

Dear Friend,

I really must start with an apology for such a late letter to you! It certainly has been a busy time as usual, and we do want you to know how we are and what God is doing here, but I have put this letter off too long; I'm sorry!

At the same time, we have all been in prayer for the Christmas Jesus videos, and at this point I have a lot more to report!

You will remember that we were able to sell out all the 85000 videos by Dec 24th! The idea of the campaign was for each believer in Japan to get one to give one, so this represents about 1/3 of all the believers in Japan (at least, bible believing church attenders -- each Sunday about 250,000 people gather for worship in Japan, although there are likely many more believers who don't attend any services). On average we expect each video will be seen by 3 people, because these were mostly purchased to give to someone who is a friend or family member. So that means about 255,000 people saw or will soon see "Jesus"! Praise God!

Here are some of the comments we have received from the over 1200 churches groups and individuals who ordered from us:

- Each Christian was glad to be able to do some kind of evangelism (using the video).
- One non-Chn husband viewed the film.
- We were glad to welcome Jesus into our home!
- Those seekers we gave it to were very glad to receive it.
- Some were given to those seeking follow up after an evangelistic radio broadcast.
- I cried as I realized why Jesus had to die.
- One family split the video into 2 or 3 sessions and discussed what they saw.
- It was easier to give than a book or tape. Or Bible.
- Some people saw it 3 or 4 times already!
- We used it for our Christmas childrens outreach.
- I understand how Jesus lived much better now.
- A non-Chn was helped to understand the flow of the gospel much better.
- I heard it moved some non-Christians to tears.
- One non-Chn couple was moved and decided to start coming to church.
- Easy for young people and elderly people to understand.
- Up until now someone with no interest decided to start seeking more about Christ through the video.
- We offered free videos and were able to open several house meetings this way. One couple saw it and decided to visit the church at Christmas.
- The mother of a non-Chn saw the video and prayed the prayer at the end, now she wants to see more videos like this.
- My unsaved parents saw the film along with about 25 others I was able to give videos to.
- Even some elderly 74 year olds saw it and some said, something like this even I can understand.

As you can see, it was a very helpful outreach for the churches and the Japanese believers who were glad to be able to easily give such a gift to those they know and many have seen and responded to the film.

God was also at work in other ways last year! We now have some results back from the first TV broadcasts of the Jesus film in Japan! TV Kanagawa, a regional TV broadcaster in the south Tokyo area made 2 broadcasts, one on Aug 3 and one on Dec 22. Estimates from them about the number of viewers show that 6.9 million people viewed at least part of the film during the 2 broadcasts! Praise God! Buying broadcast time is very expensive, but it also looks like God is providing more resources for this year, so we want to trust him that many more people may see and hear "Jesus" this year. Please pray with us towards that!

We are now seeking to hire a man who may help us do a better job of promoting the Jesus video in the secular market. It is very hard to keep Japanese from interpreting this film as a "religious" film, instead of a straight forward "life of Christ" kind of film, and that has hindered us in the past. Please pray for wisdom in getting this video out to many more people!

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On a different note, I have included some pictures of our family from Christmas time. Andy and Ben played in a small Christmas band for our staff social. Melissa and Ben also are taking piano lessons. All the children enjoy their school very much.

We had quite a full Christmas as our children now have many friends over to stay the night, or go to their houses. Makes for very full and interesting schedules! Feb 21 and 22 were a winter school holiday, so we went up to Karuizawa and did some skiing for two days with our friends on staff here, the Goody family. Their kids and ours are about the same age, and it made for good improvement in their skiing to have that old "competition" going! Everyone had a fun and safe time.

Many thanks to those who gave a special gift over Christmas, it has helped us to "stick it out" until summer. We are now planning to take our regular furlough, which we haven't done since 1995. We expect to be stateside from late June to late January 2001. Please pray for the preparations for this: schooling for the kids, places to stay in Yorba Linda, California, Dallas, and Levittown, PA!

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One more special thing I have been working on is the official Japan CCC website. Although the English side is not as complete as the Japanese, you can see what I have been doing at

[www.japanccc.org](http://www.japanccc.org) – Come take a look!

And those of you with email, feel free to send us a note at home: RochelleJP or STCInJapan@aol.com

We love and appreciate you!

With much love and joy in Jesus,

Steve Rochelle Andy Ben and Melissa