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Missionaries to



Full of Joy

And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. 1John 1:4 As we write you all today, we pray that God will fill your hearts with joy over what God has done here in Japan.

First we are very excited that the mother of Kohaku, our English student, named **Yasuko Mizuma, received the Lord as her savior!** God was really at work. Because of several things we were led to move the Mizuma family from our Saturday morning class to a night class with another family that seemed very interested in the Bible. This way Mrs. Mizuma could sit in on the Bible time. It was not long after that she admitted to April that she did not have any reason not to repent and accept the Lord. It was so exciting to hear Mrs. Mizuma talk about the Lord, and the last time we saw her, she spoke of how dead she had been spiritually but now how alive she is in Christ. Then about a month later Kohaku's little sister, **Ao, accepted Christ as well!** Now the father is the only one left in the family not saved. **Please pray for Mr. Nori Mizuma.** We had their family in our home for an evening and were able to witness to him, but he still is questioning it all. We are praying that he will get off work and decide to come to our church on father's day and be saved.

God's Provision

Another great joy and blessing is how God has provided for our house. For those of you who might not know, when we first moved to Japan the Lord led us to start renting an old but large Japanese home that needed a lot of work to it including replacing windows, old electric, plumbing, and putting in insulation (there was none) and dry walling over the mud walls. We were able to rent it much cheaper and for as long as we want. We have been slowly fixing it up over the last 4 years. In April John and Rachel King came from a supporting church in Michigan for two weeks to help work on our living room and study. They were a great encouragement and much of it was done by the time they had to return. We are so grateful to them for their help and to another couple in Indiana and a supporting church in Florida who provided for the funds to be able to do all this. We are still overwhelmed with their generosity. We pray that the Lord will really use this space for His glory and bringing Japanese to Him. Please pray for our next project to finish the exterior of the house.



Before



After

Bible School

Another joy lately has been the growth of **Mr. Kido and their family.** You might recall that some time ago he felt God's call to become a pastor, but since then we had not seen a lot of desire to pursue it. But recently he felt God's conviction about it and asked if we could begin teaching and training him for the ministry. So we began a Bible school ministry and right now pastor Rich is teaching him a course on the Christian Life every week. Since then we have seen a lot of growth in their family and it is so neat to see God preparing all of them for His work. Mrs. Kido started taking up the flute and we are enjoying hearing her special music.

Mother's Day- Father's Day

We were so glad the in **Ng family** who hadn't visited our church in over a year joined us for a Sunday in April and on Mother's day Sunday. Their little girl, Emma, had a liver transplant last year and this has been a connection with them because of Michael's PSC. **Please continue to pray for this family's salvation.** They are planning to come again on Father's day so please be in prayer for that. Our church will also be singing again at the old hospital that afternoon so pray for God's working and open doors to witness there.



New Opportunities

Another joyful event we have started is a ladies meeting once every month. Please pray this will be an opportunity to get to lead many ladies to Christ through it. Also we have a new student and her family coming for our Friday English class. Rion is six years old and she and her younger siblings and mother sit in on the class and all hear the Bible story. She and Abigail have hit it off and we pray the Lord will draw this family to Him.

Abigail's Corner

Abigail is always our constant little joyful fun loving girl. She absolutely loved spending time with Rachel who taught her many fun songs and jokes. She is eight next month and we have just recently put her on a Japanese learning program called Memrise which she is super excited about. She has been telling us lately she feels the Lord may be leading her to be a teacher someday. She has also been mentioning a desire to be a missionary to Japan and teach her own children. She is still little and so we know this can change but it is so exciting to see her wanting to serve God with her life.



Once again we are always so grateful for all your prayers for us and the ministry here in Japan. Thank you so much!
 Michael April and Abigail Riffel

We are so thankful for every one of you who pray for us and also help us financially.

It is because of you we can be here in Japan. Here are some prayer requests we would like to share with you all.

1. Our Spiritual and Physical health.

Please pray Michael's PSC levels will stay at bay or get lower. He is very strong at this time, and through your prayers we believe the Lord has much for us to do here in Japan for many, many more years. We know God has led us here, and desire to serve Him here in Japan for the rest of our lives.

2. Michael's Japanese language studies.

Michael will be preaching in Japanese almost every Sunday while Pastor and Mrs. Rich will be in the States on furlough (August-November 2016)

3. Abigail's Japanese studies. We are hoping she will be able to sing out of the Japanese hymnal by the end of this year.

4. Our English students and their families to be saved.

Friday afternoon class- Nina and Miri Ikeda (formerly Deura)
Rion, Yuzu, and Hao
Hisafumi Sakai

Saturday a.m. class- Reiya, Taku Hara (formerly Hayashi)
Ryunosuke, Yurina Hara

Fri or Sat evening class- Shyota and Ayane Fukushima
Ao and Kohaku Mizuma's father Mr. Nori to be saved

5. Faith Baptist church growth

For evangelism on Saturday afternoons we are passing the Gospel of Johns and church flyers to homes in Saku. Please pray people will read what they receive and that we will see souls saved through the tracts and Johns we pass out. We are so thankful to everyone who has made it possible for us to buy these Johns to pass out.

6. Pastor and Mrs. Rich- They will be going on furlough from August to November. Please pray for their health and safety as they travel to many churches. We are going to miss them immensely and will need lots of prayers as we try to fill their shoes. They do so much and we are already looking forward to November when they will be back with us. Please pray for Abi too at this time. She is very close to her grandparents and will miss them immensely.

7. Future events of the church

Father's Day 6/19, Barbecue and Fireworks outreach 8/15, Ladies Meetings (3rd or 4th Friday of every month) Please pray that God will bring revival to the city of Saku. Thousands around have never heard the gospel. Please pray we will be ever vigilant and God would lead us to those who are searching for truth.

8. Pray for Brother Kido and his Bible school training.

9. Pray for the Ng family to be saved.

Thank you once again for all of your prayers. May the Lord do a great work where you are as well as her in Japan. May the Lord bless you all!