

Guest Speaker Songhwan Kang

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[0 : 00] The following message was given at a Sunday celebration at Trinity Grace Church in Athens. For more information about Trinity Grace, please visit us at TrinityGraceAthens.com.

On behalf of Lord Grace Church in Seoul, I'd like to thank you all for inviting me. When you plant the church at Athens, we were very excited. We pray together. We pray together. I'm very thankful to God so that I can see you face to face today. Lord Grace Church in Seoul started in 2009.

Five families got together to start the church. Just like you, we were hoping to have a community that loves the gospel together.

[1 : 10] Right now there are about 140 congregation serving the church together. I have three common things with sharing with Walt.

We were both students at Pastor College. We planted a church at the same time together.

We were both church planters. And we both have Asian wives.

Yeah! There are certain things that we are different.

We are very tall. Walt is very tall. He has great beers. When I see Walt, I learn from him about his sincerity and humility.

[2 : 26] Two days a week, I learn from him about his sincerity and humility. Once every two months, we have a phone call together and serve each other. Last year when I was burned out, Lady [REDACTED], Walt [REDACTED].

Walt prayed for me and he served me. Walt [REDACTED]. His great serving raised me up. Do you know who is my best friend in America?

Walt is. Not him. I don't think I can translate this, but you heard him. [REDACTED].

I'm very happy that my most loving friend is with you. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] church has visited five times in Korea.

Walt [REDACTED]. He led a missionary team came to Korea to serve his church. Walt [REDACTED].

[3 : 40] Walt's missionary team challenged us very greatly with his loving and serving hearts. [REDACTED].

On behalf of my church, I'd like to thank you all. [REDACTED]. I'd like to share a message about what is church.

I'd like to share what Jesus was talking about the church. [REDACTED].

I'd like to share the message about how Jesus was talking about the power of church. [REDACTED] 16 [REDACTED] 13 [REDACTED] 19 [REDACTED].

I'd like to read Matthew chapter 16 verse 13 through 19. It's an ESC version. It is said, Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, Who do people say that the son of man is?

[4 : 41] And they said, Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets. He said to them, But who do you say that I am?

Simon Peter replied, You are the Christ, the son of the living God. And Jesus answered him, Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my father who is in heaven.

And I tell you, You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Amen. I would like to pray that God give us the grace today. I'll pray. Heavenly Father, thank you so much for planting the Lord's church here. Lord, we pray that you let us realize what's the power of the church. Trinity Grace [5 : 53] Lord, through Trinity Grace Church, I'd like you to build the kingdom of God on this land.

Let this church embrace the meaning of the power of church, what Jesus said. Me and for all of us here, I pray that your grace be with us today. In Jesus' name we pray. The church is a community built on the good confession of the faith to Jesus Christ. 3 One day he asked his disciples,

Who do you say that I am? Who do people say the son of man is?

[7 : 03] They replied, some say you are a great rabbi like John the Baptist. And others say a powerful prophet like Elijah.

Jesus then asked his disciples again. Then Simon Peter made a great confession.

He said, you are the Christ, the son of living God. This confession is too familiar to our ears. So it does not sound strange to us anymore.

2000 years ago, this was a shocking remark that no one was able to even think about.

This confession means Jesus, you are not just the son of a poor carpenter from a poor village of Galilee.

[8 : 03] You are the Christ that the prophets of Old Testament mentioned, Savior and King.

You are the Savior and you are the King of the Heaven. You don't belong to the earth, but you are the Son of God in the Heaven.

Until this confession, no one knew who Jesus was. The scholars of law did not know.

Nor the powers on the earth. No one confessed who Jesus was like Peter.

Who taught this to Peter? Who taught it to Peter?

[9 : 05] In verse 70 he said, it is not taught by the flesh on the earth, but the God in the Heaven taught this to Peter.

When Jesus heard this confession by Peter, he used the word church, which is never used before. In verse 18 it is said, on this rock I will build my church.

Jesus declared that he would build his church on top of this confession of Peter. Jesus mentioned his confession as the rock.

Peter's confession saying that you are the Christ, the son of the living God. He mentioned this as a rock. This confession is unshakable rock.

Everlasting truth. For the last 2000 years, this church has been built on the good confession of the faith on this rock.

[10 : 30] Trinity Grace Church has been built on such a confession.

But there are so many people in Korea who still don't know who Jesus is. So many people working in such a famous corporation like Samsung don't know who Jesus is.

professors of many renowned colleges in Korea still think that Jesus is just a good rabbi like John the Baptist.

Some very popular K-pop singers in Korea still say Jesus is just a powerful prophet like Elijah.

They don't say Jesus is the son of God.

[11:29] Because there is no confession of faith like this. Korea is a small country. Until 150 years ago in Korea no one had the confession of faith like this.

150 years ago in 1866, September 4th, Reverend Robert Thomas came to Korea on September 4th in 1866 writing on the US merchant ship USS General Sherman.

When Reverend Thomas came to Korea he came with a Bible written in Korean.

Right after he was off board from the ship the Korean soldiers came to him and killed him.

He was only 27 years old at the time. In the history of Korean church he was the first martyr in Korea.

[12:46] The man who killed Reverend Thomas was a soldier named Park.

When Reverend Thomas was stabbed by his sword and was dying he screamed Jesus! And he gave the Korean Bible that he held to the man who killed him as a present.

All the Bible books that he was having in his bag was just, you know, spread around the site.

When Reverend Thomas died there was a boy named Chirang Choi who was just a 13 years old boy who was just passing by and he picked up three Korean Bibles on the site.

He gave one of them to a man named Youngshik Park. At the Korea, Korea was very poor so paper was a very rare material at the time.

[13:57] Youngshik Park realized that the quality of the paper was very good.

So he decided to tear off the papers and use it as a wallpaper for his home. He just surrounded his room with this paper from the Bible.

After a while, Youngshik Park was lying down and started reading the scripture that was used as the wallpapers. I'm the way, I'm the truth, I'm the life Not through me, you cannot enter the kingdom of God.

I'm the resurrection and I'm the life Whoever believes in me will leave.

Who is he? Youngshik Park was curious about it. He wanted to know him. He just realized that there is a savior somewhere.

[15:15] He started to know Jesus Christ. Who let Youngshik Park know Jesus Christ?

There is nobody in Korea who knew about Jesus Christ.

Only the God in heaven gave him this realization. Amen.

This 13-year-old boy, Chi-Jung Choi, had grown up to be an adult and he purchased a house of Youngshik Park. He renovated a house and started a motel business with that house.

27 years ago, in 1893, Chi-Jung Choi was born.

[16:16] In 1893, Chi-Jung Choi was born. In 1893, Chi-Jung Choi was born. And he stayed at Chi-Jung's motel for one night.

He wanted to give the gospel to this city, but he wasn't very motivated.

He was trying to go to bed and he saw these wallpapers. What is this? These are the scriptures. He was surprised and he became very courageous. Lord, your working here is amazing.

[23 : 18] Jesus came here to pay the ransom to buy his people back from the world.

We are the body of Christ. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■, ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. The congregation of the church is connected to Jesus with indivisible unification, and it belongs to Jesus.

■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■, ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. Jesus said, You belong to the U.S. government on this earth, but you belong to me in the heaven.

■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. You are eternally in my possession. I bought you with the blood of my son. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■.

That's because you are mine forever. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. When Saul was on his way to Damascus to persecute the church, ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■, ■■■■, ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■.

[24 : 29] The resurrected Jesus showed up to him and said, Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. Saul never persecuted Jesus. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■.

He just persecuted those who believed in Jesus. ■■■■ ■■■■, ■■■■, ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■? ■■■■ ■■■■. But Jesus said, Why do you persecute me? ■■■■ ■■■■?

Why did he say that? ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. It is because those who were persecuted in Jerusalem was Jesus' possessions.

Jesus is on his throne. He saw those who were persecuted. He was responsible for the life of those who were persecuted. 2009 ■■■■ 9 ■■■■, ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■.

On September 2009, Lord's Grace Church has started. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. Just like you, we had to unfold the chairs and arrange the seats every week.

[25 : 37] ■■■■ 10 ■■■■ 6 ■■■■ ■■■■. For the last 10 years, the church has moved 6 times. ■■■■ ■■■■, 2, 30 ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■? We were just five families, about 20 or 30 people.

So, to the eyes of the people in the world, we looked small, shabby, and terrible. ■■■■ ■■■■, ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■, ■■■■, ■■■■ ■■■■, ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. Every week, we just thought ourselves as small, shabby, and terrible.

■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■, maybe you're not like this. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. We looked pretty small. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■? But who we are?

■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. We are the position of Jesus Christ. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. We belong to Jesus that Jesus paid with his life.

■ ■■■■, ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. Second, the church will win the power of the hell. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■.

[26 : 44] This means that the power of hate cannot stop the church because the source of the power of the church is God. ■■■■ ■■■■, ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■.

The power of hate, in other words, the utmost power of Satan is the death. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. But the Satan could not confine Jesus in the tomb with the power of death. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. We belong to Jesus. We are indivisible from Jesus. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■.

Satan could not oppress his congregation with his power of death. ■■■■ ■■■■ 2 ■■■■ 14 ■■■■, 15 ■■■■ ■■■■. ■■■■ ■■■■ 2, verse 14 and 15.

■■■■ ■■■■. Jesus might destroy him who holds the power of death, that is the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

[27 : 47] ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. Christ has destroyed the devil who holds the power of death by his death. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■.

Now the church, the Christians who belong to Jesus do not fear death. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■.

Sometimes our families or friends suffer from incomprehensible death due to cancers or traffic accidents. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■.

It is hard to understand that that really hardened our hearts. ■■■■ ■■■■, ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. But Christians have the power of not fearing the death.

3 ■■■■, ■■■■ ■■■■, ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. 3 years ago, my mother-in-law returned to heaven. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■.

[28 : 47] She died because of leukemia. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. In Korean culture, people are generally cremated after death. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■.

I put her into the flame. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■. All the family was saddened.

90 After 90 minutes Her body was contained in just a small jar and came back to us.

I hold that jar in my chest. It was very warm.

There is one truth that I realized at the time. We are just a handful of dusts.

[29 : 41] I just want you to believe that We Christians have a power not to fear the death.

I was just holding a small jar of dust. Because the Lord who has the hope of resurrection is my Lord.

I will see my mom One day. I will see my mom who has resurrected Do you believe that you have this power of not fearing the death?

The third power that Jesus mentioned I give you the keys to the heaven In verse 19, he said I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven And whatever you bind on earth be bound in heaven And whatever you lose on earth will be loosed in heaven Do you have this key that Jesus gave to you?

The congregation do this abounding and losing on this earth Jesus said Where two or three come together in his name Is granted the power of handling the scene Why such power was given to the congregation It is because the one who has the power to overcome the death is among us The key can open the door or lock the door Do you have this key to open the door to the kingdom of heaven?

[31 : 38] There is a one reason why not everybody can open the door to the kingdom of heaven Every people have two problems The first one is that everybody is sinners The second is that everybody is not righteous But the God in the kingdom of heaven Is without sin and he is righteous Everybody is not righteous Everybody is If anyone wants to open the door to the kingdom of heaven They have to solve these two problems The problem of sin and problem of being righteous How do you handle your problem of sin and righteousness?

Only B

anyone who does not believe in Jesus Christ cannot open the door to the kingdom of heaven

because he did not solve the problem of sin and righteousness. Bill Gates

No matter how much Bill Gates has money in his bank account, he cannot open the door to the kingdom of heaven. Trump

[33 : 36] No matter how powerful the president Trump is, he cannot open the door to the kingdom of heaven. Mother Teresa

No matter how many good deeds Mother Teresa did, she cannot open the door to the kingdom of heaven with that.

Only Jesus completed everything by his righteous life and the death on the cross. And he gave the keys of the kingdom of heaven to his church.

What a wonderful community is the church in this world. The church is the keys to the gospel that God had made through Jesus Christ.

It is the only community that uses the power of forgiving the sin and the power of overcoming the death that we have to use this to build a church in this community.

[34 : 35] Trinity Do you know that the Trinity Grace Church has the power of the whole universe?

Don't judge this community just by the size of this meeting.

It is the only community that uses the power of forgiving the sin and the power of overcoming the death that we have to use this to build a church in this community?

...? ... 150 ... 20% ... 5% ... 2000 ...

[40 : 17] ... 12, 12 ...

...? ... 10 ...

Do you know who has been shaken the most? It's me. [41 : 36] I was not able to do anything. Whenever we moved six times, I was lost at, you know, where should we go?

I often questioned myself as a plant of church. I often questioned, do I deserve of planting a church? I was often in doubt of the church finance for the next month.

Whenever a member of the church congregation complained, I couldn't sleep. Whenever I saw the families in congregation had family crisis, that they want to stop their marriage, I was shaken.

Whenever I heard about their children going away from the family, I was shaken.

[42 : 40] I am also shaken these days that I feel like I'm lack of wisdom and I'm lack of faith.

If God entrusted the church to men like me, then the church would have failed a long time ago.

But because Jesus Christ is working, The love of God is holding this church. The Holy Spirit is working inside me, inside us.

The church was growing. The Trinity Church is having this first anniversary.

This is an amazing church of God, church of the Lord. This church is a precious church that God has bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

[43 : 47] He gave you the keys to forgive the sins. He gave the keys to overcome the death.

Father God, Holy Spirit, and Jesus Christ is holding your life. But you are shaken. You will see people are shaken. Because we are sinners.

You will suffer from the persecution and attack from the world. You will be shaken because of your relationship in your family. You will feel heart and heart when you see your children growing and suffering.

