

# Chang4Japan

Making disciples of Jesus in Japan for the growth of the Gospel in Japan



**WORLDVENTURE**  
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There are many countries in the world that celebrate Christmas, Japan is no exception. However, Christmas in Japan means time for a party. Japan has the most spectacular Christmas lighting in the world, every major city in Japan have gorgeous Christmas decoration. They also have another strange tradition, which is to eat KFC during Christmas. You need to pre-order in order to get one in Christmas, this is unheard of in the US. Although Japan has the most extravagant Christmas celebration, yet very few people know the true meaning of Christmas. 99.7% of Japanese have no personal relationship with Jesus, and many of them don't even know who Jesus is. Christmas has been completely commercialized in Japan. They thought the brief moment of happiness can bring them lasting joy, and this is what the devil want them to believe. The worldliness keeps them away from knowing the true meaning of Christmas. God wants to give the true joy and peace to us, the angel said: "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." (Luke 2:10, ESV) Now, the message of the gospel has given to us, this is another reason why we felt called to be missionaries to Japan. Our Lord Jesus has laid down everything, and become the greatest missionary. Let us follow His footstep, and care for the Japanese, the second largest unreach people group in the world. Would you prayerfully consider partner with us by investing in us so we can reach Japan for Christ?



## Current Status:

We thank the Lord for giving us some opportunities to share the gospel need in Japan with some fellowship groups. Many Chinese has a negative view toward Japanese. However, by the love of Christ, we learn to love and forgive our enemy. This is not easy, but this is how God demonstrated His love toward us, while we are still a sinner, Christ dies for us. Christ's love will be manifest when we learn to forgive and love our enemy. Just like Christ has first forgiven us and loved us. The Japanese need the gospel. They are a unique people group, which God have given them great ability and talent, however, they don't know Jesus, nor attributed their success to the one true God. What a pity. Over the past week, my nephew came to visit us from Japan. (He is Japanese) He helped me understand some of the religious' view of the Japanese. Most Japanese does not know the gospel, and most Japanese don't talk about religion. Although they worship many gods, the reason why they worship these deities is only for seeking fortune, received blessing and seeking assistant from the gods so they can accomplish what they want. They seldom think about if these deities are real or not. The prosperity they enjoy in Japan make them care only about the everyday life, not many people ask the big question such as "what is the meaning of life?" I thought to myself, isn't we are the same without Christ's teaching? "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?" (Matt. 16:26, ESV) The devil wants to blind us by thinking this life is most important, and neglect the more important question, the eternity! We plan to visit Japan in April, I will be preaching on Easter, please pray for me, so I will have the word to speak to the Japanese.



聖誕快樂、新年快樂

Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year



### Prayer request:

- 1) 2017 will be a year of transition. We will engage in many conversations for missions, visiting many churches and people, traveling many places. Please pray for our spiritual walk with the Lord, and our physical wellness. We ask for safety and protection.
- 2) We will be stepping down from full-time pastoral ministry at the end of March/2017 and focus our time and energy on mission partner development. This means we will not have a regular income and we will need to depend on the money we get from selling our house. Please pray that the Lord will provide a good buyer in due time.
- 3) May God open more doors and opportunities for us to share the mission to Japan; may God call churches and people to partner with us. Since the financial need to Japan is very significant, we ask the Lord to help us trust in His sovereignty and be patient for His provision.
- 4) In the past year and a half, my mission agency has lost 3 missionaries to Japan. The wife of our field leader, Bola Taylor, past away due to cancer on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at the age of 54. Also, a family of five, Jamison and Kathryn Pals, ready to depart for Japan in October 2016, were killed in car accident on their way to their final mission training. This reality saddens us, but like Pastor John Piper prayed at their memorial service “Lord, in the name of Jesus, and by the blood of these five, I ask, raise up — raise up! — a legion of replacements for the global glory of his imperial Majesty, Jesus Christ.” <http://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/john-piper-s-funeral-prayer-for-a-family-of-five>. May we be sent out by God to be that replacement.
- 5) May God continue to work in Japan and open many more doors for churches in Japan. May God send revival to this land so that they will see that Christ is more precious than anything. Lastly, may God call Japanese Christians to be God’s global mission force one day.

### How to become mission partner:

We have two sets of budgets, first is the one-time launching budget, which covers Japanese language acquisition for both of us for two years, office setup, accommodation setup, moving, travel, cross-cultural adaptation training, etc. The second set of budgets is for “on-going” (monthly) need, which covers rental, children education, transportation, insurances and evacuation insurance, retirement, taxes, ministry fund, salary, and so on). We must raise 100% or more before we can depart for Japan. May God, call you to partner with us in reaching the Japanese for Christ.

### There are two ways you can give

- 1) Online set-up contribution (automatic bank transfer or credit card (credit card companies charge 3% in every transaction))
  - 2) Mail Check, please contact me first, I will send you the instruction. (Please **do not** send check to me personally, **do not** write check to Gary Chang)
- (Please check out our website [www.worldventure.com/chang4japan](http://www.worldventure.com/chang4japan) and click give)



Pray for Japan