

Manmin News

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“In the Freezing Weather, We Become Warm by Sharing”

With Christmas Ahead, Love-Sharing Events Have Continued



This year as ever, Manmin Central Church made kimchi so that the neighbors in need can enjoy it during the cold winter. By doing so, the church members share the love of the Lord. Women's Consolidated Mission (President: Sr. Deaconess Hyunsuk Cho) held the 15th 'Love-Kimchi Sharing Event' this year in the backyard of the church for two days on November 20th and

21st. With the favorable warm weather, the total of around 1,000 church members including the members of Women's Mission and other volunteers made and distributed the kimchi (a Korean traditional pickled vegetable staple), to those whom the church has helped with charitable works and to around 1,200 other households through the

local Guro-gu Vocational Training Center for People with Special Needs, Sindaebang 2-dong Office & Community Center, and Korea Rehabilitation Agency.

This event celebrated its fifteenth year in 2012. Since IMF Financial Crisis that struck Korea, this event has been conducted to deliver the love of the Lord with the small deed of service to church members who are

in need and live alone; to child heads-of-family who otherwise have no adult in the home; and to senior citizens who live alone.

Sr. Deaconess Hasun Kwon, Vice President of Women's Consolidated Mission said, "I am very happy to help neighbors who are in need to find happiness during this cold winter. They felt grateful for receiving the kimchi every year and they said it tastes good."

Sunbae Kim the chief of Sindaebang 2-dong Office & Community Center received the boxes that contain 10kg-kimchi and said with a grateful heart, "I give thanks to you for giving us rice and kimchi that your church members themselves make. I feel delighted to see the elderly receive it and demonstrate such great happiness."

In addition to this, Manmin Central Church has been conducting love-sharing events in many places. Our Relief Committee offers supplementary living allowance, rice, and side dish staples to the elderly who live alone and child heads of households during the first week of every month. We also help students by supporting them with their educational tuition fees every quarter.

Also, the Condolence Committee frequently helps members with funeral arrangements. The Rehabilitation Welfare Committee regularly holds events for inmates. The Hairdressers' Mission volunteers offer their skills for the elderly on a monthly basis in Manmin Welfare Center and Rainbow Rising Town.

‘Disaster Relief Concert’ for Kids in Japan



On November 23, 2012, a charity concert was held in Narima Culture & Music Hall under the sponsorship of Tokyo Manmin Church (ministered to by Pastor Byungran Choi) in Japan. This concert was organized to help children who lost their families when the major earthquake and tsunami hit the country in March 2011.

There were various performers such as Trinity Team and Children Praise &

Worship Team, MCS17 team, United Choir from Ida Manmin Church (Pastor Seunggil Ryu); some professional singers, violinists, and pianists who usually perform in Tokyo and Nagano Prefecture; 'Agehakai' that is Japanese traditional dance team; and 'Verkand' which is a sign language volunteer dance team providing entertainment support.

Suginami City Social Welfare Council in Tokyo, Ida City Social Welfare Council in Nagano Prefecture, and some businesses supported this event. The profits will be donated to children in Asahigaoka Child Welfare Center in Kesenuma city in Miyagi Prefecture.

Malaysian Manmin Publisher's 'Book Festival'

In Malaysia, for the five days—from December 4 to 8 in 2012—Malaysian Manmin Publisher, whose President is Deborah Tang, held the 'Christmas Book Festival' in the largest shopping mall in Sarawak, which is the central area of Malaysia.

During the book festival, Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee's books in Chinese, English, and Malay were displayed. Moreover, they also presented the DVDs titled 'The Castle of the Shepherd' that describes some parts of the city of New Jerusalem the most beautiful Heaven; the 'Easter Performance'; the 'Christmas Celebration Performance'; and the '30th Anniversary Celebration

Performance'. Through them, visitors were filled with happiness and joy.

Dr. Lee's books that have been published by Manmin Publisher, Malaysia are actively selling now in SNS Culture Trading in Kuala Lumpur, Beng Kai Enterprise in Miri, and Manmin Book Store in Sibul.



Love Endures All Things

“Love is patient...bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”
(1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

The 13th chapter of 1 Corinthians talks about the characteristics of spiritual love. It says, “[Love] bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

In the previous edition, I explained that ‘to bear all things’ means to bear with everything that is not right according to love. To believe all things is to trust in somebody because we believe in him or her. To hope all things is to wait and look forward to what we believe until it comes true.

If we hope all things with faith, we can bear all things. Also, by bearing all things, we can endure all things. Then, what is the spiritual meaning of ‘to endure all things’? How can we achieve spiritual love completely?

1. What is it to bear all things?

When we bear with all things that are not in accordance with spiritual love, there will be some aftermath from it. After there is a billowing of waves on sea, there will be ripples remaining running on the shore. The aftermath of bearing all things is something like these ripples. When we bear with all things, it will not just end by bearing them. There will be aftereffects from it like trials or heartaches.

As Jesus said in Matthew 5:39, “But I say to you, do not resist an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also,” even if somebody slaps you on the right cheek, you do not fight back, but just endure it. But there might be aftereffects from it. You will have pain.

Of course, people have different reasons for experiencing heart-felt pain. Some people feel the pain because they think they’ve been slapped for no reason, and they are angry. Also, some may have pain in heart feeling sorry that they made the other person angry. Some may feel sorry seeing a brother who cannot hold his temper, but expresses it physically right away.

The aftermath of bearing with something can also come by way of external circumstances. For example, let’s say that somebody slapped you on the right cheek and you turned the other according to the Word. Then, he hits you on the left cheek, too. You bore with it following the Word, but the situation seems to get worse in reality. You might have felt that the problem should be resolved because you bore with it, but why did the trial come after it? It’s because the God of love wants to make us perfect and give us amazing blessings.

As believers we become true children of God like ‘wheat’ through the times of bearing and enduring. God’s providence of human cultivation is such that we come forth as true children of God through such trials. An example is when somebody acts with evil against you and you bear it on the outside, but still have ill-feelings on the inside and think ‘I don’t want to see him. I don’t understand’. The enemy devil and Satan know this and bring accusations against you for those feelings. Then, trials may come according to the accusation.

Until it is acknowledged that we don’t have evil in our heart, there will be big and small tests. Of course,



Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee

even after we cast off all sins and become completely sanctified, there can be trials. This kind of trial is allowed to give us blessings. Through this, we don’t just stay at the level of having no evil but we will accomplish greater love and more perfect goodness.

It’s not only for personal blessings. The same principle applies when God accomplishes His kingdom more greatly. For God to show great works, the justice has to be met. By showing great faith and deeds of love, we have to prove that we have the vessel to receive the answer. This is right according to justice so that the enemy devil cannot object to it. So, God sometimes just allows them to occur. If we endure with only goodness and love, God lets us give glory to Him more greatly with victory.

2. To bear, believe, hope, and endure all things

If we bear, believe, and hope all things in the truth because we love God, we can endure any kind of trials. Then, how do we believe, hope, and endure all things specifically?

1) We have to believe the love of God even during the trial

God allows trials for us so that as a result we will be eligible and able to gain praise, glory and honor at the end of our lives (1 Peter 1:7). Also, to live according to the Word of God completely and not to compromise with the world, you are sometimes faced with unjust sufferings. Then, each time, you have to believe that you are receiving special love of God. Then, you will be thankful because God is leading you to a better dwelling place in Heaven.

But if our trial is severe and it goes on for a long time, we may think, “Does God really love me?” But in these times, we have to remember the love of God and endure the trials. We have to believe that God the Father wants to lead us to better heavenly dwelling place because He loves us. If we believe the love of God and endure until the end, we will finally be blessed to become a perfect person (James 1:4).

2) We have to believe that the trials are a shortcut to fulfill our hopes

Romans 5:3-4 says, “And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope”. As said, the tribulation of trials is like the shortcut to accomplish our hope. You may think, ‘Oh, when can I change!’ But, if you endure the trials and keep on changing again and again, you will finally become a true and perfect child of God resembling Him. It is like stones becoming glittering jewels through the processes of repeated grinding and polishing.

Therefore, when a trial comes, you should not avoid it but try to pass it with your best efforts. Of course, it is natural desire for a man to take the easy way. But if we try to avoid trials, we will arrive at the desired destination much later. For example, there is a person who gives you problems constantly and in every matter. You do not openly show it on the outside, but you have discomfort whenever you meet that person. So, you just want to avoid him. In this situation, you should not just try to ignore the situation, but you have to overcome it actively. Likewise, each of the trials will become the stepping stones and the shortcut on your way to fulfilling your hopes.

3) We have to do only good

From a fleshly view, tests or trials seem to be coming from other people or from some situations. But spiritually, all trials of faith are brought by the enemy devil and Satan. Namely, tests and trials are battles between good and evil. Thus, to win the victory in this spiritual battle, we have to fight according to the rules of the spiritual realm: goodness overcomes evil. If we act in goodness this way, it may seem that we face loss and we lose at the moment, but in fact, it’s the opposite. As recorded in Romans 12:21, “Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good,” goodness wins for sure when we act in goodness because God is goodness.

Does someone around you behave badly and don’t you understand him whatsoever? Why don’t you try with your heart to extend a little more goodness to him? There isn’t anyone you can’t endure if you cultivate true love in your heart. You will be able to love others as yourself and understand and embrace all things concerning them if you do as commanded in Matthew 22:39 saying, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself”.

Dear brothers and sisters. When a foreign object like sand or seaweed comes into its body, a pearl oyster changes it into precious pearl. I hope you will endure pain of bearing with faith and hope and form the beautiful pearl called ‘spiritual love’. I pray in the name of the Lord that, when you pass through the pearl gates, you will be able to confess to the Father God, “Thank You for bearing, believing, hoping, and enduring with all things for me.”

The Confession of Faith

1. Manmin Central Church believes that the Bible is God-breathed Word that is perfect and flawless.
2. Manmin Central Church believes in the unity and the work of God the Trinity: God the Holy Father, God the Holy Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
3. Manmin Central Church believes that we are forgiven of our sins only by the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ.
4. Manmin Central Church believes in the resurrection and ascension of Jesus

5. Members of Manmin Central Church confess their faith through “The Apostles’ Creed” each time they come together and believe in its content verbatim.
- “[God] Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things.”(Acts 17:25)
- “And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”(Acts 4:12)

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“I Met God in South Korea That Set Me Free! This Feels Like Heaven”

Deaconess Hyanggi Oh (Pseudonym, The Love of the Lord Mission)

In June, 2006, I finally crossed the North Korean border after various hardships and made my way through China and Thailand. Eventually, I arrived in South Korea. It was God’s grace that let me come to this land of freedom. Since I came here, I have been living on the government financial support without any difficulties. I didn’t find it hard for me to adjust to this new environment because I am quite social.

In June, 2008, there was a turning point in my life after I remarried another North Korean refugee. It was when I registered in Manmin Central Church under the guidance of my husband’s friend. When I registered, I received Dr. Jaerock Lee’s testimonial memoirs *Tasting Eternal Life before Death*. At home I finished the book in one sitting. It moved me greatly.

Afterwards, I started to read and summarize Dr. Lee’s books *The Message of the Cross*, *The Measure of Faith*, *Heaven I&II*, and *Hell*. I could feel the love of God through them because I came to feel the heart and will of God and my faith grew up. I was happy to lead a Christian life. In particular, the Love of the Lord Mission, a mission that consists of North Korean refugees in Manmin Central Church, has given me great help in my Christian life. Dr. Lee’s love and dedication towards us who are North Korean refugees has been very special.

For some time past, my eyes had itched and had pain in them. They were often bloodshot and gummy. So I had bad eyesight even with eyeglasses. Eventually I was diagnosed with cataracts associated with aging and it was recommended to have an operation in the hospital. But I wanted

to receive healing by faith in the Special Divine Healing Meeting led by Dr. Jaerock Lee. I prepared for it with prayer.

In June 10, 2011, Dr. Lee laid his hand on my eyes in the meeting. Then, hot light flashed and came over me. My eyes had been dimmed and I had hazy vision. But surprisingly, after the prayer I could see things clearly right away! Now I gained better eyesight in both eyes: 20/20. Now I can thread a needle and read minute handwriting although I am 70 years old. On the day when I was healed, I also received healing of the after-effects of an operation on my knee joint and was cured of high blood pressure.

To repay the grace of this good God, I have been writing my own Book of Faithfulness. I’ve kept record of what I do for Him. So it became natural for me to look for what I can do for His kingdom. Since July, 2012, I have tried to evangelize people by distributing around 1,500 copies of *Manmin News*. I am so happy because I met the living God in South Korea and gain true freedom in His love. I give heartfelt thanks to the Lord who embraces me with warm love and Dr. Lee who guided me to the way of blessing with the word of life.



Mr. Pierre Blat and his wife Mrs. Aline Blat

“I Was Healed and My Life Was Changed through Space-and-time Transcending Prayer”

Mr. Pierre Blat
(Hainaut Manmin Church in Belgium)

My wife and I have been Christians for 40 years and faithfully served our church in our own way. We prayed and meditated on the Word for a long time. But my entire life has been changed since I started to attend Hainaut Manmin Church ministered by Missionary Christina Roh.

Recently, I read Dr. Jaerock Lee’s book *The Message of the Cross* chapter by chapter. Through this, I clearly understood the providence of salvation through Jesus Christ. Feeling the love of God and the Lord in it, my faith increased.

I had had heart surgery twice and I had to be on the respirator for 24 hours due to pulmonary function insufficiency. The level of blood sugar and cholesterol were very high, so I had to get an insulin shot twice daily. On November 16, 2012, I sent the prayer request to Manmin Central Church via internet. And I received Dr. Lee’s prayer transcending space and time during the Friday All-night Service.

It was truly surprising that after the prayer I came to have no problem at all even without using the breathing tube in daily life. The medical test results showed that Hemoglobin A1c level was reduced from 8.0 to 6.1 and the level of cholesterol was also reduced to normal. The blood became clean like that of those in their twenties. The pulmonary function also came to be normal. I give all thanks and glory to God the Trinity who blessed me both in spirit and body.

“Our Parish 2-17 District 4 Is Happy Because We Are Together!”



Sr. Deaconess Soonae Lee
(District leader of the 4th District, 17th Parish, 2nd Great Grand Parish)

A disabled family lives in my district. The head of the family has a class-6 physical disability. His wife has class-2 mental retardation and their daughter has a class-3 intellectual disability. They can read letters but they can’t understand what they mean, so our district workers have helped them text messages or deal with civil affair documents. We also take turns in cleaning the family’s house and cooking side dishes for them. We go to a public bath with them and help them take care of their hair styles and have their hair dyed. They are precious because they are precious souls of the Lord. We feel grateful because we can serve them.

Helping this family, I have received a lot of grace. One day, a home cell meeting was held in their home. I said to them before the meeting, “Please clean your house and brush your teeth before the meeting.” Then, they obeyed me. Seeing their obedience, I looked back upon myself while thinking ‘What about me?’ And I checked if I hadn’t obeyed God though I knew that I had to obey.

One another day, on the church bus, I asked them to do around five or six things at once—to brush their teeth, change their underwear, shampoo hair, and so on. One of them said to me getting off the bus, “I hate you.” But the following day, they were waiting

for me after having done all I had asked them to do. I regretted and thought, ‘I should’ve asked only one or two things at them. It must have weighed heavily on their minds.’

People around us feel very happy seeing them change. They are better at getting ready for something than they were before and they also attend Daniel Prayer Meeting every night.

Through this family, our district members became all the more united as one and we shed more tears of emotion and laugh more. I give thanks to the Lord who let us realize the happiness of love that comes from sharing. I also extend my thanks to the Parish Pastor, Sub-district leaders, and cell leaders.



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Illustrated by Dongho Kim



Precious Gift for the Lord

Around 2,000 years ago, God sent His only begotten Son to save all mankind who were on the pathway to death due to sins. Jesus, as the sign of the love demonstrated by God, died on the cross without sin and opened the way of salvation for anyone who believes. That is, God gave us the precious gift of being able to enter into the beautiful Heaven and share in eternal love and joy with God the Father.

On Christmas, what kind of gift are we supposed to give to the Lord who has given us salvation, eternal life, and Heaven?

Matthew chapter 2 describes the birth of Jesus who came as the King of the Jews. The three magi saw His star and came to Him to celebrate and worship Him. They offered Him three gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrrh. God chose these good and righteous men and allowed for them to worship Jesus, who came to the earth as the Savior, on the behalf of all mankind.

Let's look into the spiritual meanings of the three gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—and prepare the true gifts for the Lord. By doing so, we hope you will confess your love for the Lord on this joyful Christmas.

GOLD, THE HEART

People love gold the most of all metals on the earth. It is the very symbol of riches and wealth. It is recorded in Matthew 6:21, “. . . for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also,” so, gold also refers to our hearts. Therefore, ‘giving gold to the Lord’ means we have to give everything we have to the Lord. It doesn't just mean what we can do within our limits. When we give more than our life, God will be pleased with us.

In Mark 12:41-44, Jesus praised the poor widow who gave all she had. She, out of her poverty, put only two mites (NKJV) into the treasury. Here, a ‘mite’ is a former Greek monetary unit and the ‘smallest and least valuable coin.’ Yet, Jesus said that this poor widow put in more than all the contributors to the treasury.

As recorded in 1 Kings chapter 17, a widow in Zerahath served Elijah, the servant of God, with the last thing she had available to eat. She and her son didn't have anything to eat except for a handful of flour in the flour barrel and a little oil in the jar because there was a continuing drought. So, the flour and oil were like a lifeline to her family. But the woman obeyed Elijah the prophet who was loved by God and God accepted her heart. As a result, she received the blessing that the barrel of flour was not exhausted, nor was the jar of oil empty, until the drought ended.

In this same way, if we give all we have and serve God first, even in the situation where it does not seem that we can, such a heart is recognized as beautiful in God's sight. It is referred to the heart of giving ‘gold’ to Him.

FRANKINCENSE, THE FRAGRANCE OF THE CHRIST

Frankincense is used in incense for an offering by fire and a grain offering that were fragrant offerings God accepted with joy. There were the Levites who took care of the frankincense. Between June and August, people harvest aromatic resin from trees of the genus *Boswellia*, particularly *Boswellia Sacra* by wounding it. The milk-white resin is bled out and a milk-like substance is formed. This is frankincense. The flowing resin forms like drops. It is soft like rubber and is a transparent light yellow or light green. It darkens to white and then to yellow over time and hardens. (Reference: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frankincense>)

Frankincense removes foul odor and sends forth a good fragrance. The giving of the frankincense spiritually means the spreading the fragrance of the Christ. When we remove all forms of evil and glorify God with good deeds, we can spread the fragrance of Christ. This is represented by the offering of frankincense to the Lord. Those who offer ‘frankincense’, their souls will prosper. They will be successful in everything they do and they will enjoy good health as recorded in 3 John 1:2.

God doesn't search for only our deeds but also sees our heart. He first receives good aroma from our hearts. That's why those who really love God and understand this heart of God do their best to circumcise their hearts and get rid of every form of evil. Those who spread the fragrance of Christ by circumcising their hearts, namely those who ‘give the Lord frankincense’, can give everything they have to the Lord and do not spare even their lives for Him.

MYRRH, UNCHANGING FAITH

Myrrh has been used as a perfume, incense and embalment. In ancient times, noble women would make a pouch of myrrh and wear it like the pendant of a necklace (Ref: Song of Songs 1:13). The kings of Persia put it in their crowns and used it as a tonic. Myrrh is tapped from a number of species of trees, *Commiphora*. These trees are hardy shrubs. When a wound penetrates through the bark of the tree and into the sapwood, the tree bleeds a resin. Myrrh gum is such a resin. When people harvest myrrh, they wound the trees repeatedly to bleed them of the gum. After the harvest, the gum becomes hard and glossy. The gum is yellowish, and may be either clear or opaque. It darkens deeply as it ages, and white streaks emerge. The gum is white at first and changed into yellow and then brown. Then it is hardened. (Reference: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myrrh>)

Giving myrrh, which is used as an embalment, to the Lord in a spiritual sense means we have to give the Lord what does not perish. That is, we unchangingly give our hearts in surrendering even our lives to the Lord. To have such an unchanging heart, we must cast off every form of evil. This is because some forms of evil that remain in you may cause you to seek your own benefits and cause you to change your mind. Thus, we need to get rid of untruth through circumcision of heart and fill it up with the truth. Moreover, if you give yourself completely to the Lord with an unchanging heart, it is the best gift offered to the Lord.

On December 25, 2010, Manmin members received a very special gift from God. It is to let us realize the original roots of evil in our hearts amid the rapid spiritual flow and to cast them away. Through this, many members have come forth as men of spirit and whole spirit. Since then, Christmas which is Jesus' birthday became a more meaningful and happier day. We received the precious gift so we should confess our burning love for the Lord with the true gifts on this upcoming Christmas.

