



## From the Son of a Poor Farmer, To the Local Branch Manager of NAKUMATT

John Ouma Ochieng



I was born in Kisumu (the third largest city in Kenya), near Lake Victoria in the year 1954. Due to my family's poor economic situation, I couldn't enter middle school, so I studied agriculture at the National Youth Job Training School instead. But getting a job was very difficult, even after I finished my studies there.

In 1984, I left my hometown and headed for Nakuru. There, I made every effort to survive. As I worked diligently, I was able to lead a stable life. But in 2006, the company I worked for faced financial difficulties and shut down its door. So I got a store in Kisumu and started my own business. As my business stabilized, I extended the business to freight delivery.

I was Catholic at the time, but I asked one of the staff who was Christian to introduce me to a pastor who would be willing to lead a prayer meeting at my business. Through this opportunity, I accepted the Lord, and each Sunday morning, before we started working, my staff and I worshipped together. Not fully understanding about how to truly keep the Sabbath Day holy, I thought I was doing my best.

### The Business Collapsed In a Moment

During the year 2007, the business seemed to prosper, but as time went on, the situation got worse. But I couldn't figure out the cause. Finally, the situation got so bad that I couldn't even afford to pay my rent. No matter how hard I looked around me, I couldn't find any help. Then in June 2008, due to failure of reimbursement of bank-loaned money, I had to sell the store by auction.

The shock at that time was beyond expression. The increasing amount of debt brought great pressure to my

family, and my children experienced severe poverty. My staff, after suddenly losing their jobs, all fell into despair. I couldn't help but feel depressed each day.

### I Stopped by Nairobi Manmin Holiness Church

In September of last year, I met up with someone I used to work with and asked for help. He felt so sorry for me, and he introduced me to a warehouse guard position at Brand Imports (Food importing company).

One day in November, on my way home from work, I spotted a sign that read: Nairobi Manmin Holiness Church. My heart was pulling me toward it, so I visited the church on Sunday. After Sunday morning service I was overjoyed and my heart was at peace, and I looked forward to the Evening Service message. The lecture on the book of Job that Bishop Dr. Myongho Cheong preached was such a precious message that helped me to rediscover myself, and tears ran down my face. I realized that up to that point, I had been living a meaningless life, stuck to myself with pride. I was so ashamed of my Christian life where I wasn't even practicing the basics, such as keeping the Sabbath and paying my tithes.

### Prayer and Worship Transformed My Life

From then on, my life was completely turned around. In addition to keeping the Sabbath, I attended the Daniel prayer meetings each day and tried to find God. And at the workplace, I started each day by praying along with my co-workers each morning.

And watching Manmin Magazine on GCN (Global Christian Network) during Friday night services gave me such comfort and strength, because I was able to hear testimonies of people who overcame difficulties through deeds of faith trusting in God alone.

I felt my faith growing each day. At times, I was left with no money after paying the monthly rent and tithes, but I kept sowing for God's kingdom. While listening to a message about "Blessing" during the New Year's Day service, I made up my mind to get over my difficult situation and glorify God. I prayed with faith and strived to obey God's word while having firm hope in my heart.

In mid-March of 2009, after Bishop Dr. Myongho Cheong returned from the Manmin Central Church in

Korea, Dr. Cheong emphasized in his message titled, "The God Who Answers and Blesses", that we have to find the root cause of each of the problems in our lives by looking into ourselves and thoroughly repenting. I immediately bowed down before God, repented, and prayed fervently.

Bishop Dr. Myongho Cheong prayed for me with the handkerchief that Dr. Jaerock Lee prayed upon.

### A Blessing That No One Could Imagine

On June 2, this unexpected thing happened. A supervisor I once worked for moved the heart of the CEO of the company I was working for, and the CEO appointed me as manager of the local branch of Nakumatt. Nakumatt is a large store with 19 branches in Kenya and a branch in Kampala, Uganda, Kigali, and Rwanda, with over 2000 full-time employees.

Trudging through life's difficulties, there were times I had no hope. But by the holiness gospel and Dr. Jaerock Lee's fervent prayer for us, my family, and all my staff members are enjoying happy lives. On top of that, our company's difficult problems have all been solved.

Because the CEO of NAKUMATT is Indian, we work on Sundays. But through the Salt and Light Mission Team (the mission team established to evangelize to those who work on Sundays in restaurants and department stores), I intend to try my best to evangelize to my staff. I want to thank God who poured overflowing blessings upon my life, and who gave me the strength to overcome the difficult times in my life.



With my staff at NAKUMATT

ARISE, SHINE, (ISA 60:1)

# MANMIN NEWS

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## Tears Shed For God's Love, Laughter Shared From the Experience of Heaven The 2009 Children's Vacation Bible School

With the theme, "The Heart", the 2009 Manmin Vacation Bible School was held from July 26 through 29. Toddlers, Children, and students from the first through the sixth grade forgot about the scorching summer heat as they felt the deep love of God, through this year's dynamic VBS program.

### What did the Lord feel in His heart as He carried the cross?

A young girl carries a wooden cross on her shoulder sobbing. Heavy tears run down the face of her friends who are watching this scene. When a reporter asked one of her friends, "Why did you cry?" he replied, "When I think about the Lord being pierced in His hands and feet and having worn the thorny crown on His head for my sins, I feel so sorry about going to the arcade, fighting with my friends, and lying to my mom." Then another student stated that he would never forget about the love and grace of the Lord.

### Experiencing Heaven and the Second Manmin Children's Performing Arts Festival

One corner of the church was labeled the "Experiencing Heaven" section. Here, children became official citizens of heaven and bowled in lanes decorated with the gems and jewels of heaven. They also got to sit on golden benches and learned to play the harp. Finally, they were overjoyed as they received heavenly crowns from moms dressed as angels. Especially at this "Second Manmin Children's Art Festival", the children showcased a wide variety of their God-given talents such as dancing, playing musical instruments, praise and worship, and martial arts (Taekwondo). The grand prize was awarded to the team called "Children of the Lord", that performed a biblical

play about fulfilling one's dreams through faith.

### Participants Experience God's Grace Through Inspiring Messages

In addition to the various activities, children experienced much of God's grace through God's word. On the first day, Dr. Jaerock Lee preached a message urging students to understand God's love and try to cultivate a heart that can be loved by God. Pastor Soojin Lee encouraged the children not to live according to this world, but to live according to God's will. Finally, Pastor Miyoung Lee shared a message about using our free will to live a life glorifying to God. The students focused on the speakers with bright eyes and listened attentively, experiencing much of God's grace.

### The Love and Dedication of the Teachers

The teachers also touched many hearts by dedicating their annual vacation times for this year's VBS. They taught children the word of God by carefully preparing Bible studies with the theme, "The Heart". And through a foot-washing ceremony in which they washed their student's feet, the teachers experienced firsthand the humble, serving heart of the Lord. During a prayer meeting led by Pastor Heesun Lee, the teachers prayed for the children with passion and love. And with a puppet play called "Heidi, Girl of the Alps", the teachers entertained the children while touching their hearts. Children all over the world were able to participate in this year's vacation Bible school, which was broadcast live through GCN. We give all the glory and thanks to God who poured out His grace and love upon the children during this year's VBS!

| Column I

## The Greatest

The greatest love is the kind of love where one can give his or her own life for another. People are moved by this kind of love and wish to experience it. Jesus, who came to this world for the salvation of mankind, only did good things.

He preached about heaven, He healed people suffering from all kinds of diseases, and ultimately, He showed the greatest love by dying on the cross to redeem us from sins. And He manifested that love by His resurrection from the dead.

I sincerely hope that you will be led to the way of salvation and that you will spread that love to many people in the world by truly understanding the love of Jesus Christ from the depth of your heart.

From Dr. Jaerock Lee's column series "The Way" printed in *The Hankyoreh Daily*



## My Mother-In-Law Was Healed of a Rare Disease After I Received a Prayer on Her Picture

Anania Kastanian



With his wife Sonia

The Arabian version of Dr. Jaerock Lee's testimonial memoir, *Tasting Eternal Life Before Death* has been distributed to bookstores and read by people in Lebanon. This book, which encourages the reader to have faith and to trust in God, is a blessing that gives hope to many people. I also was touched by this book and am leading a happy life with hopes of heaven. With a thankful heart, I'd like to share my testimony of how I experienced the power of God after receiving Dr. Jaerock Lee's prayer.

My mother-in-law was suffering from an infection on her whole body and also

from arteriovenous atresia. Her blood pressure and immune system became weakened. The hospital couldn't find any cause and could only say that she had a rare disease that only one out of a thousand people have. For 7 years, she lived as a patient and had to be hospitalized every three months.

But in April of 2003, I had the chance to receive a prayer from Dr. Jaerock Lee who was visiting the Middle East. I took a picture of my mother-in-law to Dr. Lee. As he prayed on her picture, my wife and I received the prayer with faith. Then, my mother-in-law experienced God's miracle, and all of her symptoms were cured without any hospital treatment. Hallelujah!

My mother-in-law is now enjoying a healthy life in Beirut, Lebanon, and sometimes she visits my brother-in-law who lives in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates. I give thanks and glory to God who poured His blessing upon my family, both in flesh and in spirit!



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# The Baptism with the Holy Spirit and Fire

"As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matthew 3:12)

So what is "baptism by the Holy Spirit and fire", and how can we receive this? For children of God, baptism by the Holy Spirit is the first step to becoming a Christian. And while receiving the baptism by fire on a daily basis, just like the believers of the early church, we should long for the Lord's return by being faithful to the bitter end.

## 1. The Importance of the Baptism by the Holy Spirit

After attending church on a regular basis, and becoming a believer, today's Christians are taught and baptized according to the denominational rules and orders of the church they attend.

This type of baptism for new believers is done with water, which symbolizes the word of God. According to the Bible, being baptized with water symbolizes that one has accepted Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and has received the right to become a child of God. Baptism by water symbolizes that one has been cleansed of his sins and has become a holy child of God. People in the Old Testament times received salvation according to their deeds of observing the law, so they were physically circumcised as a sign that they are people of God. But in the New Testament times, those who accept Jesus Christ receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, and their hearts become circumcised, meaning they go through an internal transformation. Then through baptism by water they proclaim and testify that they have become children of God.

The baptism of water is simply a symbolic act of receiving salvation for those who have accepted Jesus Christ, so even if someone is baptized with water, if he or she does not receive the Holy Spirit, they cannot be saved.

Since we are given the gift of the Holy Spirit when we open our hearts and accept Jesus Christ as our Savior, it is more correct to be baptized by water after receiving the Holy Spirit; however, some believers are baptized by water first, and then later receive the Holy Spirit. But the important matter here is not which kind of baptism we receive first, but that as children of God, we receive the Holy Spirit in order to truly be saved (2 Corinthians 1:21-22).

## 2. He Will Baptize You with the Holy Spirit and Fire

What should we do in order to receive the Holy Spirit? First of all, we have to understand why Jesus is our only Savior and why we need to believe in the Lord Jesus to be saved. We should also repent for all the sins we committed here on earth, but we must acknowledge that the biggest sin is not believing in Jesus Christ and repent of that sin. Then we should open our hearts, and believe and accept Jesus as our Savior. Then, we can receive the Spirit as a gift from God (Acts 2:38).



Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee

Baptism by the Holy Spirit is the surest testimony of salvation (John 1:12). Simply going to church does not guarantee us of salvation and the ticket to enter into the kingdom of heaven. No matter how long one might have been attending church, they can only gain the assurance of salvation after receiving the Holy Spirit. And only after we are born again by water and the Holy Spirit is our name recorded in the book of life. And only after we receive the Holy Spirit can we call God "Abba Father," and believe that God will answer our prayers. And since the Holy Spirit convicts us of our sins and teaches us about the way of righteousness and about the last judgment, we should feel the strong need to cast out our sins and live according to the word of God.

Baptism by fire is when the fire of the Holy Spirit comes upon us and the power of God is given to us. When we tear down the walls of sin and please God with our praises and prayers, sinful natures are cast away, diseases are healed, and all kinds of problems become solved.

When we receive the Holy Spirit, yes, we are forgiven of our sins and become children of God, but this doesn't mean our sinful natures disappear. Only when we constantly struggle to cast off our sins and try to walk in the light, can we reach complete salvation. Even if we have received the Holy Spirit and gained the right to receive salvation, if we continue to live in the midst of sins and befriend the world, we are no different from the people of this world. Therefore, throwing away sins, becoming sanctified, and living according to the word of God cannot be fulfilled by one simple baptism of the Holy Spirit. We have to keep our hearts filled with the Holy Spirit at all times and be baptized by fire every day to receive the power to overcome the dark world through faith.

## 3. The Baptism of Fire and the Works of the Holy Spirit

Baptism by fire is when the fire of the Holy Spirit comes upon us and the power of God is given to us. When we are baptized by fire, the holy fire scorches

our diseases and sinful natures, and the enemy devil departs from our families, work places, and businesses.

When we are baptized by the Holy Spirit, we are cleansed from all our sins. But since the roots of sin remain in our hearts, we may not be able to live completely by the word of God, and the enemy Satan can still accuse us of our remaining sins and bring diseases, tribulations, or problems to our homes and workplaces. This is why even after we receive the Holy Spirit and become children of God, we should constantly be baptized by fire, have the roots of sin scorched by the Holy Spirit's fire, strive for sanctification, and walk in the light. By doing this, we can be protected in our homes and workplaces by the fiery walls of the Holy Spirit. Because the enemy Satan won't have anything to accuse you of, trials and afflictions will depart from your lives, and you can always enjoy God's blessings in all areas of your life.

Just as fire burns and destroys, when we are baptized with fire of the Holy Spirit, fleshly diseases and sinful natures of our hearts become scorched, and then all kinds of problems that may be present in our lives can be solved. Thus, if God surrounds us with the fire of the Holy Spirit, the evil spirits, including the enemy devil cannot approach us, and flee from us instead. If the evil spirits including the enemy devil and Satan are touched by the fire of the Holy Spirit, they lose their power and become paralyzed like dead beings.

What shall we do in order to be constantly baptized by fire? Baptism by fire is given to us when we are full of the Holy Spirit, so we must first destroy the walls of sin built between us and God. That's why the first thing we have to do at divine healing meetings is to destroy the walls of sin through prayers of repentance. Then we pray for the inspiration, influence, and fullness of the Holy Spirit. And then lastly, we begin the prayer for the sick. Only then can the fire of the Holy Spirit scorch all diseases, sins are cast out, and our prayers are answered. Next, in order to be baptized with fire, we have to offer the praises and prayers that are pleasing to God. If we store up the fragrance of praises and prayers that can move the throne of heaven, the fire of the Holy Spirit comes down on us and we can cast off sinful attributes and receive the solutions to various problems. Thus, you can become sanctified, and become true sons who worthy to receive power of God so that as many souls can be guided to the path.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I eagerly pray that you will be baptized by fire and be prepared for the end times with oil burning in your lamps while leading as many people to the path to salvation as possible and become true believers that enjoy the glory as bright as the sun in the kingdom of heaven.

## Books Authored by Dr. Jaerock Lee

**The Message of the Cross**  
A must-read to any reader around world  
Translated and published into 15 different languages!  
A touching message awakening numerous souls and giving them true life!  
A treasure box of God's deep and true love!

**Heaven I & II**  
The place as clear and beautiful as crystal and filled with God's glory!  
Secrets of the kingdom of heaven revealed!  
Vivid description of gorgeous lives in heaven and eternal happiness, rewards and glory given in the glory of God

**Hell**  
Never-before-revealed accounts of the horrible torments of Hell!  
God does not want a single soul to fall into Hell!  
A stern warning of awakening slumbering souls and God's earnest message of love for mankind!

**The Measure of Faith**  
This is a most significant guidepost for the growth of faith.  
There is the faith of the robber who accepted the Lord just before his death and the faith of the apostle Paul who preached the gospel in midst of countless sufferings. Just what is the difference between the faiths of these two people?

**My Life My Faith I & II**  
The pure aroma and fragrance of unceasing inspiration and truthfulness with touching accounts of biblical miracles still taking place today. Accounts of numerous healing works manifested just through prayers and the mystery of the fiery works of the Holy Spirit occurring at the end of time.

**Awaken Israel!**  
This is about both the love and the secrets of God that have been hidden until the end of times. It is a stern warning message to all mankind living in this end of the time of the ages and a good signpost to give all Jewish people the exact answers to their eager hope for the Messiah.

**Life of Disobedience and Life of Obedience**  
Ten Plagues  
What if undesirable things continue to happen? What if small things turn into great sufferings? There are inevitable reasons for those things. This book helps the reader understand that there is a mystery embedded in disasters, plagues, and trials; and there is the love of God flowing in the trials.

# Deacon Young-Woo Park's Secret to His Business Success

Here is Young-Woo Park's story of his business success after overcoming difficult times with deeds of faith.

Though I worked day and night, I never got tired of dreaming of success. At first, it all seemed to be going well, as I became known as a sincere person. But before long, I met great difficulties.

In May 2006, after discovering my calling in the moving vehicle advertisement business, I quit my job and started my own business.

First I failed to receive payment after finishing some design work; not once, but twice. To make matters worse, starting one very slow day, the incoming orders crawled nearly to a halt. It seemed like even things that easily seemed possible before turned impossible.

I was in the middle of a very miserable financial crisis. My wife's entire paycheck went to pay off my debts. And each day and every day only brought more and more suffering.

As I was visited by third grand parish pastor and thirty-second parish pastor, I was able to finally realize the spiritual root of the problem. I then learned that I had to stand right before God by keeping the Sabbath holy and giving proper tithes. My job was to design advertisements on vehicles, so I had an especially huge workload on Sundays, which is when the buses don't run. And so I figured that since 'not working on the Sabbath day' is pretty much the same thing as giving up my business, and because 'God understands my situation,' I believed my case was an exception. But



Deacon Young-Woo Park standing in front of an advertisement he designed

When he acted by God's word alone without involving his own thoughts, his business grew as he received more and more orders ...

this was the problem. And without prayer, I had never even realized this was wrong.

Repenting with tears, I handed over all the orders that required me to work on Sunday. It was not easy at first. Although I had decided to follow God's word, I still left for work after Sunday morning service, and I thought that would be OK.

But I still couldn't ignore the voice I heard from inside. I was compromising with the world. Those

members who testified about God's blessings were able to turn their lives around by showing faith.

Thus, I made up my mind to give up working on the Sabbath day entirely, despite the fact that I could make a big profit. When I did that, God allowed me to work on brand new cars that had just come out of the factory. This was God's wisdom, since the factories don't operate on Sunday and I could work on the weekdays.

Whenever I made a profit, I separated the tithes. And I erased my name from the list at the Buddhist temple that my mother had put in for me. I quit smoking and drinking and started a life of prayer. It was a decision I made to live as God's true child. And with my wife, I went to Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee and received a prayer for my business.

And surprisingly, from that point on, I began to receive orders from large companies. We couldn't even accept the larger scale projects, because we just didn't have enough capital. And then God gave us work that had lower production costs so that we could have greater fixed earnings.

As we gained more and more contracts, the business grew and the amount of our tithes increased. The blessing is still overflowing to this day.

I'm so thankful to God for the grace that allowed me to have a satisfied heart through the difficult times. And to the God who only really wants to give true blessings in every aspect of our life and, more importantly, assure the prosperity of our souls, I give all the glory and thanksgiving.

# Unimaginable Pain From Herpes Zoster



With his wife Kwang-Ok Hwang

Deacon Dong-il Kim (age 75) of Choonchun Manmin Church experienced this touching work of God just a few months ago:

On May 23, I suddenly started to have pain on the left side of my body and red spots began to cover my belly and back. It felt like I was being stuck with needles. All of this turned out to be Herpes Zoster. The doctor said that it would last anywhere from two to four months, and that I should rest.

Herpes Zoster is a condition where, when the immune system is weak, dormant chicken pox viruses activate and attack nerve cells. This can be very dangerous to older people.

Seeing me wake up several times a night from great pain that I would feel even when the affected area was only slightly touched, my wife, Senior Deaconess Kwang-Ok Hwang prayed and fasted for me. And I depended only on God, spraying Muan Sweet Water on my body and attending worship services.

On June 5, I came to Seoul and received a prayer from Dr. Jaerock Lee. After the prayer, the pain went away and scabs began to form over the infected area. Within a week, while once again receiving prayer from Dr. Jaerock Lee, I saw fire coming into my body. And beginning the following day, the scabs began to fall off and I was completely healed of Herpes Zoster!



Before the prayer After the prayer

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## Confessions of Faith

1. Manmin Central Church believes that the Bible is God-breathed Word that is perfect and flawless.
2. Manmin Central Church believes in the unity and the work of God the Trinity: God the Holy Father, God the Holy Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
3. Manmin Central Church believes that we are forgiven of our sins only by the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ.
4. Manmin Central Church believes in the resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ, His Second Advent, the Millennium, and the eternal heaven.
5. Members of Manmin Central Church confess their faith through "The Apostles' Creed" each time they come together and believe in its content verbatim.

## MEMO

