

11/5/56

Fall Prayer Letter, 1956

Chicago, Ill.

*Special Thanksgiving & Christmas letter.
Wedge & Bus. Ref. Envelope + print of Tent Meeting - Comfort*

Dear Praying Friend:

"When I would comfort myself against sorrow, my heart is faint in me. Behold the voice of the cry of the --- people because of them that dwell in a far country; why have they provoked me to anger with their greivous sinces?--The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved. Is there no balm in Gilead? Jer. 8:18-22
My, what a Scripture! Read it again and let it speak to your heart. We cannot comfort ourselves when all about us are worshipers of things and across the waters are hundreds of millions worshipping idols, fetishes and spirits.

Again I rejoice in the privilege of being an ambassador for Jesus Christ for a few months more since last I wrote to you. Thank you for your prayers. How I need them! And God DOES answer prayer.

In Clearbrook, Minn. we saw the tent packed to utmost capacity. (It was quite cold so a heater was used part of the time) In Becker, Minn. in the very midst of harvest, the coat racks had to be carried outside and benches brought up from the basement. In Kuna, Idaho extra benches and the back room filled. In Vancouver, Wash. the dear wife of the pastor died the day before I arrived, but he and his family were so courageous and demonstrated real Christian faith and peace. They blessed my soul. In Sunrise, Wash. the meetings were in a large tent in a field by the church and two stoves roaring barely kept it warm. But the attendance was excellent, exceeding the capacity of the church again and again. At Lake Sarah, Minn. we had a real awakening and melting experience by the Holy Spirit. And our meetings in Alexandria, Minn. every night filled the auditorium, overflowing into the side room and Sunday night services were held in the High School Auditorium. In most of these series the pastor and people said they were the largest attended evangelistic services in many years and the most fruit was seen in visible results. This is indeed an answer to prayer!

Tears rained and many fell on their knees right in the auditorium when a man over 60, for whom prayer had been made for 50 years, came to Christ and many more with him. Drinkers have been converted, smokers instantly delivered and later said, "It stinks"! Immorality has been confessed and God has forgiven. Space will not permit me to tell of many more. There are many, praise God.

One man who refused Christ and told the pastor at the door "not tonight, Maybe tomorrow", later that night witnessed a head-on collision and on the spot said "I'll not wait until tomorrow, but I'll repent and accept Christ now"! Later he publicly told of his new found joy and peace. A backslider cousin with him came back to the Lord.

I talked with a pastor a few days ago in a place where God gave us a real outpouring of His Spirit about a year ago. Many were converted and baptized thereafter. (Largest group in the churches history) He volunteered to tell me that practically every one was remaining true to God and some had grown wonderfully in the Lord! When I receive these reports from time to time in letter and person from the pastors and members, it really blesses my soul. Then I know it has been God's work and not that of men. It gives me and my wife courage to go on and bear the lonesomeness, which instead of getting easier each year, gets more acute. Believe me, its far from easy-- but God.

Now a word about the work in Korea. Our evangelists reported 384 professed conversions during September (latest report) and are consistently reporting several hundred a month. Hallelujah. Many thousands of copies of gospel literature go out each month, etc.

Then our orphan work: how can we praise God for what He hath wrought? Since last I wrote, we have taken over the support of 3 more orphanages, making 7 in all now. The Little Lamb's Orphanage in Seoul is entirely in old army tents and has been
(Over Please)

just struggling for an existence. It was started by a Christian Police officer. Last year I was there and they begged me for help, but I could not. Most of the boys and girls are beggars, shoe-shine boys, etc. We have obtained 50 sponsors, but there are about 600 more who need sponsors in this orphanage!

The Holiness and Grace Orphanage has 117 children, practically all refugees and victims of the war. It is located near Andong where I had large area-wide revival meetings last year. It was in desperate need and had been begging for aid for 2 years. Many of these orphanages were supported by American army units stationed nearby which have now left and no support comes in. I have obtained 60 sponsors here.

The Tender Nurture Orphanage way up north by the 38th parallel has 44 children in all, whom we have promised to sponsor and have begun to support, by faith. The enclosed composite picture shows the present orphanage property in that tumbled down building, the children and some helpers, and, at the bottom, the proposed new property very near the old. This substantial 14 room 2 story house and a fine large apple orchard (which is a real financial asset) are now available for 750,000 Wban (about \$1000). This is a wonderful buy and it is desperately needed. So, acting by faith, I have told them to go ahead with negotiations to buy it. Will you help with this? Some could give \$100, some \$50, \$20 and many less. Designate it "14 story house" and I will know what you mean.

Nothing has been done definitely about the new Boys Home out in the rural area yet. We have not been able to find a qualified leader and the funds have been insufficient. Please pray about this with me. There is a desperate need here.

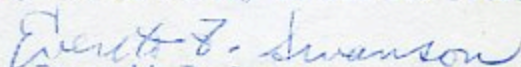
Although we have thus grown and are reaching and saving many more children for Christ, the need is still almost unbelievable. Think of the 600 mentioned above. In a recent letter from Dr. Peter Van Lierop, a very dear missionary friend who oversees 3 of my orphanages, he says "There are simply thousands of wandering children in Seoul, Taegu, Pusan and other cities". It makes me shudder as I think of winter coming on over there. They have no homes whatsoever! So we need many new sponsors who will send \$5 or more a month to care for a child. And I'm convinced that there are many people who would be just thrilled to do this if they knew of this simple, easy and almost unbelievably low cost plan. If you cannot do this, please try to interest some friend, relative, your S. S., your class, Ladies, Young People, Jr. Church, or others. Then have them write to me. I'll enclose a special envelope just for these new sponsors. Thank you for helping me help these dear ones.

Thanksgiving and Christmas time are soon upon us. Let us, in wonderfully blessed America, thank God and show our gratitude.

Please pray for future meetings in Riverdale, Ill., Wilmington, Del., Denver, Colo., Thompson, Iowa and other places. I am seriously thinking of spending the month of January in Mexico conducting services. Please pray about this with me. Pray for sufficient strength. The load gets heavier every day. Please pray for Mrs. Swanson who has not been well for sometime.

May God bless you richly as you live for Him. He is coming soon.

Cordially and Sincerely in Him for Precious Souls,


Everett F. Swanson

P. S. A new book "THE CHRIST OF THE KOREAN HEART" by my friend Dr. Arch Cambell, veteran missionary in Korea, is really a modern Acts of the Apostles. Seventeen true wonderful experiences of Korean Christians under unbelievable persecution, martyrdom, etc. It will do something to you. A wonderful gift. Postpaid \$2.00. Excellent for study groups. 20% discount in lots of 5 or more. Order here.