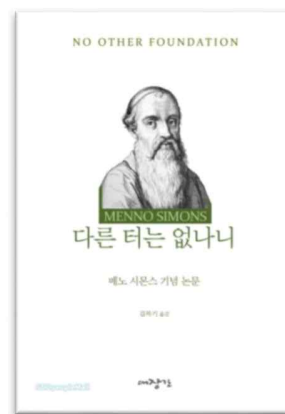




February 8, 2018

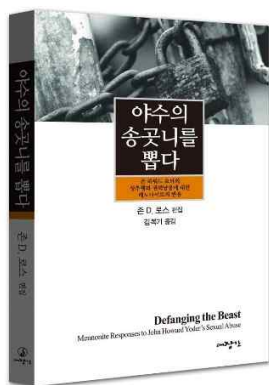
Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

1. A thankful year end, a grateful year start: Due to our busy-ness, we do not remember how many things we did during December and January. In December, we invited many people we wanted to be with and prepared as many fellowship meals as we could. Bock Ki's Kingdom theology is often expressed as tasting a bit of the abundant kingdom banquet on Earth. There are many things of which we are thankful to God: BK finished translating two other books of John Roth's Stories and Practices as he struggled with the issue of John Howard Yoder through the MQR 2015 January edition. He established two more books to translate last year (total 5 books translated in a year!) while presenting several other interesting issues, such as the birth of the free church movement, and the 16th century Anabaptist movement in the context of the reformation. His passion continues with sharing the good news of the kingdom of God through an Anabaptist lenses. Thanks be to God.



The First Korean Book on Menno Simons

2. Bock Ki Kim: 1) Ministry of Anabaptist resource-development in Korean – We see the seed sprouting. We see many good signs of a healthy church here and there. BK has many calls from those who want to know more about the Anabaptist-Mennonite church. He has been requested to write an essay, to share what Anabaptists believe, and to present on Anabaptist issues, such as peace theology, the free church movement, Anabaptism, etc. Recently, a new book, *No Other Foundation*, was released. Although we have many Anabaptist books in Korean, there is no book about Menno Simons. These days seminarians, pastors, and theologians have started to show more interest in learning from the Anabaptist-Mennonite church. While we have developed many resources related to the Anabaptist movement so far, with some excellent and thorough resources, most of them are introductory books. Since BK translated the first book, *From the Anabaptist Seed* by Arnold Snyder in 2002, he has done about 25 Anabaptist books. Now we have more than 130 Anabaptist books in Korean. What a wonderful development in 2 decades! These days there are many good translators, and several other Christian publishing companies that produce many Anabaptist books. It's a good sign for us. BK believes that it would be good to continue introducing Anabaptist classics and theological books to Koreans, as we develop other practical resources.



MQR January 2015 edition

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. - 1 Cor. 3:11

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2) Ministry of church-planting – the Mennonite Seoul Meeting continues to study the Bible on a weekly basis. Two brothers started gathering in May 2017. Now there are 6 people who read and study the book of Revelations. We are following the schedule suggested in the book *Apocalypse and Allegiance* by Nelson Kraybill. In South Korea, many churches have lost their direction, and have even tasted bitterness as a church. But the church is an important body of Christ regardless of the situation. We would like to see our small group grow into a faithful church as is taught by the Bible.



The 2nd Anabaptist Conference on January 20: "Let's talk about Peace" featured by Israel Anabaptist, The Frontiers, Palestine Peace and Solidarity, The World Without War, Peace Song Writer, Korea Peace Institute, Korea Conflict Transformation Center, and Restorative Justice Center for School Teachers.

3) Anabaptist Peace Exchange Program – There are many similarities between Israel and South Korea, such as a military-immersed culture, compulsory military service, and the repression of conscientious objectors, but there is still a strong sense of peace despite these violent social activities and actions. In Israel both men and women must serve a military duty, while in South Korea, only men are required, for a duration of 20 months. In the similar context of these two countries, we, as a Mennonite church who belongs to a peace church tradition, believe that there is something we can do together. This idea brought two young men to an Anabaptist Peace Exchange Program, which was supported by MMN, MCSK, and KAC. During January, we invited an Israeli believer to South Korea; one Korean brother will be sent to visit Israel following the first half of the program. Basically, this was an opportunity to learn from each other in both Israel and South Korea. From January 12~24, we had two brothers from Israel experience what happens in South Korea. We visited the War Memorial of Korea, Jesus Heart church in Chuncheon, Grace and Peace church in Deokso, Peace and Joy church in Nonsan, the MCC Northeast Asia office in Chuncheon, Border Peace School near the de-militarized zone, World Without War (a peace organization), NoGun-ri Peace park, and a CO who is in jail. We also met with an Israeli and Korean COs together, and met with Mennonite Church South Korea youth

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and leaders in Seoul. It was especially great to have the 2nd Anabaptist Conference in Seoul while these two brothers visited South Korea (see the photo above). Now it is time that the South Korean brother visits Israel. Please pray for this AP exchange program. After the second half of the trip is finished, we are going to make a book about this program and the peace issue in both countries. We want to see God's shalom in both of these nations. We thank each of the churches and organizations who welcomed and hosted us.

3. Sook Kyoung Park: At the end of the year, Sook provided a wonderful year-end party for both students and parents. She invited all of the students' family members to have a time of appreciation for sending their children to the English program. She is going to launch her first summer camp program in Canada this coming July and August. During January, she provided an extra



Winter vacation activity: enjoying making food and eating together

curriculum every Friday for her more advanced students. This became a fun time for each of them. On the last Friday of January, they enjoyed making Korean pancakes after having circle time. This English program is relational as opposed to simply about studying, so Sook Kyoung provides counsel and wisdom, not only to the children learning English as a second language, but also to their parents on how to practice good parenting. Besides this weekday program, SK works for Jesus Heart church and also provides occasional support for KAC, various Anabaptist meetings, the Seoul meeting, etc. Above all, she is the best coworker for me in the Korean Mennonite ministry.

4. Peace in the Korean Peninsula: The Winter Olympics are about to kick off. As many pray, we hope and pray that this Olympics will be peaceful. We want to see peace and reconciliation in the relations between North and South Korea, as well as for all nations, through a spirit of sportsmanship during and beyond the game.

* Our Prayer Concerns

- 1) Thanksgiving for saying goodbye to the busy year of 2017 and welcoming the new year of 2018.
- 2) Please pray for the Mennonite Meeting in Seoul, so that the attendants may develop a healthy church through close fellowship.
- 3) Pray for Bock Ki's ministries: writing, translating, presenting, and completing his role as KAC director in February. Pray also for Sook Kyoung's English program, as a daily tool for bringing God's peace to each

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child she meets.

4) BK-SK's 2nd term will be finished by June 2018. Pray for their next step so they may discern it with wisdom. BK will leave South Korea for his literary visit in Canada from April 3.

5) Our daughter, Jinsol, is in the Ph.D. program at the University of Waterloo while Daniel studies at Columbia Bible College in BC. Daniel has a plan to visit us and relatives in South Korea during summer vacation. Pray for their health, faith, studies, and growth in God's wisdom.

6) Pray for peace in the Korean Peninsula continually. Let us make the Pyeongchang Olympics the peace Olympics!

In God's Shalom,

Bock Ki Kim and Sook Kyoung

MC Canada Witness Workers in South Korea

bskimpark@mennonitechurch.ca