

NOV 2011 | ISSUE 4



of the

# The Voice of the Martyrs Korea

## DISCIPLESHIP

Training Designed for North Korean Defectors

Now Available to You



### INSIDE

Defector Statistics p. 3

What About the  
Church? p. 5

.W Discipleship  
Training Program p. 7

# μάρτυς

martyr [mahr-ter]

“a witness who testifies to a fact of which he has knowledge from personal observation.”

## CONTENTS

Defector Statistics p. 3

No Way Out: The Plight of North Korean Defectors p. 4

What About the Church? p. 5

Underground University p. 6

Underground Technology p. 6

.W Discipleship Training p. 7

## From the Editor



Our Underground University program was launched in 2009 as a way of addressing the dual needs among North Korean defectors for a comprehensive discipleship strategy and leadership training.

Little did we know that the program would come into high demand among others around the world within just a few short years.

As we head into the fourth year of UU, the training program is being broadened out and offered to non-defectors - both Korean and American - who are interested in growing to fullness in Christ under the same principles and strategies we use to train UU students.

We're calling it our .W Discipleship Training program and it's comprised of two tracks, each being offered in both Korea and the U.S.:

- Participation in a .W Church congregation
- Purchasing Whole Life Offering (WLO) curriculum for individual or small group/church use

Those who participate in a .W Church congregation will be discipled and equipped over the course of one year to plant and lead their own .W mini-house

church. As lay pastors they will be formally affiliated with .W Evangelical Church and The Evangelical Church of North America denomination.

Those individuals or small groups/churches purchasing WLO curriculum will be challenged and equipped to develop a capstone project in their own community to implement the persecuted church principles and strategies taught in the course, with Seoul USA providing free counsel.

Additional information for participating in these tracks can be found on page 7.

Seeing how God is using North Korean defectors has been amazing these last few years. I can't wait to see how He uses you.

PRODUCED BY SEOUL USA



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# 110

Number of NK defectors seeking mental health assistance in Seoul in 2007.

# 12,979

Number of NK defectors seeking mental health assistance in Seoul in 2009.



## 16.3%

of deaths among NK Defectors in 2009 was attributed to suicide.



## 6.3%

of deaths among South Koreans in 2009 was attributed to suicide.

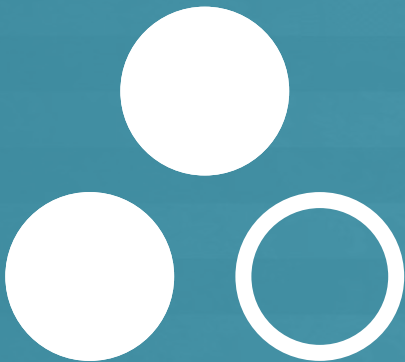


For every one South Korean who drops out of middle or high school, six NK defectors drop out.



# 2X

Of the population in South Korea, the crime rate among NK defectors is twice that of the national average.



One out of every three NK defectors imprisoned in South Korea is charged with trafficking illegal drugs.



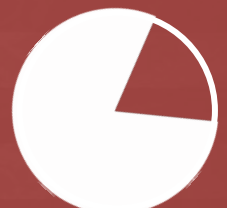
18.2%

of NK defectors fail to stay in any job for more than a month



28.8%

of NK defectors fail to stay in a job for six months



80%

of NK defectors spend less than two years in any job

# NO

THE STATE OF LIFE

# WAY

FOR NORTH KOREAN

# OUT

DEFECTORS

**T**he numbers of North Koreans defecting to South Korea continues to grow at an exponential rate.

In 1999, approximately 150 North Koreans crossed the border into South Korea each year. Ten years later in 2009 approximately 3,000 were crossing the border into South Korea each year.

Today, over 20,000 North Koreans are living in South Korea.

That's not the only thing growing at an exponential rate, though. The level of desperation of those inside North Korea has reached an all-time high.

And with their desperation came an unexpected - and unwelcome - companion: unhappiness. Bred in profound discontent, statistics

Koreans defectors living in South Korea are anything but free.

The paradox plaguing the North Korean population in South Korea is that they escaped an authoritarian government intent on starving, beating, and dehumanizing them, only to find themselves in new form of bondage in an unfamiliar place.

And so many wonder: how can NK defectors be fulfilled in a foreign land where they lack skills and face temptation on every side?

Is there any hope at all, not just for the defectors, but for their families still living in North Korea?

## NORTH KOREAN DEFECTORS LIVING IN SOUTH KOREA ARE ANYTHING BUT FREE

indicate that even after they have defected to South Korea, North Koreans remain exceedingly unfulfilled.

As the previous page indicates, North



# WHAT ABOUT THE CHURCH?

**W**ith the many problems North Korean defectors have adjusting to their new lives in South Korea, many have asked what the church is doing to help.

The answer is: all they know how.

But the problem is that typical outreach efforts by South Korean churches involve paying North

Koreans to attend their church services. And, as a result, church attendance becomes for them a way to earn money - a job - rather than a source of hope or transformation.

Some wonder what would motivate the South Korean churches to continue offering NK defectors these “scholarships” to come to their services when they clearly see it as a source of income and nothing more. It is here that we come face to face with the harsh reality that South Koreans see North Koreans primarily as objects of pity.

Even in the church.

That’s why NKs typically only

meet with other NKs in church, apart from their SK brothers and sisters. But even those meetings are usually led by SK pastors, worship leaders, and everyone else holding a leadership position.

In the mind of SK Christians, NK defectors attend church in order to receive, not lead. They are the recipients of others’ ministry, incapable of ministering themselves.

And they are not alone.

Christians around the world are used to seeing persecuted believers as objects of pity rather than potential ministers in their own right with the proper training support and encouragement.



# UNDERGROUND UNIVERSITY

**U**nderground University is a one-year program for North Korean defector pastors, missionaries, and ministry leaders. Well-known and well-respected pastors and missionaries from around the world teach every week by videoconference, giving UU students the opportunity to learn from and

build personal relationships and friendships with the leaders of the global church.

Just as Jesus called his disciples to spread the Gospel in Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. UU prepares its students to minister to North Koreans in South Korea, China, and North Korea, to the 52 nations where Christianity is illegal, and to the church around the world.

Ten different educational tracks comprehensively prepare UU students to become equipped to

lead the North Korean church of the future. From survival training to church planting to ministry development and funding, UU students will receive personal coaching every step of the way.

For their graduation requirement, UU students present a plan for their own personal ministry for the future. They are then given the opportunity to present that plan via videoconference to potential ministry funders from around the world.

## PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO TRANSFORM AND PREPARE

# UNDERGROUND TECHNOLOGY

## NK DEFECTORS FOR LIFE AS CHRISTIANS

**U**nderground Technology is a half-year program for North Korean defector women to receive comprehensive training in leadership, academics, life skills, character formation, relationship development, and spirituality.

Through field trips, internships, classroom education, and one-on-one coaching and counseling, UT students

experience inner healing and are equipped to heal and lead others in the new North Korea.

UT students intern in the offices of Seoul USA, serving their fellow NK women defectors and being trained and coached by visiting women's ministry leaders from around the world. They are given leadership and ministry opportunities normally denied to NK defector women as they learn about the God who takes the stone the builders have rejected and makes it the cornerstone—in this

case, the cornerstone of new, God-centered leadership in the North Korean defector community and in North Korea itself.

Graduates of the UT program are eligible to enroll in the Underground University program.

Those interested in becoming UU or UT students, volunteers, or donors should contact Young-Hoon (Stephen) Lee at 02-2065-0703 or by email at [ylee@seoulusa.org](mailto:ylee@seoulusa.org)



# NEW DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

## .W DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

Based on the same principles  
and strategies used to train  
NK defectors

### Participate in .W Church

Learn to plant and lead your  
own .W mini-house church

### Purchase Curriculum

For use on your own or with  
your small group or church

Korean-  
language in  
Korea

Korean-  
language in  
U.S.

English-  
language in  
U.S.

English  
Translation

Korean  
Translation

**In Korea:** Contact Young-Hoon (Stephen) Lee at  
ylee@seoulusa.org or by phone at 02-2065-0703

**In U.S.:** Contact Brett Leather by email at  
bleather@seoulusa.org or by phone at 719-481-4408



# Voice of the Martyrs Korea, a Ministry of Seoul USA

**Hebrews 13:3 - "Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering."**

## Please Pray For...

- Underground University (UU) a seminary training North Korean defectors to be called and set apart for missionary service wherever the North Korean church is found.
- Underground Technology (UT), where North Korean women receive training from local and global Christian leaders in the areas of leadership, study, life skills, character development, and Christian spirituality.
- Balloon Launch Ministry as we send fliers containing Underground University students' testimonies as well as portions of the gospel via balloon to NK.
- PREQUIP as we oversee John Maxwell's leadership training program with North Korean missionaries.
- True Voice of the Martyrs (TVOM), our daily radio broadcast which disciples North Korean Christians via shortwave radio signal.
- Bibles Unbound as we provide Bibles to people living in countries hostile to God's Word.
- Proclaimer ministry, as we partner with Faith Comes by Hearing to provide Proclaimer New Testaments for free to missionaries.
- Martyrs Museum, where a display chronicling the reality of North Korea underground churches and the history of martyrdom is held.
- Providing and printing VOM's bestsellers in North and South Korean editions and North Korean dialect Bibles.

Seoul USA serves as a bridge between the Korean church (both North and South) and the church in the rest of the world. We bring the gifts of the Korean church to the church in the West and the gifts of the church in the West to the Korean church. We have a particular focus on mobilizing the church around the world to support the underground church of North Korea through our voice of the Martyrs Korea ministry.

We are members of the International Christian Association, composed of independently operated Voice of the Martyrs ministries actively working to support persecuted Christians in 52 countries.

## In Korea:

If you would like to receive this newsletter or volunteer with Seoul USA or learn about our resources designed to prepare churches and Christians to face persecution, contact us at:

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Mapo-Gu, Seoul Korea

Telephone: 02-2065-0703

Email: [susa@seoulusa.org](mailto:susa@seoulusa.org)

Web: [vomkorea.co.kr](http://vomkorea.co.kr) and [seoulusa.co.kr](http://seoulusa.co.kr)

To support this work financially from Korea:

Hana Bank: 176-910014-41104

Account Holder: VOM Korea

## In the U.S.

You can financially support this work with a designated donation to North Korea via Voice of the Martyrs U.S. at 877-337-0302. American churches or Christians seeking information on resources designed to prepare themselves to face persecution personally, please contact us at 719-481-4408 or [pastorfoley@seoulusa.org](mailto:pastorfoley@seoulusa.org) or visit us on the web at [www.seoulusa.org](http://www.seoulusa.org)



The **Voice**  
of the **Martyrs**  
**Korea**