

~~ The MANSELLS ~~

Your Voice in Japan Since 1983



Dear Praying Friends,

October 2014



So he departed thence, and found Elisha ... and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him. Then he arose, and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him. I Kings 19:19 & 21 b The successful passing of the ministry to the next generation does not happen by accident. God desires that the ministry continue and increase, generation by generation, each building on the strengths of the previous one. Our part is to be prepared to mentor, guide and encourage that next generation to greater heights of glory for the Lord Jesus Christ. As the Lord led Elijah to Elisha, Elisha chose to follow God's leading and minister to and be trained in the ministry by Elijah. The Bible testifies that this method resulted in a second generation with faithful service and

twice the recorded miracles. We are far from finished working here in Japan like Elijah was, yet the next generation still needs to be trained both at home and on the foreign mission fields. So far, the Lord has allowed us to have twenty summer missionary internships for single college age students. Our hearts have yearned and prayed for a family to train and help as we were helped by a veteran missionary when we first arrived in Japan. Recently, a family that we had worked with a number of years ago with that goal in mind, contacted us again to see if we would be their missionary intern trainers. We are pleased to have you begin to pray for the Jonathan Marks family. They are in their final stages of deputation and just need a few more churches to partner with them and their passage and setup funds filled before they would be able to come to Hokkaido, Japan to train with us. We are praying that they would be able to come as early as the spring of 2015. Ken is making a short trip to the Atlanta area the end of October (flying on the 28th) to meet with the Marks and their home church pastor. Please be in prayer for this short time of planning and for them as they continue to prepare to this end. **If you can help in any way, please contact them through us or at: Jonathan and Heather Marks- 1-567-274-1193; marksfamilyforchrist@yahoo.com;**

Opportunities of verbal and visual witness can be achieved through various means and we try to use whatever the Lord opens up for us. Vicki was able to take a two night/three day trip to central Hokkaido for some fall sightseeing with one of the chorus ladies. **Mrs. Kuwata** has come to the yearly Christmas program every year but one and in early years was more open than she seems to be now. When they take these car trips, she waits for Vicki to pray for travels and before meals. We continue to pray for the Lord to work in her heart even though it seems she feels all is well with her own religion and what they provide and we thank the Lord for these opportunities to praise God amongst His beautiful works of creation and be a testimony to His name.

Services been a little different this month in various ones having to be gone but someone different coming each Sunday. **Mr. Moriyama**, whose mother passed away several months ago, finally felt he could come back to church. We continue to pray for an open heart for him and that the Holy Spirit would bring him to a knowledge of his personal need for salvation, as well as **Hitomi Tsuzuki**. We also seek new contacts and openings. Japan is not an easy country to reach with the Gospel but God still loves each and every person and we know He is drawing some. We need to be ready with the Gospel and the Hope of Christ for their lives. We have started reading a book titled *The Japanese and Christianity: Why is Christianity not Widely Believed in Japan* by Samuel Lee. One of the things it mentions is perception of "sin" by the western world is both something done wrong against the laws of the land AND God in heaven. "Since the Japanese do not consider sin to be a crime against a supreme God, their idea of salvation does indeed differ from that of Christians." Salvation can be achieved through good works as well as enlightenment through Buddhism and through various forms of rituals and purification through Shintoism. Beyond that is the way of life of each Japanese that includes being part of a "wa" —a circle of relationships that must never be broken. For this reason alone, the Japanese struggle to make an individual decision to step away from all of that and accept God's free gift of salvation. May He find us faithful in spite of the challenges and may the Holy Spirit's work in hearts be a stepping stone that leads to salvation. Thank you for sharing in the work with us and for keeping up your faithfulness in prayers and support even when the lean years bring challenges only God can help us overcome!

Prayer Requests:

1. Salvation: believers' families; Miss Tsuzuki, Mr. Moriyama; those studying in our Bible studies
2. Health: Mrs. Sonoda's parents; Kozue-san's mother
3. Spiritual growth of our believers who are not able to be here every week
4. Ken's trip and for Vicki as she carries on here—October 28-November 7th. Travel mercies here & in the States

Serving Christ Together, Ken & Vicki Mansell **Just A Prayer At Night – Your evening is our daytime!**

Field Address: Kaigan Dori, 2-19-1, Teshio, Hokkaido 098-3306 JAPAN; ph#011-81-1632-2462 (American # to our home in Japan: 1-520-303-1446; add 14 hrs EST)

Home Church: Bethel Baptist Church, 11040 E. Escalante Road, Tucson, AZ 85730 ph:520-722-0818 Support: CMC, PO Box 219228, Houston, TX 77218-9228

Email: mansell@worldtell.com Web Page: www.worldtell.com Web Blog: link is on web page