

~~ The MANSELLS ~~

Your Voice in Japan Since 1983



Dear Praying Friends,

November 2018



For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6.

What a wonderful prophetic prophecy of Christ! All the names of Jesus in this verse are worthy of note and meditation. However, a small word in this verse is often overlooked. Just two letters: "us". Christ is given to "us". The Savior child of Christmas is given to "us". Who are those included in "us"? The prophecy was to all Jews as the Messiah, the promised One. This prophesy was also to all people as the Savior, Christ the Lord. So this wonderful verse could be further personalized by inserting "me" where "us" is used. Jesus was personally given for our salvation. Let us meditate on this wonderful personal gift in this prophesy. Let us also meditate that this same promised Saviour is personally available to all who believe in Jesus Christ as God's Saviour. Let us tell those around us at this Christmas time that the babe of the manger was sent to save them and give them eternal life.

November was filled with **winter preparation** (We praise God for the help of a fellow missionary and his son for one afternoon to do this), **doctor office visits for check-ups** and always the opportunity to witness of our Saviour and His love and direction for us. Health-update: Ken's kidney stones are still unchanged (no change is better than larger) and his condition and pain much the same. Next check-up is in the spring. We both had our follow-up explanations of our full physicals. Ken will keep taking his high blood pressure meds but thankful that all checks to see if there was any indication of cancer (something we do every year because they recommend it) for both of us were clear. His blood sugars were a little high so we are trying to combat that right now with just some adjustments in eating. God continues to bless with overall good health and we appreciate your prayers that it continues.



The annual missionary thanksgiving gathering was held in our home with 30 people gathered. As usual there was good food, fellowship, safety in traveling in spite of some slick roads, and a good time singing and praising God through verses of praise and favorite hymns. The guys got in their annual football game as well. Ken and one other dad enjoy just being a 'quarterback' and letting the young guys do all the action.



Another annual was a trip to the capital city of Sapporo (about 5+ hours away) for an annual birthday time with an 80+ aged doctor and his wife whose birthday is just before Vicki's in December. Ken still teaches English via skype to the doctor. We enjoyed the Winter



Illumination Lights in Sapporo the night before and then our time with this couple including a dinner out and a classical concert at a music hall.

This time of year is also a time of **preparation and invitations being given for our annual evangelistic Christmas program**, this year on the 23rd at 2:00 in the afternoon. This along with our private English class students' party the week before give the opportunity to share the Christ of Christmas when all they are exposed to here is Santa and such. You can't even find a nativity scene up here to buy unless you live near a Costco. It's just another 'store/customer' opportunity here. One of the high school teachers ask Ken when the program would be and indicated he would like to come. His mother was just put into the hospital (not locally) so we trust she improves and that he can come. We appreciate your prayers for the 19th (students) and the 23rd and that we will see some fruit from these events.



Continue to pray for Mrs. Sonoda's health (they are working on helping clear her stomach of ulcers) and that she would be well enough to be with us for the Christmas program. Also for new people to get involved in Bible study.

Serving Christ Together, Ken & Vicki

Just A Prayer At Night - Your evening is our daytime!

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