

3/19/56
enclosed Korea envelope +
picture of Korea boys' jail.
Chicago, Illinois
also in 1040 - Sister by the way

Dear Christian Friend(s):

I am coming to you today with a very urgent matter that is very near and dear to my heart. Will you kindly read carefully and prayerfully what I write? I hope you will consider it a message from God to you.

As a result of what I saw in Korea on three evangelistic tours, I "had to do something about it". The thousands of shivering, ragged children left absolutely homeless and destitute, reduced to begging and stealing for a bare existence, moved me deeper than I can express. By God's grace and with the help of many of you friends, I now have 3 fine Homes for such children. You have probably seen pictures and read about them in our denominational papers.

One at Taegu, the New Life Boys Home, has about 100 former beggar boys happily situated. This is the only such institution in Korea! Many have tried but failed! God gave us the right leadership, praise His name.

Another is near Samchok on the East coast near the 38th parallel. This Faith and Love Orphanage has 63 boys and girls who now look to their Heavenly Father and us for daily bread.

Our third one is located at Soonchun (formerly at Yosu) near the South central coast, the New Life Children's Home. Here we have 126 boys and girls under the finest supervision and Christian nurture.

I have been sending support for all of these and partial support for 180 beggar boys living in tents in Taejon. Most of these funds come from individuals, Sunday Schools, Classes, Y. P. groups, Ladies groups, Junior churches, etc., who have "adopted" one or more of these children as a financial sponsor, giving \$5.00 or more a month. But only about 1/3 of them are thus sponsored, and some cannot give the full \$5 but a less amount. We have stretched these amounts and used undesignated funds to care for as many as possible. However, the situation in Korea has greatly changed in recent months. Up until recently, many relief agencies were providing food, clothing, and supplies which our Homes shared in. Many American military groups helped in many ways. Now nearly all of this is depleted and the American groups have left! Also a poorer exchange rate for the dollar has greatly reduced its buying power.

This has now come to a head as revealed by an urgent letter just received from a dear missionary friend who supervises our New Life Children's Home at Soonchun. I quote, "I had a long talk with Rev. Lee (our Superintendent) this afternoon. He is in a rather tough spot. As things have been going he can't possibly continue to support all of the children he now has. The staff at the orphanage has not received their pay in 3 or 4 months. They are behind in their school fees and quite low on fire wood. They have enough of their government rations (rice) on hand to carry them for a month and a half".

He goes on to say "About the last of March, unless something breaks, they are going to have to send away a lot of these children. I told Lee I would send you a fast letter and let you know how things stand". He goes on to say that this is as good or better an orphanage as there is in Korea, and is really a Christian institution for the Glory of Jesus Christ.

#2

My friend, I cannot stand to think of sending one of these children back onto the streets again! God gave them to us and we must care for them and train them up to be strong Christian leaders in that war torn land. We ought to be expanding by taking in many more who yet roam the country!

So, I come to you in Jesus' name for help. Many could send \$5.00 each month (or more) and have the joy and satisfaction of fully "adopting" and being a sponsor for one of these dear children. (How thrilled and happy people and groups are who are doing it now.) Many spend more than that each month for eating at restaurants, for pleasures, luxuries, etc. One young man who recently "adopted" a child said he spent more than that for milk shakes!

Will you please pray and talk this matter over, then fill out and mail the self-addressed envelope which is enclosed to me as soon as possible. I have just air-mailed \$300 as an emergency grant to keep the orphans together until I hear from my friends. I am enclosing a snapshot recently taken of 2 of our dear children. Shall we send them back onto the streets to beg, get sick and perhaps die? This brother and sister have not yet been "adopted". Would you like to do so? Write me immediately about it.

You will rejoice that God has wonderfully blessed His Word in my evangelistic services. In 6 weeks of meetings I just concluded in So. San Francisco, Hoquiam, Wash. and Tacoma, about 200 definite decisions were recorded. Sinners were converted nearly every night. Catholics, drinkers, smokers, a harlot, a gambler, sex pervert and many others were prayed with. Two outstanding football stars received Christ. So praise the Lord and thanks for your prayers.

My next campaigns will be in Daggett, Mich., Sonoma, Ill., Bellingham, and Mount Vernon, Wash. Then I go to Grand Haven, Mich., Great Falls, Mont. and Cour D'Alene, Idaho. I still have some time open for the Summer and Fall. Please pray that many shall be saved and revived.

Thank you from the depth of my heart for what some of you have done and what others will do to help me help these precious little ones over in the "land of heartbreak" - Korea.

Prayerfully and Sincerely for Souls,

Everett F. Swanson

Evangelist Everett F. Swanson

P.S. Perhaps you know a friend or organization in your church that would be glad to help. If you or others would like a copy of my 20 page 9 by 12 "Korea Crusade" pictorial with 125 thrilling and challenging pictures of the work done in Korea including the orphanages, tremendous revival crowds, lepers, etc. etc., please write for it. This week I am working with a Christian lawyer on forming a non-profit corporation so that contributions will be deductible for income tax purposes. Make checks payable to Rev. E. F. Swanson, Mission Funds.

P.I.S. We still need used clothing. Send direct to this address: Rev. Everett F. Swanson, Rev. Robert Rice, Presbyterian Mission, One San Dong, Taegu, Korea.