

~~ The MANSSELLS ~~

Your Voice in Japan Since 1983



Dear Praying Friends,

But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

September 2015

Romans 6:22

In Sunday School, we are learning the next verse in Japanese. Most Christians can quote it: *For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.* (Romans 6:23) The "gift of God" of eternal life is the end result of trusting Jesus Christ to be your Saviour. But as verse 22 explains, there are many benefits that are not in the future after death, but in the here and now. First we are freed from sin. We are forgiven of our sins before God. It does not mean that we will never sin again, but that sin no longer has control over us. By the power of God, we can now choose to not sin. Secondly, we are God's servants. As such we are in an elite service. Our lives and ministries have great worth and fulfillment both now and in the future. Lastly, the results of our living for Christ is holy and precious to God and to those whom God leads us to help. To top it all off, we get "everlasting life"! Wow! Isn't it great to be saved!



On the first day of this month, **Katherine Callahan from Okinawa, Japan** arrived to be a family assistant, if you will, to the Marks. She is living with us and then is in the Marks' home for several hours every day but Mondays. Her father is a pastor to the military in Okinawa and she is doing some special first year college study via correspondence so it works well to help them during the day and then study later afternoons and evenings here in our home. She will be here until the second week of December. This allows Heather Marks, especially, have some more concentrated Japanese study time due to extra help with household duties and the children. It is a joy to have Katherine here and we appreciate her servant's heart.



Katherine & Anna practicing drawing waves



John/Romans into the homes

Ken and Jonathan Marks have started getting **the new John/Romans** in Japanese into homes in our area. We are excited to be able to use these newly printed and received portions of God's Word in beautiful format due to the burden and the service of many in the U.S.A., especially through Bearing Precious Seed Ministry. This particular combination not only has that wonderful "gift of God" in Word but also information of the ministry here in Teshio and inside the covers questions and answers and where to go to find it in the booklet. **We pray that God's Word will not return void** and we thank all who sacrificed to get this into our hands as well as other churches here in Hokkaido. All we had to do was pay for the shipping.

God continues to give wisdom to Ken in **directing the language study** and other situations that arise during this training time and the Marks are making progress. This isn't a process that is over soon by any means but it is a joy to see them try the new words and phrases and the words that they write down during the Japanese services which they 'catch' after starting to memorize them. We are memorizing a scripture each

month in Japanese in Sunday School and even the older three children are joyfully taking part. We are excited to see what is coming to pass in their lives and look forward week by week to what God can do to help this dear family be usable vessels for Christ's sake here in Japan.

We don't often mention our **adult English/Bible studies** but we do ask you to keep praying for these opportunities. One class takes place every Monday evening in Horonobe about 25 minutes from here. Two of the five regular students have been in this study for quite a few years. They enthusiastically take part in the English study and politely listen and take part in the Bible portion of the study. At times it seems as though there might be a glimmer of hope that they will be more open to the Gospel but most of the time seem quite closed.

Please pray for Satan to be defeated in holding back their minds and hearts from opening to the Word of God and realize their need for a Saviour. It is a joy to end that evening in a separate Bible study with the doctor who is also in Horonobe. He has been saved for several years but never disciplined and it is such a privilege to study the Word of God together with **Dr. Urayama**.

We were able to see our 'adopted' Japanese 'daughters' in Asahikawa at the hospital when Ken had his six month checkup this month. Praise God for no changes with the stones he continues to have and all we can continue to do is 'watch' them at this point. We arranged to meet with the Dr. in training, **Yui-san** in the a.m. and had lunch with her and then **Dr. Nao**, Ken's first anesthesiologist was able to having coffee with us and visit for about an hour in the afternoon after she got done with work! What a blessing to see each one. They both readily accepted the new John/Romans and were happy it would be easy to carry and keep with them. We still pray for true salvation in their hearts.



Dr Nao Honda

We were saddened to hear that our dear friend and substitute grandpa to our children, Mr. Sato, died after being in the rest home for about a year. We have no reassurance that he truly was saved although he heard the Gospel many times. He was a great help to us in the early years, especially while refurbishing our building and attended church for quite some time.

*Serving Christ Together,
Ken & Dicki Mansell*

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

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