

'Testimony of an Action Hero Who Appeared in Around 200 Movies such as Shaolin VS. Terminator'

# "I Would Like to Become the Light and Salt of the Earth!"

Elder Choon Jo (1-6 Parish)

"♪ Before my daddy goes to work, I give him a kiss on his cheek. Po Po Po.♫"

This is the theme song of MBC TV programming for kids, 'Po Po Po' on which I appeared a long time ago. With the help of my elder sisters I became an actor at the age of 25. All my five sisters had high profiles as actresses of the Korea Women's National Musical Company. In particular, my fourth sister, Mrs. Geumaeng Jo, is recognized as the last living Grand Master of the Korea Women's National Musical.

**I met the Lord through the voice saying "hold My hands" in a car accident**

In 1973, I started to receive attention from people when I appeared with a shaven head in the movie called 'General in Red Armor'. Afterwards, I played as an extra and became a supporting actor. Because I held black belts in judo, taekwondo, and hapkido, and won the second place in a body building competition, I was responsible for teaching actors martial arts and even performed in action scenes.

I appeared playing mainly action scenes in about 200 movies including 'Shaolin VS. Terminator' and 'Super Hong Kil-Dong.' I also won popularity from people through my comical acting in programs like 'Po Po Po' of MBV TV and 'Young-Gu! Young-Gu!'

In January, 1987 when it snowed heavily, I met the Lord. I was driving with my daughter to drop her off at school where she would take the practical performance test for college entrance. At the very moment when I turned my car on the icy road to pass a toll gate toward Gyeonggi Do, a car behind mine strongly ran into my car. I felt my car bounce and move beyond the safety fence. At the moment, I heard a voice saying "hold my hands" and saw white hands coming to me all of sudden. I was so surprised. As soon as I held them, the car stopped. It was such a frightening moment because there was the 5m vertical drop beyond the safety fence.

**My spiritual eyes opened and the fire of the Holy Spirit came upon me**

I came to attend church after the accident. However, I still had greed for worldly things as an actor. I faced several more car accidents because I would not keep the Sabbath holy and could not be under the protection of God, either. Afterwards, I tried my best to attend Sunday worship services. Nevertheless, I could not choose a church where I would keep attending.

I was very happy when I did volunteer works in many kinds of volunteer organizations like the Disabled Association. Meantime, in May 2010, led by an acquaintance, I came to visit Manmin Central Church. I can never forget the day when I attended the service of the church for the first time. God opened my spiritual eyes and allowed me to experience His grace. On that day, Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee on the altar looked 1.9 meters tall to me and strong light came from him. Moreover, I was so astounded when Dr. Jaerock Lee introduced me to the believers, because I saw tens of thousands of the congregation there.



"I have a dream. I want to preach the gospel to actors and produce Christian dramas with them. I will try my best to evangelize neglected neighbors, the imprisoned and released prisoners. I give all thanks and glory to God who has led me all the time."



▲ Along with actor Deokhwa Lee in a charity event



▲ Experienced spiritual realm through dragonflies during the 2010 Summer Retreat

After the service, I was amazed again seeing Dr. Lee from up close. He is almost 70, but he looked much younger than he is. His upright, dignified, modest, and gentle attitude touched my heart all the more. After talking to him, I could not help but to kneel down before him and ask him to lay his hands on me and pray. At the moment of prayer, the fire of the Holy Spirit came into me.

**I became a born-again Christian in Manmin Central Church**

I came to long for the following Lord's Day. During the service, Dr. Lee talked about what Jesus wrote on the ground when He forgave a woman caught in adultery and the spiritual meaning embedded in the incident. I was filled with amazement listening to the spiritual message such that I had never heard during my 23-year Christian life.

I decided to put down roots in Manmin Central Church for the rest of my life. I registered as a member of the church in May 23rd, 2010. I realized that we Christians have to place priority on accomplishing the heart of the Lord. Since I came to know the importance of prayer, I have attended Daniel Prayer Meeting held in the church every night. How grateful I am for it! I pray with tears of repentance and gratefulness while looking back on my past life.

After registering as a member of Manmin Central Church, I have experienced the love of the Lord very often. During the 2010 Summer Retreat, I tasted the existence of the spiritual realm through dragonflies. They sat on my head and hands as well as on those of brothers and sisters. They did not even depart from us. Thanks to the dragonflies which God sent us, I could not see any mosquitoes or moths in the place. They were very blissful moments.

**My wife came to attend our church and my daughter met God the Healer**

One of blessings that I have received is that my wife, who had been lost in a spiritual sense, has attended Manmin Central Church since this past October when the church had its 28th Church Anniversary Celebration Service. My daughter not only came to attend the church the following week, but after receiving Dr. Lee's prayer, she was healed of Meniere's Syndrome and otolithiasis which she had suffered from without taking medication.

I have enjoyed good health since I started to attend our church. I have changed my way of speaking and behavior pattern. I even feel like staying in the church because all things in this church let me feel the love of the Lord which is seen in the believers who treat me with nice and warm hearts; Dr. Lee, who delivers messages boldly with tears; the love for souls; the goodness, and the performance teams that help us picture the beautiful heavenly kingdom.

I had roles offered to me in three dramas which have 20, 50, and 100 episodes respectively. I am scheduled to film a TV commercial. On April 9th, I appeared on 'Life Story' of i-TV FM. I give thanks deep in my heart to the Lord who gave me abundant blessings both in spirit and flesh.

# Manmin News

## "Let's Celebrate the Glory of the Resurrection with Joy and Hope"

### Easter Performance, Easter Sunday Service, Holy Communion, and Easter Egg-sharing Event



2011 Easter Performance 'The Footprints of the Lord' in the main sanctuary of Manmin Central Church

On April 24th Manmin Central Church offered Sunday morning service to God commemorating the resurrection of the Lord. Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee delivered the message under the title of 'The Lord of the Resurrection' with the scripture from Acts 1:11. He said, "The Lord was crucified and suffered excruciating pain, but He was resurrected, ascended into Heaven, and has been in measureless glory. In the same manner, when we take the road He took, we will finally enjoy eternal life full of glory and blessings." With their praise 'To

the Lord of the Resurrection', the Immanuel Choir gave glory to the Lord who rose from the dead and shattered the power of death.

During Sunday evening service, Dr. Lee delivered the message with the title of 'Those Who Engrave God's Love in Their Hearts' based on John 6:53-55. The celebration of Holy Communion followed. It was broadcast live via satellite and Internet. Not only believers in the main sanctuary and the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th sanctuaries, but those in branch churches all around the world,

had a great time together. They were filled with gratefulness to the service and sacrifice of the Lord while partaking in the bread and drinking grape juice which represent the flesh and blood of the Lord.

On the previous day, on April 23rd, the 2011 Easter Celebration Performance entitled 'The Footprints of the Lord' was presented during the second part of Friday all-night service. Approximately four hundred people devoted themselves to the performance playing roles as performers, staff, members of United Choir, and the Nissi

orchestra. The performance was aired live internationally through GCN as well as in Korea.

The play consisted of 6 acts. The theme of each act is as follows: 'At the Sea of Galilee' in Act 1; 'Jesus and His Disciples' in Act 2; 'Jesus' Arrest' in Act 3; 'Jesus Imprisoned' in Act 4; 'Jesus' Crucifixion' in Act 5; and 'Resurrection and Hope' in Act 6. It was noteworthy that during His crucifixion the dance of angels was presented through dance drama. In the last scene, believers' hopeful and longing heart for the Lord's

return was well expressed with beautiful songs.

On April 21st and 22nd, members of Women's Mission visited public offices, schools, and offices around the church with eggs, the symbolic gift of Easter Day. They delivered the love of God, who sent us Jesus as a peace offering, by distributing decoration eggs to people. On Easter Sunday, church members celebrated the resurrection of the Lord and shared eggs with great joy. An egg means a new life, because an egg looks dead on the outside, but has a life inside.

**"Lord, we are celebrating Your resurrection"**

On April 18th, children in Manmin Kindergarten decorated eggs thinking about the resurrection of the Lord. Members of Women's Mission gave baskets of eggs to people in public offices and companies around the church on April 21st and 22nd. The Love Dance Team of Mongol Manmin Church (Missionary Batzorig) took part in the '10th Easter Celebration Program' sponsored by the Union of Mongolian Churches, and gave glory to God with beautiful dance.



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# The True Meaning of the Resurrection

“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.’” (John 14:6)

Nobody can escape from death on this earth. However, there is only One who died, resurrected, and now is alive. It is Jesus Christ who even leads those who believe in Him to the glory of resurrection and eternal life.

There might be some stories of people who died and revived. It is starkly different from the resurrection explained in Christianity. What, then, is the true meaning of the term ‘resurrection’?

First, the meaning of resurrection is true life.

As Romans 6:23 says “for the wages of sin is death”, we all were destined to death for we were all sinners. ‘Death’ in this scripture carries the spiritual meaning as well as the fleshly meaning. It means that we were destined not only to die in flesh and but also to go to the way of destruction, Hell. However, the Lord saved us from the death. He paid the price for the sins of all mankind by taking the cross.

After dying on the cross He came back to life. He became the firstfruits of resurrection. When we accept this Lord as our Savior and believe in Him, we will not face the death caused by sin. We will live forever in the kingdom of heaven.

Of course, even those believers who are saved face the physical death. But even though they face death, the Bible does not say they are dead, but ‘asleep’. This is because the Lord gave us true life, which means that we will not die forever, but live for eternity in the Heavenly Kingdom.

It is just as 1 Corinthians 15:20 says, “But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep.” Those who are asleep are those who believed in the Lord during their earthly lives and were dead and buried. At the time of the Lord’s second coming, they will resurrect. At this moment, the dead bodies in the grave will be changed into the resurrected body and unite with their spirit as written in 1 Thessalonians 4:16.

After this, the bodies of those who are alive will change into spiritual bodies that will never perish. Then, they will be caught up in the air as described in 1 Thessalonians 4:17.

Secondly, the meaning of resurrection is true love.

Jesus took the cross to save mankind who were sinners. He did not just love with words, but He gave us everything with His actions. By resurrecting, He proved that His love was true. Jesus resurrected because He was innocent and He couldn’t be bound by the law which says that ‘the wages of sin is death.’ It means He loved us so much that though He was completely innocent, He took the punishment of death on the behalf of sinners.

We can also feel the great love of God the Father through the resurrection of Jesus. Adam forsook the love of God by committing a sin. As a result he became a man of flesh and according to the spiritual rules he had to die. Furthermore, all his descendants, humanity, all of whom are descended from him, had to face death as sinners as well.

However, God prepared Jesus even before time be-



Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee

gan to solve this problem of sin. And, when the time came, He sent His one and only Son Jesus to this lowly earth for us sinners and let Jesus be killed on the wooden cross. Even when the people committed sins He loved us so much that He sacrificed His only Son to solve the problem of sin for us.

Then, what is the ultimate purpose of planning this salvation of the cross? It is to gain true children. Namely, God planned all these things to give us the heavenly kingdom and eternal life and to share His love. He clearly showed us His love by sending His one and only Son to this earth and His Son fulfilled the sufferings on the cross and the resurrection. John 15:13 reads, “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.” As recorded, Jesus showed this greatest love by taking the cross.

Resurrection also carries the third meaning, true faith.

Jesus believed God would certainly fulfill the providence of the salvation of the cross. And so, He could obey with joy. Namely, He fulfilled the providence of salvation completely by taking the cross.

Of course, He was persecuted and even faced many threats to His life. When He took the cross, He had to be forsaken even by God and become completely alone. But until the last moment when He gave up His Spirit on the cross, He completely trusted God. He believed that He would resurrect and enjoy the glory, together with God, after the sufferings of the cross.

If we wholly trust God like Jesus did, we can also live in faith and not compromise with the world. To wholly trust God is to believe in God who will also give us our resurrection and the Kingdom of Heaven. Those who have this kind of faith do not love this world that will perish and disappear. They cast away sins every day and because they have hope for the eternal heavenly kingdom, they try to become sanctified. Also, in any kind of sufferings, they work faithfully for the kingdom of God until death. Their faithfulness will never change.

Dear brothers and sisters, are you leading a life

filled with hope of resurrection? The Lord gave us true life through His resurrection, He demonstrated His true love through crucifixion, and took the cross with true faith of resurrection. I hope that you will march toward New Jerusalem by believing in the Lord of the resurrection and with the hope of resurrection.



## Charity Concert for Japan Major Earthquake Victims

On April 16th, the Charity Concert for Japan Earthquake Victims was held in Manmin Day Service, Mitsubasa which is the welfare facility for the aged run by Ida Manmin Church Pastor Seung-gil Ryu is ministering to. The concert included the performance of a team who travels around the world playing a Japanese traditional instrument named ‘Tokara’. Sister Ganeda Ryoko, Trinity Chorus, and Gospel Chorus gave glory to God with their praise. May & Gana Team and Sister Erina pleased God with their dance. On April 24th, the church held an Easter Concert for Children and Easter Egg-sharing Event in Kaja Kosi Children’s Forest Park celebrating the resurrection of the Lord under the auspice of Ida Manmin Church.



## ‘The Message of the Cross’ Seminar was held in Kazakhstan

From March 27th, ‘The Message of the Cross’ Seminar was held in Baikonur, Kazakhstan for 9 days. This seminar was led by Sister Shriel who is taking the courses of MIS (Manmin International Seminary) in Kazakhstan. Many congregational members accepted the Lord as their Savior and were quite amazed by the spiritual message they had never heard before. The handkerchief healing meeting followed. During the meeting 17-year-old Sister Goolazina was healed of backache caused by a spinal fracture. Works of repentance and healing took place, too.

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# The Footprints of the Lord

The Four Gospels including Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John depict the life of the Lord on the earth. Among them, the Gospel of John contains the most significant spiritual meanings. This is because Jesus’ ministry, origin, and His love for us are well described in the Gospel of John.

This special article is aimed at helping believers long for the Lord, who will be revealed to us all the more, and have hope of resurrection by meditating the footprints of the Lord through the Gospel of John.

## 1. God the Origin in the Beginning

In the beginning, God existed as the bright light in which the clear ringing sound was embedded as recorded in 1 John 1:5. The sound was the Word of God (John 1:1). God the Origin who existed as the light cohered as one light and put on a form. From then on, God came to exist as God the Trinity being God the Holy Father, God the Holy Son, and God the Holy Spirit. He took on a spiritual form of human image. Genesis 1:26-27 says that God the Trinity created a man in their own image, which conversely means that the image of God the Trinity was like that of men. It is the reason why God came into being God the Trinity and put on the form and that the role and ministry of each one of God the Trinity are different. In other words, God the Holy Father was to control the entire process of human cultivation, God the Holy Son to become the Savior for souls, and God the Holy Spirit to complete human cultivation.

## 2. Jesus who came to the earth in flesh

God created this earth and started human cultivation, but people did not live by the Word of God as written in Romans chapter 1. That is why Jesus, who had existed in the form of God, became flesh and came to this earth. Jesus had no original sin because He was conceived by the Holy Spirit. He, who lived only by the Word of God, did not even have His own sin. During His lifetime, He only meditated and realized God’s will and providence through a quiet and tranquil nature. He went to a garden, prayed, and contemplated the Word looking up the sky. This was His preparation period for His 3-year public ministry and crucifixion.

## 3. Jesus who preached the Gospel of Heaven and performed God’s power

Jesus harbored God’s providence and will and the love for souls in His heart all the time. He began His 3-year public ministry receiving baptism in water from John the Baptist (John 1:29-34) and summoned His disciples. Since He performed the beginning of His signs by changing water into wine, He had revealed the living God’s strength and explained about His ministry as the Savior. He testified that He is the Son of God by preaching the gospel of Heaven, healing the sick, performing the miracle of ‘five loaves and two fish’, and walking on the water as described in John chapters 1 through 6. He also opened the eyes of a blind born and He revived Lazarus from the dead. He prophesied that He would be betrayed and take the sufferings of the cross. He also promised to give His disciples the Helper, the Holy Spirit (John chapter 7-16).

## 4. Jesus who was hung on the cross

Jesus knew in advance that He would be crucified on the cross, so He had the last supper commemorating the Passover with His disciples. While praying in the Garden of Gethsemane, through the betrayal of Judas Iscariot, He was arrested. The high priests questioned Him and Pilate the governor pronounced on Him the sentence of death by crucifixion. As mentioned, He had to endure all kinds of afflictions even before He was crucified, died, and was buried (John Chapter 17-19). ‘Jesus was hung on the wooden cross’ herein indicates that He took the cross to redeem us from the curse of law which says ‘the wages of sin is death’ in Romans 6:23. Also, we were set free from all kinds of diseases by the stripes of His scourging, forgiven of sins which we committed through our thoughts by His wearing of the thorny crown, and redeemed from our sins in action by His being nailed through His hands and feet.

## 5. The Lord, Jesus Christ who was resurrected defeating the power of death

On the third day from the crucifixion, which was the day following the Sabbath, Jesus rose from the dead shattering the power of death. He first appeared before Mary Magdalene who was looking for Jesus weeping in front of His tomb. Then, He ascended to the Father and was glorified by God. Afterwards, He appeared before His disciples, including Peter, a few times and planted the hope of resurrection in them (John chapter 20-21).

## 6. The Lord, Jesus Christ who was taken up to Heaven and preparing for dwelling places for us

The resurrected Lord presented Himself alive with an array of proofs while living on the earth for 40 days. He appeared before 500 brothers as well as His disciples as recorded in 1 Corinthians 15:6. Reading from Acts chapter 1, the Lord commanded His apostles not to leave Jerusalem, but ‘to wait for what the Father had promised’, about which He said, “...[the promise] which you heard of from Me.” He encouraged them saying, “but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” After making this remark, He ascended to Heaven on the mount called Olivet. He is now sitting on the right hand of God, praying for people to help them go to the way of salvation, and preparing places where God’s children will enjoy eternal life, blessings, and pleasure.

## 7. The Lord who will come in the air on the clouds of glory

The Lord promised that “If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also” as written in John 14:3. As He said in Acts 1:11, He will come in the air again on the clouds of the glory. At that time the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air according to 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17. Revelation 19:9 reads that the children of God will enjoy the marriage supper of the Lamb as the brides of the Lord for 7 years. Then, we will come down to this earth and reign with Him for a thousand years (Revelation 20:6). After the final judgment before a great white throne, we will finally be given eternal rewards, dwelling places, and eternal life in the heavenly kingdom that is as beautiful as crystal.

## The Confession 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

5. 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.
- “If 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)