



Dear Family, Friends, and
Prayer Supporters,

December 14, 2020

We wish you all a blessed Christmas and New Year. We praise the Lord for good health. We have heard of quite a few of you having Covid and our prayers go out to you. We recently suffered the loss of April's uncle David and appreciate your prayers for the family. We praise the Lord that He had received the Christ as his savior and we look forward to the great reunion in heaven one day.

Probably things have been a little different for you especially this time of year as it was for us. We were not able to have our annual Christmas program outreach at the hospital this year, but were able to have some more fellowship time with our church family at thanksgiving and get away to the hills for viewing the fall leaves together. *This Sunday is our Christmas Sunday* and we will be enjoying celebrating the birth of Christ and singing Christmas Carols. For lunch we will have what Japanese think of as an "American Christmas meal", KFC Chicken. It actually has to be ordered at least a month in advance here with long lines. Afterward we will be going to see an illumination park with many Christmas lights.

We praise the Lord that Shoko's husband has continued to come to church here and there and also went on our fall outing. He plans to come for our Christmas Sunday. Although he has not really shown interest in spiritual things and sometimes just plays with his daughter during service, we are praying that the Word of God that he is hearing will pierce the wall he has made toward Christianity. *Please continue to pray for Kentaro Maeda as well as the salvation of other unsaved church family members.*

In our last letter we asked prayer for Luiz' spiritual growth. Michael has been having weekly classes with him and he has really shown much growth in the last couple months. With your prayers and the help of medicine, He is doing much better with his tobacco addiction. He has continued to look for a job to no avail and his unemployment payments ended last month *so please pray for God's blessing on him as he seeks to obey the Lord and that God would supply work for him to do.*

Another huge praise is about Samantha. April has been having baptismal classes with her and it became apparent that although she had prayed last year in the Philippines, she had not understood or remembered much about it. She has since understood more and decided to pray again for reassurance of her salvation! *Please pray for her growth.* Abigail has been really enjoying going out tracking with her on Saturdays. Mom Rich has been preparing the flyers and John and Romans with a track each week. *Please pray for Japan and for God to use these in people's lives. Please also continue to pray for our English kid's salvation.* We are thankful that we could share the true meaning of Christmas with them and that they listened well. The other day one of our student's told us their favorite part of class was the Bible time. PTL

We want to especially thank you all for your love and prayers. We also have received several Christmas love offerings for which we are very grateful. Thank You!

-Michael, April, and Abigail Riffel