

Chang4Japan

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



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March 11/2019 is the 8th year anniversary of Tōhoku triple disaster. It is also our sixth months in Japan. I heard that this disaster has impacted so many people in Japan, that Japanese are more open to spiritual conversation than before. Although I cannot verify that, however, this disaster did change my family. Even though I learned about the spiritual need of Japan from mission research. I never thought I would come to Japan. Until 3/11/2011, when we saw the shocking video on TV, God uses this disaster as the defining push for us to seek the Lord for coming to Japan to serve.

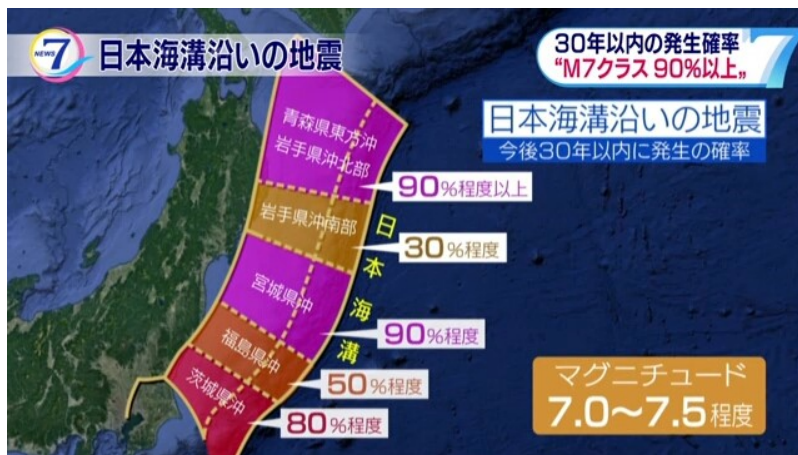
No one likes disaster, but somehow God allows it for some purposes. Let us reflect on this, and maybe it could motivate us to pray for Japan. May God open more doors and lead Japanese to come to know Him, believe Him and follow Him.

- 1) Disaster reminded us that this world is temporal, it is not our home
- 2) It allows us to reflect on the meaning of life. Life is short, what is the meaning to it?
- 3) Christian churches and organization begin to work together, which is a good thing. I read an article, written by a Japanese pastor, saying although many disaster relief organizations stop going to the affected area, much Christian care movement remain.

<https://www.lausanne.org/content/lga/2017-07/christian-witness-amidst-disaster-japan>

Reflect on these disasters, I felt we as a Christian church, we have a divine duty to created "fellowship" for people who live in Japan, because we alone possessed the eternal hope that everyone needs, we are the channel of God's love and blessing. This is why we need to understand the biblical truth of "fellowship." We are a journey together, walking toward the heavenly calling, which is going back to where God created us to be, going back to the eternal kingdom, the new heaven, and new earth and worship our Lord and creator forever. Would you pray for the Japanese, that God would call many more of them to be embraced by the love of God and believing in Jesus Christ as their only hope and salvation? The following link is a video of a Japanese Christian, reflected on what happened on 3/11/2011 and how God called him into ministry.

<https://www.facebook.com/OMFJapan/videos/420729195339875/>



Expert predicts that there is a very high chance that Japan will experience a major earthquake in the next 30 years, Japan is always trying to be prepared. From my kid's school, every semester they have about 2 drill practice for Earthquake prevention exercise. However, we all know no one can fully prepare for this sudden disaster because earthquakes cannot be forecast like Typhoon (which is another major disaster in Japan). The materials and stability of society hinder most Japanese to pause and think about "what is the meaning of life?" Even if they have, few of them know any Christian nor have enough exposure to the gospel message. Please pray that the Lord will send a spiritual awakening in Japan, may God draw people to think about the meaning of life, and give churches, missionaries many more opportunities to share the good news of Jesus Christ with many more people.



The poster was displayed at Shibuya, which is the center for many young people. Yahoo Japan provides this poster to remind people, do not forget about 3/11. Imagine if the tsunami hit the center of Tokyo today, the red mark is the high of the tsunami, which is 16.7m high.

Ministry update:

Ground Breaking for the mini outreach center

- Do you remember from my last newsletter (Dec/2018) that the church I am serving in Japan has been preparing to buy land and build an outreach center? Look at these pictures, it has become a reality. Praise the Lord for providing the resources to buy this land and begin the building process.
- Click the following link to see how Japanese build this building. It was like making Lego.
- <http://www.lavermansinJapan.org/media/video/DGCHouseChurchConstruction1.mp4>



More Mission Outpost Expansion

- There is another project going on with our team. I have mentioned it previously. This project is at the final preparation stage.
- We are looking for more financial partners to make this happen.
- Please take a look the following link for more details.
- <http://www.lavermansinJapan.org/muko/>



Serving Japanese with the Word of God



- Thank the Lord that I have been giving the honor to preach on the first Sunday of 2019. From this year onward, I will be scheduled to preach about once every 2 months. I certainly need your prayer support for my spiritual and mental preparation. Thank you.
- I also co-teach Adult English Sunday school with my teammate from time to time.

Jennifer creative outreach to connect with Japanese ladies

• Through Abby's school, Jennifer had chances to be friends with many Japanese mothers. How to build the relationship and share the love of Christ with them is an ongoing challenge and brainstorming. Please pray for Jennifer and many mothers who she will meet on many occasion. Pray that they can build lasting friendship, and Ultimately, lead them to the everlasting friend our Lord Jesus Christ.



Praise and Prayer request:

Gary's praise and need

- Thank God for answering your prayer that I have passed the beginner level exam. Now I am at the intermediate level (Start learning N3~N2 materials). (However, there is another exam coming on 3/20, although school only require us to reach 50% or more to move on to next level, this test will have an intermediate and some advanced level material, please pray for my preparation.)
- The intermediate level has several tracks, I will be taking a track with more opportunity to practice speaking. Please pray that I can learn well and hopefully be able to carry out a Japanese conversation soon.
- **I will be traveling to Korea on 3/24~3/29 to attend Lausanne EA YLG 2019**, Lausanne Mission movement is one of the most important mission movement in the world. I have the privilege to attend this conference. May God use this mission conference to mobilize many more people for the gospel, and pray that I will good networking with other Christian leaders.

Jennifer's Praise and need

- Jennifer really has made many friends with school mothers. Many potential opportunities, however, how to delegate time and energy become another challenge. Please pray for wisdom and energy to have the best time investment in each relationship.
- Learning Japanese is also a very big challenge for Jennifer, although she has a tutor coming to home to teach, the progress is a bit slow. Please pray that the Lord will give her the ability to learn this language.

Caleb's Praise and Need

- He is making new friends and getting a little bit more use in this new environment. His school teacher is very helpful and also helping us to sort out our concern that Caleb had experience in school. Learning Japanese still is the biggest challenge, but he has some improvement now. May God continue to give him the desire to learn.
- We are looking for a home tutor to teach him Japanese and maybe some school subject, please pray that we can find a suitable person to help him learn.

Abby's Praise and Need

- Abby is having a very hard time going to school in the first month. However, things get better now, she also makes new friends and begins to speak Japanese to herself, even though she still doesn't know what they mean.
- Please pray for her language learning and spiritual growth in Christ. May the Lord work in her heart and come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.



Contact us

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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
10th wedding anniversary celebrated in Japan