

Grunt Gazette

MICHAEL MARTIN • CAMP HUMPHREYS, SOUTH KOREA

One of my favorite quotes about priorities comes from the ministry of Scottish evangelist and Spurgeon contemporary Henry Drummond: “And if you gentlemen are going to seek the Kingdom of God, I want to ask you to seek it first. Do not touch it unless you promise to seek it first. I promise you a miserable life and influence and a poor, broken, lost career if you seek it second. Seek it first or let it alone. Do not be an amphibian; no man can serve two masters, and, if you only knew it, it is a thousand times easier to seek first the Kingdom of God than to seek it second. I have not the slightest doubt many men are seeking second the Kingdom of God, and their religion is a nuisance to them. It is hard to keep up, and they would get rid of it if they could. The cure is to seek it first, to make it the helm of life. Then only can a man’s life go straight, and then only can he fulfill the destiny for which God has put him into the world.”



“Only live fish swim upstream; dead ones just float along with the current.”

PASTOR TOMMY NELSON, DENTON BIBLE CHURCH



Ben “Brandon” M. always had a pen in hand ready to take notes when we had our Bibles open. He is malleable and serious about sanctification. On one occasion, he accompanied me to pack seeds at a ministry for North Koreans and got back home late with little sleep before his 0400 duty. I wish we’d met earlier, but I am grateful God brought him into my life. He recently transitioned to the DC area, and I hope to see him the next time I travel back to the U.S. This photo shows him at an Armed Forces Korea Network studio on base. Please pray for excellence in his walk and service, and also for a good mentor and church at his new location.



Pictured here is my buddy, Captain Justin K., visiting Korea as part of a temporary duty assignment. I met Justin at Camp Casey in 2014 and every picture I have of him shows him in service to others—handicapped kids, orphans, the homeless. The last photo I saw of him was with his fiancée, another relationship in which he has displayed a servant’s heart.



During the COVID-19 restrictions, we had to maintain social distance and meet outside, if at all, and wear masks to chapel, even while singing. I am grateful for these men—Sam, Ben, Paul L., and Paul B.—who have regularly joined me in the mornings to dive into “the meat of the Word.” In a couple of weeks, only Sam will remain here. Camp Humphreys seems to be a revolving door. Please pray that God would not merely keep me busy, but keep me occupied with men who, like Pastor Nelson’s fish, dare to swim upstream.



This is a photo of the chapel classroom we use for Sunday’s “BK and BE” —Burger King and Bible Education. We just wrapped up a study of Luke’s gospel, and now we are studying “The Resurrection: History or Hoax?” The chapel I attend has a talented music director who often uses hymns during the worship time, which I enjoy very much.