



**A PRAYER GUIDE**  
**for THE DPR KOREA**



Magnolia is the national flower of the DPR Korea.

*Magnolia Sieboldii* is a Korean species of the magnolia that has been on the Korean peninsula for thousands of years. It symbolises the character and strength of the DPRK people.



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### **Dear Fellow Prayer Partners,**

First of all, we thank God every day for each of you, whom God has given a heart to pray for the people of the DPRK of Korea (North Korea). Many people have put numerous hours of work and even more hours of prayer into publishing this booklet.

The DPRK often evokes strong emotions in different people. Most people's only knowledge of the DPRK is as the villain in a movie or the enemy in some news article about international politics. The authors of this booklet have spent time in research as well as time talking to DPRK citizens. We want to understand these people as we pray for them. Some of the pages in this booklet might make you uncomfortable as you read and pray through them. We made an attempt to try and communicate how the people of DPRK see the world around them.



However, as much as we want to understand the people of DPRK and how they see the world, the most important thing is for us to see things the way that God sees them. Therefore, please use this book to pray in humility before God. Repent of the lies that we have believed. Ask God to forgive our prejudices and for Him to show us His heart for the people of the DPRK. Let us claim this promise as we join a worldwide movement in prayer for the people of the DPRK, "If my people, who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land." (2 Chronicles 7:14)



## History of the DPR Korea

- 1866 Robert Thomas, first missionary to Korea, is killed.
- 1884 Protestant missionaries allowed to enter Korea.
- 1907 Revival in Pyongyang.
- 1910 Korea comes under Japanese rule.
- 1945 After World War II, Japanese occupation of Korea ends with Soviet troops occupying the North, and US troops the South.
- 1946 Communist Party inaugurated in the north. Soviet-backed leadership installed, including Red Army-trained Kim Il-Sung.
- 1948 Democratic People's Republic of Korea proclaimed in September. Soviet troops withdraw. Republic of Korea (South) formed in May.
- 1950 Korean War breaks out.
- 1953 Armistice ends active fighting in Korean War, which cost two million lives.
- 1991 The DPRK and the ROK join the United Nations.
- 1994 Death of Kim Il-Sung. Kim Jong-Il succeeds him as leader of the DPRK.
- 1996 Severe famine follows widespread floods. As many as one million DPRK citizens die between 1996 and 1999.
- 2006 The DPRK claims to test a nuclear weapon for the first time.
- 2010 Kim Jong-Il's youngest son Kim Jong-Un is appointed to senior political and military posts.
- 2011 Kim Jong-Il's son Kim Jong-Un succeeds him and takes over from his father as chairman of the National Defense Commission.
- 2017 United States begins a travel ban on US citizens, not allowing them to go to the DPRK. Many American Christian professionals who previously lived and worked in the DPRK were forced to leave.
- 2018 **February** » Winter Olympics held in the ROK; DPRK athletes take part. **April** » DPRK Chairman Kim and ROK President Moon hold summit in the DMZ. **June** » DPRK Chairman Kim meets US President Trump in Singapore. **September** » ROK President Moon and DPRK Chairman Kim hold summit in Pyongyang.
- 2019 **February** » DPRK Chairman Kim meets US President Trump in Hanoi but talks end early.

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**FULL NAME** DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA DPRK

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**POPULATION** 25,490,000

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**AREA** 122,350 SQ KM ONLY 20% OF THE LAND IS ARABLE

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**CAPITAL** PYONGYANG POPULATION: 3,255,288

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**OTHER IMPORTANT CITIES**

KAESONG POPULATION: 338,155 RAJIN POPULATION: 66,224

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**POPULATION**  
**UNDER 15 YEARS OLD** 20%

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**LIFE EXPECTANCY** 71 YEARS

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**Peoples**

**KOREAN** 99.8%

**CHINESE** 0.2%

**LANGUAGE** KOREAN

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**Religion**

**NON-RELIGIOUS** 64.3%

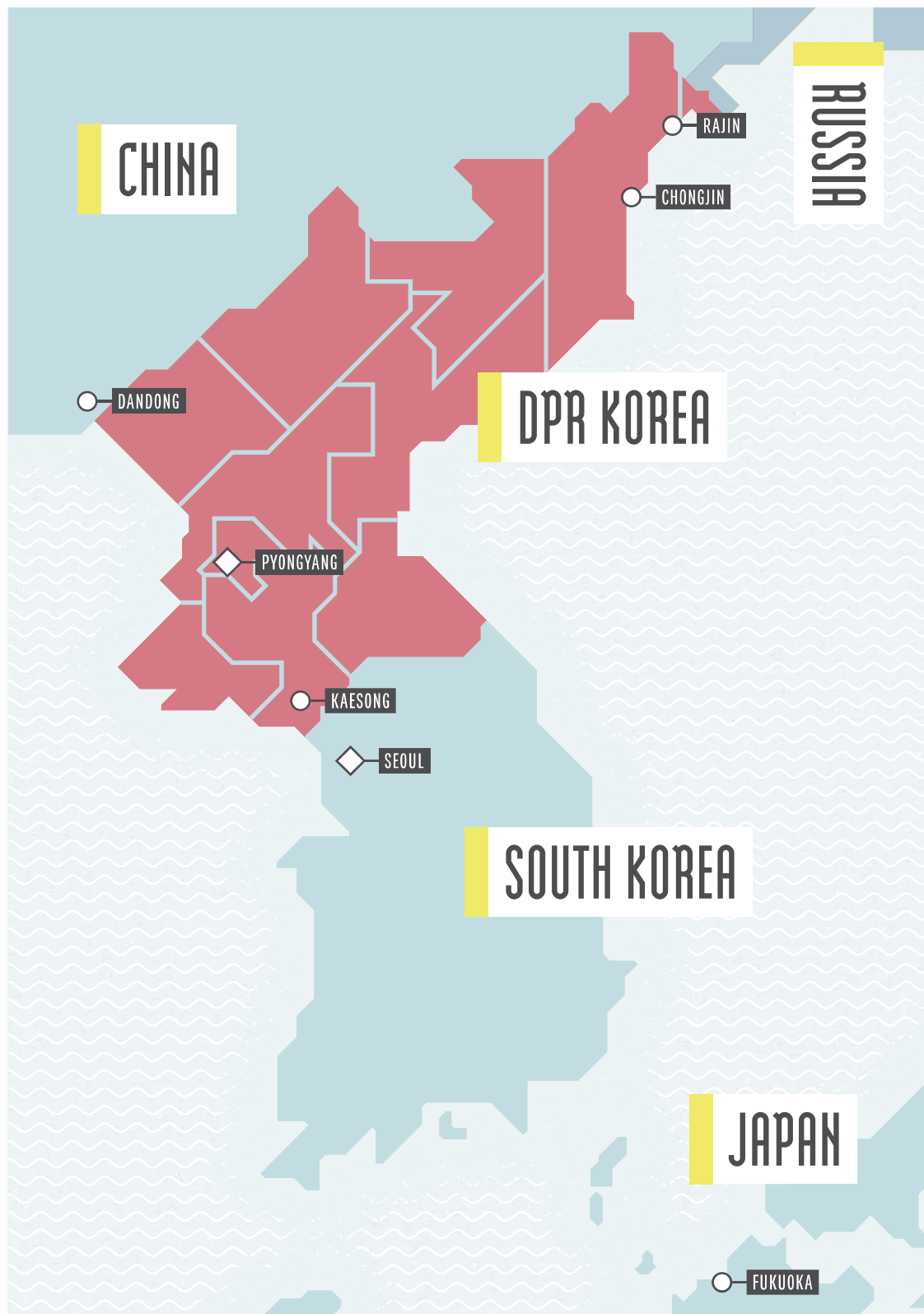
**ETHNORELIGIONIST** 16%

**CHONDOISM** 13.5

**BUDDHIST** 4.5%

**CHRISTIAN** 1.7%

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# His Story in Korea

DAY

1

## Isaiah 9:2

*"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned."*



KOREA'S HISTORY REACHES BACK more than 5,000 years. Korea is a nation sandwiched in between China, Japan and Russia. It was known as the "Hermit Kingdom" in the 1800s, because it did not allow foreigners to enter and was not engaged in international trade. In 1866, Robert Thomas tried to take the Gospel in, but was martyred near Pyongyang. The Bible was first translated into Korean in 1878 by Koreans who had gone to China and heard the Gospel there. In 1884 the first Protestant missionaries were allowed to enter. Spreading the Gospel was hard at first; but in 1903 and 1907 there were revivals in Wonsan and Pyongyang. God may have used this to strengthen the church, so she could survive the Japanese occupation. Many Korean Christians endured, keeping their identity as Christians and Koreans.

From 1910 until 1945, the Japanese occupied Korea, oppressing the people and trying to make them Japanese. Following the liberation from Japan, at the end of World War II, in support of their own interests, Russia helped the north and the United States and other U.N. countries helped the south recover. Their expressed goal was to have a unified Korea, but in 1948, the Republic of Korea (ROK; South Korea) and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK; North Korea) were established.

## PRAYER

- Praise God for all he has done in Korea during the past 150 years.
- Pray that many people in the North would return to the God of their forefathers.
- Pray that not only the South, but also the North, will become a missionary-sending country!

# JUCHE: Ideology of Independence

*The views in this article explain the DPRK's own worldview so that we can understand them and pray in response.*

DAY

2

JUCHE (pronounced 'joo-chay') is an atheistic ideology teaching that "man is the master of all things and decides everything." It is a philosophy that the DPRK's first leader Kim Il-Sung created and forms the basis of all policy in the DPRK.

Juche emphasises the independence of the DPRK in politics, economics and defense. The DPRK should not be dependent on or influenced by any other nation. This is why the DPRK tightly controls foreign influences such as the internet or foreign publications. It is also why the DPRK wants a strong military, protecting itself from (real or perceived) aggression from powerful nations, and why the DPRK dislikes US military, economic and cultural influence in the ROK. Instead, the DPRK wants the peaceful reunification of Korea under its Juche system.

In order to maintain the DPRK's strength, Juche emphasises the unity of the people in following Kim Il-Sung, the author of the Korean revolution, and his successors Kim Jong-Il and Kim Jong-Un. Kim Il-Sung is greatly respected because before his time, Korea was often subject to control by powerful nations such as China or Japan, but now it controls its own affairs. Consequently, citizens there venerate Kim Il-Sung and his successors very highly; though from a Christian viewpoint, men have been elevated to the place that only God should have.

## Proverbs 3:5

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."*

## PRAYER

- Praise God that he is trustworthy and we can have confidence in him.
- Pray that the people in the DPRK would realise that Jesus is the master of all things and he decides everything.
- Pray that senior officials would submit their plans to God.

# Creative Food Supply

DAY

3

## Proverbs 30:7-9

*"Keep falsehood and lies far from me: give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, 'Who is the Lord?' Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonour the name of my God."*



Image by Uwe Brodrecht

FOOD IS IMPORTANT TO EVERYONE, including people in the DPRK. It is especially important for children to get enough food, so they develop well, both physically and mentally. Official U.N. reports said that 2018 had the lowest harvests in ten years, and that 43% of the people in the North needed humanitarian help. In recent years, the U.N. has had less funding for food aid for the DPRK, and so they have not been able to give as much as they wanted to. Some main crops people use are rice, soybeans, corn, potatoes and wheat.

On the other hand, another reliable source said that the UN only reports official numbers. Other researchers include informal food production, including food grown on hillsides and in private yards. They say 60% of food in the North comes from private markets, 14% is grown by families themselves, and 22% come from the public distribution system.

Historically, on the Korean peninsula, the "bread basket" was in the south. After the division, it was hard for the North to produce enough food. Many mountain ranges in the North mean that only 20% of the land is suitable for farming.

Not only do our bodies need food, our souls do as well. Pray for the people of the North to have enough food - for their bodies and their souls.

## PRAYER

Praise God for the food that is grown in the North, both in private ways and through public distribution systems.

Pray that the people of the North will grow and obtain enough food, including grains, protein, fruits and vegetables; and that the children especially will have enough food.

Pray that the people would also receive food for their souls, from the Bible.



# New Opportunities for Health Care

PUBLIC HEALTH HAS IMPROVED IN THE DPRK in the recent years, with the help of various humanitarian organisations. Infant and child mortality rates have significantly dropped. More than 95% of children are now immunised. However, health needs continue. Diarrhea and pneumonia remain the two main causes of death among children under five.

DAY

4

In 2018, leader Kim Jong-Un said there was nothing to be proud of in the public health sector in his country. This alluded to the fact that about nine million people there still need humanitarian aid for health and water, sanitation and hygiene. Those services include maternal and child health, essential medicines, diagnostic and treatment services for communicable and non-communicable diseases, early interventions for people with disabilities and improved disease surveillance of vulnerable groups. Some research has been done to help the DPRK health ministry identify public health gaps, develop strategic areas and set health priorities. This could also help provide equal health care to all the people in the nation.

## John 9:11

*"The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see."*

Health care requires high standards and seeks to use science to maintain the utmost respect for human life. We trust that our Lord will improve health care services in the DPRK through education, research and good clinical practices. Like-minded health care workers continue to invest in life-saving humanitarian aid in the North, especially for needy and vulnerable groups. Christ Jesus said: "I have come to (all people), that they may have life and have it abundantly."

## PRAYER

Despite overwhelming health needs and hindrances, pray that God will call for more like-minded health care workers to serve intentionally in the DPRK.

Pray that the Lord continues to use humanitarian groups and like-minded professionals to be his ambassadors of love.

Pray that the healing hands of Christ Jesus will reach out to people there so that "the work of God is displayed in their lives" (John 9:3).

## DPRK'S **Unique** Worldview

DAY

5

**1 John 4:7**

*"Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God."*



'WORLDVIEW' is "the way that someone sees and understands world events, especially in relation to their religious or political beliefs and ideas" (Macmillan Dictionary). It is hard to see, because a worldview is usually assumed rather than explicitly stated; but when people or cultures disagree, it is normally because of differences in worldview. For Christians seeking to pray for the DPRK, it is important to understand their worldview and its similarities to and differences from our own.

The DPRK's worldview is based on Juche ideology (see Day 2). Because of this ideology, they regard the outside world with suspicion. Korea's long history of being exploited and dominated by other nations has made them very wary of other nations, especially powerful nations. They see Christianity as a tool of Western imperialism, used to weaken other nations in order to dominate them. They see capitalism and globalisation in the same way. In order to avoid being exploited, they tightly control information coming into the country.

Their worldview also has points Christians can sympathise with. They have high ideals for a society where people care for others above themselves and where all people cooperate together for the good of the whole society, in contrast to the individualism and mutual competitiveness they see in capitalism. The Leader said, "Money leads to capitalism; love leads to socialism" (quoted in the film *Do the People Know You?*). Christians can endorse the value of a loving society.

### PRAYER

- Thank God that the people of the DPRK are talking about love.  
Pray that they will accept God's love as the core of their society.
- Pray that as Christians we would look at the DPRK with eyes of love.
- Pray for mutual understanding between the DPRK and other nations.

# Worldview-Shaped Education

THE EDUCATION SYSTEM OF A COUNTRY is perhaps the single most important factor in shaping the people's worldview. The DPRK offers compulsory education for eleven years (age 5–16), though around 70% begin their education earlier (in nursery school) and around 10–15% continue in education afterward at college or university. Most people go into the military at age 17, but for those at university this counts as their national service. Perhaps this is why, even at university, students' reasons for studying are usually focused around "what is needed to make my country prosperous" rather than around personal interest or ambition.

Portraits of the Great Leaders Kim Il-Sung and Kim Jong-Il overlook every classroom, so that education takes place under the gaze of the Leader. Students are taught to honour these portraits and orient their lives around the Leaders' teachings. A significant proportion (perhaps up to a third) of study time at every level is explicitly devoted to social studies and ideological education. Citizens regularly read the Party newspaper, *Rodong Sinmun*, and even young children learn to read Party newspapers written specially for children. Even in their other subjects such as math, language, history and geography, the topics covered and the exam questions asked often contain ideological teaching.

The Bible teaches that parents should teach their children and that adults remember what they learned as children. Pray for God's blessing on the children of the DPRK as they learn how to be responsible adults.

## PRAYER

- Thank God that the DPRK values education highly.
- Pray that children would learn that their Heavenly Father loves them.
- Pray that young people would flourish and make their country prosperous.

DAY

6

## Proverbs 22:6

*"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."*



# Remembering Past Leaders

DAY

7

*We were getting ready to eat lunch when everything went silent. The normal hum and buzz of sounds and the moving on the street were suddenly gone. We looked outside and saw the local DPRK people lined up facing the flag with their heads bowed. For what seemed like a few minutes, not one sound was made from anywhere in the city.*

**1 Peter 2:17**

*“Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honour the king.”*



It was December 17, the anniversary of the death of Kim Jong-il, the former leader of the DPRK from 1994 to 2011. Years later, the people still showed respect for this leader. Likewise, one of their biggest celebrations is April 15, the birthday of the founder of the DPRK and former leader, Kim Il-Sung, who ruled from 1948 to 1994. These former leaders are both celebrated and missed by many in the DPRK.

*Father, you know the love and devotion that many people in the DPRK still feel for their former leaders. Even though they are surrounded by pictures, statues, pins, and constant reminders of these leaders, there is still a void in their hearts. Father, you are the God who never leaves us. Nothing, not even death, can separate us from your love that is in Christ Jesus. We pray that the people of the DPRK will know your presence, and your love through faith in Jesus as the Son of God.*

## PRAYER

- Pray that people there would know Jesus, the true God, and eternal life, and keep away from idols.
- Pray that they will learn about the Creator God of the Bible as the God above all.
- Pray that they would be good citizens of their nation and honour Christ as King of kings.

# The Present Leader

THE THIRD LEADER OF THE DPRK, Marshall Kim Jong-Un, also referred to as the Supreme Leader, took over leadership of the country after his father's death in December 2011. At that time, he was only around 28 years old. He is married and is thought to have three children.

National media are keen to highlight similarities between him and his grandfather, Kim Il-Sung. He is portrayed as an approachable, people person, often photographed laughing and talking with ordinary people on his visits to different locations. As part of this, his wife has sometimes joined him in his public appearances. Unlike his father who never gave public speeches, Kim Jong-Un often addresses the people directly, most notably in his televised New Year's addresses, which summarise the achievements of the previous year and sets the tone for the year to come.

Initially, Kim Jong-Un's focus was on securing his own position and the country's stability, primarily by concentrating on the development of nuclear and missile technology. Having, he felt, gained national security in this way, he now feels able to engage more on the international front. He made several trips overseas in 2018, and achieved the long-held goal of a summit with the US president, as well as several North-South summits. His desire now is to improve the economic situation in the country, particularly through science and education.

## PRAYER

- Give thanks for Kim Jong-Un's recent attempts to promote more peaceful international relations, particularly with the South.
- Pray that Kim Jong-Un and those who advise him would have wisdom and make decisions that are good for the whole country.
- Pray that Kim Jong-Un would come to know how much God loves him and his country.

DAY

8

## 1 Timothy 2:1-2

*"I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."*



# Diligently Training Children

DAY

9

WHEN CHILDREN ARE BORN IN THE DPRK, they get their social status or songbun. They inherit this status from their father and it defines whether they are *loyal*, *wavering* or *hostile*. This then defines the opportunities they will have in life, which schools they can attend, which careers they can pursue and whether they can become a member of the Workers Party.

## Matthew 19:14

“Jesus said: ‘Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.’”



Children go to school when they are five. They have eleven years of compulsory education which is free. The children learn from a young age about the state ideologies. Apart from normal subjects like mathematics and literature, they also study the life and history of the Kim family, about the Korean War and about the state enemies like the US, Japan and the ROK.

From the age of ten, children become part of the Korean Children’s Union, which organises extracurricular activities like volunteering and political meetings. Free time is often spent in hobby clubs, where they do sports or music which results in beautiful musical performances or excellent sport achievements.

At the same time, children are children like everywhere else in the world. Sometimes they go with their parents to entertainment parks or play with their friends with the toys their parents bring home for them.

## PRAYER

Praise God that he loves the children in the North. Pray that nothing will keep them from coming to him.

Pray that the children will realise that there is a Truth beyond science and seek and find that Truth.

The DPRK seems to have understood part of this verse very well: “Impress [the Lord’s commandments] on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” (Deut 6:7). They teach their children diligently and fervently about their beliefs. Pray that Christian families will raise their children in the faith.

# New Opportunities for a New Generation

**YOUNG PEOPLE ARE THE HOPE OF TOMORROW.** As in every country, the young generation of today is growing up in a different environment from their parents. As we reach the point where children and most young adults were born in the 21st century, recent changes in technology and in the world situation are beginning to have an effect on the outlook and aspirations of young people. With meetings between leaders of the DPRK and the ROK in 2000, 2007 and 2018, as well as periods of North-South economic cooperation, the future outlook is different from that of earlier generations.

In keeping with Korean culture, education continues to be highly valued and students strive to achieve their best. The best students aim for the country's top university, Kim Il-Sung University; but talented students may also attend specialist universities such as the Foreign Languages University or the Pyongyang University of Science and Technology (which teaches in English and has a number of international lecturers). A few students may even have opportunities to study in Masters or PhD programs overseas. Students hope to learn skills that will contribute to the development of the DPRK in the 21st century.

Pray for children and young people as they learn about their country and the world looking toward the future.

## PRAYER

- Thank God that the current generation has hope of a brighter future.
- Pray that the children of today would become influencers for good as they grow older.
- Pray that students who study overseas might meet Jesus while living there.

DAY

10

## 1 Timothy 4:12

*"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, life, in love, in faith and in purity."*



# Serving the Elderly

DAY

11

## Leviticus 19:32

*“Rise in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God.”*



WHITE HAIR SYMBOLISES WISDOM AND EXPERIENCE. If we had the opportunity to talk with an 80-year-old lady living in the DPRK, she would be the representative to speak for history and the many changes there socially, economically and politically. Maybe she once heard the saving message of love and mercy of Christ.

Respect for the aged has long been rooted in the Chosun culture. Filial piety is strongly tied to Chosun families. A DPRK citizen was asked, “How do you perceive aged people in your country?” This person said, “Our country would invite the centenarians to a national banquet held at Paektu Mountain.” Aging is seemingly an honour to the whole family. In fact, most people who were asked said their grandparents live 70 years or less.

In the DPRK, population aging has accelerated in the past decade. The average length of life rose from 64 to 71.9 years (WHO, 2018). Reports say that people over 60 years old made up 14% of the population in 2014. However, aging seems to be a burden, as the country continues to lack food and access to basic services (UN, 2018). Most public health structures do not provide specific care for elderly people, especially those with chronic illnesses and disabilities.

Serving among this expanding group of elderly people and showing Jesus’ love to them is urgent. They will leave their earthly home soon. Will they obtain the promise of a “heavenly home” prepared by our God?

## PRAYER

Pray that the Lord will open our eyes to see the needs of the elderly in the North, to love their souls and to pray for eternal dwellings in heaven.

Pray that the Lord opens a door for his message through elderly health services.

Pray that Christ Jesus can speak to every older person in the DPRK, “I am the way and the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me,” (John 14:6) before they finish their earthly pilgrimage.

# Farmers Who Share

FARMERS ARE AN IMPORTANT GROUP IN THE DPRK. Farmers and people involved in agriculture make up about 35% of the population in the North. They have an important role, because they feed much of the nation.

Between 2014 and 2017, the government began to implement a different system in agriculture. Before, all the crops produced had to be given to the state, who would then distribute it to the people. Now in some areas, the government has begun to implement a “Field Responsibility System.” The work groups are 15 to 20 people, smaller than the groups before. They give 70% to the state, and can keep 30% for themselves. It can be distributed among the group according to how many days the workers have worked. This promotes the role of the group leader and increases incentive for the farmers themselves (NK News, 2018). With this system, people could work harder in the fields, knowing they have control over how some of the produce is distributed. This system is not being used everywhere, and has its problems to work out; but this could encourage the farmers and increase production. It seems like the DPRK is keeping a socialist way of running agriculture, while encouraging farming groups to work together.

The Bible recognises that farmers need to share in the harvest. May the Lord encourage the farmers in the North so they are proud of their work and do it well, benefiting the common people of their nation.

## PRAYER

- Praise God that farmers will be allowed to keep more of the crop and oversee personally some of how it is distributed.
- Pray that the new system will be implemented throughout the nation, and that the farmers and their families will be encouraged.
- Pray that the farmers in the North will seek the God who made the land and plants.

DAY

12

### 1 Corinthians 9:10

“...When the plowman plows and the thresher threshes, they ought to do so in the hope of sharing in the harvest”



# Open for Business

DAY

13

## Matthew 5:16

*"Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."*



BUSINESSES ARE FOUND AROUND THE WORLD, and the DPRK is no exception. God can use businesses to open up this seemingly closed nation and usher it into the world community.

DPRK leaders have seen changing and former communist nations such as China, Vietnam, and those in Eastern Europe open up their economies to foreign businesses. These DPRK leaders have witnessed successful economic developments in these other countries that far exceeded what they could have done alone. Therefore, in attempts to provide a catalyst for its own economic development, the DPRK established the Rason Special Economic Zone in 1991 (bordering China and Russia) and the Kaesong Industrial Complex in 2004 (near the DMZ) to bring foreign investments into the country. However, these efforts have produced mixed results due to tensions between inviting foreign businesses to invest while keeping tight controls and restrictive policies in place. Geo-political factors and other non-business challenges also seriously dampened the results.

Foreign businesses can take the form of a joint venture, usually with a government entity, or a wholly-owned foreign company. In a joint venture, ownership, management decision-making and profit/loss must be shared between the joint venture partners. In the second model, foreign investors assume all the ownership, management and profit/loss responsibilities. Operating inside the DPRK means that all businesses, whether a joint venture or a wholly-owned company, always operate under the tight framework of the DPRK system.

## PRAYER

Praise God that some foreign businesses can go inside the DPRK and establish their presence.

Pray that more Christian business people will establish successful businesses to help the DPRK people.

Pray that these business people will operate with excellence and strong ethical and moral principles to bring honour to God.

## Other Government Leaders

THE DPRK GOVERNMENT has one central leader. The nation also has many other significant leaders. One important person is Kim Yo-Jong, the younger sister of Kim Jong-Un. She was officially elected as a Supreme Assembly deputy and has a role in the Workers Party of Korea. She also unofficially assists her brother in many ways. Ri Yong-Ho is Foreign Minister in the government. Kim Yong-Chol is a leader connected with the Workers Party and also the military, and has had long ties with Kim Jong-Un and his family. Another important leader has been Hwang Byong-Seo. He used to be a close aide of Chairman Kim's and was out of the public eye for three months in 2018 and is back in public leadership. Choe Ryong-Hae is a right-hand man for Chairman Kim. He has influence in the party, the government and the military.

There are many other government leaders, but of course leaders can change quickly. Even many of the persons mentioned here could change. The best way to stay current with DPRK government leadership is to follow the international news.

All these government leaders are an arm of the DPRK government and state. They directly influence their areas and districts. Pray that they make wise, right choices and serve the people well.

DAY

14

### **Romans 13:1**

*"Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God."*



### **PRAYER**

Praise God for the men and women leading the DPRK, and praise God that He is over them ultimately.

Pray for the salvation of the top DPRK leaders: Kim Yo-Jong, Hwang Byong-Seo, Choe Ryong-Hae and other lower-level government leaders.

Pray that these men and women will make wise, right decisions and serve the people in the North. Pray that the Lord will use them in that nation.



# The Registered Church

DAY

15

THE GOSPEL WAS TAKEN TO KOREA IN THE 1880S, and churches were planted. The DPRK government states that there is a freedom of religion, and the constitution indicates people have freedom of religion and allows religious buildings and ceremonies. However, in practice, the people of DPRK do not have this freedom.

## Matthew 16:16–18

*“Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’ Jesus replied, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.’ ”*



Four churches exist in Pyongyang: two Protestant churches; one Catholic church; and one Orthodox church. Kim Il-Sung’s parents were Presbyterians; one of the Protestant churches was built by Kim Il-Sung to honour his mother. Since the DPRK stands independently and not under any authority from outside, the Catholic church is not officially a part of the Roman Catholic Church. The Orthodox Church, begun in 2006, is connected with the Russian Orthodox Church and was built under Kim Jong-Il’s direction. In the Protestant churches, at least, Bibles are available to the worshipers for use during services but have to remain within the building. In December of 2018, after the North-South talks of 2018, one leader of the Korean Christian Federation, Pyongyang’s Protestant body, said, “We pray a star of peace guides every step so that the reconciliatory mood formed on the Korean Peninsula is not disrupted by followers of Satan” (Korea Times, DEC 31, 2018).

Is the Word of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ proclaimed at these churches? The pastor and attendees have Bibles. Pray that God’s Word will be taught in these places, drawing seekers and all those at the services to himself.

## PRAYER

- Praise God that He blesses his church in every nation, and nothing can overcome it.
- Pray that the people who attend these churches in Pyongyang would seek God and trust Jesus Christ.
- Pray that God’s Word is proclaimed in those churches and that it draws people to himself.

# The Quiet Church

THERE IS ALSO A QUIET CHURCH IN THE NORTH. It is very difficult to talk of your faith publicly in that country, but reports say that many are following Jesus Christ very quietly. Some believers in families worship and honour the Lord very quietly at home, even singing very quietly. Some believers in prison worship the Lord very quietly.

DAY

16

Some sources estimate that there are 350,000 Christians in the North. According to one source, a local believer there said, “Don’t pray for us; pray with us.”

Even though the quiet church is not very visible, we believe by faith that it continues to exist. As Jesus taught his disciples, those believers need to show their faith in the God of heaven by their good deeds and how they treat each other and others in their neighbourhoods (Matt 5:14-16). Someday when the walls fall, we will be surprised at the depth of faith and commitment to the Lord that we will see in these local disciples.

Pray by faith for the quiet church in the North, that they will grow in depth, quality and influence; and that they will show their faith in God by their good deeds and caring actions.

## PRAYER

Praise God that he has a solid Church of Jesus Christ in the North, though she may be very quiet.

Pray that Jesus’ disciples there will show their faith in God by their good deeds and caring actions.

Pray that the Lord would protect the believers, strengthen their faith and give them opportunities to tell others about God.

## Matthew 5:14–16

*“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven”*



# The Suffering Church

DAY

17

## Matthew 5:10–12

*“Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”*



MANY DISCIPLES IN THE NORTH SUFFER FOR THEIR FAITH. Some say possibly 50,000 believers are in prison or labor camps. Sometimes they can encourage each other in the prison; but some are put in isolation so they cannot communicate with anyone.

Christians there know they have to suffer for Christ, and some wrote this confession of faith:

### A Code of Conduct for the Warriors of Christ

1. A person who believes in Jesus will incur the contempt of others.
2. People who believe in Jesus will experience suffering.
3. Before you learn how to receive compliments, learn how to take insults!
4. The people who believe in our Jesus wipe away the tears of the people, as well as the tears of one another, and must become comforters to all those who experience suffering.
5. Love fosters love in others. We must love others with the love of Jesus; then they will become followers of Jesus.

*Before anything else, we must live according to the Bible as our measuring stick (PSALT, 2007).*

Some local believers have asked Christians on the outside to pray with them for their protection, strength and endurance. They would be encouraged to know that disciples in the open world are praying for them.

### PRAYER

- Praise God that he is with the disciples suffering in the North.
- Pray that the Lord would make his presence known to them. Pray for their endurance.
- Pray that they will spread the Good News wherever they are and be salt and light for Him there.

# Followers in Deed

MR. C, A WORKER IN THE DPRK, arrived early at work on a Monday morning pleading with his boss. He needed to save his job. The week before, he had made one of the biggest mistakes of his career. It was a mistake that would get him fired from almost any company.

Jesus met many people in need of forgiveness. He didn't avoid the sinners or shy away from them. He lived, ate and drank with them. He ministered to them while living among them. In one instance, while Jesus ate dinner with a respectable crowd, a woman came and washed his feet with her tears, kissed his feet and poured perfume on them. He said to the woman directly, "Your sins are forgiven... Your faith has saved you; go in peace." (Luke 7:50) Mr. C received forgiveness from others, like the woman received forgiveness from Jesus.

*Father, you opened the door for your followers to live among the people of the DPRK in some places. Please give them opportunities to show your forgiveness to people like Mr. C. We ask that you would give them opportunities to show forgiveness, humility, and dependence on you. We ask that your Holy Spirit would use these opportunities to grow love, concern for others, and faith in your followers and the people they live among.*

## PRAYER

- Praise God that some businesses run by Christians have been allowed to work in the DPRK.
- Pray that those Christian employers will show the love of God and also His firmness and mercy, at the right times.
- Pray that local employees will sense a difference about these companies and be attracted to the God they serve.

DAY

18

## John 1:14

*"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."*



## NGO'S: **Humanitarians for God**

DAY

19

THE ELDERLY MAN LIFTED THE CUP, drank the cool water and gave a satisfied, "Ahhhh!" He excitedly told the well-drilling team that this was the first time they ever had clean drinking water in the village. Ever since he was young, they needed to go up the mountain and bring back drinking water. Now the homes and the local school could have easier access to clean water.

### **Matthew 25:35–36**

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."*



People providing humanitarian service have opportunities to share the love of Christ within the DPRK. Non-government organisations have been granted access to remote regions of the North, providing a variety of service and supplies. Christians are giving gifts of food, clean water, clothes, shoes and medicines. Much of the humanitarian work is done by people openly professing to be Christian and wanting to share God's love by ministering to people's basic needs.

*Father, we pray that you will open up the way for more of your people to enter the DPRK, sharing your good news in word and in action. Help us to care for those in need. Please open up ways for your servants to venture into new cities, and bless people of the DPRK. We pray that the people of the DPRK will know that you love them as they see your people's love in action.*

### **PRAYER**

Thank God that NGO's doing humanitarian work are allowed to serve in the DPRK, and that many of them are Christian groups.

Pray that the Lord would shine through these people, and that they would show Jesus' love through action and quiet words.  
Pray that these groups would be allowed to work in new cities.

Pray that local people will be thankful for the help they receive and seek the God that many of these representatives talk about.

# Radio Broadcasting

CHRISTIAN RADIO IS ONE WAY the Gospel can enter the North. Far East Broadcasting Company (FEB) has beamed into the North for over 60 years. They beam for four hours a day, 3am to 7am. They broadcast programs of expository preaching and worship and praise.

They have a *hallyu* drama about Jesus Christ. *Hallyu*, literally “wave,” means a wave of Korean pop music and drama from the South that has become popular among young people in East Asia and around the world. Many young people in the North have heard it informally through USB sticks from China.

In one program, a person from the North reads a Bible passage slowly, allowing listeners to write it down. Using a native Northern speaker with his familiar accent is a much-welcomed element. Within the last ten years, FEB constructed some new buildings. Amazingly, listeners in the North heard about this and discreetly sent donations to help with the expenses. A miracle! Listeners value the broadcasts.

Gospel radio programs encourage the quiet church in their faith, and help other listeners learn of God and Biblical truth. Pray that the broadcasts will be able to do this. Thank God for this effective means to communicate the Word of God and Gospel of Jesus Christ to both disciples and seekers in the North.

## PRAYER

Praise God that Christians can beam the Gospel of Christ into the North, and that even a person from the North can assist with some of the programming.

Pray that the broadcasts can help the Church to grow and persevere, receiving Scripture.

Pray that others will listen to the broadcasts and learn about the God of the Bible, seeking Him.

DAY

20

## Isaiah 55:10–11

*“As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”*



# Developing North/South Dialogue

DAY

21

## **Ephesians 2:14–15**

*“For He himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace.”*



AMAZING DEVELOPMENTS HAVE HAPPENED between the DPRK and the ROK since 2018. ROK President Moon invited DPRK athletes to the Winter Olympics in February, and many attended. DPRK Chairman Kim Jong-Un’s sister also came. DPRK Chairman Kim and ROK President Moon met on the south side of the DMZ in April. The two leaders also held another public summit in September, with ROK president visiting Pyongyang. President Moon said to citizens in the North, “We had lived together for 5,000 years and have lived separately for only 70 years. I urge all of you to end those hostilities and take a big step toward reunification” (Korea Times, 2018 Sept 20). They said they would take concrete steps to reduce military conflict. In his 2019 New Year’s speech, Chairman Kim said the two Koreas have begun to take steps to increase peace and prosperity. Later he proposed that there could be a unified Korea with two systems allowed to function in the north and in the south.

One Pyongyang citizen said that the Chairman said unification could come. He also said if the two government leaders met more often, that would be great, because then ordinary people could visit the South (Daily NK, 2019 Jan 11).

God wants the two Koreas to at least live at peace with each other. Let us pray for peace on the Korean peninsula.

## **PRAYER**

Praise God that the DPRK and ROK leaders met in 2018 and have a better relationship.

Pray that the two leaders would continue talking and cooperating on various projects, and that common people from both sides can visit the other part of Korea.

Pray for genuine peace across the Korean peninsula.

# Pursuing North/South Projects

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE DPRK AND THE ROK have improved quite a bit since 2018. Praise the Lord! The two nations have cooperated on all kinds of projects and have discussed cooperation on future projects. The two Koreas had some family exchanges in 2018. Some inter-Korean soccer games and taekwondo demonstrations were held. They talked about making a joint DPRK–ROK dictionary; the languages have developed somewhat differently in the North and the South. Some health officials discussed how to prevent contagious diseases from entering the peninsula. In early 2019, the South planned to send some medication to the North. In late 2018, officials from both Koreas inspected together some railways in the North, and hope to work on improving roads and railroads in the North. They also planned to have some civilian exchange in early 2019. Leaders even explored possibilities of holding traditional Korean wrestling events. The two Koreas have also planned to have unified teams competing in four sports at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Japan.

Thank God for these developments. Every time people from the North and the South can connect in a peaceful way, such as sports, healthcare or travel, Koreans can see that people from the other side are similar to themselves. The Lord wants people, especially people from a same ethnic group, to live in harmony with each other. Pray that Koreans from both parts of Korea will do so.

## PRAYER

- Praise God for the various projects in which Koreans have collaborated.
- Pray that both nations will be able to collaborate with future opportunities.
- Pray that as people from the North and South meet each other, prejudices will diminish and understanding will grow. Pray that Christians will send forth the aroma of Christ as they meet.

DAY

22

### Romans 12:18

*“If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.”*





# Negotiating a Peace Treaty

DAY

23

**Psalm 133:1**

*"How good and pleasant  
it is when brothers live  
together in unity!"*



THE DPRK AND THE ROK LEADERS met publicly two times in 2018. In September 2018, ROK President Moon Jae-In met with Chairman Kim Jong-Eun in Pyongyang. They created a *Pyongyang Declaration*, which included some of their future goals. They addressed cooperation in various areas and working toward peace and co-prosperity and eventually reunification. Their goals included a peace treaty for the Korean peninsula.

When the Korean War stopped in 1953, only an armistice was signed, a temporary ceasefire agreement, not a formal end to the war. Both the North and the South would like very much to see a peace treaty signed. The DPRK now thinks that the US “imperialists” are out to destroy it, and would very much like a peace treaty to be signed. The ROK supports this dream. China has said it would support a peace treaty on the Korean peninsula. In January 2019, a senior US official said, “We are not going to invade North

Korea” (BBC, 2019 Feb 1). If a peace treaty were signed among the major powers involved in the Korean War, the DPRK could begin relaxing about its own security.

Our Lord is a God of peace, and desires peace among warring peoples. While people long for political peace, believers desire even more to see peace within individual hearts and peace realised across both Koreas. Let us pray for peace on the Korean peninsula.

## PRAYER

Praise God that the leaders of the DPRK and ROK were able to meet in 2018 and discuss common goals, including a peace treaty for the peninsula.

Pray that the Lord would oversee the international negotiations and that each main power might agree on a peace treaty soon.

Pray that people in both the North and the South would find peace within their hearts through Jesus Christ and relate together in harmony and unity.

## Diplomatic China & DPRK Relationships

MANY PEOPLE REGARD CHINA AS DPRK'S "big brother" as they both support socialism, and China assisted the DPRK during the Korean War. However, their relationship was under strain since Pyongyang tested nuclear weapon in 2006, and Beijing backed UN Security Council Resolution 1718, which imposed sanctions on Pyongyang.

DAY

24

But on the ground, Beijing continues to have sizeable economic ties with Pyongyang. China has upheld some of the international sanctions against Pyongyang. Alternately, some informal trade along their borders appears to continue. Items include fuel, seafood, silkworms and cell phones; this signals that China may be softening its restrictions.

China's primary interest on the Korean Peninsula is stability. Its support of the DPRK ensures a buffer between China and the democratic South, which is home to around 29,000 US troops and marines. China's greatest fear is DPRK's regime collapse, which might cause hundreds of thousands of DPRK refugees flooding into China.

DPRK's president Kim Jong-Un met China's president Xi Jinping several times in 2018 and 2019, preceding DPRK summits with the ROK or the US. The pattern of Kim-Xi meetings serves to enhance Pyongyang's bargaining position with those nations; whereas for Xi, the appearance of closer ties with DPRK also helps China in managing its relationship with the US, demonstrating that Beijing could be useful in brokering a denuclearisation agreement.

### PRAYER

Pray that China will have a positive influence on the DPRK in many ways.

Pray that Christians who operate businesses in the DPRK from China will be a witness and blessing to people in the North.

Pray that both China and the DPRK will be more open to the gospel and impose less restriction on worship and evangelism.

### Psalm 146:3-6

*"Do not put your trust in princes, in mortal men, who cannot save. When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing. Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God, the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them – the Lord, who remains faithful forever."*



# Fragile US & DPRK Relationships

DAY

25

**Psalm 20:7**

*"Some trust in chariots  
and some in horses, but  
we trust in the name of  
the Lord our God."*



RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE DPRK have been hostile ever since the Korean War. In recent years, it worsened due to the DPRK's nuclear program including six nuclear tests and development of ballistic missiles despite international oppositions and sanctions.

Experts said the DPRK fears the US using military force to topple any

hostile regime, just like Iraq and Afghanistan. Therefore, despite heavy sanctions, the DPRK is determined to develop nuclear weapons, which ensure that domestic and international enemies will stay away. World powers, led by the US, also deployed sanctions to punish the DPRK for cyberattacks, money laundering, and human rights violations. The DPRK responded by detaining US citizens. In 2017 the US issued a travel ban prohibiting US citizens from going into the DPRK.

Tension eased after US President Donald Trump and DPRK President Kim Jong-Un met in Singapore in June 2018. The two nations established some formal diplomacy after this summit but the thaw was short-lived. The DPRK destroyed

a nuclear testing facility and a missile launching site. The US maintained existing sanctions and insisted on a full denuclearisation program.

The relationship between the two countries remains fragile. Pray that the leaders might develop trust and resolve problems diplomatically, easing the hostile tension.

## PRAYER

Pray that the DPRK government would realise that true security comes from Almighty God, not nuclear weapons.

Pray that God would send more peacemakers to help build trust and relationship between the two countries.

Pray that the travel ban for Americans to the DPRK will be lifted so that American workers can return to serve in the DPRK.

# International Curiosity

*What's it like? What do your parents do? What does your house look like? Is it expensive? What do people do for fun? Do families live together?* These are common questions raised by people from the DPRK. The nation is often referred to as the "Hermit Kingdom," alluding to some of its international policies. However, the people of the North are filled with curiosity about the rest of the world.

The people of the DPRK are different from the way their country is often portrayed in news at an international level. Many DPRK citizens warmly welcome people from all over the world. They are even friendly and warm to people from nations that their country might traditionally consider an enemy. They are eager to learn about the outside world and to show off the things they love about their home.

*Father, you know that followers of Jesus from across the world spend time in the DPRK. You are the God who breaks down all dividing walls that separate us, including nationality. We ask that these believers would show the unity of Christ Jesus as they interact with the people of the DPRK. We pray that the people of the North would see that Jesus is not just for people from one nation, but for all nations.*

## PRAYER

- Praise God for this curiosity and friendliness that common people in the North have about and show to international people in their towns.
- Pray that visiting Christian professionals would show the love and unity of Jesus Christ.
- Pray that people in the DPRK will relate well with people from other nations and learn that God cares for people from all nations.

DAY

26

### Luke 10:5-6

*"When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you."*



# Blood Brothers in China

DAY

27

## Genesis 45: 7

*"But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance."*



OVER TWO MILLION ETHNIC KOREANS have lived in China since the nineteenth century. During the Japanese occupation of Korea (1910 -1945), thousands of other Koreans fled to Northeast China and now comprise 46% of the population. It is said that Korean-Chinese introduced Christianity into the Yanbian prefecture. Religion is a key factor in their ethnic identity, and the migration of Christian Koreans to China could have had divine meaning.

As fellow Koreans, with "blood being thicker than water," they provided a wide variety of vital support for their brothers during the Japanese occupation. During the 1990s, a great famine in the DPRK resulted in many refugees moving to the Yanbian area. As good Samaritans, ethnic Korean Christians fed and sheltered thousands of them, and hundreds converted to Christianity.

About 600,000 believing Koreans now live in Northeast China. They pray earnestly for DPRK people. Some young Christians have committed themselves to pray or even serve the people inside through various ways. They recognise

how God has granted them the same language and common forefathers and a similar culture. When they explain the gospel, it is presented with contextual understanding. One brother told how he was able to build a trusting relationship with one local man. He said that maybe because they have the same blood, they could have this deep brother-like relationship.

## PRAYER

God has made everything beautiful in its time. Pray that God would use the special position of Korean-Chinese Christians in spreading his salvation to the unreached DPRK people.

Pray that God will call more Korean Christians in China, especially young people, to become prayer warriors and missional workers for their brethren living in the North.

Pray that the Lord will use them and their indigenous talents to be a peaceful channel between international workers and local people.



## TALBUKMIN: **Northerners in the South**

SOME KOREANS HAVE MOVED FROM THE NORTH and now live in the South. They are known as *Talbukmin*. They find it very hard to adjust to the South. The two nations have developed differently in many areas during the past 70 years. The language in the South uses a lot more English and “Konglish” (Korean and English mixed). Some Korean words mean different things in the South than in the North. The schools utilise more English, so it is hard for students from the North to adjust. In the South, many parents send their children to private institutes that are expensive. Usually students from the North cannot afford to go to those institutes.

In other ways, the culture is different. The North practices more Confucian values, while the South practices less. In the North, group and communal identity is stronger; in the South, there is more individualism. Many people from the North no longer have family support. In the North, people often know their neighbours; in the South, people often don't know their neighbours.

Also, unemployment is high among *Talbukmin* in the South. Often people from the North face discrimination in the South. They often feel guilty and homesick, as they remember their family in the North. For many reasons, it is hard for people from the North to adjust to new ways of living. Pray that many Koreans in the South, especially Christians, will be kind to their brothers and sisters from the North.

### PRAYER

- Praise God for these people from the North who live in the South; God loves them too.
- Pray that Koreans from the North will be patient and gradually learn about and adjust to the new culture they experience in the South.
- Pray that many Koreans in the South, especially Christians, will show the love of God to the people from the North, demonstrating patience and kindness with humility.

DAY

28

### 1 Corinthians 13:4

*“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.”*



# Talbukmin Ministry

DAY

29

## 1 Corinthians 9:20–22

“To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews ... I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some.”

MANY PEOPLE FROM THE NORTH are living in the South, known as *Talbukmin*. Praise God that many Korean Christians are reaching out and ministering to them. Koreans in the South need to remember that the cultures are different in many ways.

The ROK (South Korean) government Ministry of Reunification works with people from the North. The staff oversees *Hanawon*, a resettlement center for new people, and also over twenty Hana Centers that help them with adjustment and practical problems. Many Christian social workers and counselors work at these centers.

Many large churches in the South provide outreach to *Talbukmin*. Some have smaller churches for them within their bigger church. For example, one church has a group for *Talbukmin*. They call the North the “upper neighbourhood” and the South the “lower neighbourhood.” Thank God for how small groups at this church provide relationships between both parts.

Some *Talbukmin* have trusted Jesus Christ, gone to seminary and started churches for other *Talbukmin*. Oftentimes these are small groups. Because Confucian values are strong in the North, sometimes their leaders make most of the decisions. Pray for these churches. In spite of problems, the Lord is growing His church among people from the North now living in the South! They can teach Christians in the South about the North, and be ready to carry the Word of God and Gospel of Jesus Christ north when the opportunity comes. Trust God for this to take place.

### PRAYER

Praise God that the Church of Christ is growing among people from the North who are in the South.

Pray that Christians from the South, including social workers and counselors, will work humbly with people from the North.

Pray that churches started by *Talbukmin* for others from the North will grow and be ready to take the Gospel north when the doors open.

# Access to the Bible

THE BIBLE IS VERY IMPORTANT for disciples of Christ and people seeking God. It is not openly available in the North right now. Bibles are available to those who attend state-registered churches, but the books have to remain within the buildings. That Bible is based on a translation done in the South in 1977, a *Common Translation Bible*. That edition was made for unchurched people and used words that they could easily understand. During the 1980s and 1990s, Pyongyang printed several copies of this Bible for use in its registered churches. Later, a Christian ministry outside the North printed many copies for people from the North to read.

A professor who left the North and became a Christian began working on a Bible translation uniquely done by a person from the North. He completed the New Testament, and it is available in the South. The professor is in his late eighties and in poor health. When developing the translation, he trained others from the North to continue working on the project. Pray that some believers will continue this important vision. Also, Christian radio broadcasters read the Bible slowly on the air, sharing the Scriptures through that means (Day 20).

The Bible is vital to both disciples and seekers; it is to the soul what physical food is to the body. Pray that the Bible will be accessible to Christians and seekers in the North.

## PRAYER

- Praise God that the Bible is available in the DPRK to some people, and available outside the nation to people from the North.
- Pray that the Bible would be distributed to Christians and seekers in the North.
- Pray that the Bible would get to Christians there in creative ways, including radio and Bible storytelling.

DAY

30

## 2 Timothy 3:15–17

“The holy Scriptures... are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”



# The Power of Global Prayer

DAY

31

**Acts 1:14a**

*"They all joined together continually in prayer..."*



THE DISCIPLES WERE TOLD BY THE RISEN LORD to wait in Jerusalem for the coming of the Holy Spirit, who would empower them to become authentic and effective witnesses for Him. They did this by joining together continually in prayer. And they were filled with the Holy Spirit and began their witness for Jesus Christ as the Spirit enabled them (Acts 2:4).

We dream of a growing global prayer movement for the people of the DPRK. "The prayers of God's people are like bowls full of incense, which are pleasing to the Lord" (Rev. 5:8). We believe that this global prayer movement is crucial for a spiritual breakthrough in the DPRK. We pray that God will use this prayer initiative to touch the hearts of God's people around the world and give many a spiritual burden for the people of the DPRK and a willingness to participate in reaching out to the people there.

To support this vision, a bimonthly DPRK Prayer Bulletin has been published since November 2001. The first 31-day prayer guide was published in 2006. Many intercessors also gather regularly in prayer groups around the world, learning about the DPRK and praying for this nation.

May this fourth edition of the 31-day prayer guide inspire readers about what God is doing in the North. May many others stand in the gap before God on behalf of the land (Ezekiel 22:30).

## PRAYER

Praise for abundant intercession offered on behalf of the DPRK, utilising prayer bulletins and the 31-day prayer guide. Praise God for various prayer groups concerned for the North.

Pray that God will challenge believers about the situation facing the people of the DPRK, and they will accept a responsibility to pray for this nation, leading to a global prayer movement.

Pray for a spiritual breakthrough in the DPRK affecting all kinds of people, from elite leaders to ordinary citizens, turning their hearts to the Lord.

# NEXT STEPS



*If God is leading you to involvement with His mission in the DPRK, consider the following options:*

## 1 PRAY

Use this booklet and other materials to intercede for the DPRK on a regular basis. Email [dprkoreanews@omfmail.com](mailto:dprkoreanews@omfmail.com) and ask for the bi-monthly prayer bulletin which provides fresh news and daily prayer points. Form or join a small group to pray for the North each month. Download a map of the Korean peninsula and put it near your desk or prayer corner as a reminder to pray.

## 2 GO

Visit northeast Asia and see the land of the DPRK on a *Serve Asia* trip. As noted in this prayer guide, there are ways to go and serve in the North as highly qualified professionals. Consider using your professional skills to serve in the DPRK. Contact us to learn more.

## 3 WELCOME

Reach out to Koreans in your neighbourhood. There are many Korean restaurants and churches in which you could build relationships. Find out if there are people from the North in your neighbourhood and nation. If so, seek out ways to serve and help them.

## 4 MOBILISE

Order one of these booklets for a friend or your church. Start a prayer group for the DPRK. Be an advocate for God's work.

## 5 LEARN

Explore news sites and books related to the DPRK. One recommended book is *Nothing to Envy* by Barbara Demick. It is challenging to find insightful books attempting to understand the DPRK and its perspective. Look out for any movies focused on the DPRK or movies made in this nation.

## 6 SEND

Partner with organisations or Christians working in the DPRK through the sharing of your time, money and other resources.



