

THE BRIGHAM FAMILY

Missionaries to

JAPAN



Bible Baptist Mission, Inc.

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Reporting on January - February 2021 <u>Field Address</u> 1-15-10 #106 Hyakkoku-cho Anjo-shi, Aichi-ken 446-0044 Japan

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"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:"

I Peter 3:15

We had mild weather this winter with hardly any snow in our city. Covid-19 cases have been pretty low in our area, so businesses and restaurants are generally open, and we have been able to carry on with the ministry with little hindrance, praise the Lord!

One afternoon at church, while the kids were just finishing up their home-school classes, we received a call from a man (in his 50's - 60's or so) who had gone to a Catholic church. He told me that he heard their teachings were false and wanted to know more about salvation in particular. He was searching for answers. We looked at some Bible verses and talked about sin, repentance, and Jesus who paid the penalty for sinful mankind. He understood the gospel message and so I asked him if he would like to trust Jesus Christ as his Saviour. Without hesitation he said yes, which took me by surprise, so I asked him again just to make sure. We prayed together and he asked for God's forgiveness and for Jesus to save him! What a blessing it was! (I don't recall ever having a phone conversation in Japan where a person was ready to be saved like he was...) Please pray for Mr. Tsutsumi (who lives north of Tokyo) and seemed to be facing some difficulties which he did not elaborate on.

On another occasion an elderly man (Mr. Miya) came to our church and wanted to know more about our church and wondered who we were. It happened to be that we had passed out tracts at his apartment building a couple of weeks previous. Most Japanese people hold to and observe the Buddhist/Shinto traditions that are prevalent in this society, and he was no exception. I was able to talk with him about the Creator who made heaven and earth, and about Christianity in general. He was troubled with our world and believed the current pandemic was a form of judgment that was a reflection of the evil in our world. I explained briefly the fall of mankind, sin, and the need for salvation through Jesus Christ. He said he would come back if he had further questions and gave me his business card. The card showed he was a former Shinto "chief priest" and ritual adviser. We pray the Lord will work in his heart and save his eternal soul.

For those who only receive our prayer letter by hard copy (or do not have email), this is a brief update on my wife's health. Keiko started having pain and swelling around her eyes a few months ago. She saw several doctors about this and was eventually diagnosed with thyroid-associated ophthalmopathy, which is also an auto-immune related disease. Around mid-February she went into the hospital for about 2 weeks of radiation and steroid treatments. According to the doctors, the initial treatments went well, and they are now slowly reducing her medication as they monitor her progress over the next couple of months. We thank you so much for your many prayers for her!

While in the hospital my wife asked us to start praying for a lady she met (in her 70's) named Mrs. Kameyama. She was in the hospital for surgery and was afraid to die. (Her daughter had died from complications with cancer.) My wife told her that she was not afraid to die because of her faith in Jesus, and also mentioned that I pastored a church in town. The next day Mrs. Kameyama said that it must be nice to have many people praying for you. Keiko then told her that actually we

are praying for you and she was very thankful for it. Over the next few days my wife gave Mrs. Kameyama her salvation testimony, along with a tract, and bookmarkers that had Bible verses on them. We are praying for the Holy Spirit to work in her heart.

<u>Prayer Requests:</u> 1) For the Lord to work in the heart of Mr. Miya and Mrs. Kameyama, 2) For the spiritual growth of Mr. Tsutsumi, 3) For more opportunities to talk with Mrs. Kanda, Mr. Kikumoto, and Mr. Nakao about the gospel. 4) For Keiko's eye treatments and recovery 5) For God's blessing on the tracts we distribute and preaching on the streets of our city.

Thank You very much for the time you sacrifice in prayer, for the ministry in Japan and for our family!

Sincerely in Christ,

The Brigham Family