



CITYLIGHT SEOUL

PRISM



A CHURCH IN THE CITY TO LOVE THE CITY

THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT AND THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

PASTOR LEO RHEE

On August 9th, 1945, an American B29 Superfortress flown by Major Charles Sweeney of the 393rd squadron dropped an atomic bomb on the city of Nagasaki, Japan, killing 226,000 of its residents. Most people are familiar with the Enola Gay, but the aircraft "Bockscar" (Bock's Car) is named after its usual commander, Captain Fredrick "Bock." That morning, the actual target was supposed to be the Japanese city of Kuroko, which was home to a munitions factory, but the cloudy weather prevented the crew from seeing the intended target. After three

passes, the pilots gave up and at the last minute, decided on changing their target to Nagasaki, since they were able to clearly see the city. The ramifications of that split-second decision changed the course of history and the residents of Kuroko still wonder what would have happened if the sky had been clear that day.

The "butterfly effect" is a phenomenon where a minute change in starting conditions can lead to vastly different outcomes. It is a concept credited to Edward Lorenz (1917-2008), a meteorologist and mathematician, who taught at M.I.T., where he combined the two disciplines to create "Chaos theory." It is the notion that a butterfly, a minuscule insect, can

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flap its wings, wherein which the outcome could cause a hurricane. In other words, small events can serve as a catalyst that can have a magnitude of ripple effects. Hence, a cloudy day can bring destruction upon a whole city. This has great implications in global business, economics, politics, etc. After all, who could have predicted three years ago, that a small virus, known as the SARS-CoV-2, could have wreaked such havoc worldwide? Similarly, the Bible tells us that small things do have big consequences.



Under the umbrella of God's sovereignty, nothing is out of His control, and He can take the smallest of factors and multiply them exponentially. In fact, before creation started, Genesis 1 says that the only thing that existed was chaos. But God took that chaos and made something out of the chaos. Jesus said that it is only when a minute "grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (John 12:24).

Further, faith like a grain of a mustard seed that can move great mountains (Matthew 17:20). This notion caused me to think about the small choices I make every day... the little sin and compromise I allow into my life, or even the tiny victories of obedience in which I can rejoice. What ripple effects do those butterfly wings make upon the world around me? Or even for our church—does our little community here in a city of 25 million people have any bearing for our generation? What kind of impact will we have made on this nation and the world? There are no coincidences in God's universe. There is no chaos apart from His hand. The dance of life is a delicate waltz of our choices and God's sustenance. The ramification of the ministry we do now will have eternal implications.

As I'm always trying to read a few different books each month, I recently came upon *Pachinko*, by Min Jin Lee, a powerful story of a young woman who marries a pastor in early 1900s Korea. The decisions of her youth set off a "dramatic saga that will echo down through the generations." The pachinko (gambling) games in the parlors run by the Japanese criminal underworld reflect the unpredictable and uncontrollable nature of the game as a metaphor for the characters' narratives. But for the Christian, life is not a pachinko game—"The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD" (Proverbs 16:33). May the things we do each day cause godly ripple effects throughout the world.

"FAITH LIKE A GRAIN OF A MUSTARD SEED THAT CAN MOVE GREAT MOUNTAINS"

MATTHEW 17:20

"THE LOT IS CAST INTO THE LAP, BUT ITS EVERY DECISION IS FROM THE LORD"

PROVERBS 16:33



6 SHINE

- God is the one at work
- Choosing to obey without complaint stands out
- Paul rejoices because Christ is proclaimed

13 HOSEA AND GOMER: A LOVE STORY

1. Severe Condemnation
2. Radical Hope
3. God's Heart

20 JOEL - A GOD OF RESTORATION

1. Desperation
2. Brokenness
3. Surrender

27 THE THREE LOOKS OF AMOS

1. Amos Looks Around
2. Amos Looks Within
3. Amos Looks Forward



CityLight, Ocean City & Glow's Joint Worship Team

WORSHIP TEAM MEETING

The Worship Team met for a long overdue meeting where they gathered for a time of worship and conversation. A new leader was appointed with the purpose of fresh direction for our worship.

LIFE GROUPS

A new wave of excitement fills our sanctuary as a combination of our members and newcomers do life together. Groups this season are also participating in different ministries throughout the semester.

JOINT PRAISE NIGHT

CityLight hosted Ocean City and Glow for a night of joint churches worship. Free, spontaneous worship was led by a band formed by many different musicians from the different churches.

PRAYER WALK OUTREACH

A monthly outreach of walking around and praying for our neighborhood. We prayed in different hotspots in Hongdae and handed out fliers to strangers to invite them to our service.

SERMONS

6

Shine

Guest Speaker
Pastor Dae Hong
Philippians 2:12-18

13

Hosea and Gomer:
A Love Story
Hosea 1:1-2:1

20

Joel - A God of
Restoration
Joel 2:1-17

27

The Three Looks of Amos
Amos 5:10-15

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Worship Team Meeting

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Start of Life Groups

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Joint Praise Night

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Prayer Walk Outreach



HOW DID GOD BRING YOU TO CLS?

After moving into Seoul in 2021, I quickly started doing research to find a new church and Citylight Seoul was one of the first churches I came across. I had watched the services online for two months before I was able to attend in person but once I came to the in-person service I knew right away that I had found the place for me!



PRAYER REQUEST

Prayer for my uncle who will need a heart surgery done in the upcoming weeks. Also that for my summer break everything works out and I will be able to see my family who I haven't seen in the past 2 years!!



HOW HAS GOD BEEN CHALLENGING YOU THIS MONTH?

In this past month God has really challenged me to grow and get outside of my comfort zone. I have always been a volunteer/leader at all of my previous church's but mainly as a behind the scenes person. I like to organize things and definitely never thought about a role that would put me on a stage. Although if I am honest, I have known that God was starting to lead me down this road where I would start to speak more and be in front of others and it was something that I was not comfortable with and would rather stay away from. Well the time came, and I finally stepped outside my comfort zone and presided for one of our services. I was so nervous but just asked God that he would guide me and lead me through this. If He has taught me anything through this experience it is that to grow our faith and to do what God has called us to do it requires us to get out of comfort zone. Even though it is uncomfortable there is no reason we should fear it, if God is calling you to a new area He will not abandon you to do it by yourself. Trust in God and his plan and let him guide you through the things that are uncomfortable!

MEMBER INTERVIEW:

Emily Hafner

Hello I'm Emily!!!! Some of you may already know me but if you don't, feel free to say hello anytime! I grew up a military kid, moving around a lot, living in places like Italy and Alaska and a couple places in between. Now I call Korea home and have been here for the past two years!

Emily recently joined the Leadership Team at CityLight Seoul. She leads the Community Ministry which focuses on connecting the CLS Community from the inside and outside.





Jeong Lee and Christine Han building community.



CLS Fliers for Prayer Outreach



Guest Speaker Pastor Dae Hong teaching us about obedience



CLS Worship Team

CITYLIGHT SEOUL PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for a provision of finances as we manage our new building.

Pray for our Language Center - CityHouse Learning Center - that is opening its doors on April 5th, Tuesday. May all those involved be blessed.

Pray for the numerous members that contracted Covid in recent weeks.

Pray that our church reaches out to our neighborhood, the Hongdae area.

Pray for the upcoming birth of Joe & Annie Chung's baby.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

5
Juan K.

8
Christina H.

