

## Prayer Points for the Chosun People

### March-April 2008

1. From March 28-31 On March 1, both Koreas remember the independence movement in 1919, which was brutally suppressed by the occupying Japanese. It has often been suggested that the large Christian involvement in this movement for justice raised the profile of the Christian church in Korea and helped its growth. Many Christians lost their lives for standing up for the freedom of the nation. As people in the North remember their history, may the nation recognise the church's legacy to the country. "That they may see their good deeds and praise their Father in heaven."
2. "Do not be terrified by them, for the Lord your God, who is among you, is a great and awesome God" (Deut 7:21). Pray that the believers in the North will remember that our God is an awesome God!
3. "Our Party is consistent in its revolutionary stand to hold the idea of giving prominence to the military affairs as the basic strategy in building a great, prosperous and powerful nation" (from the DPRK Korean Central News Agency, as quoted in Korea Times, Jan 1; this was part of the DPRK's New Year's statement). Pray that God's goals for this precious nation would become a reality.
4. One project in the DPRK is the building wind turbines to help supply electrical energy for the country. Pray for the success of this project and for not only the distribution of electrical energy but also for the radiance of the Truth.
5. Praise God for answering prayer and releasing a fellow Christian worker who had been in a difficult situation in the DPRK. God was glorified through this. Pray for him and his family as they recover from the emotional stress.
6. Since December, cargo trains have been running between the two Koreas and will now run at least once daily. This is the first time in 56 years freight trains have crossed the border (KT, Jan 31). Pray that cooperation between the divided Koreas will continue.
7. In December, the two Koreas discussed ways of establishing shipyards in the North. This was follow-up work after the October summit, when the two sides agreed to establish shipyards in Anbyeon and Nampo in the North (KT, Dec 25). Praise God that the two sides are cooperating in various areas. Pray that Christians will be part of these discussions and bring God's aroma to the discussions.
8. A recent study claims that due to the economic cooperation between the DPRK, China and the ROK, greater access to music, media and other 'cultural outlets' has taken place for the average DPRK citizen (KT, Jan 17). Pray that through these cultural exchanges the Gospel of Jesus will be presented to those inside the DPRK.
9. "And Hezekiah prayed to the Lord: 'O Lord, God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth'" (2 Kings 19:15). Pray that the disciples in the North will remember who our God is: the God over all the governments of the world.
10. Several foreign-built medical clinics and hospitals exist inside the DPRK. Pray that these clinics will be a source of both physical and spiritual healing to the people.
11. Pray for the unity of the foreign workers inside the DPRK. Pray that despite obstacles they would be able to

work together, without competition, for the benefit of the people.

12. "Mennonite Central Committee is providing 200 tons of soybeans, worth \$130,000, that will be used to make soymilk for children in North Korean schools and orphanages ... According to the World Food Program, more than a third of North Korean children are chronically malnourished, causing many health problems, such as stunted growth. Listen to a podcast on this project at [mcc.org/food](http://mcc.org/food)" ("A Common Place," Jan/Feb, p 21). Praise God for the beans. Pray for healthy children in the North.

13. The new ROK president, Lee Myung-Bak, wants to raise the per capita income in the DPRK to US\$3,000 within a decade. That is about three times as much as the current per capita income ([Yahoo News, Feb 5](#)). A lot would have to take place for this to happen. Pray that all the people in the DPRK will have at least the minimum of what they need.

14. ROK leader Lee Myung-Bak also wants to link the aid given closer to the North's denuclearisation and the general opening up of society ([Yahoo News, Feb 5](#)). Pray that this plan will indeed result in faster denuclearisation and will motivate the North's government to seek ways to connect constructively with the rest of the world.

15. Compare your worship of God with N Koreans' worship of their leaders. Is every facet of your life surrendered to the Lord's service? Is it clear to everyone who you serve? (see article) Pray that we would worship the Lord with 100% devotion and that N Koreans would seek their Creator God who is worthy to be worshiped.

16. "The one in authority is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on

the wrongdoer" (Rom 13:4). The one in authority is supposed to be God's servant to serve the people he leads. Pray that the leaders in the North become God-pleasing servants. Also, April 16 is Kim Il-Sung's birthday, the biggest holiday in the DPRK. If people honor him, people will honor his son. Pray for the salvation of Kim Il-Sung's son.

17. The article makes one think of Paul in Athens, in Acts 17:22-24 (article: "Does Worship Exist in North Korea?"). Pray that many in the North will seek more than what they know, and that God would send people to proclaim the sovereign God of creation.

18. An estimated 11,000 people from the North have settled in the ROK since 1953 (KT, Dec 24). Pray that as more of these people spread through the world, they will learn more about our Saviour.

19. This month's article also makes one think of what Paul wrote to the church in Rome, in Romans 1:18-23 (see article). Pray that God will draw many to seek Himself and that He would open their spiritual eyes.

20. China usually calls N Korean refugees 'economic migrants' and does not grant protection. However, two of these people went to Beijing under the protection of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and proceeded to the US in December (KT, Dec 25). Praise God; and pray that justice and mercy will continue to be shown to people like them.

21. Pray that someday soon freedom of religion will come to the DPRK and that people will be free to worship the Lord (thinking of article).

22. "There is a special place in [this] ministry for ethnic Koreans who have grown up in the West. Like Westerners, N Koreans speak and think directly and use language to convey factual information" (from one who works with a North facing

group; source available upon request). Pray that more ethnic Koreans from the West will get involved in this ministry.

23. “I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name – the name you gave me – so that they may be one as we are one” (Jn 17:11). Pray that God would protect the believers in the North and that they would become one, to show Christ to their world.

24. An example of fellowship in the North: “A Christian goes and sits on a bench in the park. Another Christian comes and sits next to him . . . they know they are both Christians, and at such a time, this is enough” (Brother Simon, as quoted in MNN, Dec 25). Pray for Christians in the North to live in confidence in the Lord, not in fear.

25. “Being a Christian in North Korea is very lonely” (Brother Simon, in MNN, Dec 25). Pray that the Holy Spirit of God, the Comforter from on high, would especially encourage the followers in the North.

26. The number of believers in the North is small. Pray that the believers would live knowing that the Lord God, the God of Israel, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, is in control.

27. Please pray for the believers in the North in light of 2 Timothy 3:12 and Mark 13:13.

28. “Traditional strategies for reaching out won’t work [there]; but Jesus’ strategy will work. His strategy was being with the people. He didn’t use printed material. He lived with people. We don’t have to use persuasive verbal methods. Scratch where people itch – help people where they are at. Discipleship will work; relationships will work” (from one who has worked with people from the North).

Pray that Christians will develop meaningful relationships with N Koreans.

29. “Build bridges with the people. Give them something to be proud of” (from same source as No 28). Pray that Christians will be able to do this.

30. “Jesus said, ‘My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place’” (Jn 18:36). Pray that the believers in the North would remember that they are part of the Kingdom of God, which operates on different principles than the kingdoms and nations of this world.

31. As mentioned in Day 5, a fellow Christian worker was released after having been detained for 84 days. Pray for others in similar situations to be strong and courageous and a witness for Him.