

The Johnsons

Missionaries to Japan



June 2018

“This is my first time in a Church”

One of our friends who we've invited multiple times to church finally came and told us that she had never been in a church before. We've had a busy and exciting past couple of months. Every year in May, our church does a special **barbecue outreach**. This year, we decided to do an “American” barbecue with hamburgers and hotdogs. We passed out thousands of fliers, invited our friends, and prayed hard. We were praying that 25 people would come. We were shocked when **44 people came with nine of them being first time visitors!** Our little church building was packed. Pastor Murakami from Grace Kobe Baptist Church came and preached two very simple gospel messages. Two people raised their hands that they wanted to know more about salvation. Please pray for Mr. “K” and Mrs. “K” (not related) as we follow up with them. It was exciting for our church members to see their prayers and hard work pay off.

In our last prayer letter, I mentioned that one of our church member's mother was nearing death. She did pass away in June. Our church member requested that I do a Christian funeral for her. This was the first time I have **led a funeral** in Japan. Even with a Christian funeral, many of the customs are different from what we are accustomed to in America. We did our best to be a help and comfort to the family. It was a small funeral for just family with most of them being unsaved. I preached a simple message from Psalm 23 and many of them thanked me afterward. Please pray that God would use this sad time to help them realize their need of salvation.

We have been making good progress on the **Topical Bible project**. We ordered the first draft and sent it to other pastors and missionaries for them to help proofread and check. I also used it to give to unsaved friends here asking them to check the Japanese in it. They promised to look over it carefully for me. We have already heard from many that it was a helpful tool and an encouragement. We are about to order the next **order of 20,000 Bibles**. We would like to distribute those in Aomori this summer. Would you pray with us that we would be able to meet this goal?

We are excited to **host a group** from one of our supporting churches, Desert Gateway Baptist Church, in August. Nine people will be coming to Japan for about 10 days. We have many things planned for the time they are here. They will be helping us with the Topical Bible distribution, a kid's outreach, and the **Nebuta festival outreach**. The Nebuta festival is the biggest festival in Aomori. Every year, 3 million people gather in Aomori city from all over Japan. It is a unique opportunity for us to reach people we normally wouldn't meet. We are excited about what God is going to do!

God bless,

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



Paul, Sarah, Timothy,
Karen, Ethan

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

Mission Statement
Learn Language
Evangelize the Lost
Equip National Leaders
Plant Local Churches

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