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## November 2019

"Therefore, my beloved brethren be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

1 Corinthians 15:58

It is sometimes difficult not to get discouraged, but the verse above is always such a challenge to continue "stedfast, unmoveable," and a comfort that our "labour is not in vain in the Lord." Just as I started this letter and had not even finished the previous sentence, I received some news that could have been discouraging. Okay, I'll admit it WAS rather discouraging at first, but the Lord has encouraged and strengthened my heart.

Progress

Please be in prayer for Mrs. A who has been coming for our Sunday afternoon English class, often the only one coming. You may remember that she told us when she first came that she has no interest in the spiritual side of things. A few weeks ago she started to open up the tiniest bit. She had been quite ill and not able to come for a few months. When she returned to class, she said that she has recently realized that she could die at any time and that one must make preparations both physically and spiritually. She said she felt she has her physical affairs in order but not her spiritual. I assured her that while my physical affairs may not be entirely in order, I'm ready spiritually, confident of going to heaven. She seemed interested for a bit, but sadly she closed up tight again when I asked if I could share just one verse with her. She has continued to come on Sunday afternoons and came to the Christmas concert. Please pray that she will open her heart to the gospel.

Opportunities

Thank you for praying for our Christmas concert on November 24. We passed out nearly 3000 copies of the flyer pictured here. As best we could count there were 87 in attendance. Many of those were from sister churches, but there were a few new people from the community. Please pray that they and others will come for our Christmas services as well.

The bottom portion of the flyer has information about the Christmas services. We will have a Children's Christmas service on December 8 including games, songs, a craft, but most of all, the Christmas story. And then on December 22 we will have our more adult-oriented Christmas service followed by a free luncheon.

One area I've been more involved in again recently is cooking for ministry events. Many batches of cookies were made for the reception following the concert. I'll be making a turkey again this year for our Christmas service (very unusual here), along with several other things for both the regular service and the children's service I'm sure. It may sound mundane, but if it's something the Lord may use to reach people, I'll gladly do it.

Challenges

The challenging news I mentioned in the first paragraph was regarding the weekday

English classes that we have been hoping to be able to start. We had planned to start in

September but experience some delays. Now there are some additional legal/tax implications that
may come into play that we hadn't previously considered, including loan restrictions because the church meets
in the Yoritas' home. Please pray that if it is the Lord's will for this ministry to begin, He will open the doors, or

that He will open new avenues of ministry if this one is closed for now.

Praises and Prayer Requests

Even as my last letter was going out, the request regarding my change of stateside address had already been answered! You may notice a change of address for my prayer letters if you receive a hard copy, but items mailed to me can still be sent through BIMI. The other new address I mentioned is for bills, driver's license, etc.

Please continue to pray about effective ministry at Baptist Megumi Chapel, additional needed monthly support, and guidance regarding my next trip home.

Your faithful prayers and financial gifts are an invaluable part of the ministry here. Thank you so very much!!

In His Service,

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