



From the Baileys-serving in South Korea

Greetings to all of you, as we begin a new chapter of our lives at Grace Baptist Church in Waegwan, South Korea. Now that we have made our debut, allow us to push the “rewind button.”

Our hearts were filled with nostalgia as we said “farewell” to our Kiwi friends, missionary family and others from the small congregation at Sonshine Baptist Church in Whakatane, New Zealand.

The majority of church family gathered at a Thai Restaurant to enjoy tasty cuisine, sweet fellowship, and of course, some fun, even with our quiet, Filipino, Brother Ray. This was indeed, a precious time of building more memories! Much to our chagrin, our dear sister Vijaya, from India, was unable to join us. She continues the long road of recovery from knee surgery. We were surprised to be presented gifts from the church family at our last Sunday evening meeting.

The following day was our departure. Looking out the window of the small plane, we viewed our friends waving and waving a bit frantically, as Barry waved a set of car keys in the air! Oops! We didn’t realize they were in Jim’s pocket. Barry and Diane had loaned a car for our use the last week there, but never intended for us to fly off to Auckland with them. Fortunately, contact was made with a Filipino Pastor in Auckland, who met us at the airport to retrieve the “stolen keys!”

Leaving the beautiful, scenic, island of New Zealand, we whispered a prayer of thanksgiving to our Sovereign God, for allowing us to minister there.

After a 32 hour journey, we were met by the smiling faces of Andrew and wife, Lina at the Daegu Airport in South Korea. An immediate friendship was made with our first Korean friends who have gone the extra mile to be helpful to us. Jim and I settled comfortably into the clean, spacious, furnished apartment, provided by the church. We like our new surroundings and especially like having the church so close. I (Patty), will never have an excuse for being late to church. The beautiful sanctuary is one floor above our apartment.

Two days after our arrival, Andrew and Lina took me to a humongous store, with several floors, where one can find just about anything the heart desires that is, if you have enough won!

Meal planning has been challenging, since I'm not yet fluent in the Korean language! Ha Ha! I've just about exhausted my memorized recipes and will begin to repeat those meals. Even without the language, one can make oneself understood by using charades and gestures. It's a lot of fun! One day, I went to a meat market and was perusing the selection behind the glass counter. It all looked like porky pig to me, nevertheless, I asked, "Do you have beef?" A blank look told me I was not understood, so I began to say, "Moo, Moo, Moo," and the lady shook her head, "No." I went away not knowing if Korean cows say "Moo" or is that is just in English?

From our observation, the Koreans are warm, friendly, patient, and helpful people. We are so impressed to see the innovative, determined spirits of these industrious, hard working people. Few in our city know English and those who are studying enjoy practicing with us. Tracts are received with a smile and a little courteous bow. Jim and I have distributed hundreds of gospel tracts at Gate #4 at Camp Carroll. Some respond with a positive attitude. We continue to pray for the pews to be filled. Rhoda and her young son, David, from Uganda began attending several years ago.

Last week, I spotted a soldier in uniform walking down the street, so I looked both ways before running across the street to say, "Sir, I'd just like to say thank you for serving our country." After expressing my gratitude, I gave Sgt. Richard a tract and invited him to church - which was my ulterior motive for crossing the street. I'm reminded of God's command, "Go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in that my house may be filled." Luke 14:23

Thank you for your prayer and financial support that has made it possible for us to be here to minister to these lovely people.

Sincerely in Christ,

Jim and Patty Bailey

***"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart;
and lean not unto thine own understanding.
In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:5,6***



