PASTORAL CARE FOR THE KOREAN-AMERICAN PASTOR IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: A NARRATIVE APPROACH

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This study has been undertaken to devise a pastoral approach of pastoral care for Korean-American pastors in the United States of America. Qualitative research and utilizing in-depth interviews were employed with four Korean-American pastors. The practical theological methodology employed is adapted from Don S. Browning’s book, *A Fundamental Practical Theology: Descriptive and Strategic Proposals*. He argues that theology as a whole has within it four sub-movements: descriptive theology, historical theology, systematic theology, and strategic practical theology. This thesis has made a procession through the previous four steps.

An examination of Korean-American immigrant history was conducted for the purpose of discovering the significance and necessary information which would lead the reader to understand the Korean-American immigrant church’s characteristics and to introduce the Korean-American pastor’s roles in chapter 2.

In chapter 3, the ministry-related sufferings and hopes of the Korean-American pastor were examined through their individual narratives. The ministry-related sufferings of Korean-American pastors were identified as the two themes: “We’re struggling with authority versus submission” and “We’re trying to solve financial problems.” The cores of the following themes were also identified and focused around three themes that have been related to their ministry-related hopes: “We hope in God’s comfort and encouragement,” “We hope in counselors or mentors who help us,” and “We hope for appropriate financial assistance.”

In chapter 4, the three theological reflections on pastoral care for pastors were examined for the purpose of discovering why the church has to be responsible for pastoral care for the pastor. These theological reflections included all believers as priesthood, a caring church, and we are one body. In the following section, an extensive critical review of the three existing pastoral approaches for the Korean-American pastoral care (The Traditionalist, the Ethno-centrist, and The Adoptionist) was undertaken.
In chapter 5, an alternative approach of Wayne Oates' *The Christian Pastor* for pastoral care for the Korean-American pastor has been suggested through the critical examination of existing pastoral care approaches. I also have revealed how Wayne Oates’ model can be used throughout these works, and I have suggested some implications: cultural implications, implications for the pastor’s family, congregational and denomination implications, and various therapeutic tools for the pastor.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Need of the study .......................... 5

1.2 Purpose of the study ...................... 7

1.3 Research methods ........................ 7

  1.3.1 A practical theological method ......... 8
    1.3.1.1 Don Browning’s fundamental practical theology 8
    1.3.1.2 Adaptations of Don Browning’s method .......... 11

1.3.2 Sociological methods .................... 13

  1.3.2.1 Design of the study ................. 13
  1.3.2.2 Research participants ............... 15
  1.3.2.3 Researcher’s role .................. 17
  1.3.2.4 The in-depth conversations .......... 18
  1.3.2.5 Data analysis ...................... 19

1.4 Limitations of the study ................. 20

## CHAPTER 2: THE KOREAN-AMERICAN PASTOR IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2.1 Introduction ................................ 22

2.2 The history of Korean immigrant churches 23

  2.2.1 The period of new beginning and growth 24
  2.2.2 The period of nationalism .............. 25
  2.2.3 The period of frustration and decline 26
  2.2.4 The period of explosive growth of the church 28

2.3 The characteristics of Korean immigrant churches 29

  2.3.1 Stability of Membership ............... 31
  2.3.2 In-group commitment and out-group indifference 32
  2.3.3 Older male domination of eldership ...... 33
  2.3.4 Conservative theological orientation and personal beliefs 34

2.4 The roles of Korean-American pastors in the United States 36

  2.4.1 Role as a religious leader .......... 37
2.4.2 Role as a pastoral care-giver 39
2.4.3 Role as a social supporter 40
2.5 Summary 42

CHAPTER 3: PASTOR’S STORIES OF SUFFERING AND HOPE 44
3.1 Introduction 44
3.2 Hearing: Their individual narratives 48
  3.2.1 Pastor Lee’s story 48
  3.2.2 Pastor Park’s story 57
  3.2.3 Pastor Choi’s story 65
  3.2.4 Pastor Kim’s story 74
3.3 Findings: Thematic analysis 80
  3.3.1 Their ministry-related sufferings: Thematic analysis 83
    3.3.1.1 Theme #1: “We’re struggling with authority versus submission.” 83
    3.3.1.2 Theme #2: “We’re trying to solve financial problems.” 92
  3.3.2 Their ministry-related hopes: Thematic analysis 97
    3.3.2.1 Theme #1: “We hope in God’s comfort and encouragement.” 97
    3.3.2.2 Theme #2: “We hope in pastoral counselors or mentors who help us.” 102
    3.3.2.3 Theme #3: “We hope for appropriate financial assistance.” 105
3.4 Summary 108

CHAPTER 4: CRITIQUE OF APPROACHES OF PASTORAL CARE TO THE KOREAN-AMERICAN PASTOR IN THE UNITED STATES 110
4.1 Introduction 110
4.2 Theological reflections on pastoral care for pastors 111
  4.2.1 All believers as a priesthood 112
  4.2.2 A caring church 115
  4.2.3 We are one body 117
  4.2.4 Summary 119
4.3 Review of approaches to the Korean-American pastoral care for pastors in the United States 121
  4.3.1 The Traditionalist approach 122
APPENDIX 6

CHAPTER 5: TOWARD A NEW APPROACH OF PASTORAL CARE FOR KOREAN-AMERICAN PASTORS IN THE UNITED STATES

5.1 Introduction
5.2 Author
5.3 Pastoral care approaches of Wayne Oates
  5.3.1 The pastoral self-identity of the pastor
  5.3.2 The pastoral role of the pastor
  5.3.3 The pastoral authority of the pastor
  5.3.4 The empathy for the pastor
  5.3.5 The responsibility of the church as a therapeutic tool for the pastor
5.4 Some implications of the study for pastoral care for the Korean-American pastor
  5.4.1 Cultural implications
  5.4.2 Implications for the pastor's family
  5.4.3 Congregational and denominational implications
  5.4.4 Various therapeutic tools for the pastor
5.5 Summary

CHAPTER 6: CONCLUSION
6.1 Reflection and conclusion
6.2 Recommendations for future research

BIBLIOGRAPHY

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 2

APPENDIX 3