

WEEK 23 • JUNE 10, 2023

## Korea: The Invitation

**Proverbs 27:9—“Ointment and perfume delight the heart, And the sweetness of a man’s friend gives delight by hearty counsel.”**

Sehee [SEH-hee] and her family moved out of the city and into the countryside in South Korea. At first Sehee missed her friends in the city, but soon she was helping her mother plant and care for their vegetable garden. She watered the vegetables and picked the weeds to give the vegetables lots of room to grow.

When the cucumbers and lettuce and sweet corn were ready to pick, the family had too much to eat themselves. So Sehee shared them with her neighbors. The neighbors were delighted to receive fresh vegetables and often gave her gifts of homemade bread or pickled vegetables. Sehee often carried as much home as she had given away. That reminded her of Proverbs 11:24 that says that the more we share, the more we receive.

Still, Sehee missed having friends at church. The only other child her age was her brother. Vacation Bible School was coming, and her mom suggested that Sehee invite her classmates to attend with her. Sehee wrote special invitations and gave them to the children at school. But she wondered if the kids would come.

“Don’t worry,” her mom said. “It’s not your job to persuade them to come. That’s God’s job.”

Sehee waited for her classmates at the church door, but none of the children she’d invited came to Vacation Bible School. However, one of the boys in her class came to church on Sabbath. The boy didn’t know about Jesus, but he was happy to learn. He didn’t have any friends at school, so he became friends with Sehee and her brother. “I like church!” he said. “I want to come every week.”

Sehee’s mom told her that one boy had come to church. “He wouldn’t have come if you hadn’t invited him.”

Sehee prays for her new friend who comes to church, asking Jesus to help him and his family to learn to love and trust in God.

**When Sehee prays for her friend, she is trusting Jesus with her friend’s heart. When we regularly give our Promise offerings to Jesus, we are trusting Him to use those offerings in the best way possible so that other people have a chance to meet God and decide to love and serve Him all their lives. Let’s be faithful with our tithes and offerings and with our witnessing to friends so many people will meet and love Jesus.**

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