



WEEKLY COLUMN in TORONTO
CANADA

Melvin University with Me



Two forms of daily bread

I understand that two of the 'daily reading forms' that exist in the United States are mainstream. One is UPPER-ROOM and it is translated (as 'darakbang') by the Christian Book Society in Korea. The other is DAILY BREAD which is translated (as 'today's bread') of the Hallelujah Church in Korea.

By the way, I found that the Daily Bread is mainly written by pastors and theologians. Therefore, the content is a little hard, and there are many philosophical and academic contents. On the other hand, however, the Upper-room is actually written by almost pure laymen living around the world, so many of their hard and difficult experiences are there. This seems to be because Daily Bread started first with radio broadcasting, and Upper-room started by handwritten and sent by air mail as personal letters.

Anyway, I enjoyed reading both in Korea, in Nagaland India, and still here, and there are two obvious differences. The names of both authors are included at the end of the article. However, in Upper-room, the area where they live next to the author's name is put (in parentheses). For example, it's written by Mr. James Matthew (Virginia, USA), so we know who wrote it, and also where he lives.

However, Daily Bread only has the author written on it and has not identified where he lives, so we don't know where it comes from. Of course, I wonder if Daily Bread is mainly written by theologians and pastoral experts as it is said above. In my case, I prefer to know where, which country it is from.

It is the publisher's right to decide which country they are from and right now where they live. It is expected that there were considerate concerns of the headquarters (US) who chose either of the two.

We don't need to know everything from #1 to #10 more details in human relationships. However, if we don't know anything, it raises questions. After all, it is up to we readers to choose which 'daily form'. If we choose to be more beneficial to ourselves, it is the right choice for us.

Look at this. I sometimes wonder about our students' background while looking at various students in the university. Kenya is recorded to be a country of 48 tribes, and our students are usually called the LUO tribe. However, there seems to be competition among tribes here as well. Since our vice-chancellor is from the Luo ethnic group, there are many students and professors from the tribe in the university. But since I am a foreigner, I try to treat all students fairly. So I don't need to know which tribe they're from.

Perhaps the Daily Bread published in the United States does not necessarily identify where it came from or where they live in that sense. This may be because if we know the area, you may have a prejudice accordingly. In this respect, Korea also seems to have eliminated regional identification in automobile license plates.

Even in human relationships, how much we should know about the other person seems to always be an issue. But it doesn't seem good to want to know too much about privacy. Our students are also very diverse in their lives. Of course, it may be worse since it is a difficult and poor country, but this seems to be the general trend. I think it is desirable to understand and accept the other person beyond those things through our own training, self discipline.