

**What have you felt has been the main thing or main things that God has revealed to you during your time in Korea?**

I feel as if God was really revealing that I need to trust & lean on Him more than anything--especially more than my own flesh. In many ways I saw this going into play. Just even with the kids, I felt at times that I was getting discouraged or selfish with my time. All of the problems I encountered seemed to stem from the fact that I was trying to rely on myself to solve these issues when in reality, I needed to give them up to God & truly lean on Him for guidance and understanding for all things. Another really important thing I learned this summer was that I needed to seek God more in an intimate relationship and build it up in order to love on the kids. Every time I would start slacking on QTs or not praying enough, I felt drained and that the day wasn't going so well. Building faith and my intimacy with Christ was something I learned how to do more in a tangible way while I was in Korea.

**Please share or list some of the joys of your time here.**

Definitely most of my joy came out of spending quality time with the kids--either through conversations or just playing with them in their rooms. It was so fun to just let loose, relax, and chill with the kids during their free times. I especially loved it when kids who normally wouldn't show their emotions to us would randomly start showing care—either through words or smiles. I loved getting to know the kids I taught. I had a certain attachment with them. Also, when I talked to some of the kids about God and who He is..a girl told me about her own personal experience of getting to know Him. (That helped me gain hope that even the kids can see God's love).

**Please share or list some of the difficulties of your time here.**

Sometimes it was hard to love the kids for who they were. That was a constant struggle--to stop favoring, to stop judging, to stop seeing through physical eyes. I had to constantly remind myself to pray for them & to love them and see them through God's spiritual eyes. Sometimes it was hard to work as a team with the other volunteers as well. We had differing ideas on how to organize groups and how to teach so it was hard at times but we pulled through. Those tough times definitely taught me more about leaning on God as well.

**How do you feel Jerusalem Ministry could better equip or prepare future summer volunteers?**

I think Jerusalem Ministry could better equip future volunteers by enforcing that they stay focused on their QTs and building that relationship with Christ--especially during the months before coming to Korea. It is crucial to have that foundation set first so that you won't fall when coming to the orphanage. Since there is no leader actually telling you what to do it is easy to lose focus and fall. However, I found that meeting up with one of the Jerusalem Ministry leaders (like John-Michael) once every few weeks definitely helped redirect our focus for the work we were involved in.

**Please share any extra comments, advice, or reflections you have for the ministry.**

I really, really enjoyed working with the kids in Sangrok and my time there was SERIOUSLY life-changing. I realize it more as I came back to America--after seeing how different it is here. People in Korea are on FIRE for God and even though it's hard to adjust to America at first, I want to come back changed and on fire for God to spread the revival. I definitely feel like future volunteers should be encouraged to go to JSEM during their stay because I think it definitely helped me grow on my own in order to learn more and love the kids more. Also, 2 months is a very good experience but I would have LOVED to stay longer..maybe 1-2 yrs because just as we got to know the kids better we had to leave so it was sad. I want to build life-long relationships with those kids, but at the same time..I do think volunteers should be able to come just for summers since its more reasonable for college students. They will be amazed at how much God will work in their lives!

God bless,  
Esther Lee :)