

16. The Kind of World That Kkottongnae Is Dreaming of 1

A World Where No One Is Abandoned

The kind of world that Kkottongnae is dreaming of is a world where no one is abandoned, a world where everyone is respected like God, and a world where we love our neighbors just as we love ourselves.

Life is being thrown away in this world with its culture of egoism, in homes that are deficient, and even inside the wombs of mothers. Kkottongnae has been working to build a life-oriented culture to counter this destructive world dominated by a culture of death by taking care of those people who have been abandoned, with a warm heart.

The greatest agony that the poor encounter is not a lack of money, nor a physical disease, nor a mental disease, but the fact that they have been thrown away by their beloved family members.

There are Lives Abandoned by their Parents Even before Birth

Today, many developed methods of birth control are preventing lives that would otherwise form, from being born. Fr. Oh Woong-Jin compares one brought into the world due to the failure of birth control methods to a semi-illegitimate child. Such a child often shows

shaded faces, feels isolation among his friends and suffers from other serious problems while he grows up to be a problem child, even though she/he has his/her own parents. Once a soul gets hurt, it can wither away, neither loving others nor being loved by others. Once we met a man who had been suffering from epilepsy and depression and asked him when he began to have those symptoms. The patient said that the seizures started from the time when he was told by his grandmother that his mother had tried to do everything not to give birth to him but failed and he was born.

Thus Saimdang Shin, who was a mother of Toegye Lee, once emphasized the importance of prenatal training saying that the 10-month training in a mother's womb is more important than the 10-year training after birth. Furthermore, even more important thing is being in the right frame of mind with prayer and love looking forward to the conception. A child born in this lovely longing will be welcomed anywhere, love himself/herself, and grow to become a great mind as a light of the world, loving other people.

There Are Also Many Lives Abandoned Even After Conceived In a Mother's Womb

More than 50% of Korean women experi-



Babies from the House of Angels, which is a Government-approved adoption agency. They are waiting for parents who are willing to love and adopt them.

ence abortion, and more than 1.5million fetuses a year are sacrificed. Among them about tens of thousands of fetuses are killed before birth just because of the reason that they are females. Fr. Oh Woong-Jin, the founder of Kkottongnae, has clamored against this sinful abortion leading the anti-abortion movement and saved many fetuses that had come close to being killed by their parents.

In October of 2000, the great jubilee, the National Convention for Families were held at Kkotdongnae. Cardinal, Kim Su-Hwan, 10 bishops and about 5 thousand believers attended the Convention and held a consecratory ceremony for the Fetus Hill. **The Fetus**

Hill was built to honor the 4 thousands of poor souls which are killed and discarded everyday and to provide the place for mothers who experienced abortion to give their prayers of repentance and atonement in the hope of no more aborted fetuses.

There are Also Those Abandoned After Birth, Solely Due to the Fact that They Are Handicapped

Peter Oh, who was a premature infant with epilepsy, was wrapped in a cloth and abandoned in front of the statue of Mary in Kkottongnae. A young woman, probably the mother, had disguised herself as a volunteer,

came in and reported that a baby was crying. Just like the famous anecdote of Moses in the Old Testament... We found the pale, crying baby in the forest where the statue of Mary stood, asked around for an incubator to nurture and raise the baby, and saved the baby by making an emergency admission into the Daejeon St. Mary's Hospital.

On January 10th of 2005, God gave Kkottongnae a big present. That was a joy of having a 93-day-old newborn baby whose life was supposed to be given up due to an incurable disease. The baby was normally born in a natural childbirth at a hospital, but had an unaccounted-for ileus with the symptom of continuous vomit of a bilious secretion. The baby had two big surgeries but its paralyzed intestines were not cured. Even a sip of milk could not go down in its intestines, so it was barely surviving with an intravenous injection. It was a rare case of incurable disease, so the doctor in charge has hardly ever had such a case. The parents who had been taking care of the baby for more than 90 days with financial difficulty wanted the baby to be discharged giving up the medical treatment after they heard there was no hope on curing. It was a pitiful situation because they could not maintain the treatment nor stop it. Immediately after Kkottongnae heard about this, we decided to admit the baby to the Kkottongnae Hospital and keep taking care of it. The baby was in the condition of being extended of its life with the injection of infusion solution, even though its intestines were paralyzed.

On the first day the baby came into a new ward in Kkottongnae, it smiled every time it saw a person, as if it was thanking for its living

more days in this world. It was a smile that makes people happy and joyful. We do not know if it knew its sad destiny or not. However, it, having never got a chance of having milk, certainly made people around it happy.

Even at this very moment there are many workers and seniors who are abandoned by the society, work places and families, who live homeless on the streets or underground pass- es, often drinking alcohol and feeling mentally desolated.

Kkottongnae ambulances go all around the country looking for those people. We once found an old man frozen and soaked with rain on a street and brought him into Kkottongnae. After we bathed him with warm water, put dry clothes on him, and fed him with warm meal, he asked us bluntly, "why are you people so nice to a dirty dog like me?" We were surprised and asked back, "why are you a dirty dog?" "I raised my children so poorly that they abandoned me. What am I if I am not a dirty dog?" His eyes became wet while he was talking. They were tears of regret about his deficiency, tears of pain being abandoned, and tears of relief and thankfulness being warmly loved by neighbors.

The reason why there are people who have 'nowhere to rely, and even no power to beg for food' is because there are people who should love neighbors but who do not. This is a disaster that comes not from a lack of bread, but a lack of love. To cure the disaster that arises from a lack of love, first of all, we have to fill the people with love.

Kkottongnae will pray, sacrifice, and live with love to fill those with love, and ultimately to make 'a world where no one is abandoned.'



A recently born baby - 98 days old with an unknown symptom of enterostenosis.

The Fetus Hill

