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Missionaries to



## A Wonderful Harvest

Someone surly must be praying for us these days because God's working has been especially evident in the ministry here in Japan. Since our return from furlough we have seen 5 Japanese accept the Lord as Savior! Praise God!

**Kohaku**, a 7 year old boy in our English Saturday School, accepted the Lord near the end of September. We have been praying for him since he joined our class last year. The day he prayed Michael's Bible story wasn't at all about salvation but the Holy Spirit led to give an invitation and Kohaku was ready. His mom, **Mrs. Mizuma**, who has been very interested in accepting Christ but still has yet to make that decision said he's a changed boy and has been trying to get her to go ahead and make that decision as well. Please keep them and the rest of our English families in your prayers.



The very next day Kyle was able to bring his friend **Haruki**, who also is 11, to church for the first time. Kyle has been witnessing to him and helped him understand everything at church from turning to the right page in the hymnal and Bible to even help explain the messages more. We praise the Lord for both Kyle and Joshua as they are witnessing for the Lord. The next time Haruki came to church April was able to lead him to the Lord after the service. He has been coming to church with the Kidos since then. Pray that he will really grow in the Lord and learn to become a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Then just three weeks after that the three **Kutsukake girls** prayed to receive Christ as their Savior. **Minori, Hitomi**, and



**Satomi** are in Junior High and high school. Minori started coming to our church a year and a half ago because it was much closer than the brethren church that their family went to. They had moved to Hong Kong for Mr. Kutsukake's work. However Minori came back last year for school and lived with her grandmother until her mother and sisters moved back to Saku this year. We still questioned their salvation even though they said they grew up believing in Jesus. They all had been listening to the messages really well and even raising their hands to make decisions here and there. However, that Sunday the Holy Spirit's working was clearly evident. Pastor Rich preached about thanksgiving and assurance of salvation, and during the invitation all three girls raised their hands wanting to make sure they were saved. We are so thankful that now they not only believe in God but have prayed to personally receive the gift of salvation for themselves.

## Increased Opportunities

April has been approached by four new moms to teach their kids English. We prayed about it, and after talking with them and letting them know she would teach Bible too, they all said yes. We started a new class on Friday mornings for three-year-olds and their mothers. We also started another class for third- fifth graders on Friday nights. Please pray with us that God will use these opportunities in a special way to see them come to Christ.

We want to say a special thanks to First Baptist Church of Atoka, TN for their generous gift to help us get the Gospel of John in every home in Saku. One Saturday as we were passing these out we met some friendly children in a neighborhood park. They loved playing with Abigail and asked us to come back every week. To make a long story short, the neighborhood leader loved the idea of us doing flashcard stories at the park and even asked us to make out invitations for her to pass out and invite the kids for us. It is going well so far and we will be continuing it again in the spring. We are very excited about this opportunity. Please pray that the Lord will work in these kids' lives.

We are excited for our church as we have begun preparing for the Christmas concert at two different hospitals on Dec. 20th, and our Christmas play that we will be performing on Dec 23. We would truly appreciate your prayers for these special events and the thanksgiving outreach on Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## A Matter of Prayer

As some of you know already, Michael has had Ulcerative Colitis since 2004. This hasn't been a big problem for him thankfully and it is considered in remission. However we recently found out that he also has PSC (primary sclerosing cholangitis). It is not bad right now but can cause liver failure over time. Thankful the Lord is in charge of all of this. We would truly appreciate your prayers for wisdom concerning this.

## Abigail's Corner

Abigail has been doing very well with her studies this year as we started using streaming. She loves her teacher Mrs. Chapelle. Thank you Grace Baptist Church and Pastor Elliot for making this possible. It has truly lightened the load for April. It is neat to watch her try to beat the children in math and phonics, and she gets so excited during the singing time.

It's so exciting to see God at work. We know that you all are praying there in the States. Thank you so much. We could not do it without your prayers and financial support.

Michael, April, and Abigail Riffel