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Missionaries to



Greetings in Jesus' dear name,

*For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. -Isaiah 55:9* We have really seen the truth of this verse in our lives and ministry here lately.

## Camp

Thank you so much for your prayers for our church's first family Bible camp and that everyone in our church could attend. God really blessed. Even the week before it started, we were not sure very many could come. Sister Eiko said she could not attend because her family was coming to town for the Obon festival, but they ended up canceling their trip, and she was able to attend Camp. Another family also was sick right before camp, but the Lord healed them, and they were all able to come. God also worked in other's lives so that everyone from our church could attend the camp.



Amidst these things, Dr. O'Malley, our mission director and scheduled camp speaker, was stopped in Cambodia because of Visa issues. We were all so sad that he could not make it to camp but were reminded that God's ways are higher than our ways. Michael became the main speaker instead and spoke on the Armor of God. God worked through the messages and helped Michael. He went to the shed to pray, and God led him to chisel a sword out of wood while praying over the messages. Many strong decisions were made for the Lord during the week of camp and truly the Lord won a great victory! The wooden sword is now in the front of our church reminding us to put on our spiritual armor and fight the good fight of faith.



## Encouraging Visits

We were so excited that brother O'Malley could finally arrive in Japan a day after camp ended. He preached to our church on Sunday and we all enjoyed his ministry and fellowship. We realized how much we were missing Christian fellowship with other Americans. It was such a blessing to get to be with brother O'Malley for 5 days and then a week later welcome the White family to Japan for a couple weeks. We enjoyed helping the Whites see Japan and get everything set up for living here including renting the house mom had been



renting. Please pray for the White's support to come in so they can return to Japan in April. We look forward to serving the Lord with them as they learn Japanese.

## Living in a pagan land

As we continue to live in Japan, we realize more and more how pagan it really is here. This was evident in the Japanese school system lately. With Rose Okada not knowing Japanese well or having a car, we have been helping as her four girls go to day care and her oldest, Samantha, attends sixth grade. In November, Samantha's class will go on their big 6<sup>th</sup> grade overnight field trip that the parents have been giving money toward since 1<sup>st</sup> grade. However, because the trip includes going to the Buddhist temple, Rose quickly decided that her daughter will not go. We are happy about her decision; however, this goes against the pressure from the culture here to do everything together and not stand out from the crowd. Samantha's teacher struggled with this and called April several times trying to convince us to change Rose's mind. He had never heard what Christians really believe but April was able to share the gospel with him. Sadly, he didn't understand, still wanted Samantha to go and said that he didn't want to tell the class that she was a Christian. Later, we found out that her school textbook even teaches negative things about Christianity. We can tell that Samantha is really struggling spiritually and wanting to fit in. She has already faced times of bullying in her class for other reasons. Please pray for her under all this pressure and that she can have the courage to stand up and be a testimony for the Lord. These kinds of things burden our hearts more for the need for Christian education here. Please pray with us about this as well.



## Abi's corner

Abigail was a big help to us in camp. She was one of the team leaders and worked hard to motivate her team and plan and lead some of the camp games. We are proud of her stepping up to serve the Lord. Please keep praying for the editing process for her book and the 2<sup>nd</sup> book that she has started.

## Praises:

1. God blessed the camp and decisions were made.
2. Dr. O'Malley and the White's trip was encouraging.

## Prayer Requests:

1. Our Church Fall Outing & Thanksgiving Banquet Outreach
2. Samantha as she faces pressure in the school and the need for Christian education in Japan.
3. Eiko's growth and decision to be baptized.
4. Salvation of Eiko's Family, Mr. Kentaro, little Lisa and Anna, our English students and their mothers
5. Joshua and Luiz to desire to come to church
6. Abi's book writing and editing.
7. The White's support and God's guidance on the Derry Family

Serving the Lord in Japan, Michael, April, Abigail and Cathy