

CHANGING PATHS

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According to Luke's account, Bethlehem must have been busier than normal when Joseph and a very pregnant Mary arrived into town. Out-of-towners occupied every bed in the inns on account of the census, thus leading to the very humble birth of our Savior in a stable.

This year, we were grateful to once again welcome the season with much activity and celebration in the presence of a wide variety of friends and visitors. Our home saw a revolving group of guests, church was active with special events, the dining table rarely seated only four, and throughout, the Lord provided opportunities to speak of Jesus' birth and the hope He brings to mankind.

Above, far left, is Dee Dee visiting with three small guests at a Christmas Day gathering at our home. Middle right is a snapshot of the group of women with whom Dee Dee meets - gathered at our home for a Christmas Eve event. Far right shows Lily and Olivia with two new friends who spent several days in Seoul. Middle left depicts a decorated tree complete with brightly lit Christmas lights installed yearly at a nearby hotel. This very tree, just a few years ago, also included a lovely nativity set. However, it now stands bare, representing the ever-present absence of Jesus in most modern-day representations of Christmas. Despite many misconceptions of the presence of Christianity in South Korea, there remains much ground to be tilled for the Gospel to be sown forth.

As we head into this new year, we are reminded of and thank you for your partnership and support and acknowledge the mercies of our Lord who continues to open up doors for serving Him in this place.



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