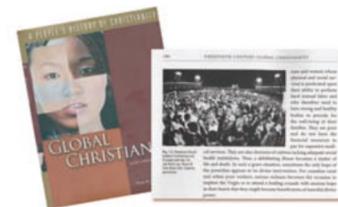


Final Round of the 7th Bible Quiz

Even the last spirit of the summer could only wane and succumb to their passion for the Word of God. Sponsored by the Men's Mission (Elder Abraham Moon, President) and held under the auspices of the Men's Mission Seoul Regional Assembly (Elder Suk-Gil Song, President), the first and second preliminary rounds of "The 8th Bible Quiz" took place on Sunday, August 24, 2008, following the Morning Service and the Evening Service, respectively, in the Main Sanctuary of Manmin Central Church. An event taking place every year to arm Manmin members with the Word, the first preliminary round

saw child to adult members of all branch churches throughout Korea compete. The second preliminary round was held with first-round participants who had scored 90 or higher out of 100, and consisted of 5 short-answer questions and 15 questions in which the participants were required to write out specific verses. Following the two preliminary rounds, 46 participants – 30 from Manmin Central and 16 from branch churches in Korea – competed in the Final Round on Sunday, September 7, 2008, following the Evening Service. Members of all Manmin Churches strive to take after the Lord by reading a chapter and memorizing a verse

from the Bible every day. Daily verses taken from the weekly sermons are provided at the back of the bulletins every week and the questions on the Quiz were from the 365 verses from August 2007 to July 2008. First begun in 2001, the annual Quiz has met enthusiastic response and seen an increase in the number of participants year after year. Past recipients of the Grand Prize have been pastors, ministers, members of College, Canaan, and Men's Missions, and from branch churches (more on Page 3).



## Dr. Jaerock Lee's Honduras Crusade Featured in Global Christianity in the Twentieth Century

Global Christianity in the Twentieth Century, published on June 1, 2008 by Augsburg Fortress in Minneapolis, Minnesota, U.S., featured photographs and relevant information from "The 2002 Honduras Church Leaders' Conference and Crusade with Dr. Jaerock Lee." An academic work that delved into the history of Christianity throughout the 20th century by denomination and continent, in a chapter entitled "Pentecostalism in Latin America" Global Christianity

noted "The people of the nations of financial difficulties and few medical facilities came to seek God and to experience the power of God by attending healing crusades." Augsburg Fortress is widely known as the official publishing house of academic works and seminary textbooks for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

### Column Inner Beauty

Outward appearance reigns supreme in our time and men and women alike take great interest in outward appearances. No one, however, will have an objection to the fact that the inside of an individual is more important than the outward appearance.

Beautifying of one's inside requires for him to live by God's Word. As much as the truth has settled in his heart, blessings and outward appearance will come his way as a bonus. Stern appearances will transform into good and fair appearances, and the faces that had once been covered in anxiety and worries will illuminate in the spiritual light (Ecclesiastes 8:1). Even ordinary-looking facial features will earn a favorable impression from others."

from Dr. Jaerock Lee's column series "The Way" carried in *The JoongAng Daily*

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**Confessions of Faith**

1. Manmin Central Church believes the Bible to have been written in the inspiration of God and is the accurate and errorless Word of God.
2. Manmin Central Church believes that the Triune God - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit - exists as one and works with each other
3. Manmin Central Church believes that only the atoning blood of Jesus Christ forgives us of our sins.
4. Manmin Central Church believes in Jesus Christ's resurrection, ascension, and the Second Advent, and the eternal heaven.
5. Members of Manmin Central Church confess "The Apostles' Creed" whenever they gather and believe in it verbatim.

**MEMO**



Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee

# A Blessed Man

“How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,  
Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!  
But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.  
He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water,  
Which yields its fruit in its season And its leaf does not wither;  
And in whatever he does, he prospers...” (Psalm 1:1-6).

According to the standards of this world, blessed are people of good health, wealth, fame, power, and knowledge. In this world, blessed are parents whose children grow up healthy, study well, become successful, and are good to their parents in the latter's later years. In this world, blessed are also those who manage harmonious households. In other words, the standard of blessings of which the people in this world speak is measured by a life in which one does not have to concern himself with food, clothing, health, or worries.

Yet, such attributes will only meet a certain degree of satisfaction and needs while living in this world, but not constitute whole satisfaction and joy. All of these can disappear at any moment and they do not last eternally; you may also have one thing but could be lacking another.

Blessings from God, however, are different. They are true blessings, everlasting and immune to change, and we can enjoy eternal joy and comfort in heaven as well. Moreover, as our souls prosper we will prosper in all respects and be in good health even in this world. Such blessings are firm like a house built on a foundation and we receive them not only in this world but also as rewards in the kingdom of heaven.

## A Blessed Man of Whom God Speaks

First, a blessed man does not walk in the counsel of the wicked. “The counsel of the wicked” stems from people who harbor evil in their heart. The wicked are incapable of harboring appropriate thoughts before God and think of things that are in violation of God's Word and that will disappoint Him.

In hatred and jealousy, they devise schemes to seek their own interests and strive to accomplish what they seek even by trampling on others. They may profess their faith in God but as they walk in the counsel of the wicked, such individuals will face calamities amidst trials and afflictions. In pursuit of fleshly thoughts, as they strive to elevate themselves and gain wealth and fame even by committing untruths, they will come across enormous difficulties and losses when deceived by others.

Therefore, one will be led onto the path to prosperity only when he lives by

God's wisdom, not by the counsel of the wicked.

Second, a blessed man does not stand in the path of sinners.

In this world, a “sinner” refers to an individual who has physically violated the laws of the world. Even if one harbors hatred in his heart and a desire to kill others, as long as that intention is not carried out physically, the world does not condemn him as a sinner. God, however, condemns an individual as a sinner only for harboring evil in his heart.

One cannot enter heaven when he commits deeds of the flesh (Galatians 5:19-21). He may confess with his lips, “Lord, I believe” but if he fails to live by God's will he cannot inherit the kingdom of God (Matthew 7:21). Whether small or big, a sin will be exposed and retribution will surely follow (Ecclesiastes 12:14; 2 Corinthians 5:10).

As the path of sinners is the path of judgment and the path of death, a blessed man will never stand in the path of sinners, associate with them, or become one with them in the heart.

Third, a blessed man does not sit in the seat of scoffers.

God loathes scoffers. They are afflicted in the heart when they feel others disregard them with contempt, and instead of serving others they wish to be served.

Although Jesus existed in the form of God, He came into this lowly world in the form of a servant, took up the cross, and became an example of service. Only when an individual humbles himself and serves others will he be revered by others in this world and deemed precious in the kingdom of heaven as well.

Fourth, a blessed man delights in the law of the LORD and meditates it day and night.

Here, “the law of the Lord” refers to God's Word in the Bible. The Word in the Bible tells us the kind of blessings that will be bestowed upon those who abide by the Law and tells us also of the disasters that will befall those who fail to live by the Law. By helping us to understand and reminding us of God's Word, the Holy Spirit guides us onto the path of blessings.

Therefore, if you are in love with God, you will do things that please Him and will take after His heart. You will desire

goodness, love, holiness, and sincerity. Furthermore, as God's love is in us, we will seek the benefits of our brothers and sisters in Christ in a heart of meekness and service.

When we meditate God's Law, we can examine ourselves and receive by prayer the strength to actively live by His will. When we live by the Word, we can receive blessings God gives us.

## Becoming a Blessed Man

God, who recompenses each person according to his deeds, prepares appropriate blessings according to the kind and size of the vessel he prepares. The type of heart determines the type of vessel; therefore, the spirit must prosper first, subdue and rule over the heart. An individual who can subdue and rule over his heart can also subdue and control his tongue. As he always abides by God's Word, the person will not compromise with unrighteousness or befriend the world.

Psalm 1:3 reads, “He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers.” Here, the pronoun “He” refers to the blessed man, the righteous man and “a tree firmly planted by streams of water” signifies an individual planted in God. A tree firmly planted by streams of water absorbs the water and is supplied with necessary nutrients even during the worst of droughts. The tree's leaves are always verdant and it bears fruit at appropriate times.

When an individual is planted in God, just as a tree is provided with water and nutrients, His Word will enter his heart and take root in it by the help of the Holy Spirit. As he commits all of his affairs and thoughts to God and lives wholly by His will, his spirit prospers and he bears the Nine Fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), the fruit of the light, (Ephesians 5:9), and fruit of the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12), and the fruit of the “Love Chapter” (1 Corinthians 13). The amount and magnitude of fruit will determine the amount and magnitude of blessings.

The first Psalm also speaks of the wicked who distance themselves from God. Psalm 1:4-5 tell us, “The wicked are not so, But they are like chaff which the wind drives away. Therefore the

wicked will not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.” Just as chaff are unable to withstand the wind or are burned, the wicked will not be able to endure the judgment and be driven to destruction. Here, “the wind” refers to trials and afflictions. Even in times of trials and afflictions, the righteous prevail because God watches over them; even when they face enormous calamities against which the might of man is futile, God will deliver them. As the righteous pray by faith and live by the truth, God will show them a way out and trials will end up becoming a source of blessings for them.

The wicked, however, “are like chaff which the wind drives away”; when they come across trials and afflictions, they will sway back and forth and will end up falling, unable to remain standing in the judgment, and be driven to destruction. As they do not believe in God, they are not protected by Him. Even if they do believe in God, as they fail to live by the Word their end is death, unable to avoid the judgment of the fiery hell (Revelation 20:12).

Psalm 1:6 tells us, “For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the wicked will perish.” Even in this world, when we live by God's Word, we can lead lives marked by blessings God recognizes. The penalty for the wicked is the judgment; even the most trivial of the matters will be judged and recompensed, and they will perish. For this reason, each of us must plant ourselves in God, the source of blessings, receive the blessings of prosperity in our spirits and in every affairs (3 John 1:2), and bear abundant fruit both in spirit and in flesh. The true righteous people whom God recognizes are not those who merely know Him, but those who possess true faith by which deeds are accompanied. Thus, it is essential for each of us to become a truly blessed man living according to God's Word by possessing true faith.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, by understanding that gaining eternal life is the fundamental goal, may each of you lead a prosperous life in this world by becoming a blessed individual who places hope in heaven and lives by God's Word, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ I pray! ✝



First begun in 2001 to equip Manmin members with the Word of God and now in its 8th year, the Final Round of this year's Bible Quiz took place following the Evening Service on September 7, 2008. Manmin News sat down with past winners of the annual Bible Quizzes to hear their secret to reciting the Word and the incalculable grace and blessings they have received from their effort.

Host: First of all, my thanks to you for allowing me the honor of meeting all of the past winners of the annual Bible Quizzes. Memorizing God's Word is a task all Christians must do but many find it difficult to get started. I imagine each of you have a background from which you started memorizing the Bible verses?

Yong-Im Jung As a church worker, I increasingly felt the importance of equipping myself with the Word. I looked back to examine myself and asked, ‘I say I love God but how much of His Word do I know by heart?’



Eun-Young Cho I didn't prepare for the event from the beginning; I began the preparation in gladness to become a potent worker of God as a pastor.

Host: Memorizing the Word probably was not as easy as it sounds. Share with us any special secrets you had.

Gi-Sang Yoon I recorded myself when I memorized the verses and listened to the recordings again and again. For instance, in “The Beatitudes” in Matthew 5, I memorized Verse 4 by associating it with the number “4,” the number of suffering, and I could remember other verses like that.

Hyun-Ja Byun Writing, listening, and talking them out were fundamental. I



thought of spiritual significance as I memorized each verse. I also read the preceding and following verses to get a grasp of the background of the particular verses.

Mi-Sun Lee I have always enjoyed reading the Bible; the Word I read consistently accumulated and helped me tremendously.



Host: Were there any humorous incidents?

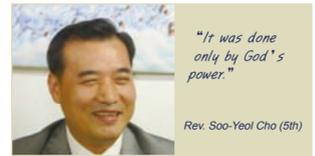
Kyung-Suk Go I was always reciting the Word to myself. Soon I realized I was muttering to myself. People would often ask me what I was constantly muttering.

Hyun-Ja Byun When I saw the #119 Bus, I remembered Psalm 119. While praising, I often thought of the verses associated with the lyrics of the praise songs.

Mi-Sun Lee When I saw that the time was 11:24, I'd remember Mark 11:24. Whenever I saw digits arranged in a particular manner, I would remember a particular verse.

Host: Were there any difficulties? If you can impart to us something only the participants of the Bible Quiz can appreciate, please share it with our viewers.

Soo-Yeol Cho One of my duties is to visit church members at their homes. When a church member faced problems, my heart was with him and I couldn't focus on studies. Yet, God wants all of us



to be sanctified, and I made every effort toward the studies. I had studied so hard and diligently but a few days before the Final Round, I couldn't remember any of the verses, as if my brain had been fried. Some time before the Final Round, the Senior Pastor

wished me good luck and I renewed my strength. I would stay up until 3, 4 in the morning to study but I was not exhausted. When I took my seat in the Final Round, I began shedding tears and my heart was replete with gratitude. As I was deeply inspired by the Holy Spirit, the answer came from the heart. Reciting of the Word was done not by my wisdom and strength but only by God's power.

Kyung-Suk Go For the first competition, I had devoted my time but the score was not as high as I had hoped. When I prepared for the second competition not by skill alone but by striving to live according to the Word and committing everything to God, I remained in His inspiration throughout the Final Round. Many people have asked me whether I had been good at memorizing in school. The truth is, I had been terrible in subjects that required memorization. However, the Word began to sink in my heart and I could do it amidst the Father's grace.

Host: I heard that from reciting the Word and winning the Grand Prize, each of you had received many blessings in spirit and in flesh.

Gi-Sang Yoon After memorizing Isaiah 58:13, parts of which read, “...you turn your foot From doing your own pleasure on My holy day...” I became more careful with how I behaved on Sundays. While praying, I would also remember relevant verses as well. The experience has been extremely beneficial to my life in Christ.



Eun-Young Cho As I recited His Word, God poured upon me the kind of grace I had not known before. First of all, I was so glad to have obeyed the Senior Pastor's word. Whenever I found time, I meditated the Word and doing so I blocked off any fleshly thoughts. Furthermore, as I equipped myself with the Word, I discovered incomplete parts of myself and could throw those away. It was the shortcut to entering spirit.

After receiving the strength to always keep the Word in my mind and as I began to hear the voice of and receive the guidance of the Holy Spirit, visiting

church members was always done in the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The same amount of time devoted to visiting church members now bore more fruit. I received financial blessings, of course. I had been praying for 12 years for a house and received His answers, while my husband's business has also flourished.



Kyung-Suk Go When I visited church members at homes, I would anxiously browse the Bible to find appropriate verses. After I began reciting the Word, I felt peace in my heart and I could prepare for the visits prayerfully and in peace. The more I recited and meditated the Word, the more I discovered about myself and my heart became more earnest for sanctification. There was a time of trial in which I was accomplishing the Word I had memorized but when I passed the trial by clinging to the Word and in prayer, I won the Grand Prize and received blessings, too!



Host: Finally, please offer a word of advice to all future participants.

Soo-Yeol Cho I hope all of you will keep in mind that what God wants is not to recite well and win the Grand Prize but the transformation of the heart through the reciting of the Word.

Yong-Im Jung : I know everyone is busy all the time, but each of us actually has a lot of spare time. Preparation is totally doable only by making the most of your spare time. I am the living proof. Once you start the preparation, you will be given the strength and the grace to keep at it, and when you become convinced of the Word you will be able to lead a life filled with inspiration. I love the Word and plan on reciting it until the Lord returns.