

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH KOREA MINISTRY

Bible Fellowship Church has had an ongoing short-term missions trip and ministry to the people of South Korea. The purpose of the trip is twofold. First to minister to the Korean people that we come in contact with. Second, to expose our church members to a missions experience.

The following answers came from the Korea team leaders.

1. What is the need in Korea and how can the church help meet that need?

The need at the Orphanage is to play with the children and try to communicate with the youth. They also need sponsors for the children.

Second, the need at the Word of Life (WOL) Mainland is to help with the English Camp, assist with teaching, help in the kitchen, perform skits, and do special music. There is a role for American teens to draw Korean campers to the camp as well.

Bible Fellowship Church can help the Korea team by praying for the trip and helping with financial needs (hire kids to work or donate).

2. How many times has the church been to Korea?

The church has been to Korea 5 times; 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, & 2023. Because of COVID, in 2021, the team served in Alaska.

3. What do you think has been the impact of our trips to Korea on the people there?

At the orphanage our church kids connected well with the orphanage kids even though the language barrier was a problem. The following testimony came from the people we ministered to:

"An American mission team from Florida visited our Home on Sunday, July 17th. There were eleven people all together. Most of them were teenagers and two were adults. They had Sunday service with teenagers. Our teenagers had a praise service and they did skits and a few songs. It was a blessing to all. After the service the visitors played dodge ball with our kids. Our teenagers are usually shy and do not talk too much to strangers but they loved the Florida mission team. They played together and laughed together. There was no wall between our kids and the mission team. They were so friendly to all of our kids and showed genuine love to the kids. Isaac Home was so impressed by them and we will not forget them for a long time. We will pray for all of you to be in Christ always!"

Bible Fellowship Church family supports 26 kids in that orphanage.

At the WOL, our youth spent 24/7 with the Korean campers and by the end of the camp they got really close. Many kept in contact with each other through social media even after the camp was finished. WOL Camp Director Mr. Joe Min tells us that the Korea Team is like a breath of fresh air and we energized the entire camp atmosphere.

4. What impact do you think this trip had on the church members who went on the trip?

Korea Team got to see how big our God is. They saw that the same God in Sebring is the same God that is in Korea 7000 miles away. When we worshiped together, sang, and prayed in two different languages was when it really impacted them. The duration of the trip is about 30 days and our youth grew up and many want to serve the Lord after the trip. The camp itself is very hard with long hours, heat, and the language barrier. This stretches our youth and teaches them to start acquiring a servant's heart.

5. What type of church member should go on the next trip?

A person who wants to join the team must be 15 years old when the trip takes place and up to college age.

6. Can you give a brief testimony on what the trip meant to you?

There are three phases to the trip. First there was two years of discipleship where we met as a team and studied the Word of God and learned the Korean culture. We feel that the discipleship was as important to spiritual growth as much as the trip itself. Second, the team took a weeklong trip after meeting for a year. This is where the team building came in. The third phase was the trip itself.

The youth have taught us as much as we have taught them and we also thank God for giving us this opportunity to watch them grow spiritually. This ministry gave us the opportunity to develop personal relationships with them.

7. What is the plan for the next trip to Korea?

Lord willing, 10 Alumni and several adults will go to Pyeongtaek (WOL Mainland) in January of 2025. The team will participate in the Orphanage and Camp Ministry.

Orphanage Ministry is located in Uijeongbu (about an hour north of Seoul)

Word of Life Camp Ministry is located in Pyeongtaek (about an hour south of Seoul)

