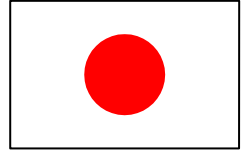


THE BRIGHAMS

Missionaries to

JAPAN



Bible Baptist Mission, Inc.



P.O. Box 17615



Pensacola, FL 32522

Sending Church
Bible Baptist Church
P.O. Box 6102
Pensacola, FL 32503

Reporting on

March - April 2024

Field Address
34-87 Baratsubo, Ida-cho
Okazaki-shi, Aichi-ken
444-0077 Japan

May 23, 2024

“ If any man speak, *let him speak* as the oracles of God; if any man minister, *let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.*” 1 Peter 4:11

Our new neighbor (in Okazaki city), Mrs. Ohta (in her 70's), served as the welfare commissioner for the neighborhood association for about 20 years. She is kind and has given us a warm welcome into the neighborhood. Before we moved in, she spread the word that a pastor was moving into the area. We later learned that she has been studying with a Buddhist cult for over 35 years and the leader of this sect died suddenly last year. They claim their teachings include those of Jesus, Confucius, and the Buddhist priest Nichiren. They worship a false deity which they say was born 330 million years ago and the leader claimed he was the incarnation of this deity. Please pray as we need God's wisdom and the working of the Holy Spirit to reach the many Shinto and Buddhist followers in the neighborhood; that their eyes may be open to the truth and simplicity found in Jesus Christ alone.

One day, while taking our trash to the designated area, I met Mr. Tsuge who is also in his 70's or so. He asked me if I was the priest that was moving into the neighborhood. I told him that I was a Baptist pastor of a church in Anjo city. He said he was looking forward to meeting me and that he is the only one in the area that has read the Bible. His parents were Buddhists, but mostly in outward practice, not so much in belief. He said that he did not like Buddhism when he was younger and had always thought there was a reason for being born and wondered what happens when a person dies. I asked him if he was a Christian and he said he was not but has studied different beliefs. Apparently, he has studied with the Jehovah Witnesses, but I do not know if or how much he is involved with them. Mr. Tsuge has various questions and wants to talk again, so please pray for the Holy Spirit to work in his heart.

A mother, named Maiko, who was saved and baptized in our church about 10 years ago, has been praying for her mother to be saved for many years. Maiko has witnessed to her and told her of her need of salvation, and we have been praying for her as a church. A couple of weeks ago Maiko gave a testimony of how her mother made the decision to accept Jesus Christ as her Saviour! Praise God. What a great victory and blessing that was to hear.

Last Sunday a couple of new visitors came to church. One of the visitors, Solomo, said he came to our service because of a church invitation that he received at his house! (...that was a joy hear!) He is Indonesian and is in Japan for work. He said he was a Christian along with his family who are back in Indonesia. He is interested in coming back to our services so pray that his work schedule will allow him to attend on a regular basis.

We have another young man, Mr. Yoshioka (20's), that has visited us and has been coming more regularly recently. Interestingly he was witnessed to by a former Baptist missionary (from England) years ago in the city of Hiroshima and got saved! This missionary enjoyed the outdoors and went surfing, etc. with Mr. Yoshioka. A few months ago, Mr. Yoshioka moved to our area due to work and found our church. Please pray for his spiritual growth and for the Lord to use him in Japan.

Pastor Yamazaki, in Toyohashi city, has battled various health issues for the past few years and has recently started another round of chemotherapy treatments for lymph cancer that will last for 6 months. He has been looking and praying for a successor to his ministry which is getting harder to find. He would appreciate your prayers.

I was reading a news article which caught my eye. It said that 68,00 people over the age of 65 are projected to die at home alone this year in Japan... that's seniors living alone, growing older alone, and dying at home alone... Statistically, that would be upwards of 99% (sadly) who will be without Christ. (Matthew 9:37-38)

Prayer Requests: 1) For witnessing opportunities and for the salvation of Mrs. Ohta, Mrs. Matsuge, Mr. Nagaso, and Mrs. Terao. 2) For those who are saved to make the decision to be baptized. 3) For God to provide the right person to be the successor of Pastor Yamazaki's church. 4) For the Lord to give us open doors to witness to people searching for the truth.

Thank you for praying for us and supporting the ministry in Japan!

Sincerely in Christ,

Jeff & Keiko Brigham