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Dear Friend,



Merry Christmas Greetings to you and your family from ours in Japan! As of this fall we have been in Japan for 21 years – that’s hard to imagine. Both on campus at first, and more recently through the Jesus film and partnerships, we have trusted the Lord to bring Japanese to faith in Jesus. We continue to pray that many, many more will turn and trust Him as their Savior.

In Japan recently there was a major earthquake in Niigata, 4 hours north of Tokyo. One of the tragic results from that earthquake involved a mother and her two children who were caught in their van when the earthquake caused a landslide to occur. Rains from recent typhoons had swollen the hillside, and the shaking earth caused tons of rock and dirt to come down and completely cover the road and their car.

It took 4 days for the car to be located. Finally, the license plate pointing upwards through the dirt was spotted from a helicopter and rescue workers started trying to extract the people. First, the 2-year-old boy named Yuta was miraculously drawn out from a 1-½ foot space between the car and some large rocks. Hypothermic, he was rushed to the hospital and is fine now and with his father. The mother, who was apparently covered up to her waist with tons of dirt and rock, died just after reaching the hospital. The little girl was crushed in the back.

Had the car been a few seconds slower or faster, they may have escaped. But none of us know how much life we will actually have. We don’t know why our lives have been spared this far, or when they will end. Little Yuta’s life was miraculously spared. Wouldn’t it be wonderful to discover that he was spared so he could know Christ and perhaps be a laborer for God here?? Rochelle and I want to continue to focus on people’s eternal destiny by faithfully sharing the gospel with the Japanese people around us.

It takes a lot to keep us here in Japan as missionaries. Your gracious gifts and prayers are crucial to that, and we are so grateful for you. God has been enabling us and the JCCC staff team whom we serve to reach more Japanese with the Good News of Jesus. We always remember that this is God’s ministry. 1Thessalonians 5: 24 says, “The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.”

Today in Japan there are 120 staff and short-termers. Of those 42 are Japanese nationals. Currently there is one Japanese lady who is serving in Central Asia full time. We also praise God for the staff and students who went on mission trips to China and Mongolia! Two other groups went to unchurched areas of Japan. Our vision is to raise up laborers to go to the world from Japan!

This past year our campus staff saw more students receive Christ than ever! Making use of the interest in the movie “The Passion of the Christ” to start discussions leading to the gospel, they were able to expose hundreds of students to the good news. Every week now someone is coming to know the Lord! Pray

with us for the growth and strengthening of these new young believers to become co-workers in the harvest field.

Our creative staff director in Nagoya challenged an annual missions conference in his region to include actual doing of missions (through an outreach time) during the conference. One young man nicknamed Purumin was not known as a Christian, but mentioned that he had received Christ personally a couple months before the conference and hadn't told anyone. He joined the outreach, and together with one of our staff was able to share the Gospel with several people, and one of them prayed to receive Christ!

We rejoice as we see God using the Japan CCC ministry here to send more and more laborers into God's harvest both locally and worldwide. This is an exciting time to be serving the Lord here in Japan! There is a battle, a fierce struggle for the hearts of the Japanese people. We must fight this battle in prayer to see their hearts changed by the Lord. God is at work, and we are so glad to have a part in this. More than ever, Japanese need to hear Jesus' message of hope, love and forgiveness.

Your partnership through your giving has made it possible for us to be in this battle. As the end of the year nears, we find ourselves with an \$8,000 shortfall in our support. We need to see funds raised to cover the 10% salary loss caused by the fall of the dollar verses the yen, and to meet our kids' health and schooling expenses, and also to be able to travel next summer to the US for a short visit. Would you consider giving an additional year-end gift so we can continue to serve the Lord here without distraction regarding our finances? If you are able to help, please make your check payable to "Campus Crusade for Christ," and mail it in the enclosed envelope. Every gift is really appreciated!

Thank you for partnering with us to bring the message of hope to people who desperately need it. Have a blessed Christmas. We love and appreciate you so very much.

In Jesus love,