A poster in honor of Kim Il Sung

## To help you pray for North Korea

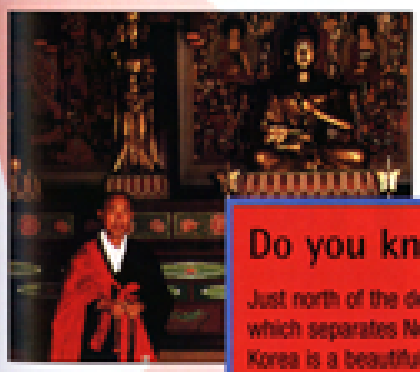
Remember that many people there have never heard of Jesus because the country has been closed to the outside world for more than 50 years.

**You can thank God for:**

- the many secret believers in North Korea.

**You can ask God:**

- that the Christians will know he is near them despite the threat of punishment or even death if they are betrayed.
- that Christian businessmen who visit North Korea, and those who take food into the country, will speak of Jesus' love.
- that Christians will help the children abandoned on the streets.
- to prepare the hearts of North Koreans for the day when the good news about Jesus can once more be shared openly.
- to work a miracle in the hearts of Kim Il Yong and his government so that they will know that he alone is God.
- for Christians around the world to pray faithfully until people can once more share the gospel in North Korea.



Buddhist monastery

## Do you know?

Just north of the demilitarized zone which separates North and South Korea is a beautiful mountain region which can be visited by boat. Christians often go on the journey to pray for North Korea.

"Are there any books like this hidden in your house? Search for them, even in your parents' bedroom, then tell us." Some children did find that book and told their teachers. They never saw their parents again. The little black book was the Korean Bible.

Some brave people continued to follow Jesus and met in secret to worship him. They knew they couldn't worship another god. Two million people fled to South Korea, but Kim Il Sung attacked the South, too. Everyone was afraid. Korea was no longer like its name "Chosun," the "Land of Morning Calm."

The children were taught to worship Kim Il Sung. They sang, "He is our Great Leader and we keep his image in our hearts." You can read in the Bible (in Daniel chapter 3) about some other people who were expected to worship an image. They refused, and God protected them.

### Death of the god-king

In 1994 Kim Il Sung died. The people wept because the one who had made himself their god was dead. His son, Kim Jong Il, the "Dear Leader," took his place.

But floods, hail and drought destroyed the crops. People starved. Aid agencies were allowed to bring food into the country, but the government arranged how it was distributed. It is thought that at least two million people died from starvation during the next five years or risked their lives escaping into China.

### The one true God

Christians have tried all sorts of ways to tell the people of North Korea about God's love. They've beamed in radio broadcasts, although most radios in North Korea can receive only government broadcasts. They've even sent Christian literature to North Korea by balloon, and in plastic envelopes that they've thrown into the ocean.

In South Korea, many Christians are praying that the North Koreans will see that they've been worshipping a false god. God is answering their prayers. There are now three official churches and more than 500 registered "church-service houses" where people can meet for prayer, as well as many more underground churches.