Your Missionaries in South Korea The Hoffman Family

March 2025

## **Prayer Update**

My daughter-in-law, Sarah, recently sent an urgent prayer request about my back injury. I experienced a level 4-disc herniation between my L4 and L5 vertebrae on January 31st. My sciatic nerve root was compressed due to the rupture, and the radiating pain was surreal. Despite their best efforts, the university hospital emergency room could not alleviate the pain radiating through my left hip and thigh. I was sent home and advised to return to the orthopedic surgeon in the morning. It was a long, painful night filled with prayer, praise, and quoting Scripture. The Lord finally gave me some relief, and I fell asleep.

One of my translators, Dr. Yoo, is a neurologist I led to Christ several years ago. He examined the MRI and believed I could recover without surgery. We canceled the surgery and followed his pain management and rest plan. It was a blessing to have a doctor who made house calls! I couldn't walk and was on complete bed rest for a week. I felt better and was determined to return to church. I tried walking in the house and thought I could tolerate the pain, but three hours later, the intense pain returned despite the opioid medication. The sciatic nerve taught me to be humble and listen to your doctor. It was a long three days of suffering, Dr. Yoo did his best each day to manage the pain, but surgery seemed to be the only option now. Things did not look good; thankfully, Sarah took the initiative and requested prayer.

The LORD heard your prayers, and the pain eased shortly after she sent the email! Thank you for praying; I am eternally grateful. Yesterday, March 2, was my first Sunday back in church. It also marked our 27<sup>th</sup> anniversary as missionaries in Korea. I can only stand for a few minutes or sit in a reclining chair, so I preached from a Lazy Boy recliner during both services. Thank you for praying for me; it was a painful experience but an amazing opportunity to grasp the depth of God's love and to experience a small part of what Jesus endured for us. God is always, only good!



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## **Additional Prayer Request**

On March 10, we will begin a \$160,000 emergency reconstruction of the parking lot and retaining wall. The retaining wall separates our parking lot from the road below. When we purchased the property eight years ago, the wall was leaning slightly, but last summer, after the monsoon, it slipped two inches. Our builder, architect, and the city safety department agreed that it needed to be immediately repaired once the frost came out of the ground. The reconstruction will enhance our parking capacity and make a new entrance that is safe, handicap accessible, and bus accessible. The parking lot was my long-range campus plan's final phase, which would follow a larger auditorium and school facilities. Unfortunately, it cannot wait.

We have raised \$53,000 so far, but we still need \$107,000. On March 20th, we need to pay \$70,000, followed by a final payment of \$37,000 on April 24th when the construction is completed. Please pray with us regarding this matter, and if you would like to offer financial support, it would be greatly appreciated.

The Lord is at work, the Gospel is being preached, and people are trusting in Christ and being discipled. We are developing new Gospel tracts and plan to spread the Gospel in several new areas. Hundreds of Korean soldiers will also hear the Gospel this year.

Thank you for twenty-seven years of faithful support and prayers. It is an absolute miracle of God's grace to see what has been done through your investment in our lives and the people of Korea. Thank you, and praise the Lord, for He is always good!

In Christ,

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