

# The Johnsons

## Missionaries to Japan



May 2019

### “I’ve never understood Easter before”

Like many in Japan, Mrs. “S” had no idea what Easter represents, or even what the word means. After hearing the explanation during our Easter outreach service, she thanked me for explaining the story so that she finally understood the meaning. Every year, Easter is our **first big outreach of the year** and is typically the first one that we can do a flyer distribution for after the snow melts. This year, we passed out thousands of flyers around our church in preparation for the Easter service. We invited our contacts from our English class, as well as other friends around town. We had an amazing turnout with **41 people in attendance**. I was able to present the Easter story and gospel during the service and everyone listened attentively, many hearing it for the first time. After the service, **one of the visitors made a profession of faith** in Christ. Please pray for Ms. “J” that she will grow in her faith.

During the month of March, we had the opportunity to travel down to Kobe twice for special meetings. The first was the **Bible conference and graduation** of the Kansai Independent Baptist Bible School. We were blessed to spend a week there fellowshiping with missionaries and Japanese pastors. We are thankful for their encouragement and support of our work. Near the end of March, I and a young man who attends our church, “K,” **travelled to Kobe for youth camp**. There were over 130 people in attendance. It was the first time for “K” to meet Christian young people who were excited about serving the Lord. Please pray for “K” and his spiritual growth.

The school year in Japan runs from April to March with short breaks scattered throughout the year. This April, our oldest son, **Timothy, entered third grade** and is working hard at learning new Kanji characters every day. Our daughter **Karen began first grade**. She has been at a Japanese pre-school for the past two years and her Japanese is quite good. She has been excited about starting school and has been doing a great job so far. Two weeks ago, she told me, “Dad, I want to be a Christian.” We sat down and talked about salvation and **she made a profession of faith** in Christ. Our hearts are thrilled!

Starting in May, we have several **special meetings** taking place. On May 26, we have a **spring barbecue** outreach scheduled at our church. Pastor Murakami from Grace Kobe Baptist Church in Kobe, Japan, will be coming to preach for us. Please pray that many will hear the gospel through this event. The following Saturday, June 1, we will be hosting a **violin concert** at a local music café. We have done this for the past few years and there is typically a good crowd of people attending. Please pray as the gospel is presented during the concert. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support of our ministry.

God bless,

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