

## **Preparing for the Opening of North Korea**

### **Part III – Strategies**

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As we look to the opening of North Korea, we in the Fourth River Project focus on three specific strategies. We are preparing for these strategies by providing experience and training to individuals and groups who are called to carry them out.

The one we believe to be the most effective for reaching ordinary North Koreans is actually rather simple but it calls for a deep commitment on the part of those who go North. We call it the “community team strategy.” Teams of six to twelve men and women will go into North Korea and settle in a specific location. There they will rehabilitate an abandoned building or build something new and live together as a small Christian community ministering to the needs of the people around them. The team will include specialists such as a doctor or nurse, a mechanic, a bookkeeper, a computer person, a businessman, a barber, etc. as well as a few good strong backs and arms.

Team members will offer services to the people of the area as well as teach such things as computer, mechanical or other skills as well as how to start and operate small businesses. By living there and helping those in need, they will demonstrate Christ’s love. By living together as a community they will show Christian love for one another (*“By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”* John 13:35). They will worship together demonstrating their love for God. Over time, they will be able to share their faith quietly and personally. We believe that this method will be the most effective for drawing people to the Lord and leading them to genuine faith. The team will not seek to plant or build a church—rather, they will *be* the Church. As the people of the area come to faith they will be welcome to worship with the community. When the time comes for a church to be established there, it will be done by the people of the area through their own efforts. It should be possible for a medium sized church to support a single team.

Another valuable strategy is to prepare teams of workers in companies that will be involved in economic development, rebuilding and similar efforts in North Korea—dedicated Christians prepared with an understanding of the best ways to share the love of Christ and the Gospel of salvation with fellow North Korean workers. This strategy can be employed now in the special Kaesong Industrial Zone. South Korean manufacturing companies are working there employing North Korean workers—mostly young women at this point.

A final strategy that will be very important as North Korea looks outward for models, expertise and wisdom to guide their efforts to develop new laws, systems and social infrastructure is to have experts who can respond to these invitations. These would be consultants and specialists who understand the best ways to build a society’s legal, economic and social structures from a Biblical world view and also have deep understanding of North Korea’s particular situation.

These are three strategies for sharing the Gospel and rebuilding North Korea that we are pursuing through the Fourth River Project at the Three Seas Center.

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