

Blue Asia Grace



"...With Only A Few Dollars Left Before..."

We knew God had put the people of Asia in our hearts. We knew that He was guiding us to work for Him there. We had never seen their faces, but we have been praying for them because God knew them personally. That's why we were still moving forward with our October trip there, though we only had a few dollars left in the bank, 7 days before we planned to leave. We know that God is faithful; that "God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, **having all that you need**, you will abound in every good work" 2 Cor. 9:8; that He will "equip you with everything good for doing His will" Heb. 13:21. One week before it was time to get in the car and leave, God faithfully provided a \$5,000 dollar donation that carried us all the way.

God also provided us with our first contact on the mission field two weeks before we left. His name is Ulzii (OOI-tsy) and he is the pastor of a small church in the capital.

Traveling Trouble

The morning of our first flight, we woke up to find a message that our second flight (from Detroit to South Korea) had been cancelled! No news of a new itinerary, so we called them only to find that they were unaware. We spent hours on hold. Finally they got it arranged to fly out the next day, so we had to stay the night in Detroit. God worked it all out. Though pictures of a cancelled trip had flashed before our eye's with a rush of adrenaline, we arrived in the capital only 16 hours later than what the original plan was.

In Plain Sight

We walked off the plane in disbelief of the fact that we were actually in the country. We met Pastor Ulzii at the airport, and by God's coordination, he had two weeks off from work during the two weeks we were there! He showed us all around the city. We saw streets lined with trash, stray dogs zig-zaging the streets and alleys, homeless adults and kids hunched under huge woven plastic sacks slung over their shoulders, drunks sprawled out on the sidewalks, and random Buddhist idols. Every street we walked, we saw street vendors competing with pedestrians for sidewalk space. We saw children walking by themselves or with friends during the day and night unafraid of any danger. The capital was a strange clash of their ancient native traditions, post-communism and their new, yet struggling democracy.



I got to hold a vulture for a few dollars.

The food was quite an adventure. Suffice it to say that the menu was dominated by mutton. We made a few trips out to the country side and saw their traditional living, monuments and road side curiosities.

Ministry

Although this trip was primarily for fact finding (in order to plan out our future ministry there) and not a mission trip for ministry, we did get some ministry opportunities. Pastor Ulzii arranged for me to preach in his church. I got to speak on some of the Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. We got to minister to orphans out in the Ger districts (slums) and to the homeless outside our hotel.

Ulzii was proposing all kinds of ministry needs that we could help with when we move there. One of the more significant needs that he spoke of was that of a ministry for men. Most of the churches in the country are composed of young women. This has left a huge void with an obvious need. It's also what I have endeavored to do there; to teach, train, edify and encourage the national men for ministry in the church to their own people.



The orphans were ecstatic to have us read books in English.

So, What Now?

Now, our goal is to get back to the field and begin our work. We have to be able to meet a budget of 2,500 per month. I am confident that God has plans to minister to the needs of these people and is calling us there to serve. Only 1% of the nationals have come to trust Jesus, and missionary presence there is few and far between. If you would like to have a hand in what God plans to do for them by supporting us, you can visit our agencies website at www.tentmakersbiblemission.org. You can call their office at 307-223-9400 or email them at info@tentmakersbiblemission.org. We are currently at 6% of our goal.

Your Prayers Answered

- We never got sick, though *S* had a severe, complicated case of jet lag.
- Our kids did amazing while we were apart.
- We were further encouraged for our future ministry there.
- Our brother Ulzii is excited to have us there.

Ways to be praying

- That God would continue to guide us and TBM in the details of our future ministry.
- For opportunities to share about our future ministry with people and churches.
- For the support raising process; meeting our budget.
- For getting visas.