

EDITORIAL

In October of 2007, Torch Trinity Graduate School of Theology played an integral part in hosting the International Women Leaders' Mission Conference (WOGA Korea 2007). For this conference, over 1100 emerging women leaders were invited to Seoul to represent churches from approximately 90 countries. Because the majority of them were from nations that are hostile to the Christian faith, the conference served to encourage and enrich their experience of the grace of Jesus Christ and to strengthen their globally interconnected fellowship.

The theme of this year's *Torch Trinity Journal* is "Women in Asia and Missions." The thematic articles featured in this special issue reflect on the biblical and historical sources that pertain to women in Asia and mission. Dr. Cristian G. Rata's article, "On the Excellency of 'Sisterly Love': Psalm 133 in the Context of WOGA KOREA 2007," grounds the church's mission endeavor to the image of the triune God. His article reminds us that mission is not so much a task to be accomplished but a concrete application of the triune God's grace and love lavished on the faithful community.

Dr. Steven S. H. Chang examines the early church's economic inequality issues from a Pauline text in order to propose a contemporary theology of equality for the women of Asia. Entitled as "Equality for the Women of Asia: A Neglected Biblical Text (2 Corinthians 8:13-15)," his article shifts the focus of equality discussion from gender to economics. He concludes that Paul's vision of equality for the women of Asia "cannot be limited to the gender divide or to a single country or people." Rather, it must be extended to all who are poor, especially to women who are often society's most vulnerable and exploited.

Dr. Sang In Lee's article, "Matthew's Concern for Mission by including the Four Women (Matthew 1:1-17)," discusses the theological strategy of Matthew's gospel in including the names of four gentile women in the genealogy of Jesus Christ. Given the Gentile and immoral associations and backgrounds of these women, he concludes that Matthew's purpose is to communicate that God's salvific plan is inclusive of and accomplished through "everyone."

The last thematic article comes from a church historian, Dr. Jung-Sook Lee, who reinvestigates the time and significance of Mary Culler

White's 1903 visit to Wonsan, Korea, where the Revival Movement in Korean churches actually began. Her research yields fruitful insights into the history of women missionaries' involvement and contribution to Korean mission history. Although the remaining articles do not directly deal with the theme of the current volume, they make valuable additions to their respective fields.

Special appreciation and attention goes to Dr. Peter T. Cha from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School for kindly contributing an article that sketches out a sound theological framework to reflect on our multicultural, multidenominational contexts, identities, and goals. Addressing both the richness that springs from diversity and the integrity of the evangelical faith tradition, his article is stimulatingly entitled, "Doing Theology in a Multicultural Theological Community."

Finally, gratitude is extended to the reviewers of the submitted articles and to Rev. Lisa Pak for proofreading. The present volume will be added to the *TTJ* archives that can be accessed by clicking on "Publications" on the school's homepage (<http://www.ttgst.ac.kr>).

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