



# THE MANSELLS

## YOUR VOICE IN JAPAN SINCE 1983



Dear Praying Friends,

October 2005

We are not sure where the month of October went but we praise God for all that came to pass. We have begun studying the parables for one of our services. As we went through the parable of the sower, one phrase stuck out in one of the three passages . . . "having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience". The other two passages talked about bringing forth fruit, "some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold." We are thankful that God is the one that increases the fruit and that He did mention patience. It is a virtue that we continue to strive towards when we have a month like this one, when our people are burdened with extra activities and family complications which keep them away from the services.

We did have the joy of having the pastor's son of a supporting church to the military here in Japan with us for three weeks. It was a blessing to have **Nathan Callahan** here to help out and learn! Nathan is a quick learner and worked hard at learning new phrases in Japanese while he was here. He helped both on the house in Nayoro and on a project here.



He is also a superb pianist so Vicki enjoyed playing duets with him. We decided to put that musical talent to use for a special outreach opportunity. On the 26<sup>th</sup> Nathan gave a piano mini-concert with Vicki joining him for 3 duets. We invited many and four adults came. **Two women of the three women and Mr. Kato** from one of our adult English class had never been to a service before. Ken introduced each number with the title, the hymn page in the Japanese hymnbook so they could follow the theme and a short 2 or 3 sentence mini-sermon if you will, about the meaning of the song. In the middle, Nathan gave his testimony with Ken interpreting. With the songs that Nathan picked filled with messages about the cross, the blood of Christ, a firm foundation, faith and a Redeemer as part of the program, our guests went away with the Gospel having been presented in a clear simple way. We praise God for this special opportunity. Nathan returned to Yokohama on the 28<sup>th</sup> of October. This is what he had to say about his stay here:



***My name is Nathan Callahan, and I stayed at the Mansell's house for three weeks. While I was there I learned many things from lessons about life and carpentry hints, all the way to the correct way to visit a Japanese in their home. The Mansells allowed me to accompany them to their English lessons that they teach, and I did a piano mini-concert with Mrs. Mansell. Over all I had a wonderful time (though I was given -or gave- several headaches from the Japanese lessons that they gave me) I am extremely grateful for all of you who have prayed and supported the Mansells. Through them you have made a difference in yet another person's life. Thank You!***

We also **thank you** for helping us not only, Lord willing, influence Japanese lives but also the lives of the "next generation" those who will reach out to the Japanese. We have had a burden for who will carry on in the future as the Lord tarries—will they be ready and willing? By God's grace we have been able to have young people both of high school and college age here to help us in the ministry and learn whatever we can share with them. Whether they go on to another foreign field, back here to Japan, or even stay in the United States, they might have at least a vision of what the mission field is like, especially in a difficult country as Japan and be burdened for the lost around them. Also that later in their lives they might be able to use some of the technics and tools of the trade that we have shared with them.

The summer of 2006 we would like to see 2-4 high school or college age men here to work with us during the summer. If you know someone or ARE that someone interested in this type of training, please have them get in contact with us. We eagerly await God's leading in this area. If you work at a Bible college and can share this information with the mission's department for students to have this opportunity to fulfill their mission's internship, we would appreciate your help in this area. We are also praying for a married couple who are interested in possibly coming to Japan and would like to contact us for a training program. There are many cities especially in this northern area of Japan which have no biblical Gospel witness let alone any other kind of work. Thank you for praying with us towards this end.

During one English class recently the children were learning the word "hill". However, their pronunciation came out as "hell". Ken gave a clear witness of what hell was and who would go there. He said that since that time they have been very careful to say "hill" when reading that page instead of "hell". A retired architect who helped us with our original blueprints to our building stopped by about helping a friend of his. The friend ended up changing his mind on what he needed. But God used it to give Ken a longer opportunity to visit with **Mr. Kawamata** about Christianity and he indicated he would be willing to study the Bible. Ken gave him a Bible and study course. Please pray that he will read it and that we might be able to begin a regular study with this man. Again we see the need for patience because we have not had opportunity to see Mr. Kawamata in several years and God chose this time and this means to build upon an opportunity taken when we were building the present building.

Just this week at the adult English study in Horonobe they never got to the study book as Mr. Kato began talking about the piano concert and that led into other subjects including humanism and why people try to "work" their way to heaven instead of accepting God's free gift. Ken continues the English Bible study each week. They have been studying about the resurrection in recent weeks. Please pray for these **four adults** that their spiritual eyes may be opened and the gift of salvation accepted!

In Christ's Service Together,

*Ken and Vicki Mansell*

*Just A Prayer At Night – your evening is our daytime*