

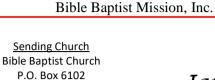
THE BRIGHAMS

Missionaries to





Pensacola, FL 32522



Pensacola, FL 32503

Reporting on January - February 2024

Field Address 1-15-10 #106 Hyakkoku-cho Anjo-shi, Aichi-ken 446-0044 Japan

March 31, 2024

"But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." Luke 10:40-42

Some of the younger kids that come to our church have enjoyed passing out tracts and even try to see who can get out the most. That has been a blessing to see! A mother of one of our church members (with a Catholic background) is visiting from the Philippines and she also has passed out gospel tracts with us. Please pray for her (Emma's) salvation. She has heard the gospel on various occasions and several messages on the abomination of idolatry. Many followers of Buddhism, Hinduism, and Catholicism claim that they do not worship idols... They justify bowing and praying to idols by claiming the idol is a representative of a particular god or person and is an aid to worship, and therefore not a sin. (... though the scriptures teach otherwise. Exo. 20:3-5, I John 5:21)

Many Japanese companies in our area require long hours of work from their employees. We live in one of the manufacturing hubs of Japan with Toyota city next to us. A large percentage of the factories are related to Toyota Motor Co. and have alternating work schedules where employees work dayshift one week and then nightshift the next. This coupled with the high priority placed on education, school clubs, cram schools, and other things usually mean we do not have a mid-week service. However, for the past several weeks we have had two people interested in studying God's word, so we have started up mid-week services (every other week for now). It has been a great joy!

One of our church members, Virginia, has been coming to our services for many years. She has grown in the Lord and has opportunities to be a witness for Christ through teaching English. She returned to the Philippines and met three ladies that are Catholic. She started having bible studies with them and has invited them to church. It is always a blessing to see others get excited about doing the Lord's work and keeping the main thing central in life!

Yukari (18) just graduated from high school and has been coming to church more often with her family. She has been helping Keiko with the children in Sunday school and has been enjoying it. She has come to our church for many years (not regularly since she is often busy with school studies and activities) and has heard the salvation message on different occasions, but we are unsure of her salvation. Please pray that God will do a work in her heart, and she will have a clear testimony of salvation.

We had a couple visit us from Tokyo. Mr. Hon is from Indonesia and attended a Christian school when he was young. He later was saved and attended various churches but became discouraged with the troubles he encountered within some of these churches. He came across some bible believing websites and started learning about the King James Bible versus the modern versions. He has a burden to learn more and be a witness to his own people. Indonesia has about 280 million people with about 87% being Muslim. Pray for the Lord to give him open doors to witness to Indonesians in Japan and abroad.

Our church has quite a few foreigners from the Philippines, some from Brazil, and also China. My wife often helps them with everyday life in Japan, especially with writing, interpreting, and translating. Japanese is not an easy language and takes a lot of study to become somewhat proficient especially in reading/writing. Keiko helps out by going to the city office, filling out forms, translating letters for school, etc. In the past she has written resumes, gone to job interviews, attended meetings at schools with principals and teachers, talked with doctors regarding childbirth and surgeries. Her help is really invaluable... not to mention that she answers my never-ending questions about the Japanese language (i.e., kanji, grammar, word nuances, honorifics, etc.)

We thank the Lord that we were able to make a downpayment on a house in the city of Okazaki, which is next to our city, Anjo. Over the years we have prayed about evangelizing in other areas without being too far away so that we can still minister to our church. The house (1980's) has about 1700sq.ft. which is more than 2.5x the square footage of our apartment and includes a second-floor room that was designed to be used as a classroom, so it is perfect for us! There is a separate building used as a tearoom and even a yard and a garage, so we are more than thrilled.

<u>Prayer Requests</u>: 1) For the salvation of Yukari and her father, Marcello 2) We have a few people that are saved and need to make the decision to be baptized, 3) For the Lord to open doors to witness and minister to people searching for the truth.

We would like to say thank you so much to all who pray and others who have been able to help financially for the house, which we pray the Lord will use to open doors of opportunity to witness in Okazaki city. Every time we think about all the details that have come together for this house, to us, it is a miracle!

Sincerely in Christ,

Jeff & Keiko Brigham