Manmin News

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Beautiful Decoration of the Church by Design and Sharon Fellowships



There are believers who beautifully adorn the church with their talents for church events such as Christmas, Thanksgiving Sunday, Easter, and Anniversary Events with love for God and the sanctuary, the body of Christ. Whatever they touch is transformed into beautiful photo studios for the church members, and they have a happy time taking photos and their laughter fills the

The 2014 Church Christmas Lighting Ceremony is a few weeks away. This year's decoration theme is 'Heaven', and the ceremony is to be aired via GCN. All members throughout the world as well as those in Korea will be enraptured and made to feel as if they were in New Jerusalem. To accomplish this, church members who love the Lord have been decorating the church.

Design Fellowship and Maintenance Bureau have been decorating the main sanctuary; Young Adults' Mission, the main lobby and the third sanctuary; Sharon Fellowship, the outside of the church; Canaan Mission, the second and sixth sanctuaries; Children's Sunday School, the fourth; and Students' Sunday School, the fifth. The church fulltime workers are also helping in the work.

In particular, Design Fellowship and Sharon Fellowship have been devoted to decorating the church beautifully for every church event, thereby glorifying God and making the church members happy.

Design Fellowship was organized in September 1994 by the members who had studied fine arts in college or worked in relevant fields. They started by designing and producing stages for the events such as Anniversary Celebration Performance and Christmas Performance, decorating the altars, and making Christmas ornaments. In 2000, they expanded their area up to Summer Retreat and Leadership Seminar.

Currently, the fellowship has many members of various ages from high school students, college students, and working people who are talented in design and fine arts. Sister Jinsil Lee said, "I am so grateful because I can do something for God with my talent which used to look like nothing. I feel happy when I work overnight and I am not tired the next day. In the Canaan Sanctuary, I want to create various design plans and work as a curator."

Deaconess Minkyung Choi, 2015 Leader of Design Fellowship, stated, "Doing the design work has been a great help to my growth in faith. I was also blessed to receive recognition in my workplace and to see an increase in sales that I am in charge of. Other members have been blessed to pass some tests, get a job, or earn scholarships. We believe the

decoration of the main sanctuary has a great influence on the church's image, so we are pursuing further studies on related fields to learn more."

Sharon Fellowship was organized in 2001. Since then they have made beautiful artworks with flowers and ornaments during the church's anniversary, Christmas, and Muan Sweet Water Miracle Anniversary events. Elder Nakhong Yim supports them, and they unsparingly offer their time, money, and hearts for the kingdom of God. They feel thankful just to be able to work with God-given talents.

Senior Deaconess Kyungeun Lee, Leader of Sharon Fellowship, said, "We are happy to come together, because we value one another and offer up our hearts to God in these works. God has blessed us abundantly." Senior Deaconess Sukhee Han, Vice Leader was guided to Sharon Fellowship during 100-day vowed prayer and said, "As I joyfully worked for God's kingdom, God increased my faith and He Himself has raised my children as well."

Other members have also enjoyed material blessing, bought homes in

blessing, and enjoyed good health. They have also enlarged their hearts through the work, thereby their souls prospering.

They have been preparing for the Canaan Sanctuary era. In order to produce quality artworks suitable for the global image of the church, they have learned carpentry, flower arrangement, balloon modeling, graphic arts, and so on. They are also trying to keep up with modern trends by visiting fairs or galleries.

In this way, Design and Sharon Fellowships glorify God with the precious talents and give happiness to the members. Furthermore, they have been striving to achieve the heart of spirit helping one another in the love of the Lord. In Canaan Sanctuary they will have more to do, and hope their enthusiasm for the Lord will become beautiful jewels in Heaven.

Women's Mission also decorates the altar with hundreds of best grains, fruit, and vegetables every Thanksgiving Sunday to glorify God who blessed us. Floral Design Division touches the members' hearts and offers up the members' fragrance of heart through inspiring arrangements of flowers.

THE WORD OF LIFE NO. 415 NOVEMBER 30, 2014 Manmin News



Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee

"You shall not commit adultery" (Exodus 20:14).

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Adultery is defined as the voluntary sexual relations between a married person and someone other than his or her lawful spouse. In the past, this was considered a serious sin. But today people's consciences have become so numbed and they have little sense of sin. As a result they easily commit such sins in action.

No matter how full of sins this world is, however, we, as children of God, should be awake and walk in the Light always (Romans 13:12). This seventh commandment telling us not to commit adultery contains other spiritual meanings beyond just prohibiting us from the act of adultery. Let's look into them.

Firstly, we must not commit adultery in action

Adultery in action is one of the typical works of the flesh, and the Bible clearly tells us that those who commit this sin will not be saved (Galatians 5:19-21).

1 Corinthians 6:9-10 reads, "Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God."

Of course, in case of a new-believer who has little knowledge of the truth, God may give him a chance of repentance. But after knowing the truth to some extent, if one commits this kind of evident work of flesh, it is very difficult to receive the spirit of repentance. Leviticus 20:10 warns us, saying, "If there is a man who commits adultery with another man's wife, one who commits adultery with

"You Shall Not Commit Adultery"

his friend's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death."

In addition, the Bible strictly prohibits consensual sexual intercourse between two people not married to each other and relations with an animal or with a partner of the same gender. God sternly forbids us to commit such sins lest we be led to death because He loves us. Therefore, you should not follow this trend of this world and make yourself unclean.

Secondly, we must cast off adultery of the heart

In Matthew 5:27-28, Jesus said that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Before men commit sins in action, they first have sins in their heart. Because they hate others in the heart, they cause damage to others, and because they have anger in their heart, they get angry. In the same way, if one has an adulterous mind in heart, it can develop into acts of adultery.

Therefore, even if it hasn't come out in action yet, if he has it in the heart, it is already commission of adultery. It originates from the same root with adultery. Some people teach that men cannot cast off adultery from the heart and they can only try to suppress it. Of course, by men's ability, we cannot do it. But if we receive God's strength through prayers and fasting, we can remove this sinful nature from our heart.

Jesus wore the crown of thorns and shed His precious blood to forgive us of the sins we commit in our thoughts. Moreover, God sent us the Holy Spirit, who helps us eliminate sinful natures in our heart. If we once root out the sinful nature, we won't even think about the untruth. Of course, in the process of casting it off, we may feel it keeps coming up again and again. But if we are really trying to cast off sins and evil by believing the Word of God and obeying it, we never stay at the same state.

When we peel away layers of an onion, even after peeling off a couple of layers, we still get the samelooking layers, but if we continue peeling it off, finally, nothing will be left to remove. The same goes with our sinful natures. So if we have faith, we won't be discouraged. We should believe that we will be renewed to the extent that we try and soon be

sanctified.

In the process of casting off the sinful nature, even if adulterous thought came into your mind for a moment, God does not condemn you to have committed adultery. It's a problem when you develop the thought more with your imagination. But if you repent of it immediately after you realize it and just keep on trying to become sanctified, God will give you more grace and strength.

Thirdly, we must not commit spiritual adultery

Both physical adultery in action and that in heart fall under fleshly adultery. But more fearful than these is spiritual adultery. Spiritual adultery is committed when one loves the world more than God although he professes his faith in God.

Colossians 3:5-6 states, "Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience."

Even if one received the Holy Spirit, experienced God's works, and has faith, if he doesn't cast off greed from his heart, he will love worldly things more than God. That is, if he has greed, it will lead to spiritual idolatry, and by extension, it will become spiritual adultery.

Then, how are the spiritual idolatry in the second commandment and the spiritual adultery in the seventh commandment different? Spiritual idolatry contains every 'thing' that we love more than God. Fleshly idolatry is when a man who does not know God at all makes an image and worships it. But when a man who has weak faith loves the world more than God, it is spiritual idolatry.

Being a new-believer, for he has little faith, he may love money, fame or their family members more than God, thus they are spiritual idols to him. But as he listens to the Word and prays, he comes to believe in heart that the Word in the Bible is true and that there are Heaven and Hell. He gets to know he should love God first. Now, he has gained such faith. But if he still loves the world more than God and continually accepts things that belong to darkness, it is to forsake the love he received from God and this is spiritual adultery. The Bible often

likens the relationship between Israel and God to that between a father and his child, but sometimes it likens it to the relationship between a husband and a wife who have vowed to love each other with all his/her heart.

But in the history of Israel, the Israelites often forsook the covenant of God and worshiped foreign gods. They knew about God very well who showed them many signs and wonders but they were deceived into following their desires. They accepted idols of the Gentiles and worshiped them. This idolatry was spiritual adultery (1 Chronicles 5:25).

The northern kingdom of Israel committed spiritual adultery by worshiping idols, and was forsaken by God and destroyed. But even after seeing it, the southern kingdom of Judah didn't repent but kept on worshiping idols. In the end, they were also destroyed by the Gentiles (Jeremiah 3:8).

Today we God's children are the brides of the Lord (2 Corinthians 11:2). If one has believed in the Lord, received the Holy Spirit, and calls the Lord, 'My Bridegroom,' and yet if he still loves the world and compromises with the untruth, this is spiritual adultery (James 4:4). He who betrays the Lord and commits adultery cannot become His bride and join His Wedding Banquet either.

That is why spiritual adultery is more fearful than fleshly adultery. Suppose a younger brother cursed at his elder brother and spat on him. This is a great offense, but there is a chance of the elder brother forgiving his younger brother. But if a son did it to his father, it is something so depraved that he can seldom be forgiven.

In the same way, if one goes beyond a certain limit in spiritual adultery, he won't be able to receive answers to his prayer and will be put faraway from God. Then he will be more stained with the world, commit sins to crucify Jesus Christ all over again, and go the way of death (Hebrews 6, 10).

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I hope you won't have anything to do with not only fleshly adultery but also spiritual adultery and you will only long for the truth and fill your heart with it. I pray in the name of the Lord by doing so you will adorn yourself spotless and blameless as the bride of the Lord and participate in the Wedding Banquet with joy.

The Confession of Faith

- 1. Manmin Central Church believes that the Bible is God-breathed Word that is perfect and flawless.
- 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 Chris
- Manmin Central Church believes in the resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ, His Second Advent, the Millennium, and the eternal heaven.
- Members of Manmin Central Church confess their faith through "The Apostles Creed" each time they come together and believe in its content verbatim.

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"[God] Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things." (Acts 17:25)
"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

FEATURE STORY 3

Secrets to Receiving Answers from God

As Matthew 7:11 says, "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!" the God of love wants to give His children anything they ask for. Yet, in order to receive from Him, they should meet certain criteria, which are presented below. The following five check points are the secrets to receiving answers from God. Let's check ourselves based on them and thereby receive abundant blessing as God's children.

1. Do you believe and trust Jesus Christ?

Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and confirming His words with signs. The lame walked, the lepers were cleansed, the blind received sight, the deaf could hear, and demons were driven out. The news about His ministry was becoming wide-spread and people gathered wherever He went.

One day, Jesus was approaching Jericho and a blind man was sitting by the road. The man was told that Jesus was passing by and called out saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" (Luke 18:38) He had heard about Jesus' ministry and believed from his heart Jesus could open his eyes.

The man called Jesus 'Son of David'. This showed his belief in Jesus having come as the Savior; any Jew knew well that their Savior would be from David's genealogy. Just as the blind man did, if we believe and trust Jesus Christ from the heart, answers from God will be ours.

2. Do you cry out in prayer following the justice of God?

The first man, Adam, lived in opulence in the Garden of Eden though he didn't toil because God provided him with everything. But after he ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in disobedience to God, sins entered the world; from then people came to eat only through toil all the days of their life (Genesis 3:17).

This is the rule that God set, which is called the justice of God. Accordingly, people would have to labor strenuously to gain the produce. In the same manner, we are to labor at prayer by crying out with all our hearts so that we can enjoy answers from God.

Jesus showed good examples. Luke 22:44

says, "And being in agony He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground." When He revived Lazarus, who had been dead for four days, He also cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth" (John 11).

Again, Luke 23:46 records that Jesus cried out loudly just before He breathed His last on the cross, saying, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." Then, it is definitely a matter of course that we, mere creatures should cry out loudly in prayer if we want to receive answers, especially, when we want to solve a certain problem that can't be resolved with human power.

3. Do you show your faith through deeds perfectly?

Let's take a second look at the blind man described in Luke 18. When he cried out, people sternly told him to be quiet; but he kept crying out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Rather than being quiet the man called out even more earnestly. He was showing his faith through deeds that didn't sway in any situation.

Had he felt hurt and intimidated and become quiet as he was told, he wouldn't have gained his sight. But since his faith was strong and not wavering, he believed that through Jesus he would receive his answer, so he asked persistently and didn't miss the chance.

Jeremiah 33:3 says, "Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know." As said, if we want to receive answers from God we should call to Him earnestly in a humble attitude in any circumstance.

4. Do you obey and throw aside your cloak?

In Mark 10 there is a record of a blind beggar named Bartimaeus. Hearing Jesus was passing by, he began to call Jesus with a loud voice. And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him here." Then he threw aside his cloak, jumped up, and came to Him (Mark 10:50).

A beggar's cloak is dirty and stinks but it is very important daily necessity to a beggar. It is his only possession. Bartimaeus heard and knew that Jesus is holy and clean and he had given grace to people, healed the sick, and given hope to the poor and the sick. So he thought from his conscience he could not come to Jesus in such a dirty and filthy cloak. Obeying the voice of conscience, he threw aside his cloak right away.

This spiritually indicates that we have to cast off all filthy and stinky sins to meet our holy God. Thus, to receive God's answer, we must first repent of our past sins fully with the help of the Holy Spirit, cleanse our hearts from such things, and then obey what the Holy Spirit urges us to do immediately without hesitation.

5. Do you confess your faith with your lips?

When the blind man appearing in Luke 18 called to Him with faith, Jesus asked, saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" In fact, He knew the blind man's heart's desire but he still asked him what he wanted Him to do. Why did He do so?

This is because in order to receive answers from God, we must profess our faith with lips. The justice of God is that an answer comes only when we confess our faith with our mouth. In accordance with the justice, the blind beggar expressed his faith through the word of his lips, saying, "Lord, I want to regain my sight!" and it was answered as he said (Luke 18:41-43).



"My church is growing thanks to the holiness gospel!"

Pastor Sergey Stagneev, age 43, Bread of Life Church, Russia

I used to attend Russian Orthodox Church because of my grandmother but it was just a perfunctory attending. In 1994, I finally accepted the Lord when I began going to a Christian church and received the Holy Spirit. Then I was completely healed of stomach ulcers that hadn't been cured even with surgery. Hallelujah!

Beginning in 1995 I studied theology and in 1996 I moved to Gatchina and opened church services in my house. About ten people gathered. I was very fervent and preached the gospel earnestly. As such the church continued to grow.

In 2003 I attended Dr. Jaerock Lee's Russia United Crusade. I was very pleased to see numerous people be healed by his prayer—though he prayed on the stage—and glorify God with their testimonies. Thereafter I wanted to keep learning from him. I read his books, watched his program on TBN Russia every night, and listened to his message on the church website www.manmin.org.

When I listened to his message on Heaven, I became full of hope of going to Heaven. When I read his book *The Measure of Faith*, I was spiritually shocked knowing that there are different dwelling places for each person with different measures of faith. When I listened to his sermons on many themes, my faith increased and my heart was comforted. From that time on I tried hard to grow up in faith.

In such a longing, I desired to visit Manmin Central Church. Meantime, I was given a chance to pay a visit to the church while talking to Pastor Vladimir Osipov, Chairman of United Holiness Church of Jesus Christ, Russia during Russian Pastors' Association's meeting. Can you imagine how happy I was!

In 2011, I finally went to Manmin Central Church. I became full of the Spirit throughout all this journey. When I was welcomed by the members at the airport, when I praised and when I prayed in the church's meetings I remained full. During worship services, I even felt shudders of emotion.

Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee has around 10,000 branch and associate churches in the world and performs the great power of God. But he was very humble and kind. I could see that he is truly a man of God. I felt his endless love for souls. I received his prayer for my church's revival. After the visit and his prayer, the number of its members doubled. I also tried to emulate his humbleness and deep love for souls. As I taught my members with such love, they started to grow in faith as well.

In June, 2014, Rev. Soojin Lee, President of Pastors' Association of Manmin Central Church, came to St. Petersburg of Russia where she led the Pastors' Seminar and Miracle Healing Meeting with the handkerchief (Acts 19:11-12).

Preaching based on Dr. Lee's book *The Measure of Faith*, she added detailed explanation and examples, which reminded me of the importance of becoming sanctified once again. When she prayed with the handkerchief of power, fire came down upon me and then back pain that had troubled me for six months was gone!

I extend my heartfelt thanks to Dr. Lee who proclaims the love of God and Jesus to around 7.2 billion people around the world. I give all thanks and glory to God.

"I am free from a nervous breakdown and depression!"

I accepted Jesus Christ in China in 2000 but I was not dependent on God. So I still suffered from many problems. I began to be troubled by nervous breakdowns and depression five years ago. I had high blood pressure and angina as well. Though I took medicine for depression it just weakened the symptom but didn't improve my state. I was in serious pain.

In December 2002, I moved to Korea. I went to several churches but no message there touched my heart. I prayed that I could find a church that follows the will of God and looked for one.

In September 2005, I was guided by an acquaintance to Miryang Manmin Church that is ministered to by Pastor Taekyu Mun. There I saw Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee's powerful works and came to have hope for healing of my diseases with faith. However, if I skipped taking medicine; my heartbeat speeded up, I got a headache and a fever, and I felt like beating something, hitting my head on something, and running here and there on impulse. I wasn't able to handle it with my faith.

In August 2014, I took part in Manmin Summer Retreat 2014. During the divine healing meeting following the first night seminar, many people recovered eyesight and came to get up from wheelchairs and walk by Dr. Lee's prayer. I watched them and felt sorry before God for not having been healed though in such great works.

I thought, 'The power of the shepherd has healed many people of their diseases. Now it's my time to show faith.' I made up my mind and repented that I had worshiped idols before knowing the truth and I hadn't lived by the Word even after



Deaconess Jungkeum Lee (age 61) with her husband Deacon Dongjo Ji, Miryang Manmin Church, Korea

accepting the Lord. Then I stopped taking the medicine. And I became nervous and pain followed. But I tried to surmount it by prayer and faith.

On the seventh day, I met with the toughest moment. I read the Bible, praised, and listened to sermons, but I couldn't control it. While I was rolling all over my room with no control over it, Dr. Lee flashed

through my mind who interceded for us with tears.

I prayed to God earnestly in heart, saying, "I will surely overcome it. Help me!" Then I felt something mounting up through my veins from both sides of my head up to my forehead. I thought, 'What's happening?' At the right moment, the things met and bumped each other and made a sound, 'Bang'. It felt like bursting.

And I felt refreshed and cool without a headache. Tears unceasingly flowed down from my eyes. Thereafter, an uneasy feeling was gone and I became peaceful and positive. I came to have confidence that I can do everything.

Many people around me said that I came to look younger and better than before. I am so thankful to God. Darkness was gone and now I am very happy in the Lord-given peace. Hallelujah!



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