

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Faculty Member Spotlight: Jean Jeon

In John's gospel, Jesus preaches to His disciples that whoever follows Him will never walk in the darkness, but "will have the light of life" (John 8:12). As I reflected on what it means to be the light of the world for the past few days, I perceived the significance of having compassion for others and trusting God's plans to use believers of Christ.

I used to struggle with a lack of confidence and fear in teaching as a non-native English speaker while working at different institutions teaching English. When having discussions with other professionals, every so often I became timid as I thought I was not a good influencer. Every time, He continually reminded me of relying on His power and plans. Maybe for that reason, God placed me at the TWU-Richmond campus, where most students and staff members have diverse cultural backgrounds.

While working at TWU, I was able to exert and uncover myself to impact the lives of international students with my role as a learning coach and an instructor. God has given me the strength to be bold to carry out influencing students with His light and wisdom. When all the classes shifted online amid the pandemic, God's spirit still led me to be encouraged as I continue to manage the classes over Zoom. My struggles and anxiety come out at the beginning of each semester; but having faith in God's guidance has helped me get through each year. I constantly realize that His light has been shining through each faculty and staff member to help one another while serving students online.

Darkness can no longer exist if there is a mild light coming through. Jesus indeed is the eternal light, and He stands with faculty and staff members every day. We are called to lead and serve students faithfully, and we must bear in mind that Jesus' light shines through our daily lives. As Jesus teaches His disciples to be the Light of the world to glorify the heavenly Father, I pray that God's love overflows your hearts as you speak and teach. I sincerely hope that each of us strives to show compassion and trust God's ultimate plans to use us for His purpose. Be hopeful and be encouraged!

"When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life'". (John 8:12)

This piece was submitted by faculty member, Jean Jeon.

