



Steve and Rochelle Clark

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CLARK UPDATE DEC 2006



Merry Christmas



Dear Friend,

Merry Christmas! May you know the great joy of our loving and kind Savior Jesus and let that joy overflow into the lives of people around you throughout this season!

Thank you so much for your prayers for me and the Christmas CD process. I think we have a very good gift that will help many to hear the good news of Jesus! The CD's (200,000 copies) have arrived from Korea, the orders for them are coming in, and the distribution teams are arriving. Pray that God will turn people's hearts to be ready to hear and believe the good news as teams share the CDs.

Emiko Matsumoto, a college student, is working in our office helping with the Christmas CD effort. It is so encouraging to hear her plans to use the CD with her friends. She has already shared with a few, and one is expressing real interest. Please pray for Emiko's friends to know Jesus.

Jeremiah Trusty, who is here in Japan from Philadelphia as a short term

worker with students, has a beautiful voice and he is featured on the CD. He is using his musical talent by inviting Japanese to join him in singing Gospel music. Our Tokyo campus ministry will feature him at their two nights of Christmas outreaches in the Student Center. It is amazing how God is using music and especially Black Gospel to reach Japanese young people!

Last month I mentioned that I would be hosting a Coverage Ministry conference with leaders of this outreach effort in East Asia in Tokyo. At the last minute the conference location was changed from Japan to Singapore and delayed until January (so I will be travelling there). The result is that I have more time to work with the teams here this month. God knows and works all things together for good.

BIG NEWS!

After 23 years in Japan, we believe God is leading us to seek a stateside assignment with Campus Crusade. For several years we have thought that there may be a time when the needs of parents and family would need to be considered in our choice of location. As we have prayed and sought the Lord's leading about this huge decision, it seems that this June is the right time to return to the States. This time is a good time for our children, with Ben graduating from the Christian Academy in Japan in June. Melissa will be finished with 8th grade, enabling her to attend high school in the States.

Also, our desire and prayer has always been that God would use us to raise up Japanese believers who will

Check out our blog
for quick prayer updates and news!
<http://steveclark.us/stcblog/>

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We are sending prayer request updates by email more frequently than by prayer letter.

Please send us a note to let us know that we may add you to our email list:
stcinjapan@aol.com



carry on the ministry in our place. It has been exciting to see God answer those prayers and lead many to join our JCCC staff over the years. Now some of them are in key leadership positions and others are ready to take the next step in leadership. As God is leading us on to a Stateside ministry, it has been great to see Him raise up those people who will take my place and expand the efforts so that the work here can grow even more. I mentioned that Keiko Kinoshita is being trained to work in HR, and she will take that responsibility from January. In the next 6 months I plan to train Koichi Takahashi, Knox Bannister, and Weng Kong Loh to take my Administration and Materials, Finance, and Mass Evangelism Strategies roles. Pray for fruitful and effective training times with these men.

We love Campus Crusade, and we have enjoyed and been blessed to serve the Lord here in Japan for 23 years. We never would have thought at the beginning that we would be here that long. Partly because we have served this long overseas, we desire a time of growing and developing in our own spiritual lives and ministries so we can minister with additional impact to the people to whom God leads us. A season sharpening our ministry skills in the US can be very helpful for future work God has for us.

We were already due to take a school year furlough from next summer. Now we are planning to join a 1 year program at the Worldwide Headquarters of Campus

Crusade in Orlando. This program, the "Lake Hart Stint," is especially designed for staff in transition and is recommended for people who have been serving outside the US for many years. It seems a perfect landing spot for our family and should give us good opportunities to see where the Lord is leading us for the future. Even though we will be stateside, our heart's desire is to be used to serve the international ministries and keep reaching Japanese in some way.

Please pray with us that the Lord will direct our steps. Pray for us as we begin to say goodbye to our staff family and many, many Japanese friends and missionary friends. Rochelle is planning to end her 2 English Bible classes, her discipleship time with Yamakawa-san, and her English "play time" with Joshua's friends and moms by March, so she can focus on the move. This is a very sad and hard thing to do. Her ministry with the PTA executive committee and the Mom's Sunday School class will continue until the end of the school year. She also has an opportunity to speak at a church's parenting seminar about teenagers on January 11.

Pray for our children who have to say goodbye to the only home country they have ever known. Melissa is especially having a difficult time with this as she wants to graduate from CAJ like her big brothers did. Please pray that God would use us greatly as His lights here during our remaining 6 months in Japan!

SPECIAL NEEDS

We are in need of additional gifts and support. Your Christmas and annual gifts are all very appreciated!

We are so very grateful for all of you who faithfully pray for and support our ministry here in Japan. We couldn't serve the Lord full-time without you! God has used you to bless us, and our needs this past year were met. Praise God! Yet as you know, we continue to face financial needs. This coming year we expect to need special support because we have to move back to the US. We need your help to cover the costs of moving our whole household back. We will also need to purchase cars and many things for our new household. We would ask you to consider if the Lord would have you send a special or annual gift to help our ministry here at this time.

If you are able to give a special gift, you may send a check made out to Campus Crusade in the enclosed envelope, with a note saying it is for Steve and Rochelle Clark Acct #0257817. You can also give online direct from your bank account to us (see the enclosed flyer). Thanks so much! Your help is really needed and appreciated as you enable us to help the Japanese hear God's good news and grow in faith!

With our love,
Steve, Rochelle, Andy, Ben,
Melissa and Josh