



311 Tohoku Earthquake 10th anniversary  
311東日本大地震10周年

**But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. (Gal. 4:4-5)**

On March 11, 2021, was the Tohoku triple disaster's 10th anniversary. Ten years ago, nearly 20,000 people were lost due to this disaster. Last month, in the same region, a 7th-grade earthquake happened at the same place. According to the expert, this was the "aftershock" of that original 9th-grade earthquake, 10 years ago. Been in Japan for the past 2 years, we experience several small earthquakes. However, this time, the 7th-grade earthquake was the longest I ever felt. The earthquake feels like a floating sensation that makes you seasick. Thankfully no major disaster happened. However, this earthquake reminded us that life is fragile, and everything could have changed in the blink of

an eye. The Coronavirus has once again brought Japan to face the "suicide tsunami." In 2020, more than 20,000 people died from suicide. Japan is a country that seems rich and affluent, often faces multiple difficulties due to natural disasters and social pressure. Where is the hope for the future? 10 years ago, the triple disasters shocked the world. We also feel the call of God because of this earthquake. At the end of 2011, we came to Japan for a vision trip. We prayed to the Lord. "If God called us to Japan, we will answer the call." However, 8 years pass by. It seems God is not calling us to Japan. After a period of time serving in the local church, God begins to open doors and lead us on the path of a mission. 10 years after, we are now living in Japan, learning the new culture and language. When we look back and count God's leading and blessing, we were amazed by His grace and guidance. Looking back at my growth journey, it seems about every 10 years. There is a turning point.

My family immigrated to New Zealand when I was about 12, then after about 10 years, I left NZ and went to the state for theological education. The next 10 years, I finish my seminary degree, got married, and enter into pastoral ministry. After about 7 years serving in the local church, God gave us a "Kairos" at the appointed time. He leads us into a cross-culture mission. Our lives are in God's hands. Our prayer is that in the next 10 years, God will use us to spread His good news in this needy land. We pray that God will give Japan a "Kairos" just like the book of Galatians says that God sends His son to save us at the appointed time. As we reflect on the 10th anniversary of the Tohoku earthquake, let us pray for Japan, pray that God will cause many more Japanese to hear the gospel, understand the truth, receive salvation, and become Christ-followers.





### Ministry update

- In the past, we have shared the challenges we face in ministry are team unity and dynamics. After going through some discussion and prayer, our team decided to reorganize and redistribute responsibility. We changed from a single leader model to a multileader model of teamwork. With this new setup, 3 of us leaders can share the workload and responsibility because we will have many more new units coming to join us very soon. (this year, there will be two new units to join us, and maybe 3 more units on the following year.) To maximize and balance well with all member's gifts, we believed the new setup could benefit everyone and help with ministry and church expansion. Please continue to pray for us as we continue to work and develop this new team.
- The church that we serve will have a sister who will receive baptism on this coming easter. Many Japanese have a good impression of Christianity, and some may visit a church for a very long time. However, taking the step to be baptized is huge. Because how to deal with culture and historical baggage is always a challenge. Please pray for Mrs. K. May God protect her and strengthen her as she prepares to take the step and be baptized to become a Christ-follower.

### Family Update and Prayer request

- As you may know, we stay in the US for half a year due to pandemics. Even though I have done some Japanese studies during that time, but not very systematic. Therefore, Japan's field leader decides to give me 6 more months to study Japanese. Now I am back in regular Japanese lessons. I am thankful that the Lord provides a Japanese Christian who can practice Japanese's conversations every week. Also, another Japanese gentleman is willing to have a Japanese conversation with me once per week. The gentleman is not a Christian. Please pray for this man, Mr. O, ask the Lord to provide the opportunity for us to talk about the gospel. I pray that I will have a chance to share the gospel with in the near future.
- Abby is about to finish Kindergarten on March 23, and on April 5th, she will enter into the first grade of Japanese elementary school. This will be a big transition.
- Recently, she is more willing to learn Japanese and has progressed in all many ways. The next challenge is to learn how to walk to school by herself. In Japan, the school requires parents to train their kids to walk to school. The distance is about 10-15 mins walk, but there is no pedestrian way, and there are many bicycles, cars are all using the same road. Please pray for her safety and pray that she can learn the way fast.
- Caleb will graduate from his current school at the end of May. He will be going to the Christian Academy of Japan for 6th grade and beyond. This school is located in the northside of Tokyo. It is further away from home. One trip train ride will take about 80 -90 minutes one way. Please pray for him that he can adapt to the new schools quickly and have the ability to take a train to the new school by himself when he begins there.
- After Abby goes to elementary, Jennifer will have more regular time to learn Japanese effectively. Please continue to pray for her language development. Also, please pray for all the Japanese mothers that we have become friends with. Pray that we can continue to build a good relationship with them and share the love of Christ with them.



### Financial Update

- God is Jehovah Jira. Since we share our financial needs last time, God called one more church and brothers and sisters to partner with us. Thank you for your sacrifices and dedication. Our monthly giving now **only in short of \$280 US** per month. We sincerely invite you to consider partnering with us or increase your giving prayerfully.
- Please click the link to become our financial partner. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions. <https://www.worldventure.com/chang4japan>
- Or you can also send in checks, Payable to **WorldVenture, Memo #275, WorldVenture 20 INVERNESS PL. E ENGLEWOOD CO 80112-5622**

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