

The Johnsons

Missionaries to Japan



April 2017

Conferences and Camps

Here in Japan, April is the start of the new school year. The kids have approximately a three week break from mid-March until early April. Many churches take advantage of this break to hold youth camps and conferences. Every year, the Kansai Independent Baptist Bible School in Kobe, Japan, hosts a Bible conference during the week of its graduation. This year marked the **50th anniversary of the start of the Bible School**. Fifty years ago, God put on the heart of missionaries Don Sisk, Ron White, and David Marcum to begin a Bible college in order to train men and women for the ministry. At the 50th anniversary, hundreds of graduates returned to celebrate everything that God had done. As I met and spoke with these men and women, I was greatly encouraged by the fact that 50 years ago, those missionaries had no idea what God had in store for them as they followed His leading.

The last week of March was youth camp held near Kyoto, Japan. Fifteen churches brought their young people to camp this year, and there were **125 teens attending**. Being a Christian teenager in Japan can be very difficult and discouraging. Often times, they are the only Christian in their school and sometimes the only teenager at church. Camp was a great time for them to fellowship with other Christian teenagers and renew their commitment to the Lord. Many great decisions were made for the Lord this year.

On a personal level, we have also been busy with school-related activities. **Timothy started first grade** at a Japanese elementary school, and **Karen began Japanese kindergarten**. Please pray for our children as they make this big transition. Through this process, we have had the opportunity to meet several young families and have started doing a kids play date on Saturdays with our new friends.

One of these mothers, **Mrs. "T," brought her two daughters to church** a few weeks ago. Although she usually works on Sundays, we are praying that she will be able to start attending.

On April 15, we are hosting a **Kids Easter Party**. Through the play date and other contacts, we have had several kids commit to coming. Many of them have never heard the gospel. Please pray as I share the Easter story that the message of God's love will speak to their hearts.

Praising Him,

Paul, Sarah, Timothy, Karen, Ethan
and Joshua Johnson

Mission Statement

Learn Language
Evangelize the Lost
Equip National Leaders
Plant Local Churches

Sending Church

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Mission Board

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Paul, Sarah, Timothy,
Karen, Ethan

"From the rising of the sun....the LORD's name is to be praised." Psalm 113:3