

# Manmin News

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## Dr. Jaerock Lee's 100<sup>th</sup> Book *Abraham, the Friend of God*

### God's love learned through Abraham's life

Abraham kept a close relationship with God, so that God even said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?" Through faith, he was blessed to prosper in all aspects and be in good health as his soul prospered and he became the forefather of faith. He possessed perfect faith to the extent that all believers long for the faith like his and he is the criterion of faith in the final judgment.

It is necessary to pay attention to his faith and trust in God to receive the blessings he received. What kind of faith did he have to please God? How did he come to be called 'the friend of God'? Just how close was his relationship with God? On October 10, 2015, the 33<sup>rd</sup> church anniversary, Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee announced the publication of his 100th book *Abraham, the Friend of God* so that all church members can follow the faith of Abraham and glorify God greatly.

The God of love set Abraham as the forefather of faith and teaches us true faith through his life. He also wants to give all of us the blessings Abraham enjoyed. Just as Abraham had done, we too must quickly demolish fleshly thoughts, pass through trials, and obey God through knowing His heart. Then we too will be called the friend of God.

This book consists of excerpts from Dr. Lee's series "Lectures on Genesis". His lectures on Genesis, chapters 12 through 25 were edited and divided into three parts: 'Trust and Obedience', 'Sacrifice and Submission', and 'Love and Blessing'. The book not only describes the faith of Abraham that completely relies on God, but also on that of his nephew Lot, who

sought personal benefit; on Sarah, who did not believe God's promise; and the obedience of his only son, Isaac.

Above all, it was a dramatic scene in which Abraham passed the test of faith by offering up his son Isaac, the seed of God's promise, as a burnt offering. Consequently, Abraham came to be called 'the friend of God' and became the forefather of faith.

When Abraham was given the test, he said to God, "...to give my son as a burnt offering...I felt it was the Father's great love for me. I shed tears because of the heart of the Father who trusted me. Father it is You who always had consideration for me and wanted to bless me. Your love led me to become the forefather of faith today."

Abraham understood the heart of God and passed the test given to become the forefather of faith. He finally became the forefather of faith, and was called 'the fountain of blessing' and 'the friend of God'. He enjoyed overflowing blessings in both spirit and body. At an advanced age he even became younger again and begot six more sons. After his death, he was given a high rank in New Jerusalem, the best dwelling place in Heaven, and he will assist God during the Great White Throne Judgment.

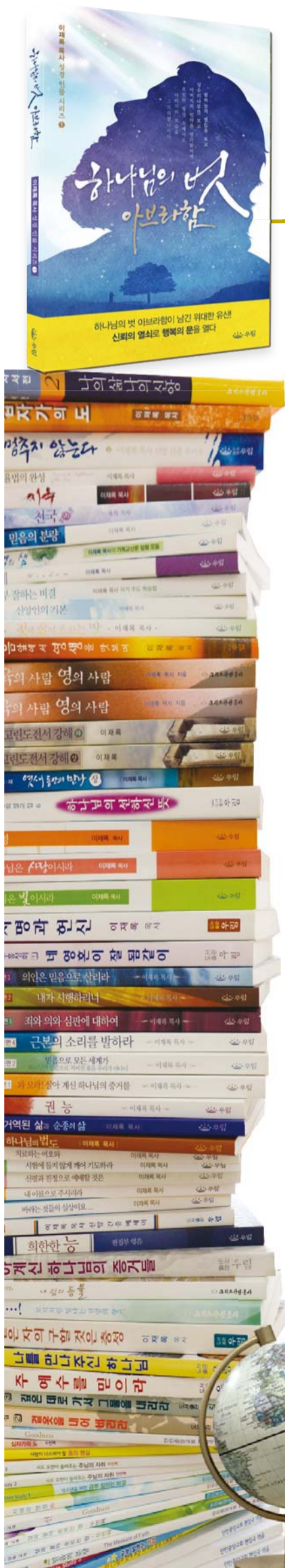
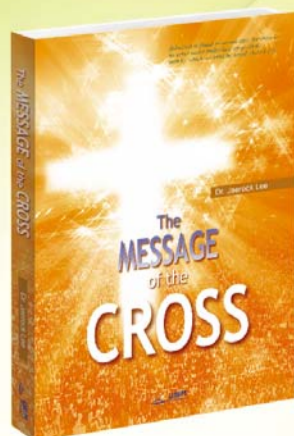
Between the chapters, there are eight additional subtitles that help you understand the life of Abraham better such as 'Who Is Melchizedek, King of Salem?' and 'Who Are the Three Men with Him?' The Korean edition of this book is available now in Kyobo Book Centre and Youngpoong Bookstore.

"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).

Here are key answers concerning the providence of human salvation.

You will be given the message of life showing God's great, broad, and deep love towards mankind. This will cause you to have true faith and lay perfect foundation of faith.

Why is Jesus Christ the Savior of mankind?  
Why did God put the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the Garden of Eden?





Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee

“Be faithful until death,  
and I will give you the crown of life”  
(Revelation 2:10).



If you have the faith to love God to the utmost degree, you can truly love God from the depth of your heart. The faithfulness of Moses, Abraham’s obedience, Paul’s passion, and all the devotion of the patriarchs were possible because they had love for God. I hope you will check what kind of devotion you have, compared to such patriarchs.

### 1. You should check if you have a changing mind, which changes according to your benefit or advantage

‘Changing-mind’ is one of the fleshly attributes that we have to be most careful about. On the outside, it might not look like you are doing a great evil, but as the changing-mind grows, eventually it can even lead you to betray the grace of God.

It was the case with Judas Iscariot. He witnessed so many signs and wonders directly while staying near Jesus. Just with a word from Jesus, a dead person came back to life and a man born blind opened his eyes. But seeing this Jesus, Judas Iscariot just thought that he could one day also enjoy privilege and honor because of Jesus. But the things did not go as he thought they would. People conspired against Jesus and persecuted Him. Those in power, in particular, tried to kill Him.

Seeing that the situation was turning unfavorably for Jesus, the heart of Judas Iscariot began to change. Since he thought he wouldn’t be able to get any benefit out of it, in the end, having been instigated by Satan, he made the extreme choice of selling out his own master.

When this church had great trials, those who used to say that they would keep the church and the shepherd with their lives, left the church one by one. It was a trial of blessing that was allowed for this church by God. And yet, in the eyes of the fleshly people, it looked like the church was suffering great damage and it didn’t seem beneficial for them, so they soon changed their minds. There were even pastors who just forsook the flock entrusted to them. They used to say they were going to be faithful to the kingdom of God, but they eventually left. Although they did not hinder the ministry of the church, they just forsook the church where they had received so much grace of God. It means they did not possess true faith. They lost all their love, faith, and hope that they had stored. Therefore, we always have to check ‘changing mind.’

Especially, if you usually seek your own benefit, it is likely that you will change your mind more easily. When you do the work of God, you should not try to do what you like according to your preferences, but you have to go with the will of God. For example, for pastors, they are served and respected by the members, but more often they have to unconditionally sacrifice themselves and give of themselves for the members. Sometimes they have to give up their own freedom and rights. They should be willing to give up their time, what they want to enjoy, and even their everyday life.

Also, workers should first think about the benefit for the kingdom of God as a whole. If one wants to be commended for the work that he’s done personally or by his own department, he will be happy if he is commended by seniors, but otherwise his fervor will cool down. He will be disappointed and become tired if he doesn’t get what he wants. You work hard in a duty that easily draws attention and commendation, but if another job seems to earn praises more easily, you want to do that job, neglecting your own duty.

Apostle Paul established many churches in many places, giving birth to many flocks of God. Rather than taking from the flock, he paid for his ministry by making tents. So then, how many persecutions and sufferings did he go through?

Acts 20:22-24 says, “And now, behold, bound in spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what

will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies to me in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me. But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God.” Knowing that he would be beaten, put in jail, and even put to death at the end, he said only ‘Yes’ if it was the will of God. Even when he was in jail, he did not seek his own comfort but he worried about the church and the conditions of the flock.

When you received a position and duty in the church, probably you only wanted to dedicate yourself for the Lord, for the church, and for the members. But if you want to change your mind just because it is not beneficial for you any longer, or just because you feel it is too hard to go through, wouldn’t your previous faithfulness be in vain? Rather than seeking your own benefit, I hope you will first think of the kingdom of God and the souls.

### 2. I urge you to check if you have not considered everything only according to your own situations

Sometimes you might be given a job that you don’t really want to do, or one that is beyond the scope of your capabilities. In those situations, you should not say you lack the ability to the work given to you, and just try to do the job that you are good at and you are willing to do. Doing your God-given duty is not only done by knowledge of the world, talents, or money.

Philippians 4:13 says, “I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.” If you ask for the wisdom and strength of God with all your heart, you can be a great worker of God.

Especially, in case of pastors, they have to focus more on the souls who are in despair, the weak souls, and those who have hardened hearts, rather than those who are doing fine in the church. Even if you are given a job that you don’t really want to do, I urge you to first think about what the will of the God is for you.

But I am not saying that God will indiscriminately give you any random job without considering your faith, circumstances, visions, and capabilities. I am just saying that

rather than thinking about your own situations, you should be able to think about what God wants for you first, for He always wants to give you the best things.

Once, I asked the workers around me to try to take on a duty in their respective mission groups and serve the members. I didn’t ask them to do that just because I wanted them to have more duties and be faithful in all God’s household. It was because, when they had the duty to take care of the souls, they could understand the heart of the shepherd and they would be able to love the church and the members more deeply. If you do not broaden your heart and just stay within your own limitations, then it means you are being stubborn saying, “I will not do anything more for the kingdom of God.”

Also, for some duties, you stand on the stage with splendid appearances while for other duties you have to serve without anybody recognizing you. In some cases, even after you did some hard work, nobody recognizes and sometimes the merit and commendation go to another person. I want you to check if you can dedicate yourself with the same attitude of mind in this kind of situation, too.

You might be given a job that you didn’t really want. You could be led in a direction that you never expected to be led. You might be put in a low position or you may have to hear criticism concerning a job that you did with dedication. Nevertheless, I hope all of you will still dedicate yourselves with the attitude of an unworthy servant (Luke 17:10).

The God also dedicates Himself during all the days of human cultivation. After all, it also comes from love.

Because God knows the weakness of human beings, He knew He would be betrayed by them, too. He knew they would be stained by sins and He would be heart-broken because of it. But He has endured for a long time with His love. He doesn’t want to give up on any of the souls, so He gives them chances again and again. Eventually, He gave His beloved Son as propitiation on the cross and demonstrated His love once again (Romans 5:8).

I pray in the name of the Lord that you will realize the love of God towards you, devote yourselves with the true love, and be used greatly.

## 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 Christ, His Second Advent, the Millennium, and the eternal heaven.
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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# Heavenly Plants and Animals Give You Happiness

The best gift God the Creator prepared for His beloved children is the eternal Heaven. If you achieve the heart that is clear and beautiful like crystal and resemble God, you will be served by angels and you can do everything you want in the eternal Heaven. You will feel happy because even plants and animals love and serve God's children. I hope you will be children who please God and enjoy the most glorious life in Heaven.

## 01» Heavenly plants give out special fragrance and greet when God's children come close

In Heaven, just like on this earth, there are so many kinds of plants. Plants on this earth absorb water and nutrients through their roots, and they grow up, blossom with the flower, produce nourishment through photosynthesis in their leaves and bear seed and fruit. But the plants in Heaven do not need any operation like these to live. They just live forever with the life given by God.

Even with the passage of time, their leaves do not wither, and neither their flowers nor fruit falls. If we pick any of their fruits another fruit will regenerate immediately on that spot so the tree will always have its fruit. It's the same with flowers. If you take one flower, another flower will bloom immediately in its place.

Also, even the flower that is picked will not wither, but it will remain as fresh as when it was first picked. Even the flowers separated from its root will not change but can keep their unique colors and shapes. They have refreshing, sweet, elegant and mild fragrance.

No matter how much scent is given out, the scent never runs out, and the concentration of the scent is also controlled automatically. As necessary, the scent goes out far, or at other times, it is only mild and soft. Just by smelling it once, your whole body will be energized.



When the owner approaches the flower, the flower may close the blossom to a bud for a moment and then open it wide and give out the scent to welcome the owner. It receives the owner as if it were saying, "Master, welcome! I am so happy that you came to me!"

When angels praise God lifting their hands, the flowers also move to the rhythm, and give out their scent sometimes strongly, or sometimes lightly. Also, if the owner wants to see a scene of petals being blown by the wind, the flowers can let their petals drift by themselves to please the heart of their owner.

But the fact is that in each heavenly dwelling place, the scent and meaning embedded in the plants are different. For example, in case of roses, the roses in Paradise are just one of the many flowers. But if there are roses in a house in New Jerusalem, this is not just one of the many flowers, but in the scent of the rose will be embedded the heart of the owner. So, when a guest visits this

house, the rose will give out its scent to the guest, which is a way to express the heart of the owner.

Also, not all the plants that are in New Jerusalem are present in other dwelling places, too. Going from New Jerusalem to Paradise, the number of kinds of plants decreases, and even for the same kind of plant, people have less authority to make use of it. Also, the quality of the same kind of plants is different in different dwelling places. For example, there is the lawn and grass-covered plain in both Paradise and New Jerusalem, but the comfort that the lawns provide and their colors are different.

## 02» Heavenly animals are glad to see God's children

The animals in Heaven are a little bigger than animals of this earth. Above all, they are of mild and obedient characters. Also, the fur of animals and feathers of birds give out wondrous lights. Their smell is mild and aromatic. Also, even lions are very gentle. They have a golden and especially bright mane. Fish also have fins and scales with beautiful colors, and there are some fish that change their colors from time to time.

When these animals in Heaven see God's children, they jump with gladness. Those animals in New Jerusalem that are raised in individual houses will listen and respond to their owner very well. They will also read their owner's mind and try to please them completely. It's not that animals in Heaven have souls to think and judge, and move, but they only do their duty in the spiritual space. Just as angels are made as spiritual beings to move according to God's command, the animals

in Heaven are also spiritual beings existing and moving according to their duty.



There are countless kinds of animals and fish in Heaven. There are many kinds that are not present on this earth, too. On the other hand, there are also some kinds that are here on this earth but are non-existent in Heaven. These are the animals that God considers 'abominable' and 'unclean'.

In Leviticus chapter 11, we can see in detail what kinds of animals, birds, fish, and insects are deemed abominable in the sight of God. The abominable animals are the animals that have the images of the cherubim that became corrupted and stood against God. In Revelation 12:9, we can see the expression 'The great dragon and his angels'. They were the ones who stood with Lucifer when Lucifer rebelled against God. 'The dragon's angels' here refers to some of the cherubim that belonged to the dragon. Unlike angels have the form of human beings, cherubim are spiritual beings that have the forms of animals.

These angels of the dragons were also cherubim that had beautiful forms, but once they rebelled against God and became corrupted, their forms also changed into forms of ugly animals. Those animals that God declared to be 'detestable' are the ones that look like these corrupted cherubim.

Next, 'unclean' animals are some of the animals that had bad characters and characteristics at the time when all animals were created from the dust of the ground. For example, some animals have crafty natures, some others have violent natures, and still others have greedy natures. Some of the animals mentioned in the Bible are camels, rabbits, pigs, rats, weasels, and lizards.



# “A Humble Person Is Exalted by the God of Love!”

Pastor Hyunju Kim, age 50, Pastor of Parish 31



My parents gave birth to a son and six daughters, and I am the fourth daughter. My family was a Christian family, so I saw my mother pray in the early morning prayer meeting as I was growing up. I studied English Language and Literature in Yonsei University and became an English teacher.

## I experienced God's delicate love through my weak child

In May 1992, I got married to Elder Yeongsik Hong and we had a daughter. In 1996, I got pregnant again. I taught students in public school while I was raising my first child at the same time and overworked. Consequently, I delivered my second child prematurely in June 1997. I was in my seventh month of pregnancy.

When my son was born he weighed 1.3kg and he suffered brain damage during the delivery. He had to be placed in an incubator. Faced with human limits, I knelt down before God and started to offer up prayer in the Early Morning Prayer Meeting the day after delivery. “God, forgive me. I have lived only for myself. I have pursued the worldly success. I have not lived by the will of God.”

Two months later, my younger sister, Senior Deaconess Hyunsuk Kim, gave me Dr. Jaerock Lee's testimonial memoir *Tasting Eternal Life before Death*. While I was reading it all night, I felt thrilled. I visited Manmin Central Church with hope for my son's healing.

In October 1997 my husband was supposed to take a training course in a postdoctoral course. We had to move to France with my sick child. My son did not grow up normally and he cried a lot in pain.

Our family returned to South Korea with him to attend Dr. Lee's Special Revival Meeting in May 1998. I received a lot of grace and repented of my past

*I came to the church of life due to my first son who was born with brain damage. There were distorted reports in the media that were proven to be false. Frameworks of knowledge and arrogance were broken by the Word of Life. Now I am serving souls as a pastor.*

wrongdoings. Then I received Dr. Lee's prayer with my son. He stopped crying and did not seem to have pain any longer. His symptoms improved. The pupils of his eyes became bright and he became healthy. We experienced the power of God! We went back to France and my husband finished the course. In October 1998, we moved back to Korea and started to lead happy Christian lives in Manmin.

In January 1999, God blessed me to conceive another son. A month later, my first child started to lose energy little by little and went to Heaven. I was very sad at first, but I soon realized the providence and great love of God who had given us a new, healthy life.

## I came to have stronger faith after the trial caused by a broadcasting station

In May 1999, I appeared on a Korean public TV though I did not intend to. When I was at the fifth

month pregnancy, a woman called me. She said her nephew had cerebral palsy and she wanted him to be healed by attending Dr. Lee's Special Revival Meeting. She asked for some help.

A few days later she visited my house. She had a long face and carried a big bag. Because I wanted to evangelize her, I talked about what I had experienced and urged her to believe the powerful works manifested through Dr. Lee and attend the meeting. One day one of my acquaintances called me and said, “Turn on the TV! You are on it!” I realized that there was a hidden camera and I stood aghast.

I had said to the woman that my son was healed of his sickness by Dr. Lee's prayer and lived a healthy life. But because he was congenitally weak, God took him to Heaven and gave us a new life in His blessing. But the program deleted such things and distorted my testimony making it sound as though my child had died after the prayer.

My husband and I felt shocked and betrayed. I was interviewed illegally and unfairly. But we overcame it because there were my church members and especially my Senior Pastor who only acted with goodness, trusted God, and loved souls although they went through many difficulties without doing anything wrong.

In the end, the interview was proven improperly conducted, and God, who knew everything, opened the door to the world mission wide from 2000 for Manmin. The church could glorify God more greatly.

## I am now following the way of the Lord in true happiness

I was grateful because this trial caused my self-formed frameworks of knowledge and arrogance to be destroyed. I started to rely on God in my life, and my attachment to the desire to enjoy what was considered to be the good things in the world was severed. I made up my mind to live only for the glory of God for the rest of my life. My heart leaned towards the everlasting hometown of Heaven.

I learned the will of God by reading *The Message of the Cross; The Measure of Faith; Spirit, Soul, and Body; Heaven I & II; and Ten Commandments* that are the books that contain priceless messages Dr. Lee had received from God by offering up innumerable fastings and prayer.

In 2001, my husband was hired as a researcher by a company in Daedeok Science Town. We attended Daejeon Manmin Church. Five years later, he was appointed as a professor in Department of Science Education in Seoul National University of Education. So, we were blessed to attend Manmin Central Church again.

In 2010, I entered Alliance Holiness Theological Seminary and now I am a pastor. Meantime, God who looks at hearts, blessed me to discover untruthful things deep in my heart and throw them away. It seemed that I pursued peace, but I judged others with thoughts. I made excuses for my faults and disobeyed. I threw them away. I humbled myself and even destroyed my self-righteousness, self-formed frameworks, arrogance, and self-esteem. In June 2015, I achieved the heart of spirit in God's blessing.

My daughter Haeun was admitted to Korea University after she received Dr. Lee's prayer. My son Daebeom, our God-given gift, works as a member of Choir and is a manager of his group.

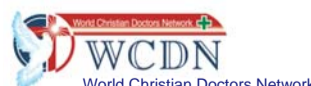
I give all thanks and glory to God who came to me and guided me to the most blessed way.



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