



The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. 8 Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. (1 Pet. 4:7-8)

This year has just begun for about two months, but we already been bombarded with so much bad news. From the Australian wildfire to earthquakes around the world, and now the new coronaviruses. Some people said, if I can, I want to go back to 2019.

This reminds me of a song that I used to hear from my mother when I was young. The song is based on (1 Pet. 4: 7-8). The end of all things is near! In fact, the Bible already warns about the end day. Nations fight each other and famines, earthquakes everywhere

(Matt. 24: 6-8). This might sound scary, but this is just the sign that the return of the Lord is coming. Although no one knows the day of Christ's return, we can know for sure that each day is one day closer to His return. In moments like these, what should Christians do? We should not be panic, but "making the best use of the time, because the days are evil." (Eph. 5:16). We only have limited time to share the good news of Jesus Christ, we should give ourselves for the spreading of the gospel. Trust in the Lord with our life, because we know that whether it is life or death, our life is in the hands of God. if God wants us to stay on the earth, we should do our duty faithfully and continue with His calling. If the Lord wants to take us home, that is also gain, just like Apostle Paul's teaching, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21).

In 1 Pet. 4:7-8, we also see, the most important thing is to "keep loving one another." We imitate Christ to love one another because love can calm fear and chaos. The love of Christ compels us to care for this world, and care for the lost souls. It gives us the motivation to get involved in the mission and share the love of Christ to all people. Next, with a sober-minded in prayer. We need to be alert, and not following the fallacy and fear. In the end time, there are many extreme or distorted bible teachings that are spreading like viruses. In Japan, you can see many activities from the various cult that are eagerly spreading their false message. Yet most Japanese could not tell what is the difference between Christian and J—W.

Korea was greatly affected by the new coronavirus, mainly because of a cult that has radical practices, which caused serious spread. This is one of the reasons why most Japanese doesn't like organized religion. As a missionary, we not only need to share the true gospel, we also need to guard against heresies. Please pray for Japan. Japan is not only threatened by the new coronavirus but also faces great spiritual challenges. 2020 is an important year for Japan because the Japanese government has put in more than 25 billion USD in this project, not to mention much private business have invested countless money in summer Olympic. Japan is hoping to reach an economic revival from the summer Olympic game. The coronavirus has already greatly impacted the economy, If this game is canceled, then Japan could enter an unprecedented economic disaster. Let us pray. Pray that the spread can be stopped. No matter what happens, may the hope of Jesus Christ be made known to the millions of Japanese. May God use this crisis to turn much more Japanese heart toward God, find true peace and hope in Jesus Christ. Please pray the leaders, government, that they will have the ability to deal with this crisis. Last but not least, pray for all the Christians in Japan, may God strengthen us, and give open doors to share the true gospel. May God protected missionaries and church leaders to united in God's love.



Ministry update

- Whenever I got a chance to preach during the march, I will talk about the great Tohoku earthquake. March 11, 2011, God used this earthquake to call us on the path to the mission. 9 years have passed, even though it has been a while. God continues to use this disaster to call many more people into mission. (3/1st/20 Preaching)
- Some veteran missionaries told us, over the past 20 years, almost no new missionary comes to Japan. They pray that the Lord may send more workers because the church in Japan is aging and shrinking. The church in Japan is still very much need for new missionaries. However, in the past 3~5 years, suddenly, new missionaries start coming. God has answered their prayer.
- Our mission organization grows so much in the past 5 years. Each year there are about 2 or 3 units (each family is a unite) been send to Japan. In fact, we just host a young couple missionaries from the US, they landed in Japan on Monday. Just like (Matt. 9:37-38) asking the Lord of the harvest to send in workers. Preparing to come to Japan is a long process, yet God is making it happened. May God use us and them and many more new missionaries in Japan, for the growth of His church in Japan.
- This year our team will begin 2 new meeting locations, with the goal of a church plant in these two new locations. Please pray that we will have unity in Christ and good teamwork.



Gary prayer request

- Please pray for our move at the end of this month. Everybody knows, there are many things you have to prepare and do during the move. In our case, everything will be in Japanese, please pray that I will be able to communicate, and manage this well, and not to misunderstand or miscommunicate anything to whoever is involved.
- I have the rest of this year to work on my Japanese. I plan to engage fully in ministry starting 2021, even though we already involve in some ministry and I have been rotating on preaching, so I need to make good use of the rest of this year. Please pray that I will learn more, and hopefully, I can reach the advance-intermediate level. (currently, I am still intermediate level.)
- In order to maintain our US status, we need to go back to the US to renew our "travel document." Jennifer will be going back first around the end of May (her document due 1 month earlier than mine), and I will return around the middle of June (I wait for Caleb to finish his semester). Please pray for our travel, and all the paper works. We plan to return to Japan around the end of July.

Jennifer prayer request

- Please pray that we can build a good friendship with our new neighbors and share God's love with our new neighbors.
- The bus moms from Abby's school are very happy to come to our home, but every time when the church has events, we try to invite them, however, they will decline politely. Please pray that the Lord will continue to work in their hearts, and asking the Lord to give us wisdom and the opportunity to share the gospel with them. One of the mothers told me that her husband had to move to another place because of his work. Left behind her and 2 daughters. I hope that I can have more opportunities to care for her and share the love of Christ with her. (In Japan this is common, due to work requirement, many families live apart. As you can imaging, this is not the best setting. Please pray for them).
- We are planning to invite these kids and mothers to attend egg hunt for Easter, and we will share the story of Easter to them. Please pray for the preparation.
- April this year, Abby will be going on her final year in kindergarten, please pray that she will meet good new friends, and I would have many more opportunities to meet new mother, make friends with them and share God's love with them.
- Please continue to pray for my Japanese study. I attend community class once a week and coupled with self-study, may the Lord to grant me wisdom and ability. Help me find a way that I can learn well.



Caleb prayer request

- We thank the Lord that Caleb is doing well in his new school, this photo was taken in social study. The Korean student's parents from school share about Korea with the students.
- The only downside is, this school does not offer Japanese classes (every lesson was taught in English). For this reason, Caleb's Japanese has not improved since he transfers to this new school. Learning a new language needs to have motivation and willingness, unfortunately, with his previous negative experience, he finds not desire to learn Japanese. Please pray that the Lord will work in his heart, hopefully, he will have the willingness to learn Japanese.



Abby prayer request

- March is the end of the semester for the Japanese school system. Thank you for your prayer. Abby no longer resists going to school and enjoys her school. Her teacher also told us that her Japanese ability has improved a lot. He begins to speak basic Japanese with classmates and teachers.
- From April, she will be entered into her final year. May God provide a good teacher and classmate for her. Those kids who wait at the same bus stop will be graduating to Elementary. Even though we can not see them as often, we hope to continue our friendship with them.

Financial Update

- In the last newsletter, we mention that we are short of about \$1000 USD per month. Thank God for providing, some churches and brothers and sisters have increased or start new offering commitment. Thank you so much, may the Lord remember all your sacrifices.
- There is still some update with the new year budget and some changes to commitment. Therefore, we are still in short of about \$850 US per month. We sincerely invite you to playfully consider partner with us. No matter how much it might be, we trust that we are partners together in Christ, and we will receive the joy and reward from the Lord together, as we see the Japanese come to faith in Jesus Christ.

- Please click the following link to become our financial partner. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions.
- <https://www.worldventure.com/chang4japan>

Partner with us to reach Japan for Christ:

- You can also send a check to Worldventure, please make payable to **WorldVenture**, memo write **#275**
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