

March/24/2017 Issue No. 7 www.chang4japan.org facebook.com/chang4japan chang4japan@worldventure.net

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

This month marked the 6 anniversary of 3/11 earthquake in Japan. The pain from this disaster still deeply affect many Japanese even until this day. Through this tragedy God open my eyes to see how fragile life is, with a blink of an eye, thousands of people die. We felt God's calling, so we begin to seek His guidance. Six years later, the Lord has opened a door for us and preparing us for the path to become missionaries to Japan. Even though many areas has been rebuilt, there are still 120,000 people living in temporal housing. Our impression of Japanese people is a country of politeness, people are very kind. However, we do not know that many victims of the disaster are excluded and discriminated by Japanese society. Especially a lot of children from the disaster area, they were bullied and been called name such as "Radiation, Germ." Bullied is one of the major issues in Japan, I wonder why is that? One reason is because of Japanese society value social harmony, on the flip side, if you are stand out, special, you will be excluded and bullied. These victims of disaster didn't choose to be like this, but the situation made them special. Japanese also have a superstition, they do not want to have any close relationship with these victims because that will bring them bad luck. Therefore, we see many bullied because of these false ideas. Just like the racial issues in the USA, the only solution of reconciliation can only happen in Christ Jesus. When we see our own sins and received Christ forgiveness. We experience Christ's mercies and love, so we begin to love and have compassion. These victims of disaster need someone who is willing to listen, someone who is willing to extend a loving hand, they need the care



of the church. This is why it is important to plant more churches and strengthen churches so they can minister to the community when the next difficulty happen. May God strengthen the churches in Japan and have a loving heart to help the marginalized people in society.

NHK-6 anniversary report https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/20170311\_03/



In February, I had the opportunity to attend the RJC (Reach Japanese for Christ) mission conference. They invited a renown artist, Mr. Makoto Fujimura to share how to talk to the Japanese. He specifically mentioned the movie "Silence". This movie take place in the 16-17 century Japanese Tokugawa shogunate era. Japan was once a fertile ground for the Gospel, the population back then was about 10 million, with estimate nearly 300,000 Catholics. However, the Japanese military government felt threatened, so they carry out a country lockdown policy, which isolate themselves from outside influence. This

including expel and kill all missionary work, and forcing Japanese to registered with the Buddhist temple. They know martyrdom will created more convert, so they tortured and force all Catholics to "openly deny Christ." This is one of the reasons why Japan is still rejecting the gospel, because



they have negative association with the Gospel. For nearly 300 years the message of Christ was ban and became illegal in Japan. Makoto Sensei also a contributor to this film production, wrote a book called *Silence and Beauty* to explain the Japanese history and culture. He wants to help us understand the Japanese mindset. It was a difficult time and sad history. However, God did not forget this nation, even though devil's trick is to blind the eyes of the people, and prevent them to see the true joy and hope in Jesus Christ. God has been stirring up this nation, especially since the 3/11 triple disaster, we heard signs of revival, and many more potential opportunities for the gospel to be preach, let us pray for this nation, may God have mercy and save many more Japanese for His kingdom.

Makoto Fujimura website http://www.makotofujimura.com/

Silence http://www.silencemovie.com/



## Status Update:

- 1) I am thankful to God for His love and blessing. We have accomplished four years of pastoral ministry and left with love and blessing from the family of CBCTVC. Although we will be apart but not separated, because we will meet again when Christ return.
- 2) We will begin our international travel on 3/27, first, we will go back to Taiwan to visit family, then we will be going to Japan on April/14~27. During these 14 days, we will have a retreat with JBF family, and get to meet all the missionaries from WorldVenture. We will also have some orientation and learn how to prepare for the moving, get a taste of living in Japan and get to see our future ministry. I also have the honor to preach on Easter, your prayer is much appreciated. We mention that this is "pre-field" ministry, in other words, the expenses for this vision trip was not included in our total mission budget. We have to raise additional fund for this trip. Last month we mention the budget is \$3500, the calculation is slightly off, the new budget is \$3900. We are thankful for several donations, we have received \$3200, now only need \$700 more. If you like to help us make it, please contact us. chang4.japan@worldventure.net
- 3) The plan for the following one year or so for us will be working on the book report (about 7~10 books). Attending two or three more training. 1) is how to education children in the third culture, 2) Culture adaptation 3) language learning acquisition (we might not need to take this class). Also, the biggest challenge will be, traveling to different churches, cities, states, to share the spiritual need of Japan, and inviting more churches and people to partner with us. Please pray that the Lord will open up more opportunities for us.
- 4) We are thankful that our monthly budget has reached 31%, one-time ministry budget has reached 20%. We seeking more opportunities to share the gospel need in Japan, if your church or someone you know may have heart for Japan. Please contact us.

1	Praise		Prayer	
4	We have accomplished four years of ministry at TVC	•	Please pray for our safe travel in the coming month.	
•	Thank the Lord for providing for us, we can press forward. Children begin to understand we are on the path to becoming	•	Please pray for the vision trip, God will prepare us well, and the preaching on Easter Sunday.	
	missionaries to Japan.	•	Please pray for our training, partner development, pray that God will provide more opportunities.	

## How to become mission partner:

Thank you for partnering with us in reaching Japanese for Christ.

Your sacrificial giving will certainly be a blessing to us and the Japanese people.

- If you would like to support us long-term, you may do that by going to <u>www.worldventure.com/chang4japan</u> then click <u>Give</u> and then click <u>start or modify a commitment</u>. If you live outside of the USA, please select XX on state.
- If you would like to support us one-time, you may do that by going to <u>www.worldventure.com/chang4japan</u> then click <u>Give</u> and then click <u>Special donation</u> if you live outside of the USA, please select XX on state.
- You can also send a check (US Or Canadian check only) to Worldventure, please make payable to WorldVenture, and at memo write **#275** please do not write our name on the check. Send the check to

## WorldVenture 1501 W. Mineral Ave, Littleton CO, 80120-5612

Note: All currency is in US dollar, so please convert the right number, before you input your desire donation.