



**Steve and Rochelle Clark**

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## CLARK UPDATE OCT 2005

### SEEKING HIS KINGDOM



Dear Friend,

Greetings again from California! I, Steve, am back for a little while to continue working on our support needs. I am squeezing this trip in between the administrative catch up work plus Christmas CD preparations, and the arrival of the CDs and short term teams who will assist in distributing the CDs alongside local churches. So I am staying in touch with Japan on those matters, but seeking new folks to add to our team here locally.

Scripture just always encourages me as I consider financial support issues. Invariably Philippians 1:3-9 comes to mind:

*"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

*"It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart; for whether I am in chains or*

*defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.*

*"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more..."*

As a missionary, I consider this special relationship we have a partnership. It involves so much more than just the finances. It is a "partnership in the gospel," in other words, a joint work so that the gospel may go forward and the kingdom of God expand! It is the spreading of the work of His kingdom that began in you and is going out from you. God gives each believer the privilege to be part of his growing kingdom, not merely by their own position in the kingdom, but by their faith spreading the kingdom message to others.

God always works in people that way. He is working



Steve and Steve collaborate on the Christmas CD

*This year's Christmas CD, "Christmas In Joy" is in production in South Korea, and we will have them in Japan by Nov. 20th.*

*Teams from the US and Singapore and other parts of Asia will join us in Tokyo, along*

### CHRISTMAS IN JOY

*with churches from all over Japan to share the joy of Christmas with Japanese through these songs and additional content of the gospel, as well as evangelistic parties.*

*If you have Japanese friends you would like to give them to please email me at [stcinjapan@aol.com](mailto:stcinjapan@aol.com) and I will be glad to send some to you.*

*The online site to see the content will soon be up at [www.christmasinjoy.com](http://www.christmasinjoy.com) too!*

Check out our homepage  
for updated pictures and resources  
[www.steveclark.us](http://www.steveclark.us)

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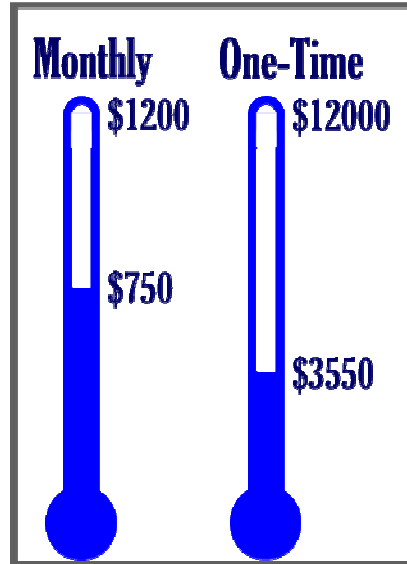
in you that way too! In fact, one of my great joys is seeing how God is at work through the people of our partnership! The Philippians were Paul's supporters, his sending church; Paul is writing about his prayers for them. Like Paul I "always pray with joy" seeing that God who started working in you is completing and expanding his work in you.

I think as believers in American local churches get involved with missionary partners, they tend to grow in their expectations that God is going to work through them to build His kingdom.

I have seen several of our supporters become missionaries (short and long term workers) themselves, and sometimes their children! I have heard of many ways they have served His kingdom's purposes locally, and reached out to small groups of other people. They have served on mission boards and outreach committees. And I have thought, we are really all doing this together - just our locations are different.

I have been encouraged by God's work in Mori Fumi. She was a young student in our local Japanese church whom we encouraged to get involved with Japan CCC. She helped enliven a small group of Christians on her campus, discipling them, and after graduation, joined our staff. She has been raising her support and recently this is completed (through her

**SUPPORT UPDATE**



**We are still in need of additional gifts and new support. Your gifts and recommendations and ideas are all appreciated!**

partners in Japan) and she was able to participate with other staff and students in a mission trip to Mongolia, where they saw God use them to bring more students into that ministry. Praise God! And consider how He is at work to expand His kingdom from you to us to Fumi to Mongolians!

Are you discouraged about how God's kingdom is spreading through you at the moment? Paul also wrote 1 Thess. 5:24 "The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it." God will not fail to build through you too, he is just seeking your openness to Him. Join me in praying, "Lord, use me today, to expand your kingdom."

I am also praying like Paul that your love will abound more and more. God has put something awesome in us. His own Spirit, which fills us with His amazing love. This picture of the believers Paul is praying for is that God's love will just keep spilling out of them, touching more and more people. We are like that expanding puddle when we are available to the Lord.

Who can I love today? What do they really need? Who can I pray for today? Good questions for us to think about.

And please pray these things for me too!

I am sure the family also appreciates your prayers for them while I am away.

Please email me and let me know how to pray for you, partner!

Help us by letting me know of anyone you think I should ask to join our team. Pray and see who God might lay on your heart! Then email me. Thanks so much.

*With Jesus' joy,  
Steve, Rochelle, Andy, Ben,  
Melissa and Josh*

