

Clark Family 2003

Prayer Requests

- 1) Pray for each of us in our family to grow in our faith, learning to trust God more.
- 2) Pray for our family as we adjust to a new baby while also raising teens.
- 3) Pray for the Christmas In Peace outreaches planned for December, especially for Japanese volunteers.
- 4) Pray for our work in our local church with children, youth, and English classes.

February 7, 2003

Dear Friends,

Greetings again from Japan! We trust that the Lord is blessing you and working in your life to help you grow more in Him!

Our whole team of staff and their families are all preparing to go to Thailand for the East Asia All Staff Conference, Feb. 11-19. This will be the first one in 9 years, with about 2500 people attending, including most of CCC's major leaders. Meanwhile our family is preparing for the birth of our 4th child, on February 20th, just about when everyone will be getting back from Thailand.

Please pray for the C-section delivery on the 20th! Pray for God's peace, and that things may go as smoothly as possible for Rochelle and the baby. Then pray for her recovery, as she will likely be about 10 days or so in the hospital before coming home. Pray for the adjustment of the family to this new presence among us, and that we can all learn more about helping and caring for each other!

We did have a very special family time with Rochelle's mom here over Christmas and into January. God was so gracious to us that she did not get sick or especially tired at all while she was here. She handled the major travel by plane very well and found help along the way from different people. It was especially a blessing to spend holiday time together and for her to see some of the school activities that our kids are involved in. We enjoyed many hours of talking together, and that too was a blessing. In all these things we sensed your prayers at work as God brought about these answers! Thank you!

The beginning of the year always brings with it new plans and ideas for action. In the last couple of months Steve has been involved in working on an idea called Christmas In Peace. Keiko Okano, a JCCC staff member in Tokyo working with artists and entertainers, and Makoto Fujimura, an associate staff member who is an artist painting in New York, began discussing how to create an evangelistic opportunity out of Makoto's next Tokyo gallery display, which will be held at the Takashimaya Department store in downtown Tokyo in December this year. By sponsoring a few artistic and musical events on the theme of Christmas In Peace, we hope that many people would be delighted to come, learn, and become open to the gospel. Art and Music may be the attraction, but we would distribute

Jesus video related CDROMs and other Christmas-themed materials, have volunteers as guides at some of the events to talk personally with those who seem interested about Christmas and its true meaning, and be able to contact again those who want more information.

Just a side comment: although there is a lot of focus on peace currently in terms of war and peace and Iraq, the idea here is to focus on the peaceful atmosphere of Christmas, the joy of the light and people's attitudes and families. Of course, depending on how things go politically God may open up more avenues for discussion with visitors to these events. Please pray for us as we develop a network of ministries and artists to create a special outreach opportunity this December. Anyone interested in leading a volunteer team on a 1 or 2 week project to Tokyo to assist in some way should contact Steve at the usual email address! Feel free to share your ideas!

We are always so grateful that God uses so many of you to provide for us in financial ways, enabling our ministry to the Japanese. We could not be here without you and all of your prayers for us! Thank you so very much!

Steve, Rochelle, Andy, Ben, Melissa and ?