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Dear praying friends,

1Co 3:6, 9a says, “I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase ... For we are labourers together with God” We want to praise the Lord for all He is doing through your prayers in the ministry here in Japan.

God’s Direction for Narumi & Witnessing Opportunities

At the end of January, Narumi felt God’s clear leading to not finish her last year of Community college in the NY, but to come back to Japan so she can start preparing for the future God has for her. After returning, she began looking for a job and also concentrating on finishing her New Convert classes to get baptized and become a member of the church here. The Lord helped her have boldness in her job interviewing to say she needed Sundays off to go to Church, and wanted to spread the light of God to others. To her surprise the interviewer hired her on the spot. She can now start saving toward getting her license and going to Baptist College of Ministry, Lord willing, in 2027 when Abigail goes. She will be getting baptized and become a member here on March 29. We also praise the Lord that her mother, **Mrs. Sasazawa**, was able to come to our home for an evening, and we were able to share the gospel and enjoy singing and playing hymns together. (She loves music) She recently told Narumi that she decided not to go to the temples anymore. Please keep praying for the Salvation of Narumi’s family and her new job and preparation for Bible College and future ministry. Last week we took Narumi and her sister, **Misato**, on a day trip to have some time together and try to help her grow in the Lord. She works as a nurse on Sunday. We could see God leading us as we talked with her and now she is going to be studying her Bible more with purpose and trying to apply it to her life. Please pray for her growth.



More Opportunities to Witness

Thank you for praying for our Sunday Valentine outreach. Praise the Lord that Emma’s Japanese **mother** attended church for the first time. The Lord also provided an opportunity to witness to Emma’s **sister** in our home. And we have been praying for Emma’s American **father**. He recently had surgery for cancer and attended church the day after he got out of the hospital. He said he is a Christian but had not gone to church in many years. Please pray that he will really commit his life to the Lord and for Emma’s mother and sisters to come to know the Lord.



Please also keep praying for our English students and the salvation of their families. We have been going through the story of Moses and the Israelites. Last class was a great time to share Christ with them as we explained the Passover sacrifice and blood of the Lamb that saves from death those who will apply it. As many students are getting older, we wonder how much longer we will have opportunity to teach and witness to them. Please pray that the gospel will grip their hearts and draw them to faith in Jesus.

Growing Thrills and Pains

We have been thrilled that the **Akiyama family** have decided that this is their church and have been coming every week even though they have to drive over the mountains 1½ hours one-way. They have also taken their children out of the school because of so much Buddhist activities and decided to homeschool them. They are praying about possibly moving closer to Saku. Please pray for them and the many things that need to fall into place to make the move possible. Last Sunday they brought their American neighbor, **Ty**, with them to church. He said he is not religious but listened well to the message and the gospel. Please pray for God to work in his heart and for him to come again.

Our church has been seeing so many more visitors and people attending than it ever has these days. We are all really excited for **Shoma and Claire’s wedding** this month. Shoma has been growing and has started doing a devotional in our church once a month and also led the singing once. He also will be preaching a Sunday when we go to America. Please pray for him and their upcoming marriage. Also, pray for his mother, who has really become distant since he became a Christian, to accept his belief and come to the wedding. Along with all the growth has come some “growing pains” so to speak for our church. Please pray for unity and cooperation as we all adjust and move forward for God.



Abi’s Corner

Abigail is trying hard to finish up her studies and graduate high school on May 22nd. We will be going back to the states on May 12th for some meetings and her graduation, and be returning June 17th. Please pray for the preparations for this time and for the church in Japan while we are gone. She and April have started teaching English classes to some of the children and adults in our church on Saturday mornings. We are so proud of her.

Thank you so much for your prayers!

Your missionaries to Japan, Michael, April, and Abigail