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Missionaries to



Dear Friends and Family,

"If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them, then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit." Leviticus 26: 3-4 We write you with such desire to follow our Lord as we continue the ministry here in Japan. We look forward to continue to see how God will work.

Christmas and Valentine Sundays

Thank you for praying for our Christmas program. Despite being delayed one week because we had Covid, God blessed with a few visitors. This past month we enjoyed a fun Valentine Banquet with our church family here as the children took their homemade chocolates they made to give to their unsaved or wayward fathers. Please specifically pray for Mr. Okada and Mr. Maeda's (Kentaro) salvation.



English/Bible Classes

It has been nice to be in full swing again with our English and Bible classes. Last week near the end of our Bible time, we had a little boy ask us that if he did not pray to Jesus for forgiveness of sins, would he go to hell. We told him yes and further explained the plan of Salvation. Later we saw that after the closing prayer this boy continued to pray making us think that he may have received Christ as his Savior. Please pray for this boy (Mr. H) and that we will be able to talk with him and his mother more individually.

Church Renovations

You might have noticed in our past letters that we asked for prayer for a new place to have church. After a few years of looking around, there has not been anything affordable in this area. So instead, God has led us to re-think the space that we do have. Our church is so excited to begin renovating our church so we can have separate classrooms and a nursery. Our church currently is a one-room church but with three different classes being taught at the same time in one room, you can imagine the confusion this causes at times, especially when the children get excited. We hope the children will enjoy their classes more and that we can start a junior church once the remodel is over. The rooms will also serve as a place to council people on Sunday without the whole church being able to hear. We are so thankful the church has been able to save enough to do this project. Please pray with us as Michael, Mr. Takagi and

our church people work together to build these rooms.

White Family

Another exciting event coming up is the White family's arrival. Our church members are so excited about their coming. We will be going to pick them up at the airport on April 25th and are looking forward to them being with us here in Japan. Please pray for them as they leave their family in America and begin learning Japanese and get accustomed to Japan.

We also are praying about another young lady, Kayla, who may come this summer for an 8-week internship. It is exciting to see the Lord bringing more workers to Japan. She is a missions major at Ambassador Baptist College and considering Japan for her future mission field. Please pray God will lead her. There is such a great need here.

Announcement:

Lord willing, we will be going on furlough next year from February to July 2024. We have been praying about this and believe it is God's timing. Please pray for Michael as he books more of these meetings and we make plans. We thank you all for your prayers and your support here in the ministry. Also, we say a big thank you to all of you who gave special Christmas offerings and those that have given special offerings lately for us to buy new tracts. We are working together with another missionary to have a large number printed and shipped to Japan.

Abi's corner

Abigail continues to stay very busy with school and church. We are so thankful for her ministry in our church. She has been doing the bulletins every Sunday and also does the minutes for our business meetings at our church. She is growing up right before our eyes, and we are so thankful that she loves the Lord. Please pray with us as Abi looks into colleges and we visit colleges on our next furlough.

Prayer Requests:

1. Our Church renovation project.
2. English Classes- especially Mr. H.'s salvation and a good opportunity to talk with him and his mother.
3. Eiko's growth and decision to be baptized.
4. Salvation of Eiko's Family, Lisa, and Anna, Mr. Okada and Mr. Maeda
5. Abi's book editing process and God's direction for her future.
6. The White Family's preparation for coming to Japan and also possibly Kayla for an internship this summer.

Thank you so much,
Missionaries to Japan,
Michael, April and Abigail and Cathy Rich