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Interview: 2010-07-27

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Miller: (0:01) Welcome to this interview in the oral history project of the Liberty University archives. This interview is being conducted on July 27, 2010. Today we are interviewing Dr. C. Daniel Kim. My name is Randy Miller and I will be conducting the interview today along with Lowell Walters. Greetings, Lowell.

Walters: (0:23) Good morning, Randy.

Miller: (0:24) And good morning, Dr. Kim.

Kim: (0:26) Good morning.

Miller: (0:27) Well, we’re uh…we would like to start today by having you tell us some general biographical information about yourself. Where were you born, when were you born, and tell us a little bit about your early life in Korea.

Kim: (0:44) I was born August 10, 1921, you can figure out how old I am, and I was born in Christian home and raised in Christian home and used to attend Sunday school, morning service, evening service, Wednesday night service; any service I never, never missed. Until fourteen, I was not saved. But then morning, on November 2, Sunday morning service, my pastor brought message from John 3:16 which I memorized from my childhood without meaning until that morning. The Holy Spirit really talked to me through this scripture passage. I never realized I was a sinner. I thought this Jesus Christ came, died for the sinners, not me; I am a good Christian boy, never missed Sunday school, I memorized more scripture passage than anybody else in the church, in the Sunday school. I thought that Jesus Christ came murderers, fornicators, you know, thieves, all things like that but I never realized I was lost sinner until that morning the Holy Spirit talked to me. Through Romans chapter 3:10, “There is none righteous; no, not one, even not one.” And realized I hated people, I covetous, and I, I realized I was lost sinner, that’s why Jesus Christ came. He died not for the murderous but for me. I
realized that right, that time because Jesus died for me, I cried, I wept, and that was the moment I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal savior. And the next morning I was so excited, you know, I got up early in the morning and then opened the Bible and reading once again John 3 and came to the point in sixteen and the pastor’s sermon went through my mind and I wept again, knelt on the floor, and I said, “Jesus, you are creator. You died in my place that I can live eternal life. What can I do?” I was praying and then right there then I said, “This kind of prayer I have to pray in church, not at home.” So I made my way to church, of course that time there’s no prayer meeting, but church door was not locked then, and I went into church and then knelt on the floor, front of the pulpit, and then I began to pray. And then I come home and…daily life, you know, early in the morning you get up and then read two or three chapters and then go to church and pray and then come back and then uh…and then two weeks, two weeks later, in the morning, I was praying all by myself and I was crying and Jesus died for me, what can I do? That moment I thought, “I should give my life, my time, my money, whatever I have,” and right there then the Lord spoke to me. “You become pastor and you can give everything what you have.” Right there, “Yes, I will become pastor.” That’s how I call from the Lord and then I was aiming at, you know, to become a pastor. And then you know what happened, the second war started and then, you know, the Japanese, they had hard time and they were persecuting Christians in, in Korea and we were in trouble with Japanese and Shinto shrine they pushed and then people were imprisoned and tortured and then put to death, something like that, and that time I thought I can, I can become a real martyr for Jesus Christ but it didn’t come to me; I was too young to be a martyr. But that time I said, “What can I do?” And then I, I went to a Olsan High School, that is best high school in Korea, everybody realized that that was a, patriots and all the wealthy people and who love country, who love Jesus Christ and their children all come to Olsan High School and they’re best school and then…

**Walters:** (5:23) What city is that in?

**Kim:** (5:25) Pardon?

**Walters:** (5:26) What city is that in and current…

**Kim:** (5:27) That was Pyong-Ahn North Province. So that’s uh…we, I was born in Jeong-Ju, Pyong-Ahn North Province, that is northern part of Korea and even Thirty-Eighth Parallel, that’s then you have South Province, South Pyong-Ahn Province and then on the top of that there’s North Pyong-Ahn Province and then so we, I was born in northern part of North Korea and that, that wasn’t uh…school well-known, all famous people graduate from that North, no, from that high school. And then, of course, people, my teachers expected me to be such, such, such a, recommended, “This one, this one, this one,” but no, I’m, I’m called to be a pastor. I determined to go to seminary. But then what happened was the seminary was all closed and uh…

**Miller:** (6:38) Because of the Communists?

**Kim:** (6:40) Because of the Japanese.
Miller: (6:42) Because of the Japanese.

Kim: (6:43) The Japanese, they insisted Shinto shrine and those who denied, they just persecuted and then seminary was closed and then so…

Walters: (6:54) So what, I’m sorry, what year did you accept Christ? Do you…

Kim: (6:57) That is in 1935.

Walters: (7:02) And then the Japanese invaded, it was known as Manchurio or Manchukio?


Walters: (7:10) Ok.

Kim: (7:11) 1905 or thirty years passed and then persecution was going on…

Walters: (7:17) Since 1905?

Kim: (7:19) Since 1905 and then…

Walters: (7:20) Ok.

Kim: (7:21) as a result of this persecution, the Korean Church experienced a revival. The more persecution, the more church grow. That’s a tutorial in one of the church father’s mission, the more persecution, the more church grow. Every church booming in those days and that’s why the churches were really alive, you know, and preaching the gospel and, and the revival went well and, and then…

Walters: (7:49) But after you got saved or after you accepted Christ, then World War II started so it became more pronounced, the persecution or…?

Kim: (7:59) Because the Japanese asking us to contribute to war…

Walters: (8:09) Right.

Kim: (8:10) first of all, sons, you give us your sons…

Walters: (8:13) Right.

Kim: (8:14) to fight against…

Miller: To be soldiers.

Kim: (8:15) America.

Walters: (8:16) Right.
Kim: (8:17) And I didn’t want to do that. When I was looking to college, what happened was, a college students were all called into the field, battlefield. “I have to fight against America? America gave us gospel and Japanese our enemy. Why I have to fight for enemy? No, I don’t want to go.” So I said, “I have to, I have to find job.” And then all of sudden, the Lord, Lord is working behind me. Lord gave me such a wonderful job. That’s a financial company that is best company in the country and no one expected, not, I didn’t expect it but the, the school said, “Hey, what’s your plan?” “I don’t know. I don’t want to got to college because I don’t want to be soldier for Japan.” “Hey, how about this?” “Huh?” [laughter]. I took that job and that was really something. And then, of course, you know what happened, soon 1945, Japanese surrender to United States of America and then, of course, liberty, freedom came and I tell you, that moment in August 15, August 15, 1945, Korean force, they were excited; they couldn’t sleep, they couldn’t eat for few weeks. “Hallelujah, hallelujah,” [laughter]. We thought the real freedom came but you know what happened, about one month later Russian soldiers were marching into North Korea. We didn’t have radio, we didn’t have anything, we didn’t know what’s going on. We didn’t know anything about uh…later on we found out about Alta Meeting and Cairo Meeting. Five powers, America, England, Russia, China, and Japan, five powers got together and they decided to divide Korea into two country. We didn’t know anything about. Later, later on we found out who did that; Russia is the one insisted the divide. You know why? Because Russia was already Communist country, poor, hungry, they looked down North Korea, wealthy, plenty food, and industrialized; they had eyes on North Korea. That’s why Stalin, “Divide, divide, divide.” And then, sorry to say this but, Francis uh…who, who is the uh…who is the former president who said, “Ok,” uh…Franklin Roosevelt; that’s the man who said, “Ok.” He was socialist, I didn’t know but, you know, later on I found out socialist. “Socialistic system is not bad. Ok, let’s do that; divide.” But as a result what happened, believers, Christian churches suffered through, Russian army came, destroyed churches and put them in, in jail and chase them out and we, we just all of the sudden beggars. So we were looking for refugee place, you know, that’s why many Christians, three million, five million people, Christians came down to South Korea. God had another plan. These refugees came down to South Korea, what they did? They began to evangelize. South Korean churches were sleeping, just nothing was going on but since North Korean Christians came down and then evangelized and then churches were booming and growing and as you know, today South Korea is a really Christian country. Now they are sending out missionaries, eight, more than eighteen thousand missionaries and South Korea’s the second place, of course first place America, but second place sending out missionaries more than any other country.

Miller: (12:36) Why would you say that Korea was such an evangelist, such a Christian and evangelistic country compared to Japan? Why, why were there so many Evangelical Christians, why didn’t, why weren’t they just like Japan that there’s only a few and nominal Christians?

Kim: (12:54) Yeah. That’s good question. A couple things I can mention. Number one, the most important, the reason was Korean force started with one person by the name of Dan; d, a, n. That man taught us single god, Jehovah. That’s a very exception because
neighboring countries, as you look into, either deistic or pantheistic. No one received, no one believed in God, but that man taught us…

**Miller:** (13:34) Now he was a Korean man, Dan?

**Kim:** (13:37) Korean man and…

**Miller:** (13:38) Dan was a Korean man.

**Kim:** (13:39) Yeah, we don’t know where he comes from. We don’t know where he comes from, by the name of Dan…

**Miller:** (13:44) What year would that have been?

**Kim:** (13:45) That could be um…we say over four thousand years ago.

**Miller:** (13:52) Ok.

**Walters:** (13:53) Ok.

**Kim:** (13:54) Yeah, and…

**Miller:** (13:55) So way back in your ancient history.

**Kim:** (13:57) Ancient history, right. And this man…

**Miller:** (13:59) Ok, so…

**Kim:** (14:00) and then, of course, because of that Korean force had no problem with single god and when missionaries came, “God.” “Oh, we believe in God.”

**Miller:** (14:10) They just put the two together and…

**Kim:** (14:12) Put together, easy to accept Christian. You know, you have to understand the Japanese, they had the Shinto shrine which means all the emperors throughout the centuries, they are sin, they, they’re gods and all the, all the soldiers who died, they are gods, all the ones who devoted to the country, they are gods; all gods, so many gods, millions of gods. Confusion, “God, are…which one?” [laughter] And you know so, Buddhist, that’s a pantheism, isn’t it? And, “God? It doesn’t make sense.” But Korea, “Yes, God, we understand.” That’s how…number two, the Korea accepted Jesus Christ so easy, number two; because of the persecution. As soon as 19 uh…1884, Dr. Underwood and Appenzeller, a Presbyterian missionary and then Methodist missionary, two of them came in 1884 and just within twenty years, Japanese began to oppress Korean force and then there’s nothing they can depend on; God, that’s why they started on prayer meeting and get together and, “God, you are only one solve this problem. Give us freedom.” They began to cry and that just boomed, you know, that time missionaries had kind of a revival meetings and wherever it goes, people gather together and then revival broke out. And that’s another reason, you know, persecution. Single…
Miller:  (15:52) So the persecution…

Kim:  (15:53) single God belief happened…

Miller:  (15:57) They, they believed in a single god thousands of years before and then…

Kim:  (16:00) That’s right.

Walters:  (16:01) How did your um…before we leave the World War II Japanese occupation and oppression, how did your family go through that? Your mom and your dad, did you have brothers and sisters that had to go fight for the Japanese? How did your family survive that or maybe they, maybe they didn’t, but um…could you speak to that?

Kim:  (16:23) All they have to is just to they be just quiet.

Walters:  (16:27) Ok.

Kim:  (16:28) Ok? What we have to do is we have to do what we can and they are not going to say anything against Japan. All they allow us to worship service, that’s all we need, you know. Try to say nothing but getting closer to the end of war, they were insisting us Shinto shrine. Even Sunday they drag us out to go to Shinto and bow down and [even though they were] against it.

Miller:  (16:59) Before the Japanese invasion, was there any Shintoism in Korea?

Kim:  (17:04) No.

Miller:  (17:05) No.

Kim:  (17:06) No, not at all. The, the uh…even though Dan, our founder, he taught us single god which, only Jehovah, [but drifted] that just like each of our nation, [drifted] to Buddhism in third century or until six, seventeenth century and then Confucianism came in…

Miller:  (17:31) And, and…

Kim:  (17:32) “You don’t have a future life. All you have to do is you have to have real,” you know, “paradise here.” Now, that is Confucianism. If you obey your parents and then love each other, that’s paradise, that’s what you have to do. That’s what, you know, follow it a little bit and then Korean folks are smart enough, “That’s not enough. We have to think of after this life.” And then right there, then what happened, [they just] comes along and our forefathers say, “Now we have to go to God so go mountain, take cow, and burn offering and then may God have mercy upon.” God, “Ok, now you need me.” Then God sent, you know, missionaries just right time and that’s why, just, everything just, you know, comes with time and we, we ready to, ready to really accept Christianity.
Miller: (18:31) So before the Japanese invasion, if a Korean person, the average Korean person wasn’t a Christian, they would tend to be a Confucius, Confucian person?

Kim: (18:42) Confucian, yeah, that’s it. Yeah Confucius…


Kim: (18:47) but not…

Miller: (18:48) But not so much the Shinto or the Buddhist.

Kim: (18:50) Not that, yeah.

Miller: (18:52) Now, we’re in 1945, the Russians are now coming in. You’ve been oppressed by the Japanese and now it’s the, it’s the Russians that are oppressing you. You’re in the northern part there in the, in what’s going to become the Communist land. You’re a twenty-four-year-old man at this point, how, how did you get out of the country or what happened to you next?

Kim: (19:17) Yeah and we had, we were land owner so we didn’t have to work hard, you know, I was, that, that financial company well to do and on the top of that I had, you know, incomes, but as soon as Communist Russia, Russian army came in, Communist, Communist Party was organized and what happened was all private possession was gone; your land, your money, your savings, everything gone. All of the sudden one morning, just a, we became beggars. “Now you have to depend upon us.” They give us just a little money according to the number of family.

Walters: (20:02) Did that go to the Soviet Union or to the Korean…

Miller: (20:05) Communists.

Walters: (20:06) country satellite puppet state?

Kim: (20:10) Of course Russian army is actually over all but under, under this Russian army, Il-sung Kim, he was trained in Russia, that’s the man as a dictator. “Ok, you do everything according to what we say.” So he has to be just a, you know, the dictator but also he has to be, be obedience to Russian army.

Walters: (20:38) Right, so you had a Korean dictator who was backed by the Soviet Union.

Kim: (20:41) That’s right, yeah.

Walters: (20:42) Ok.

Kim: (20:43) Yeah…

Miller: (20:44) Now, I notice that his name is Kim.
Kim: (20:46) Yeah.

Miller: (20:47) Is he any relation to the current Kim who is a dictator of…

Kim: (20:49) Son.

Miller: (20:50) He is, he is the, he is the father…

Kim: (20:51) Yeah, his son was Jong-il Kim. Il-sung Kim is original one; number one, first one. And then second son, son is second dictator, Jong-il Kim we call Jong-il Kim. He is now close to end, he will die here any moment, really, yeah.

Miller: (21:12) Ok, and who do you foresee being the next dictator of Korea? Does he have a…

Kim: (21:17) That’s a, that’s the big question. This Jong-il Kim tried to appoint his number one son as a successor four years ago but Communist Party rejected. He waited until last year, second son presented, they rejected. So this year, April, he appointed the third son as successor. Third son is now twenty-six, something like that, and everybody laughing, “Who? He is going to be dictator? No.” So he, he couldn’t do it. Now, he, he said, “Brother-in-law, you take over.” I don’t know. Communist Party, I don’t think they will respond to that, they will agree with that man. So, Jong-il Kim is in trouble. North Korea has really come to the point they have to do something, yeah, newly something, yeah.

Miller: (22:16) As we get farther into our interview, I want to talk about your efforts on behalf of North Korea and we still want to hear the story of your coming, you know, leaving North America, but I’d like to take just a moment and ask you, you have been an advocate, a friend of North Korea and you are very much, if I’m, if I’m understanding correctly, you believe the two countries should be unified once again, is that correct?

Kim: (22:40) That’s correct, yeah.

Miller: (22:42) You know, you believe there is one Korea, but especially among the younger people, that is not as wide spread as it is among some of the older ones. To, to you, these were your relatives and, “We are all one people,” but as I would talk to a twenty or thirty-year-old Korean today, they would say, “It is done, leave it alone, because if we reunite the two countries, we are taking a poor country and reuniting it with a rich. That makes us all average or middle and so we like to stay rich. Let them stay poor.” Do you, do you hear some of that?

Kim: (23:18) Youngsters, they don’t know much about our country and history; they care about themselves and non-Christian, you know, among non-Christian youth group, they were some members, some, some people, yes, think of that and, but not, not general. As a whole…

Miller: (23:40) So, so as a whole, the, most Koreans want to bring Korea back in.
Kim: (23:45) Surely, surely, yeah.

Walters: (23:47) But you would not agree with a statement that the, the generation born after 1950 or so in the Korean Conflict who, who didn’t know a united Korea, they would probably be more inclined to say, “Keep them separate,” is that correct? Would you agree with…

Kim: (24:04) That’s true. Yeah, that’s true.

Walters: (24:06) Ok.

Kim: (24:07) Yeah, they don’t know anything about, as you said, 1950 what have Korean Conflict. They don’t know anything about.

Miller: (24:13) Ok.

Kim: (24:14) Those who have gone through that, you know, conflict…

Walters: (24:16) Well, could you, could you tell us your experience as things lead to the Korean Conflict? Was the Thirty-Eighth Parallel the original line drawn or was that, was that brought about by the United Nations and the current armistice?

Kim: (24:32) The five powers actually drawn that line, Thirty-Eighth Parallel line, and then of course, you know, peaceful Sunday morning, June 25, 1950, North Korean army suddenly attacked South Korea. We never prepared nothing and then just, we didn’t, few days they came into Seoul, capital city. I tell you, we were all come down to South and were chasing down, down, down all the way to Busan. There’s no other place we can go, that’s last city. We were all congregated, all Christians they couldn’t sleep, they just pray, pray, pray. All churches packed, packed day and night, crying for God and meeting, you know, revival meeting and then something happened; United States, United Nations decided to help and MacArthur become general, Doug MacArthur.

Walters: (25:40) Right. And that happened in part because the Soviet Union decided not to vote in the Security Council and so the rest of the, the powers were able to do that, correct?

Kim: (25:50) That’s right, that’s right.

Walters: (25:51) How did you get, from the way you responded to that last question, it sounds like you were in South Korea when the invasion happened, is that correct?

Kim: (26:00) That’s right…

Walters: And if…

Kim: (26:01) I was already…

Walters: so, how did you get from…
Kim: (26:02) 1948.

Walters: North Korea to South then? Ok.

Kim: (26:05) In May.

Walters: Ok.

Kim: (26:06) I, the Lord lead me down, and I didn’t have chance to mention how I escaped from North Korea.

Miller: (26:11) Yes, please tell us.

Kim: (26:12) I want, I didn’t want to escape from North Korea. I thought that was coward. And I was not able to really become a martyr for Jesus Christ during Japanese, you know, occupation. I was too young and insignificant person but pastors, lots of pastors who were in prison became martyrs but I, I didn’t have any chance but now, I said, “Now I’m ready to, I don’t want to escape. No, that’s coward. I like to die for Jesus Christ,” and my pastor, even though I was young but I was deacon and then at the age of twenty-four I became elder of the church. The Presbyterians, you know, they regular rule is actually you have to be age thirty to become elder but somehow, the church voted again and again but again and again I was, you know, elected as the elder. Finally, my church insisted, “This is a special case, you have to allow us, permit us to ordain.” So that’s why I became elder. And then my pastor used me just like an assistant pastor. I was the superintendent of Sunday school and evening service, sometimes Wednesday service, he asked me to preach. So I have to preach, you know, you know, already, some dictators and are kind of a spies, spies of Communist Party sitting there but knowing this I preach, you know, and finally, if I go through all this, maybe, few hours I need as the skipping all the, the real, the point I have to be a really a martyr. There was 1947, Christmas Eve, I was charge of all program of that evening, Sunday school and evening service, sometimes Wednesday service, he asked me to preach. So I have to preach, you know, you know, already, some dictators and are kind of a spies, spies of Communist Party sitting there but knowing this I preach, you know, and finally, if I go through all this, maybe, few hours I need as the skipping all the, the real, the point I have to be a really a martyr. There was 1947, Christmas Eve, I was charge of all program of that evening, Sunday school program and then youth program and then our, this young couples organization planned to have drama that the drama is a kind of a describing the life of teacher Choo, the man who died martyr, he, he became a martyr. So we, I wanted to be like him, that’s why he’s, you know, whole life story, we drama. And that night I was charge of that and because of that responsibility, I, I didn’t have supper but I came to church about two hours early and I was preparing everything. And then a time came and then I found three, four men in fact, four men didn’t appear. They are in member of that drama. “What happened?” I checked with their family. “Oh, an hour ago left? What happened? What happened? What happened?” We found out on the way the Communists picked them up one by one. “Wow.” That evening was just tears, whole congregation crying and then of course that means too much and on that evening I was really crying and then I would step in his, this man’s place and we, we went through…anyway, and then next morning, I was, I was in the middle school and president was arrested that night and then dean was arrested that night and someone has to go see a governor of the city, that province. I am the one responsible so I have to go and the governor was a former medical doctor, my family doctor; I know him personally. I didn’t have to go through, you know, entrance. I went through backdoor and I opened the door, he was standing
talking to someone I have never seen. That means that man came from Pyong-Ahn. capital. He was telling him about list of the people who arrest last night. My name came in third place. Right there, then, the Lord said, “Shut the door.” So I shut the door. And then He insisted, “Go down south. Go down south.” I never dreamed to go down to South. God saved my life, you know, to keep his promise that I have to be pastor. And then I didn’t go to school but I came, I went to home and my mother said, “What happened?” So I told everything what happened. “[exhales] Praise God. God is faithful. God saved your life. That means God wants you to be pastor as you said at the age of thirteen, fourteen. God called you, ‘Go down south, and have seminary education and then become pastor and come back.’” Right there, then, God lead me, you know, that, in about that time already the Thirty-Eighth Parallel is a strictly kept, no one can cross, you know, but then somehow, miraculous way the Lord lead me to South and then, of course, I was able to finish my college…

Walters: (31:46) So you were kind of exiled by the government at that time. Would you agree with that? Were, would that be considered an…

Miller: (31:56) Well, my, my understanding was that you, you went uh…that night you heard they arrested the wrong men, they thought they had you but it was somebody else.

Kim: (32:06) Yeah that’s…

Walters: (32:07) Oh, ok.

Kim: good question. In fact, in, in our middle school, another Mr. Kim, he was relative of mine, he’s tall just like me, [Yeon Soon (Soon is not clear. Might be Seun) Kim], he was arrested in my place but he was released afterwards.

Miller: (32:25) Because they found that they had the wrong…

Kim: (32:26) He came, yeah.

Miller: (32:27) person.

Kim: (32:28) They found wrong person and then…

Walters: (32:29) Ok. I wouldn’t have got that.

Miller: (32:30) But the one, the ones who were arrested, were any of them killed or were they imprisoned or what happened to the, the other ones?

Kim: (32:36) We don’t know anything about after they were arrested. That means they took away, I don’t know, murdered or they, they put into um…like labor’s camps, a labor’s camp and all day long they have to work only, they give them only six hours sleep and then work, work, work, work. They don’t need…
Miller: (33:00) So that, that would likely have been your fate had you, had the Lord not allowed you to go and hear this and, and even the fact that you were friends with the governor so that you were kind of slipping in the back, that…

Kim: (33:12) You know something…

Miller: (33:13) that was all providential.

Kim: (33:14) All providential. God is marvelous and I just look, look back, wow, it just never can dream. It just…

Miller: (33:22) Ok. So now you’re down in South Korea…

Walters: (33:25) So from, from 1947 to ’50, you were in seminary in South Korea?

Kim: (33:29) South Korea, college, I have to go…

Walters: (33:32) Ok.

Kim: college first.

Walters: (33:33) Ok.

Kim: Yeah, I have not had college…

Walters: (33:34) And were you able to study Bible or how did that work?

Kim: (33:37) College, no, just, I majored in philosophy…

Walters: (33:38) Ok.

Kim: (33:40) I have to know something about, you know, former smart people, what they really thought, what they taught and I have to know little about philosophy so I, I took philosophy as a major but of course, you know, liberal arts, of course, I have to, liberal arts I have to take every course. But after college, then of course, no other place but seminary, yeah. Presbyterian is, predominantly Presbyterian in, in South Korean and North Korea as well, yeah.

Miller: (34:14) And, and so, and maybe we’ll get into this a little later but, tell us, how, how did you make the switch from being a Presbyterian to being a Baptist?

Kim: (34:22) That’s a good question [laughter], very interesting question. I thought Presbyterian, that’s number one. That’s the real, true church of God, no other, because predominantly Presbyterian in Korea and I was raised there as a Christian, as a Presbyterian and then I became deacon at the age of seventeen, I became elder at the age of twenty-five, twenty-four, and then of course, I became pastor at the age of thirty. So I am just a real Calvinist. Whenever we had a, you know, systematic theology class and then, of course you know, friends of mine they have question after question but they
don’t say much about question, you know, when professor is there. They are scared, you know, afraid of…

**Miller**: (35:10) Unlike here in America…

**Kim**: (35:12) It’s different.

**Miller**: (35:13) you, you…the professor is, is the, in charge and the students don’t question the professor as much here in America.

**Kim**: (35:20) No, not as much. So after professor leave and then they, you know, just discuss themselves and talk and talk and after all, all talk and then I say, “Hey, wait a minute. Have you read *Calvin Institutes*? Go there, first chapter and read there. And on second level there, mention something like this.” And then everybody, “Ok.” [laughter] So I was called this Little Calvin [laughter].

**Miller**: (35:48) Little Calvin, ok.

**Kim**: (35:49) I thought that Calvin is the number one, yeah, no mistake at all and that’s it. Then, of course, you know what happened, I, I went to biblical seminary, Presbyterian Seminary New York, that was only conservative seminary of Presbyterian denomination. That’s why Dr. Henry Park (All correct), he is conservative. He sent me to that Bible Seminary for two years for Master’s Degree and then he recommended…I wanted to go to Princeton. I didn’t know much about situation. Dr. Henry Park, “You know what, if you go Princeton and get degree, you cannot work with me. He’s liberal. Only one place you can go; Dallas. I’ll send recommendation to Dallas, I’m sure they will give you scholarship. Go there.” So I had to go. I’m so glad Dr. Henry Park is my mentor. I tell you, I learned so much in Dallas; question, question, question…

**Miller**: (36:53) Well now, Dr. Park, was he in Korea and then he sent you to New York or was he in New York and did you hear about him someway?

**Kim**: (37:03) Dr. Henry Park was president of Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Korea.

**Miller**: (37:09) Ok.

**Kim**: (37:10) Famous man. He went to Princeton and then we went to Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, Ph.D. and then came back to Korea. He became head of Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

**Miller**: (37:25) In, in Korea.

**Kim**: (37:26) In Korea.

**Miller**: (37:27) Why did you not just stay in Korea to go to seminary? Why did you come to the United States?
Kim: (37:31) I finished that Presbyterian Seminary there, then I became close, kind of, disciple with that Dr. Henry Park. He loved me so much. He said, “You know what, you have to go United States of America and finish Ph.D. and come back, teach with me…”

Miller: (37:50) Ok.

Kim: (37:51) That’s how I came to…

Walters: (37:52) And so were you acquainted with him in 1950 when the invasion happened? Can you…

Kim: (37:58) That, that was, I went to that seminary in 19, 1950…1950. 1950 I went to that seminary and then I finished 1953. And…

Walters: (38:15) So you did that while that conflict was going on.

Kim: (38:18) Conflict was going on, that’s right, yeah. And then I, I came I, I served for three years, three years mission board, mission board and so I was acquainted with the missionaries and also English too, you know, missionaries, I talk English there and that’s really helped and then mission board gave me scholarship. They paid my AOA, things like that…

Miller: (38:52) Which, which mission board was that?

Kim: (38:54) Huh?

Miller: (38:55) Which mission board paid your scholarship?

Kim: (38:57) Presbyterian Mission Board.

Miller: (38:58) Oh, the Presbyterian Mission Board, ok.

Kim: (38:59) Yeah, yeah. They gave me all the privilege and then that’s how I…in those days, people, you know, students only traveled by ship. It took one month for I, you know, to fly [laughter] and they paid everything and that was really, really nice, yeah.

Miller: (39:19) And so, now we, I guess we still didn’t hear though how you made the, the transformation from Presbyterian to Baptist.

Kim: (39:25) Oh yeah, yeah…

Miller: (39:26) You, you could go to Dallas and still be a Presbyterian.

Kim: (39:29) Yeah, still Presbyterian, you know what, and then [laughter]…discussion, discussion. One morning I was, I was going to Grace Bible Church; Dr. Pentecost was pastoring.

Miller: (39:44) Dwight Pentecost?
Kim: (39:45) Yeah.

Miller: Yes.

Kim: (39:46) And that man smart. I tell you, he’s expository preaching and I learned so much. We, lots of students are going there and [unclear] he was driving and I was sitting by him and then three other students behind us, they were discussing, you know, seriously talking, talking, talking and I said, “Wait a minute. You know what? Did you read Calvin Institutes?”

Miller: (40:17) [laughter]

Kim: (40:19) “Go on, chapter,” you know, so and so, so and so. “That tells you, that’s, that’s how this man said like this.” The man middle that crowd looked at me, “Daniel, so what? So what?” Never heard that, you know. Whenever in Korea, “Calvin said,” and, “Ok.” But, “So what?” Oh, that struck me, “So what?” Sixteenth century Calvin, “So what? How about Bible? What Bible says?” “Oh, wow.” Right there and I said, “That’s right. Calvin is not the master. The Bible. I don’t know how to answer from the Bible. Shame on me.” From the time we’re all, Bible. And then systematic theology, you know, professors always, “Calvin said this way and John Wesley say this way but let’s look into the Bible. Bible says this way.” You know, original language, this, you know, you have to understand preparations like that. “Wow, sensed to me.” From that time on, I’m not Calvinist, I am Biblicist and Biblicist became Baptist. Baptist is the closest to Biblicist.

Miller: (41:43) Well now, we’d like to talk about some of your pastor and your experience here but let me just ask this question right now. It seems as though many of the Korean students who come to Liberty Seminary, and I don’t want to get too far ahead of myself, but are not many of them coming from a Presbyterian background and do some of them remain Presbyterians, they come here, graduate, and remain and do some of them kind of change their views and become Baptists? Could you talk about that for…

Kim: (42:15) Yeah, some of them change their views after they go through, you know, and the…but some of them stay there and I’m hoping, even though they stay in Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Church as a whole is Evangelical and conservative. I like to see that Presbyterian Church in Korea stay conservative Evangelical just like now. My, my concern is actually liberal seminaries, I’m sorry, liberal missionaries going into South Korea and then they are changing and also this liberal seminaries [suppress] seminaries by inviting outstanding Korean leaders and then train them and send them back and then seminary become liberal. And then as a result of that, what, whole Korean Church will be liberal.

Miller: (43:06) So in one sense, if we can send Korean uh…conservative Korean Presbyterians back, then it can keep the Church conservative and Evangelical and rather than liberal.

Kim: (43:18) Yeah. And another thing is in the past, the Presbyterian church, one problem, some problems that, is that too conservative and too formal, something like that.
If you confirm, you, if you have Baptist men confirmation, of course you regularly attend church services, things like that, and you ok and if you have deacon or, you know, elder, that’s better, you know, things like that. But now getting Evangelical and especially CCC has a good contribution to Korean churches. CCC is booming in Korea.

**Miller:** (44:02) What is CCC?

**Kim:** (44:05) Oh, Campus…Crusade from Christ for Campus…

**Walters:** (44:07) Campus Crusade for Christ?

**Kim:** (44:08) Yeah.

**Walters:** (44:09) Ok.

**Miller:** (44:10) Campus Crusade for Christ?

**Kim:** (44:11) Jesus…Christ, Campus Christ…

**Miller:** (44:14) Campus Crusade for Christ?

**Kim:** (44:15) Crusade Christ…yeah.

**Miller:** (44:16) Ok.

**Kim:** (44:17) [laughter] Campus Crusade Christ…

**Miller:** Ok.

**Kim:** (44:18) yeah.

**Miller:** (44:19) And so, you finished up with Dallas and then where do we go from there?

**Kim:** (44:25) Oh, one day I went, you know…

**Walters:** (44:28) What year did you finish at Dallas?

**Kim:** (44:30) That was 1950, 1963 I finished my Th.D. As soon as I finished, there was a very strange thing happened. I never, never dreamed to stay in United States of America. In fact, amazing thing is this, I came in 1958 and one year I studied, just studied, you know, study, study, study, and then the summer came; I didn’t know what to do summer. A friend of my said, “Hey, Daniel, let’s go this factory, this company. They hire some employees because they pay, you know, one, one dollar, quarter per hour, something like that.” That’s good pay in those days and, “Let’s go, lets’ go, let’s go.” I said, “No.” “Why?” “I’m only minister. I like to serve the Lord, making, not making money. I just like to serve the Lord.” You kind of wondering, “What, what kind of service you are doing?” And I was praying, you know, seriously, “The Lord, I came here to study. Now it is summer months, I am, I have free. If there is anyplace I can serve you, that’s what I like to have.” And I was praying, praying and
then close to May and dean of the seminary, in biblical seminary called me. I said, “What, what’s going on? Why?” I went in there and I said, “Hey.” He said, “First question; Daniel, what’s your plans for the summer?” “I don’t know.” “You don’t know yet?” “No.” “What, what do want to?” “I’m praying.” “What, what do you pray?” And, “I’m, I’m praying I’m only minister. I, my time and everything I just give to Lord and I like to serve the Lord somehow, somewhere.” “Ah, that’s why God sent this letter to you. Open up.” Letter says upstate New York, one church the pastor left. They needed interim pastor, [laughter] just like that. And I said, “You mean American church?” In those days no Korean church, you know? “American church? No, how can I serve American folks?” “Uh oh, come on. You prayed. God answered. What you care, what you cursing about?” He said, “Hey, Daniel, a month ago, you did good job.” I don’t know why they gave me chance to preach in our chapel service. “You did good job. That’s all you do and the Lord is going to help you.” And I said, “Ok, I surrender.” And every summer, just, always church and American churches come up and I had serving church after church, church after church and every church asked me to stay on. I said, “No, I came to study and I have to go back and, and I have to train the pastors and missionaries.” And I never dreamed of, you know, staying in the United States of American and then, what happened, about time I was finishing up, that one seminary, big, largest Presbyterian seminary in the world spread. Head of this organization; Dr. Henry Park and the other one is Dr. Han, Jung Jik Han. He was the number one man and he had the largest Presbyterian church in the world. I was under him for three years before I came to the United States to study. That man, “Come in, come on. Teach my seminary.” And Park, “Come on, teach my seminary.” Which one? I love both these men; mentor, Henry Park, Dr. Han is my spiritual father. Whom I can reject? I was really wondering, “Lord, I’m ready. What should I do?” And my father-in-law was very close friend of Dr. Han; number one man. “You know what, I don’t think you can come back now. How can you reject Dr. Henry Park? How can you reject Dr. Han? That means you have to stay in the United States maybe one year or so. And then one of them give up and then you come back.” I tell you, right there, then I didn’t know what to do. And then receiving my degree and then I came to New York because I served the church for two summers. I wanted to go and greet them and also I want to greet, you know, New York Theological Seminary, where I graduated from. And I stepped into the seminary foyer, all of the sudden, Dr. Strand, who is a East Coast Conference of Evangelical Covenant Church, what happened, all of the sudden he said, “You know, did you have breakfast?” “No.” “Let’s go.” “What’s your plan?” “I just finished degree,” and I mentioned all about this. “Ah, that’s why God lead us together here. You know what? I am, I am heading to, to Chicago for conference. All these pastors will come. You have job right there. Let’s go.” That man took me there and then the first one, first man, Dr. Peterson, Dr. Peterson and introduced me and then my situation and, “Hey, you know what? Missoula, Montana, Evangelical Covenant church, seventy-year-old church just pastor left and they need someone.” I said, “One year. I’m not going to stay longer than just one year.”

**Miller:** (50:33) So this was an Evangelical Covenant church…

**Kim:** (50:35) Evangelical Covenant church.
Miller: (50:36) in Missoula, Montana…

Kim: (50:37) Missoula, Montana.

Miller: (50:38) Now, did you ever know Dr. Arthur Allen?

Kim: (50:42) Arthur Allen, of course, oh yes.

Miller: (50:45) Wasn’t he from Missoula?

Kim: (50:46) Not Missoula. He was Great Falls…

Miller: (50:49) Ok.

Kim: (50:50) He was in Great Falls that time.

Miller: (50:52) Oh, oh, Great Falls, Montana…

Kim: (50:53) Great Falls.

Miller: (50:54) ok.

Kim: (50:55) Yeah, and of course, you know, later on he came to central and we have become very good friends.

Miller: (50:58) Ok, so you, so you go to Missoula and, and I had two questions that, that I hadn’t asked earlier. One; when you graduated from Dallas, what was your, did you get a Ph.D. or a Th.D.?

Kim: (51:10) Th.D. In those days, no Ph.D.

Miller: (51:11) No Ph.D.

Kim: (51:12) Th.D. You have to have…

Miller: (51:13) Doctor…

Kim: (51:14) M.Div., you have to have Th.D., and then, uh…Th.M., and you have to have Th.D.

Miller: (51:19) Oh, ok. So you had a Master of Divinity, a Master of Theology, and then eventually you got your Doctor of Theology.

Kim: (51:26) That’s right, yeah.

Miller: (51:27) So that’s what you got. And what was your emphasis then for your Doctor of Theology? Were you in church history or New Testament or…?

Kim: (51:34) Historical theology.
Miller: (51:35) Historical theology.

Kim: (51:37) That’s right, that was my major.

Miller: (51:39) Ok. And then another question that just came to mind before we go to Missoula, is, now, you served an American church in upstate New York as that interim pastor, was learning English difficult for you or did you know and learn English even back when you were in Korea?

Kim: (51:56) Of course I, I had, you know, English courses from child, you know, high school, middle school, high school I had uh…but that was not enough. And then I was serving as a kind of an employee with the missionaries, so I was acquainted with the missionaries and I tried to speak English and they tried to speak Korean, so that way I learned some. And then, of course, since I came to United States, everything has to be, you know, in those days you don’t have any Korean there. You have to speak whether you good speaker or bad speaker. You have to speak English and that’s how we did and so by the time…amazing anyway, amazing. I preached in English and then afterwards, I tell you, I recorded, you know, before I preach I recorded, I listened and I really tried so hard and then about ten years later, I was listening that tape; how does people could receive blessing? [laughter]

Miller: (52:59) [laughter]

Kim: (53:00) But these people…

Miller: (53:01) Well, especially in Montana where they had a little bit of a western drawl [laughter].

Kim: (53:06) Yeah, yeah, and, but they really begged me to be a…even that north part of New York state, first, you know, after one year stay and then during the three months I served and they said, “Stay here. Can’t beat pastor like that.” And that happened not only that church but also Connecticut next year and then even Brooklyn, New York and I served, each summer I served different churches…

Miller: (53:37) Ok, so these are all summer churches you served in upstate New York. Was Missoula, Montana just a summer…

Kim: (53:44) That was, that was after my graduation.

Miller: (53:45) That was after graduation…

Kim: (53:46) They…

Miller: (53:47) so you served there for a whole year.

Kim: (53:48) Yeah. I went there as interim pastor…

Miller: (53:51) Ok.
Kim: (53:52) I, from the beginning I said, “Look, only one year, only one year.” And then I went there and I began to teach and preach and then visiting and things like that and then within a month they had congregational meeting and they asked me to go and [parsonage] and I didn’t know what was going on. And then they decided to have me as a permanent pastor rather than interim pastor and I said, “No. I told you from the beginning I’m interim; one year. I have to go back home Korea. I am not going to be in the United, United States of America.” And then one deacon, always the deacon, I still remember his name; Mr. [Driddle]. He raised hand, “Ok, go ahead,” and he said, “My question is, Dr. Kim, your idea is God’s will. Our congregation voted unanimously. That is not God’s will? Is that the way you decide…?”

Miller: (54:54) [laughter]

Kim: (54:55) I tell you, I said, now, let me, that really struck me, “Let’s have a prayer for two weeks and then come back.” I’m really serious. All until this moment, I thought just going back Korea and teach; that’s God’s calling. But that really struck me. “Let’s pray.” And that, during my prayer, I couldn’t sleep, I couldn’t eat, really, really. I, I never dreamed to stay in the United States. Why I should be here? Out there I have great opportunity to train the pastors and missionaries. Why? Why? Why? And, but that, one morning, you know, that was a Thursday morning, early I was in the church praying and praying, reading and reading and then Ephesians chapter 4:11-16 just dawned on me and then that shows me blueprint for church growth. I have never seen it before. Right there then, God tells me, “If you do according to this, your church is going to have revival.” Wow, right there, right there I had confidence and then next, next Sunday, we didn’t have to wait two, two weeks. Next week I called all the deacons and trustees and I said, “Now, you know what? Thursday morning God gave me this. Let me tell you,” now, I just explained that whole, what happened, blueprint. I have never seen it before but blueprint. Pastor’s job is you keep the same through the truth, the same who kept it true, what they do; service. What they do; evangelize. Then church grow naturally. And then they said, “No. We don’t know what to serve. We don’t know how to preach, how, how to evangelize.” “Ok, I will tell you. I will teach you.” And that’s what, that’s what happened and then, I’ll tell you, that, that church was booming. We had monthly bapti…we didn’t have baptist, baptistery, so we had to use First Baptist Church baptistery there and every month we had twenty people, thirty people, you know, baptize, baptize, and…

Miller: (57:11) Now, the Evangelical Covenant Church allows either adult believer baptism or infant baptism.

Kim: (57:17) They didn’t have immersion baptism, baptism by immersion. They never had...just a sprinkle, that’s all they had. But I changed it right there then. I said, “Let’s do according to Word of God.” And I, I was already Baptist at that time [laughter].

Miller: (57:32) [laughter]
Kim: (57:33) So everybody said, “Sure, whatever you do.” So everybody wants, you know, to be baptized in, by immersion and so that’s how we did it. Three, three years I served there and then the Lord called me to…

Miller: (57:49) Ok…
Walters: So how large was that church at the end of your three years?

Kim: (57:52) Huh?

Walters: (57:53) How, how many members were at the church when you came and then when you left?

Kim: (57:58) Yeah, that church uh…seventy-year-old church had balcony but never had seat, you know, prepared and when I went there, maybe about fifty, about fifty people attendance and even downstairs main sanctuary’s just empty almost, you know, bad situation and then I began to visit and I began to preach and one by one God saved and then people began to come from Presbyterian background, Methodist background, even Roman Catholic background coming to…every year double, double, double. And then finally the North Pacific Conference, which we belonged to, that’s from Seattle, that the superintendent come and then, “What’s going on? What’s going on here?” And they investigated and then every month a guy came in just talking about our church, you know, and then finally two years later the three men from headquarters in Chicago, [laughter] they came one morning, “What’s going on here? Seventy-year-old,” and in fact third year, we have, we have to furnish, you know, second floor. Second floor was never furnished…

Miller: (59:19) The balcony.

Kim: (59:20) Yeah. And then lady in the church, “I will furnish.” And chairs were just all over the place and packed, packed. We almost three hundred, you know, by time I left and, so that was a real miracle and…

Miller: (59:40) Ok.

Kim: (59:41) the Lord had plan and so always I say, “You can make church grow,” you know, “if you do according to…”

Walters: (59:49) So you left there in what year?

Kim: (59:52) That was 1950, ’63 through ’67…

Walters: (1:00:00) And then…

Kim: (1:00:01) ’66 and then I went to Central Baptist Seminary 1966 and then left in 1978. For twelve years I taught at Central Baptist Seminary.

Walters: (1:00:11) Were you, were you in contact with your family back in…what happened to your family back in North Korea during those ten, fifteen, twenty…
Miller: (1:00:19) South Korea.

Walters: (1:00:20) years? Yeah, yeah, yeah, did your family go to South Korea when you went there in 1947 or did, were they left…

Kim: (1:00:29) Yeah, ’47, ’47…

Walters: behind and…

Kim: (1:00:30) ’47 when I left, I had, I had to escape myself. I couldn’t…

Walters: (1:00:35) Right.

Kim: (1:00:36) take my family along and then when I came down to Seoul and then I sent old man, relative and that man, that old, old man, relative stopped in my hotel, I was in hotel, “Hey, I’m, I’m praying to go North Korea and bring some stuff. We left everything behind, we don’t have anything so I have to go there.” “Hey, please bring my family along. Please, please, please,” I begged. “Ok, ok, I’ll do that.” He went up there and then he couldn’t bring my family but he informed I settle in South Korea safely and asking family come down. And my mother, “Ok, ok, let’s go down.” And then mean time she said, “No, I cannot leave all this behind. What can I do?” My mother decided to stay. “You know what, rumor says it’ll take just maybe two, three months, this country’s going to be reunited. We have to leave all these things and when we come back three, three months later we become a beggar? No, I cannot do that. I will keep all this. Why don’t you go down? So first my wife, so my wife, two children, she came down. Miraculously she came down to South Korea to re, you know, reunite…

Walters: (1:02:04) Did the United Nations forces ever meet up, did they ever get that far north in the offensive before they had to come, you know, the, the United Nations forces went very far north and then they got pushed back again, correct? Did they ever make it to your family? They didn’t make it that far north?

Kim: (1:02:27) Thirty-Eighth Parallel line, actually both sides, kept strictly. Both sides, of course north side is Communist Party, you know, if anyone escaped from North Korea, no one cannot escape. “You stay here.” “Why?” When they go down South Korea they say, “Communists take all our property and bad ones and,” you know, kind of, this is bad for Russia…

Walters: (1:02:51) Right.

Kim: (1:02:52) Communist Party. That’s why, “Don’t go there…”

Walters: (1:02:54) Ok.

Kim: (1:02:55) But somehow, miraculously escape…

Walters: (1:02:57) Ok.
Kim: (1:02:58) My case, my family case, just God just, in fact, everything just…

Miller: (1:03:02) But now your mother never did, she stayed up there.

Kim: (1:03:05) Mother never came…

Miller: (1:03:06) And, and…

Kim: (1:03:07) She stayed because she thought, you know, according to rumor, maybe three months later it be reunited…

Miller: (1:03:13) It was going to be reunited soon and it never did.

Kim: (1:03:15) Never happened.

Miller: (1:03:16) Now, did she die of natural causes?

Kim: (1:03:19) Natural causes and when I was visiting there, you know, 1992, visiting first time North Korea, I, I went to, you know, grave of my mother, I tell you [long pause]…

Miller: (1:03:40) This is hard. [long pause]

Kim: (1:03:50) But she was a good Christian so…

Miller: (1:03:52) You will see her in heaven someday.

Kim: (1:03:55) Sure, that’s only hope, yeah.

Walters: (1:03:57) Were you able to communicate her all, at all after you…

Kim: (1:04:03) My daughter yes, I’ve been visiting every year but last two years I was not able to make it North Korea. I was 1994, since then on, they had flood, they had uh…starvation; everybody hungry, dying. And that’s why the, the Lord called me to help them and, “When I was hungry you gave me food, when I was thirsty you gave me drink,” and just the people are hungry and I said, “Ok, Lord, what can I do?” And I raised money and then I, I took two hundred tons of corns to North Korea.

Miller: (1:04:50) Of what, now, corn?

Kim: (1:04:52) Corn, corns, yeah, corns from China. I purchased two hundred tons of corns, just a cost maybe a little over…

Miller: (1:05:02) Are, are we talking about sweet corn to eat?

Kim: (1:05:04) Corn to eat, yeah…

Miller: (1:05:05) Yes, ok.
Kim: (1:05:06) to eat. And twelve, twelve thousand dollars, that’s all, it was not too much. But anyway, I took them North Korea and the North Korean government said, “Welcome, welcome,” and then they said, uh…presented paper, “Would you please sign?” “Why?” “This sign says, ‘Leave all authority to government to contribute to the people according to need.’” I said, “No, I cannot do that.” “Why not?” “No, I cannot do that.” “Why not?” “There is reason.” “Why? Go ahead, why?” “Ok, if you ask me. You know what, through the newspaper I found out, internet I found out people from outside brought corns and what you did? You sold this corns to Japan. American folks now all know that. If I go back to the churches who gave the money, they will give you, you think that they will give me money again? No, they will never give money. I cannot come back. I like to do continuously; I like to help you continuously.” And finally they said, “Ok.” So I, I took this corn to rural area and, you know, then afterwards couple of times I did and then afterwards new, news around saying that Dr. Kim is tough to deal with [laughter].

Walters: (1:06:42) [laughter]

Kim: (1:06:44) I have to be friendly to these people. They almost hate me, that’s no good. “So what should I do, Lord? What should I do now? What can I, what can I do to them?” And then…

Miller: (1:07:06) We’re, we’re going to come back to going to Central Seminary but as long as we’re on this right now, talk about [coughing] your first trip there to North Korea, was the first one in 1992?

Kim: (1:07:19) Yeah.

Miller: (1:07:20) And then you’ve been having these, isn’t it called “Love Concerts” for North Korea?

Kim: (1:07:25) That’s right, yeah.

Miller: (1:07:26) Ok, tell us a little bit about your current ministry then towards trying to help the people of North Korea.

Kim: (1:07:32) Yeah, as I had trouble with this North Korean government with this corns, they like to have themselves rather than give to their, you know, people. And so, I was thinking the Lord lead me to visit house or hospitals in North Korea. I was shocked. Every hospital I visited, no medicine at all. I said, “How can he, how can he treat you?” Patients, “I don’t, we don’t have any medicine.” Right there, then, “Ah, I have to bring some medicines. Everybody hungry, everybody sick. Now, this should be what I have to do.” And then I found out in the United States of America, you know, these expiration is almost over, it’s a [dumping] and I buy, I, I pay only four thousand dollar for one container which would cost normally, what, over a million dollars for only four, four thousand dollars.

Miller: (1:08:37) Because it’s near to expire.
Kim: (1:08:38) That’s it…

Miller: (1:08:39) Yes.

Kim: (1:08:40) yeah. And then what, packing, shipping about four thousand dollar. All together, eight thousand dollar, one container, wow. They cannot sell because the expiration is over and they cannot eat, you know, medicine is not just food. “Wow, oh, God, thank you.” And then from that time on, I, I, I’m with peace of mind and no problem with the government, you know, and they say, “Thank you, thank you,” and that’s what I do right now.

Miller: (1:09:15) Ok, now, do you work with Gleaning For The World at all? The, the organization Gleaning For The World, I know they do a lot of things with medical supplies and that. Or do you just work directly with just your mission…what, what is your mission agency called?

Kim: (1:09:34) In fact, when I collect these medicines, I work with MOM; Messengers Of Mercy…

Miller: (1:09:42) Ok.

Kim: (1:09:43) in church in Chicago.

Miller: (1:09:44) In Chicago, ok.

Kim: (1:09:45) She is, she is medical doctor but she’s dedicated Christian and she want to help, you know, king of a, a hungry people and sick people and they help me to find these medicines expiration is almost over…

Miller: (1:10:04) Right.

Kim: (1:10:05) and I pay them and then, of course, international aid, they provide kind of transportation and about time I get there, you know, I have to at least start, you know, a month ago and then by the time I arrive, they arrive, they…oh, sorry.

Miller: (1:10:23) So do you every year or ever other…

Kim: (1:10:25) Every year.

Miller: (1:10:26) Every year you go.

Kim: (1:10:27) Every year, yeah.

Miller: (1:10:28) And, and do you have a certain time or is it very year by year?

Kim: (1:10:30) As soon as school is over, that means middle of, middle of…

Miller: (1:10:33) As soon, as soon as school is over, so the first of the summer then, then you go to Korea each year.
Kim: (1:10:36) Yeah, that’s right. Yeah.

Miller: (1:10:38) And how long do you typically stay there?

Kim: (1:10:40) About a, about a week.

Miller: (1:10:42) About a week you…

Kim: (1:10:43) Yeah.

Miller: (1:10:44) go over there. And now, you’ve talked about your humanitarian aid for them, that you help them with food and medicine, are you able to share the gospel or do any, you know, witnessing to them?

Kim: (1:10:53) Yeah, according to North Korean rule, no outsiders can propagate religion regardless what, Christianity, Buddhism, anything. No religion propagated. And knowing that fact, I do not go there preach the gospel to anybody, no, I don’t do that. But I cannot do that. But I meet so many people and stop and then talk and talk and then…

Miller: (1:11:22) So, so you encourage the Christians…

Kim: (1:11:23) Yeah.

Miller: (1:11:24) that are there.

Kim: (1:11:25) Yeah. And then, then I say, I ask one question, “How old are you?” And without exception, they ask my age in return. When I say my age, “You are liar.” I said, “Seriously, I am old and a minister, I don’t know how to lie…”

Walters: (1:11:41) [laughter]

Kim: (1:11:43) And I give my day, you know, birthday, 1921, August 10. “Oh my, oh my. Is there any secret to be young like you?” “Oh yes, there is a secret.” “Would you tell me?” “Would you like to listen?” “Oh yes, please.” And then with peace of mind, you know why, because…

Miller: (1:12:05) They asked [laughter].

Kim: (1:12:06) anything happened, “I didn’t propagate. They asked me, I just answered,” you know. Then I said, “At the age of fourteen I heard the gospel, John 3:16.” I explained what I heard that time. I tell you, tears, and then I say, “You know what, we are all sinners. Jesus Christ, he is the creator, created us to glorify and honor Him. But we sinned, we just live for ourselves and we did everything for ourselves and we sinned and that’s why all con, the condemnation of God. That’s why God himself became man.” And then I tell them, “Just wide open and what you have to do is, you realize you are a sinner, you have to repent your sin and accept Jesus Christ as your personal savior. Everyone without exception, except Jesus Christ, and then we pray, become my friend, become my brother.” I tell you…
Miller: (1:13:07) Now, are you able to communicate via email or is that all restricted?

Kim: (1:13:14) No, no.

Miller: (1:13:15) That’s all restricted. And do you know of a thriving underground church or do Christians, are Christians really persecuted, do they really have to remain secret?

Kim: (1:13:26) It’s all secret, remains secret, nobody knows. In fact, if they find out, right away they were picked up, put in jail or put in, you know, labor camps and North Korea lots of people are in labor camps, that’s Christians, all Christians, all prisoners are Christians. Yeah, only sin against the Communist Party is become a Christian, that’s the problem. And no one can, you know, say, “I am a Christian,” no. Everything has to be secret…

Miller: (1:14:05) Ok.

Kim: (1:14:06) but lots of underground churches in North Korea.

Miller: (1:14:08) Well, let’s go back. How did Central Seminary, in Minneapolis, how did they get you to come from the Evangelical Covenant church?

Kim: (1:14:21) Why they picked me up? I don’t know. That time, Dr. Vanhetloo was dean and…


Kim: (1:14:29) Warren Vanhetloo, he needed the man who can teach historical theology. In fact, the man who graduated from Dallas was professor there. He left for mission field and…

Miller: (1:14:45) Who was that?

Kim: (1:14:46) they need…[laughter]

Miller: (1:14:48) That was before you were there anyway, so…

Kim: (1:14:50) Yeah, yeah…

Miller: (1:14:51) that’s not important.

Kim: (1:14:52) I, I know, I just, it doesn’t come to me right now. But that’s why they needed one and so Dr. Vanhetloo said Dallas Seminary, “If there is one who majored in historical theology.” Right away, “Dr. Kim who is now pastoring in Missoula, Montana. You can contact him.” So that’s, that’s why he contacted me and I said, “I don’t know, I don’t know. I have to think it over.” Even though I was ready that time, that’s a long story but, but anyway, that’s how contact came to and then uh…
Miller: (1:15:32) So you are in Minnesota, you’re training all Americans…

Kim: (1:15:38) Yeah.

Miller: (1:15:39) there in Minneapolis, was there a Korean church or did you establish one in the Twin Cities area?

Kim: (1:15:44) That’s a good question. You know, I found when I came to Minneapolis, I found out there is University of Minnesota that was state university, top, good school. As a result, what happened, Seoul University, top school in Korea, Seoul University and University of Minnesota had sister relationship. As a result, we had more than two hundred Korean students at that University of Minnesota. Just right time and I said, “Ok, now, I need, I, I have to propagate the gospel.” And I, I had kind of some gatherings and I found out no Christian except one person. He, he, said that, “I, I accept Jesus Christ at CCC meeting in Korea.” Only one person and then none of them went to church, none of them had heard gospel. “Wow, what can I do?” So I began to visit individually, you know, so I scheduled in one night four people and then one by one and visit and then give gospel and then make decisions for Christ and I was busy. Morning session I teach and then afternoon I have to prepare for next morning and then evening as soon as I had supper and then go out visiting house to house until twelve o’clock, sometimes come home one o’clock. And how many hours I have sleep? Five hours at the most and then what happened, down, down physically. I tell you I was down. And then Dr. McDonald, oldest professor at Central…

Miller: (1:17:33) Charles McDonald.

Kim: (1:17:34) Dr…oh, you remember. You have good memory. And that Dr. McDonald came into my room one day, “Hey, Daniel. What, what day you rest?” And I said, “I don’t have time. I don’t have day to rest.” “Oh, no. God ordered, one day you have to rest.” “I don’t have time.” “What kind of exercise do you have?” “I don’t have time to have exercise.” “No, you got to have you exercise.” And then he said, he talking about golfing and I said, “No!”

Walters: [laughter]

Miller: (1:18:05) [laughter]

Kim: (1:18:07) “Big man following little ball?”

Miller: (1:18:09) [laughter]

Walters: [laughter]

Kim: (1:18:10) “That’s not exercise. Tennis or, you know, soccer.” “No, you are filthy. Golf is best sport.” “No, I don’t believe that.” But Vanhetloo involved and then Dr. Logan involved and then they dragged me out to golfing. That’s how I started golfing [laughter].

Walters: (1:18:30) [laughter]
Miller: (1:18:32) Well good. And um…so this was all new preparation for you. You hadn’t taught before at the seminary level. Ok, so you were there in Minnesota for twelve years, it’s kind of an interesting story how you came to Liberty.

Kim: (1:18:50) Yeah.

Miller: (1:18:51) Would you share…

Kim: Yeah.

Miller: (1:18:51) that with us?

Kim: (1:18:52) And, you know, while I was doing that we had kind of Korean, first week hold Korean Christian fellowship and then we build up two hundred, two hundred fifty; big church, you know, and besides teaching and, you know, church and, it’s just too busy. But anyway, and then what happened was…

Miller: (1:19:12) And, and so were you their pastor or did you have a…

Kim: (1:19:14) I was pastoring…

Miller: (1:19:15) Ok.

Kim: (1:19:16) pastoring and then teaching, you know two things.

Miller: (1:19:18) Pastoring and teaching…

Kim: (1:19:19) Yeah.

Miller: (1:19:20) and doing both of those. And, and let me ask you this, we, we haven’t, your, we, we never asked you about your wife and children. When did they join you here in America?

Kim: (1:19:33) That was nineteen forty-um…wait a minute, I, I went that church 1953, yeah 1953 as soon as I finished at Dallas and then they joined me 1955.

Miller: (1:19:58) Ok, so you were here all by yourself and they were back in Korea and you were just, you were just supporting them and sending money back, so.

Kim: (1:20:05) No, I didn’t send money. They, I couldn’t send money at that time. I didn’t know how to send but somehow the Lord provided my family. We didn’t, they didn’t have any problem.

Miller: (1:20:18) Ok, and so, your family came over here and you had two children, is that what you said?

Kim: (1:20:23) That time but then, you know, one more...

Miller: (1:20:26) So you’ve had three, three children all…
Kim: (1:20:27) Yeah, three children. Yeah.

Miller: (1:20:29) And so then they came here to America and your first wife died, is that not right?


Miller: (1:20:39) 2003, and you are remarried now?

Kim: (1:20:42) Yeah, yeah.

Miller: (1:20:43) And, and uh…

Kim: (1:20:45) Three, three years ago.

Miller: (1:20:46) Three years ago you…

Kim: (1:20:47) Yeah, and I was bachelor for four years…

Miller: (1:20:48) For four years…

Kim: (1:20:49) and I never dreamed to remarry but then, you know, all friends of mine, and my alumni, you know, my Liberty graduates they just, “You, you are still young.” [laughter]

Miller: (1:21:00) [laughter]

Walters: [laughter]

Miller: (1:21:01) And, and so…

Kim: (1:21:02) “We don’t want to see you alone.” And finally the…

Miller: (1:21:05) And so now…

Kim: (1:21:06) Lord just, yeah.

Miller: (1:21:07) Now, now you are remarried here.

Kim: (1:21:08) Yeah.

Miller: (1:21:09) Then another question that came to mind, and we’re going to get into the Liberty years here but, your name is C. Daniel Kim, what is the C. an abbreviation for?

Kim: (1:21:21) That is stands for Chang Yeop; original name. I was Kim Chang Yeop Kim…

Miller: (1:21:30) Ok.
Kim: (1:21:31) and I didn’t want to leave out my original name, Chang Yeop, that’s the first name and then middle name is Daniel. Students, friends of mine, they gave me the Daniel. “You are just like Daniel.” [laughter]

Miller: (1:21:45) Oh, Daniel…

Kim: So…

Miller: (1:21:46) like Daniel in the Bible and that was probably easier to say than Chang Yeop.

Kim: (1:21:50) That’s it, they had a hard time to pronounce my first name.

Miller: (1:21:52) First name, and so…

Kim: (1:21:53) Yeah, “We will give you better name, American name; Daniel.” You are just like old Daniel…

Miller: (1:21:59) Daniel ever since then…

Kim: (1:22:00) That’s it, yeah.

Miller: (1:22:01) Ok. And uh…so then you are, you are at Central and tell us the story then of how you came to Liberty University.

Kim: (1:22:14) Yes. Dr. James Borland was one of the faculty members at Central Baptist Seminary. We had, you know, fellowship together and he moved down to Liberty. After one year he asked me if you consider to come to Liberty. “Why?” “You know what, Liberty has a good future,” he was explaining, explaining. “No. I’m settled here. I have all children settle here. I don’t want to leave and I have a church too. No, I never, never dreamed.” And I thought that he forgot it but someday, one day that was in 1978, April 23, I still remember it, three vice presidents from Liberty University one by one call me, “Would you just come and visit us? Would you just come and see us?” And…

Miller: (1:23:13) Do you remember those names?

Kim: (1:23:15) Dr. Hughes is number one…

Miller: (1:23:16) Charles Hughes?

Kim: (1:23:17) Charles Hughes and then Campbell, Dr. Campbell, and then last one I can’t remember name but the last, he says, “You know what, we just like to see you. We’ll send you ticket, just come and visit us. We, we just love to see you.” I was moved and I said, “Ok, ok, I’ll do that.” The third time I couldn’t say no. “Ok, ok, I will do that.” And I came, you know, and then at, at airport, of course, Dr. Hughes, Dr. Charles Hughes came and picked me up and just the, the impression was authentic, you know, and then went to a faculty meeting and called all the faculty and then sit around and then it was all kinds of questions and amazing thing was that he asked me, “As soon as you
come, why don’t you bring a resume, you know, and whatever you have?” And I had resume and also I had even transcripts I had, you know, college and seminary graduate transcripts and, “Ok, I just,” and I gave to Dr. Hughes and he was passing around to all and even my transcripts and that’s ok. And then afterwards, you know, depending upon the Lord, let’s pray. He slid down from chair and knelt on the floor. I have never seen like that. And then all faculty members knelt on the floor and then began to pray one by one sincerely. That touched my heart, “Wow.” I never seen that like that. And then that, after that, that was Wednesday. Dr. Hughes, after supper he said, “Let’s go to Thomas Road Baptist Church.” Went there and Dr. Falwell is young preacher, I tell you, he preached, you know, enthusiastically, evangelical message, and then gave invitation. Wednesday night, over forty people went out. I have never seen like that.

Miller: (1:25:15) Went, went forward for the invitation.

Kim: (1:25:17) Forward, yeah, invitation.

Miller: (1:25:18) On a Wednesday night?

Kim: (1:25:19) Wednesday night. You know, I used to attend Dallas, Dr., Dr. Criswell church, Sunday evening even sometimes no invitation. Wednesday, just prayer meeting, you know. And also, when I was in New York, Calvary Baptist Church, Dr. Olford. Olford is the pastor, just came from England about three years and then, you know, preached accent and I loved his preaching, evangelical preaching and…

Miller: (1:25:50) O, L, F, O, R, D; Dr. Olford?

Kim: (1:25:51) That’s right…

Miller: Ok.

Kim: (1:25:52) Olford. But he never had that, you know, evening invitation…

Miller: (1:25:56) Sure.

Kim: (1:25:57) and Wednesday, of course, prayer meeting. I have never seen it. Right there then, the Lord said, “You belong to this church.” I couldn’t resist Him. And I went to hotel and then I called my wife and you know what, God really just insisted me to I, I have to be here. And she was quiet, you know, quiet for a while and then, “What do you think about that?” And then she said, “We have to obey what the Lord says. Whatever He says, we have to obey.” And that’s how we decided to come and then, I tell you, this is God’s will, that’s right.

Miller: (1:26:37) And so you came down and now, one thing I imagine that you noticed, the very first winter that you were down here is that the weather in Lynchburg is quite a bit different than Minneapolis.
Kim: (1:26:51) Oh yeah. Minneapolis, snow piled up and up and up. Sometimes when you travel, you know, you cannot see car from the other side. Piles of snow and it’s so cold.

Miller: (1:27:06) I have had some of our Korean students here at Liberty tell me that they really like Lynchburg and the area for two reasons; the mountains remind them of Korea and the weather is very similar.

Kim: (1:27:16) Yeah, sure.

Miller: (1:27:17) Have you found that to be true?

Kim: (1:27:18) That’s right, that’s right, beautiful country. Minnesota is flat, nothing to see…

Walters: (1:27:25) [laughter]

Kim: (1:27:26) but mountains around. My own, my home country, North Korea, mountainous like Lynchburg; beautiful, beautiful country.

Walters: (1:27:35) I agree, Minneapolis has boring topography.

Kim: (1:27:38) [laughter]

Miller: [laughter] He’s, I’m originally from Minnesota, Minneapolis. Lowell, our other interviewer, is originally from Pennsylvania, so…

Kim: (1:27:43) Oh, yeah.

Miller: (1:27:44) Well now, when you first came, there weren’t all of the Korean students that we have today. How many years did you just teach American students, teaching them church history, and what brought about the recruiting of Korean students?

Kim: (1:28:01) Yeah. This is what uh…when I came, when I came, I, I got appointment with Dr. Falwell and I got appointment with World Vision and World Vision really evangelize to whole world. And so I sat down with Dr. Falwell, I proposed this uh…

Walters: (1:28:27) This is a letter that we’re looking at here dated May 9, 1985.

Miller: (1:28:33) Ok, and why don’t, why don’t you just read that for us? Dear Dr. Falwell… I, I think this is interesting enough and this is kind of the start of the Korean ministry that we have and, and hundreds of students from Korea have come here to Liberty…

Walters: (1:28:48) We will put this in the archives.

Miller: (1:28:49) We’ll add this to the archives but go ahead and just read this, this here.
Kim: (1:28:52) Yeah. The letter I wrote and I took this letter just with me and I, I presented, you know, Dr. Falwell. “Dear Dr. Falwell, It is a great honor and privilege for me to write this letter on behalf of foreign students. Since I have visited South Korea three years ago, my heart is burning with Korean churches and churches around the world. I would like to share with you what I have seen and what the need is for the churches today. Number one; what I have seen. A; things I have found. One; some of the seminaries are getting liberal which eventually will destroy the churches in Korea. The reason they are getting liberal is that the Ecumenicals have provided full scholarship aids for the many brilliant students and train them in liberal seminaries. To preserve the three trend Liberty University should do that same. Number two; many promising young men, young people are looking for further education in the states. Three years ago, I was able to bring four students to Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary such as Mr. Hyun Chung and Mr. Woong Sang Lee and Mr. Dong Gap Chae and Mr. In Jong Hong. They are all famous men now. All of them have proved to be outstanding students and will eventually be the future leaders of Korean churches. Korean churches need well-educated leaders today. B; the national training is better strategy in missions today. Korean missionaries are found in the Far East, the Middle East, South America, and Africa. They have found favor in the hearts of the natives for because the Koreans have never occupied or conquered any nation according to the history. Knowing this fact, many seminaries are opening up the doors for Korean students. One; the Trinity Evangelical Seminary has established a Korean Center supervised by Dr. Kong, a Korean professor for the evangelization of the world. Two; the Princeton Theological Seminary has a scholarship program for Korean students under the direction of Dr. Sang Heun Lee for the same purpose. Number three; the Dallas Theological Seminary gives scholarship to foreign students who will return to their native countries upon finishing their degrees. Chapter two; what the needs are. A; give scholarship aids to foreign student who are working toward higher degrees, namely, seminary students,” because undergraduates are, you know, many, many schools, you know, in foreign countries. “B; the foreign students need full scholarship aids for the American government requires full scholarship to issue student visas. Full scholarship means free tuition scholarship and work scholarship to cover room and board and allowance. C; some type of letter should be sent to convince the American Embassy in Seoul, Korea that Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary graduates will help the Korean churches and the world for the cause of peace. D; some arrangement should be made for me to take I-20 forms when I go back to Korea this summer to eliminate the much unnecessary correspondences. E; a man should be designed to work entirely for seminary in mission to improve the seminary students recruitment. Respectfully, C. Daniel Kim.”

Miller: (1:33:10) So you brought this to Dr. Falwell…

Kim: (1:33:12) Dr. Falwell.

Miller: (1:33:13) and what was his reaction to your letter?

Kim: (1:33:16) He was fully agreed. “Ok, I will support. I will do.”
Miller: (1:33:22) Now, were Korean students the first international students to receive scholarships from Liberty?

Kim: (1:33:27) That’s it, yeah. We started first time.

Miller: (1:33:28) So we weren’t, we weren’t giving scholarships to African students or South American students before that as far as you know?

Kim: (1:33:34) No, no.

Miller: (1:33:35) And, so we brought over Korean seminary students there and when you would go to Korea, was it difficult to find students to come or with this promise of a scholarship, were they eager to come to America?

Kim: (1:33:50) Easy to, easy to find them. Easy to find them, many people, many, you know, young students, they were really eager to come to United States and study. But the problem is many, whom I should pick up and I have to find out…

Miller: (1:34:04) So you had to be selective, you only had…

Kim: (1:34:06) Yeah.

Miller: (1:34:07) you only had so many scholarships to give.

Kim: (1:34:08) Yeah, that’s right. I thought first time just ten, just one year, maybe ten, you know, each semester, something like that, and I have to select…and then, then I found out what happened was, as you know, Jim Baker and Jim Swag, Swag…

Walters: (1:34:29) Swaggart.

Kim: (1:34:30) Swaggart, because of them, the problem, and then…

Miller: (1:34:33) There was, there was a lack of money here.

Kim: (1:34:35) Lack of money. Dr. Falwell had four hundred stations. Lots of expenses every year and just pile up, pile up, pile up and knowing the fact the financial problem I see myself, how can I say, “Oh, everything free?” So what I did was asked my student, “Five hundred dollars whereas American students are one thousand dollars a semester, five hundred dollars.” And if they have, my students, have problems and then I have to provide so my family, you know, my children, number one son, he, he was in good shape and he was providing scholarship all these years and I’m so happy to do that.

Miller: (1:35:19) Where, where does your, where do your children live now?

Kim: (1:35:23) They are in, one, two are in Minnesota; first son is in Minnesota and then my daughter is in Minnesota and then my second son is in Wisconsin, not far from Minnesota; about three, three hour drive. And my first son became director of uh…what they call uh…the big company that’s uh…
Miller: (1:35:53) 3M or...? I’m trying to think.

Kim: (1:35:57) Medtronic...

Miller: (1:35:58) Oh, Medtronic, ok...

Kim: (1:35:59) they call it, Medtronic [laughter].

Miller: (1:36:00) that, that makes pacemakers and that.

Kim: (1:36:03) That’s it, yeah.

Walters: (1:36:04) Ok.

Kim: (1:36:05) They, they make, you know, the famous things and that they, they...

Miller: (1:36:08) Medical devices.

Kim: (1:36:09) Yeah. Oh, I tell you that’s just booming, you know...

Walters: (1:36:11) Right.

Kim: (1:36:12) that company and I’m so happy to say this, God blessed our family. My son, he had a Ph.D. in Minnesota University and then he was hired by that company and then he became director and then he was honored as only member, only member only had thirty-two, he became number three, number thirty-two, only member and then they had big party and so he was a really exceptional one and he retired at the age of sixty. He didn’t have to but the company...

Miller: (1:36:53) So, so he got to quit before his dad even did [laughter].

Kim: (1:36:55) [laughter] That’s right, he is, “Daddy, retire, retire.” “No, no, no. I have no retirement...”

Miller: (1:36:59) So do you have any plans for retirement?

Kim: (1:37:03) No [laughter].

Miller: (1:37:05) You’re, you’re going to keep working until the Lord comes back or uh...

Kim: (1:37:07) That’s right. Even Dr., Dr. Towns in fact when he was a dean and I was, I was seventy and I, my, my conscience bothered me because all of them, you know, retired at the age of sixty-five, oh, I have to tell him my children, “You retire and come back and live together. Come on, come on.” “Ok, I’ll retire.” I promised my children, “I’ll retire and come back.” And came back and I told Dr. Towns, “You know what, I’m sorry, I didn’t tell you. I am seventy, you know that?” “So what?” “I have to retire, don’t you, don’t you think everybody retire at the age of sixty-five, I’m kind of, too late...”
Miller: (1:38:01) I’m five years too late.

Kim: (1:38:02) Yeah, too late. And he said, “No, don’t you want to teach?” “Oh, I love to teach but, you know, I have to retire. How can I stay long? No.” “You stay long, as long as you want to. Hey, how about until Jesus comes? That’s a good idea.” [laughter] He called Dr. Falwell, talked to him, “He’s going to stay until Jesus.” And then Dr., Dr. Falwell called me, “Dr. Kim, until He comes.” [laughter]

Miller: (1:38:28) [laughter]

Kim: (1:38:30) That’s a, that’s why I have to stay until Jesus comes, you know.

Miller: (1:38:33) Ok. Well, so now, right now, do you teach classes still or do you, are you involved in administration?

Kim: (1:38:43) Yeah, in fact, in fact that time we, we decided just half, half load…

Miller: (1:38:48) You’re at half, half load…

Kim: (1:38:49) Yeah, half load.

Miller: Ok.

Kim: (1:38:50) Half salary, half load. That means three classes I can teach in every year. But do you know…

Miller: (1:38:57) Three per semester or three per year?

Kim: (1:38:59) Per year.

Miller: (1:39:00) Ok.

Kim: (1:39:01) Yeah, but you know what happened and Korean students numbers increasing and I see the need of that Korean class and we have, that’s why I was appointed as director of Korean language assistance program. And…

Miller: (1:39:17) Now, tell us a little bit about what…ok, so a couple questions about that. One is how many Korean students do we have now at Liberty, would you say?

Kim: (1:39:28) Exact number I cannot tell you, over two hundred.

Miller: (1:39:33) Over two hundred now.

Kim: (1:39:34) Over two hundred students at the seminary.

Miller: (1:39:36) Right, and how many of them are receiving assistance? It’s no longer that all of the Korean students that come have a full scholarship. Does, does Liberty provide scholarships still for some deserving Korean students?
Kim: (1:39:47) Yeah and in fact all they have to, they have to pay is thirteen hundred dollars, they just, five hundred dollar scholarship. Now…

Miller: (1:39:59) Ok, so all Korean students have a special rate of Korean students?

Kim: (1:40:01) Yes, that’s right, special rate. In fact, I am the one who raised because Dr. Falwell never expected any money; just free. But because of financial situation, my conscience really bothered. Dr. Falwell under that, you know, maybe hundreds, maybe thousands, millions, and hundreds of millions dollars under kind of debt…

Miller: (1:40:31) Of, of debt and, and deficit.

Kim: (1:40:32) Yeah, and so my conscience really bothered. That’s why I asked Korean students, five hundred dollars we started when these American students one thousand dollar, five thousand or five hundred dollars each semester you pay and then when raised registrar, raised too and then now…

Miller: (1:40:52) And so right now in 2010, it’s about thirteen hundred dollars per semester.

Kim: (1:40:55) Yeah, thirteen hundred dollars, yeah.

Miller: (1:40:56) For their tuition.

Kim: (1:40:57) Yeah.

Miller: (1:40:58) And, and tell us then a little bit about um…when you teach, do you teach in English or Korean?

Kim: (1:41:05) Ok, yeah, I do have textbook, American, English and then I, my notes is all English, explain in English, and then I explain a little bit of Korean…

Miller: (1:41:19) So, so…

Kim: (1:41:20) They can fully understand and then…

Miller: (1:41:21) so that’s how you do it…

Kim: (1:41:22) Yeah.

Miller: (1:41:23) but if a Korean out of the, did you say we have roughly two hundred students now?

Kim: (1:41:27) More than two hundred students, yeah.

Miller: (1:41:28) More than two hundred students, out of those, is it possible for someone who doesn’t know English well to come and go all the way through the program? Are there classes that are taught in Korean or do they all have to have a basic English knowledge?
Kim: (1:41:43) We don’t receive any Korean students without English test…

Miller: (1:41:51) The Test Of English as a, the TOEFL, the Test of English as a Foreign Language.

Kim: They have to have TOEFL, yeah, TOEFL, yeah. And in fact, five hundred fifty, that’s what we require. If they are less than five hundred fifty…

Miller: (1:42:03) A score of, a score of five fifty on this test.

Kim: (1:42:05) Yeah, or under five hundred, five hundred fifty…Korean language is, you know, very strange, very unique. It’s uh…grammatically speaking, it’s just the other way. That’s why Korean students and Japanese students as, as usual, normal foreign students have average TOEFL score five hundred twenty but Korean and Japanese, four hundred seventy. Five uh…fifty points less, that’s kind of Korean and Japanese; they have hard time with language. That’s why, we had, originally we had six hundred requirement but now five hundred fifty but lots of students have hard time to make the five hundred fifty. That’s why we have this Korean language assistance program. Dr. Chung, David Chung, and myself, we are teaching that particular course, only Korean students. Important course but they, they cannot really grasp, that’s why we use American English textbook and notes and everything in English but we explain in Korean. So they…

Miller: (1:43:24) And so you do have some special Korean classes…

Kim: (1:43:27) That’s right.

Miller: (1:43:28) where, where they have supplemental explanations in Korean then.

Kim: (1:43:30) That’s right, yeah.

Miller: (1:43:31) Ok.

Kim: So they fully understand and yeah, they cannot, they, they don’t have excuse and, “Oh, I did not understand.” [laughter] They have…

Miller: (1:43:40) And, and so how many Korean speaking seminary professors do we have?

Kim: (1:43:46) Right now besides me, Dr. David Chung, that’s the man I, I brought here and trained him and I sent down to Dallas and then I brought him here to speak, to teach and he’s New Testament, New Testament major. And then the number two man is Timothy Chong. I’m the one who lead him to Jesus Christ while he was student at Blacksburg and then he…

Walters: (1:44:13) At Virginia Tech?
Kim: (1:44:15) Virginia Tech, then he actually transferred to Liberty University, graduated from Liberty University, and then, of course, came to Liberty Baptist Seminary and then I pointed him to Dallas and then he finished systematic theology major and then I brought him here. So, we three of them actually.

Miller: (1:44:34) Now, for yourself, it was always your intention to go back to Korea and you never did but we feel as though you’ve been in the Lord’s will all of these years.

Kim: (1:44:46) That’s right.

Miller: (1:44:47) Out of the two hundred students, let’s say, that are at Liberty now that are from Korea, how many of them through the years have returned back to Korea and how many of them remain in the United States? I don’t know if you know a percentage or just kind of a general idea. Do most of them return or is it about half and half? Would you comment on that?

Kim: (1:45:06) Yeah, that really uh…we have to work on that. We have to really, someone has to really dig in otherwise we cannot, I cannot come to really actual, you know, figure…

Miller: (1:45:22) Sure.

Kim: (1:45:23) and most of them went back to Korea and some of them stayed United States of America because you know, by the time when I came to the United States in 1958, no Koreans at all but when I started here thirty-three years ago, lots of Koreans, about one million Korean already by then. Lots of Koreans here and there but nobody can really pastor to that kind of people. That’s why there is a need in, in the United States of America Korean…

Miller: (1:45:59) For Korean, Korean speaking churches.

Kim: (146:00) for Korean speaking pastors. That’s why I told Dr. Falwell at the beginning when I was presenting this paper, I said, “Now, there are really need in, you know, United States of America. You know, L.A., New York, Washington D.C. all the big cities you have thousands of Koreans but no pastors. If God calls them to pastor here, let them go.” Dr. Falwell, “Sure, of course.” So that’s why when they are called to some churches, of course they are, they are doing good job, yeah, Washington D.C. and L.A. and New York and other big cities, our graduates, yeah.

Miller: (1:46:56) And with that we’ll conclude today’s interview with Dr. C. Daniel Kim. This interview has been conducted as part of the oral history project of the Liberty University archives.

[end of interview]