



Sunset at Shibuya, Tokyo. Mt. Fuji.

Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you. ” (John 20:21)

The life of a Christian is to be sent because the Christian faith is not about leaving the world and being isolated for spiritual training, but entering into the world so that we can be light and salt to the world. In light of that, I wonder how can we actually be light and salt in the midst of pandemics? From March/2020 until now, Japan has declared a “state of emergency” the 3rd time, but the pandemic in Japan seems like have no sign of slowing down, and it is getting worse. Uncertainty, anxiety, and out of patients is a common symptom of this situation. With my weakness, I would wonder and ask the Lord, “what are you doing !?” Perhaps, God wants us to calm down and spend time with Him, to recharge and refocus. As people said, rest is for the purpose so we can travel further. Through the life of quarantine and social distance, God helps me to practice spending more time with Him and deeply reflect on God’s calling to me. God sent us not to let us fight this battle alone, but He wants us to be the channel of blessing to the people. We have to be reminded and be close to the heart of the Lord. Experiencing God’s love and life so that we can respond to this chaos with love and compassion. This pandemic reveals much social chaos in front of our eyes. Such as fighting over the mask or not, or the extremes of cover oneself with a full set of PPE, no one wants to live with the virus, and I guess many people imagine how to eliminate the virus. Nevertheless, according to some public Health Experts, this virus will coexist with humans just like the flu virus, It certainly is bad news, and we can’t help it. This leads me to think about the true chaotic element, “the seed of sins” that is in all of us, the old self, the temptation of the world, which is the cause of all kinds of chaos. We know we are not hopeless because the answer is in the promise of God. One day we will shout for victory just like the apostle Paul wrote in the book of 1 Corinthian. **“O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Cor 15:55–57 (ESV))**

The Pandemic has happened for over one year now. Many Western countries have gradually back to normal. However, many Asian countries are still under a lot of fear and uncertainty, especially in Japan. In about 2 months, Japan supposes to have the Olympics. Yet, Japan is one of the less vaccinated country in the G7 country. Up to now, only about 3.5% of the population has been vaccinated. (only open to people who are 65 years old). It will probably take at least half a year to roll out to the public. Many Japanese protested to halt or cancel the Olympics. However, since they already delay one year, the economic loss was already astronomical. If they cancel or postponed another year, the economic lost would be devastative to the whole country. Another kind of national disaster. It is certainly a complicated dilemma situation. Please pray for Japan.

Although Japan is under fear of Pandemic, our Lord has already won. May the victorious gospel be proclaimed throughout Japan, May the Japanese find true hope and peace in Jesus Christ. Please pray for the fight against COVID in Japan.



Ministry update

- During 2020, we did most of our ministries online. However, it is important to meet in person, so our teammate decides to try hyper worship (60% online, 40% in person). Our teammate had this first worship at his new home. I continue my role as a supporter for the new church plant, the Azamino church plant. Please pray for the development of this new church plant.
- In the past 3 months, our team has spent a lot of time reorganized and finetuning the church planting team. We hope soon. We would have a new ministry structure and strategies. Please continue to pray for our team development and unity in Christ.
- Japan has entered the 3rd "state of emergency," limiting some business hours and closing down the border. This means only Japanese citizens and people who already have a visa can enter Japan. We have 3 units of missionaries families ready to come to Japan, but they are not allowed to enter due to this situation. (2 of the units will join our team, and we will become a 5 units team. The following year there are about 2-3 more units going to join us.) According to the latest news, the Japanese government will extend the state of emergency until the end of June. Please pray for this situation, and hopefully, all the vaccine rollout will go smoothly so that Japan can get back to normal soon.



Family Update and Prayer request

- We are about to apply for an extension of our Japan Visa, please pray the application process will go smoothly.
- We thank the Lord that Abby has made some new friends in elementary. She has learned the way to and back from school. There is a special teacher who will come to teach her basic Japanese about 2-3 times a week. The elementary school day is very different than the kindergarten. She has to walk to school at around 7:55 am and come home around 2:30 pm. There is only one recess in a day, however, she has to stay in the classroom due to covid, so she feels the school is boring. She complains that she has to keep listening to the teacher the whole day and cannot go out. Please continue to pray for her, may the Lord help her to adapt to the life of the elementary school and accepting her life in Japan.
- Caleb will be graduating from elementary on June/11. After that, he will be going to a middle school that is located in the north of Tokyo. It will take about 80-90 one trip by train to go to his new school. This was a missionary kid school but now has become an international school. Our mission agency was also one of the members of the school. The school is much bigger than his current school with about 400+ students. He will begin his new school around August, please pray for his preparation and transition well.
- Jennifer now has two Japanese language classes per week. Please continue to pray for her language development. Due to the pandemic, most of the Japanese mum that she has been friends with can only continue to build relationships on social media. One lady Mrs. Y is willing to meet with her in person so she can practice English with Jennifer. Her son goes to the same school as Abby but in a different class, please pray that we can develop a deeper friendship with this family. Also, the summer holiday is coming, please pray that we can have opportunities to meet with different families and not affected by the epidemic.



Announcement from head office

- In 2020, the US suffers tremendously from the pandemic. For this reason, the head office decides to make all paperwork "digitized" so from now on, Worldventure will not send out "paper form of donation statement." You can log on to your account to download all your donation statements. However, paper checks are still okay. If you have any questions about this feel free to contact me.

Financial Update

- God is Jehovah Jira. Since we share our financial needs last time, God has called new individual partners and churches to support us. **Thank you so much may the Lord remember your sacrifices and dedication. At this moment we have reached our monthly budget goal, Praise the Lord !!!**
- If you still felt call to partner with us, Please click the link below to create a donor account. <https://www.worldventure.com/chang4japan>
- Or you can also send in checks, Payable to **WorldVenture, Memo #275, WorldVenture**
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