

Grunt Gazette

MICHAEL MARTIN • CAMP HUMPHREYS, SOUTH KOREA

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1 A few months ago, a group of Soldiers gathered to pack seeds—lettuce, cabbage, and spinach—for North Korean villagers, whom the World Food Program reveals are suffering from a 40% deficit in the minimum daily requirement for nutrition. North Korea has sealed off its borders with Russia and China, preventing commerce that normally (albeit illegally) transpires. It would be wonderful to one day meet some of the people who have benefitted so greatly from such a small investment of resources on our end. The intent of this kind of activity, as with other outreach activities, is a “fleshing out” of the gospel to those who cannot return the favor and whom we may never meet until Heaven.



2 I read (in Epoch Times) of a group of mainland China Christians, about 60 total, who are living on Jeju Island, which requires no visa for residency. They have been there for two years as they wait for approval for refugee visas. Unfortunately, Korea grants very few of these. These Chinese Christians are not allowed to hold regular jobs, so they do minimum wage pick-up jobs to sustain themselves.

I made contact with the group through a Korean pastor and his wife, who advised me on the kinds of things that would help this group that includes 28 children. Sixteen boxes of



clothing (left) were donated by Lacy, a Soldier's wife who organized volunteers for the effort, making my role very easy. We later sent lots of rice, flour, hygiene and toiletry needs, school supplies, and children's games, most of which came from my supporters. Our chapel is now considering having an offering collection for this group!

3 I'd like prayer for a few guys I've been meeting with lately. They are hungry, always show up, and are teachable. The current restrictions limit where we can meet, so sometimes we just "have class" in my car after grabbing a snack from a drive-through restaurant. Both men are from Suth'un stock so we "unnerstan' one anuthuh'." Please pray for their continued hunger, our relationships, and the courage to engage people in their barracks.

I recently met with Chane at LaMesa Restaurant just off base. It was supposed to be Mexican food, but I would label it "KorMex." Good feller-ship with Chane though. I would appreciate prayer for him, and that I could help equip him during his time here to bloom where God has planted him, especially in the area of evangelism.

4 A short time ago, I met Robert at the gym, who asked me to train him in boxing—the first request I've had in a long time. I've been praying for this, so I ask you to pray that we would have refreshing times together, and that during his remaining time here he would gain the skills, both propositional and practical, that will enable him to meet the demands ahead. He's been really struggling, especially as he lost a close friend here to suicide. We finish each workout with long talks and I greatly value his trust in me.

All of these guys—and others—will be out of here in six months' time and a new crop of Soldiers will arrive, many with the same struggles that lead to alcoholism, loneliness, depression, a sense of meaningless existence, and an inability to withstand peer pressure. Please pray that God will guide us to one another and give me favor with them. I covet your prayers for this immensely and cannot express my gratitude in words.

Gratefully,
Michael



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