



Hello Friends,

October 2018

We trust and pray that this letter finds you well. Hope that the Lord has been kept you safe and joyous in His gracious loving arms. Since we came home in Chicago, we have been enjoying every bit of tree color, air change, rain, temperature, abundance of fresh vegetables, fruits, and familiar scenery. Our souls are nourished by friendship, church members, and calm environment, so we celebrate God given grateful heart.

"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God." (Rom 8:26-27)

We do not know what God's will for us in a specific way. More than often not knowing His will for us made us pause and wait. It is our desire to comply with what God wants for us not what we want or desire. The security we have in the Spirit is that He knows our innermost longings and desires and guides us according to His good will. It is important for us to trust the best of what God provides.



On the way to the US, we had a wonderful chance to meet old friends and coworkers in Christ. We had left some legacy of mission works in a few places: One of them was Japan. It was the place where we poured our youthful lives out for the Kingdom work with great passion. Our dear friend family shared a heart wrenching experience yet exemplified the spiritual growth in the midst of trial. Although the affliction is still there, we believe that God makes everything beautiful in his perfect time. Another friend has been leading the prayer group for years in Japan with new

or young-in-faith believers. With prayers, the group developed a vision to do mission works in and outside the country. We got to share God's words with this group. We were very much encouraged by their prayers and service for the eternal cause. Korea was another place to stop by. We were able to reconnect with some of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School alumni in Korea. Most of them are faithfully serving God in many different capacities. We shared common interests, concerns, prayers, and most of all blessings that God has been poured into our lives. It was so encouraging to see that there were many warriors around the world with the same reason that we have in Christ.



What are we doing in the US? Justine's late maternal grandma (born in the end of Yi dynasty and lived through the early modern Korea, survived two world wars, and the Korean war) became a widow when she was late 50s. Justine's mom was the only child who had already her own family by then. Thus, the grandma occupied her daily life as an empty nester with great loneliness by regularly visiting relatives. When Justine was a little girl, the grandma used to say with a big sigh while adorning herself with a clean set of Korean Hanbok (traditional costume) to be ready to go out, "I invite myself to the relative homes although no one asked me to come!" I chuckle at the fact that we are doing the same thing in terms of approaching possible supporters and churches for our mission work! Again, we make ourselves invited to connect with friends and churches as

much as we can. We are planning to visit relatives, friends, and churches in Atlanta, GA during the month of Oct and some cities in the east coast and Toronto, Canada for possible ministry partners through individuals and churches.



At times, furlough is not really ‘furlough!’ Home assignment gets busy for the necessary works and can be emotionally restless than in the mission field. To make the ‘furlough’ truthful, we decided to take a three-day break on the way to California in the canyon area by driving through beautiful and majestic world that God created. It was our first time to see the area. We loved every spot we stopped including the desert beauty of the Navajo Nation and the Mohave desert. What a liberating space for us to be embraced by the massive nature comparing the experience we have lived in a small city country for 3 years!

We also prepare our classes for the next semester Jan-May 2019. The preparation includes some revision of teaching contents. Raymond will offer a new course (Honor, Shame, Guilt, and Sin) along with other usual courses we have been teaching. Thus, it takes some effort to prepare it in the midst of heavy traveling. When we left Singapore for furlough, our visa got expired due to the rejection in renewal. Finally, it got approved in Sept. only for one year. Faithful and relentless intercessory prayers for and behind us make our challenges and difficulties into the testimonies of God’s sincere works within and through us together in Christ.

EAST will relocate classes into a new location due to the renovation of church we have been renting out for decades. It will bring many challenges and cause inconvenience since we keep our library in the current church while the classes are in a different town. Pray that God would do his mighty works in the lives of students, faculty, and staffs regardless of changes. Our church ministry, “Young Joseph” domestic helpers in Singapore is thriving in our absence by the tremendous effort of dedicated leaders and volunteers. We faithfully join the ministry with them through our prayers. Many friends, students, and co-workers are ardently waiting for us to return to Singapore for the next term.



Raymond and Justine

Please pray for us...

- Thankful that God provided a place to live and a car during furlough.
- Thankful for sustaining supporters and churches for our mission work.
- Thankful for the intercessory prayer teams for our mission work.
- Pray for our good health both physically and spiritually.
- Pray for our diligence to accomplish the support level we need.
- Pray for our sons’ spiritual renewal and directions in their lives.
- Pray for our safe travels.
- Pray that we would know God’s perfect leading in our lives.

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